

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.

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.

THE NEW TIMES

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"NEW TIMES" SUBSCRIPTION RATES

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The Problem of Hospital Finance

Self-Righteous Protests Against Lottery

(A letter to the Editor from J. Bradshaw, A.F.I.A.)

Sir,—It was announced in the daily press of November 27th, that a proposal to establish a State Lottery in Victoria will be submitted to State Cabinet early next year by the Minister for Health and Housing (Mr. Barry). The declared object of the scheme is the obtaining of adequate finance for maintenance and equipment of hospitals.

As has happened on previous occasions when a lottery has been proposed to meet the ever more insistent calls of hospital managements for increased financial support, the project has been denounced by various religious and charitable "leaders."

Though I, as your readers will appreciate, am well aware that, at best, the lottery will be no more than a palliative, I feel constrained to draw attention to the pharisaical attitude of those who, while voicing objections to lotteries and other forms of gambling, uphold a financial system which automatically condemns the vast majority of people to a lifetime of poverty.

Because they defend this iniquitous and inhuman financial system, their objections to the lottery represent nothing better than nauseating cant.

ORTHODOX ALTERNATIVES

It is well known that the hospitals (like most of us) are short of funds. It has also been found that the voluntary subscriptions method has not yielded an adequate amount. It appears obvious, therefore, that the State Government will be obliged, under the present set-up, either to proceed with the lottery proposal, or to impose some additional tax.

According to the Melbourne "Sun," the manager of the Royal Melbourne Hospital (Colonel Fanning) expressed the view that some form of direct or indirect taxation would be preferable to a lottery. The people of this country already are bearing a crush-

ing burden of taxation: on all sides we hear clamour for its reduction; on all sides we have evidence of the crippling effect it is having on production.

Because of the act of base perfidy committed by the unscrupulous Canberra Gangsters in perpetuating the infamous Uniform Taxation Ramp, the State Governments are now excluded from the field of direct taxation. Did those who object to the lottery raise their voices in denunciation of that unprincipled violation of a solemn undertaking that Uniform Taxation would apply only for the period of the war and one year thereafter? They did not!

As between the alternatives of the lottery or some additional tax to finance hospitals, the lottery seems to me to be preferable in that participation in it is a VOLUNTARY act.

CAUSE AND EFFECT

As I have stated, and as is proved, the existing financial system condemns the vast majority of people to a life of financial poverty in a world of easily possible, if not at present actual, abundance. For individuals in that majority, practically the only hope of release from the limitations of financial poverty lies in the winning of

a lottery, or in successful engagement in other forms of gambling. Though, admittedly, the chances of success are remote, despite anything that clergymen such as Dr. R. W. Macaulay, Rev. G. A. Judkins, and others may say, increasing numbers of people will clutch at this straw as the pressure of living costs on their incomes becomes more severe. In doing so, the people are not, as Mr. Judkins has said, showing themselves to be demoralised. They are making a natural reaction to an unnatural set of conditions imposed by the financial dictators who govern the world.

Were Mr. Judkins and the other gentlemen who condemn the lottery proposal to expose the falsehood, corruption, and knavery on which the existing financial system is based, one could believe in their sincerity. But they do not; and, as your correspondent, Mr. Bruce H. Brown, has frequently shown, some of them have even opened their pulpits to glib-tongued men whose efforts are directed to misleading the people so as to ensure that there shall be no change in the financial system.

REAL SOLUTION IGNORED

Until money is created and issued on a scientific and honest basis, and its volume related to production so that income equivalent to the selling price of available goods and services (including hospital services) is always in the hands of the people, we will continue to witness an inordinate

scramble for it. Governments, no less than hospitals and other institutions, as well as individuals, have no option but to join in the scramble.

It can be predicted with certainty that, the Centralised World Dictatorship of Finance and Bureaucracy being nearly an accomplished fact, the resultant social conditions will cause a vast increase in the volume of gambling.

I submit, therefore, that those people who have voiced those self-righteous objections to the lottery proposal are "straining at a gnat and swallowing a camel"; they behold the mote that is in their brother's eye, but consider not the beam that is in their own eye.

Finally, lest I should be misunderstood, let me say I am aware that the lottery cannot solve our basic financial difficulties, though it may solve the difficulties of those fortunate enough to win a substantial prize. It involves merely a redistribution of the existing inadequate supply of money. So also does taxation. We do not solve our community problems by transferring them; and, none of the alternatives to the lottery advocated by "moral" objectors thereto, represents any more than the transference of a problem, which the lottery proposal involves.

—I am, very truly yours, J. BRADSHAW, A.F.I.A., 169 Walsh Street, South Yarra. November 25th, 1946.

NOTES on the NEWS

As a result of the recent Railway strike, goods freight has been piling up, and the railways have been refusing to take goods loading. Officials have had to admit they were unable to handle the goods; yet road haulers, who rescued the people when the mighty State undertaking broke down, are not allowed to continue the good work. This restriction is imposed by the Transport Board, which is dominated by State and semi-State bureaucrats connected with socialised transport.

The Board knows that the State "enterprise" cannot possibly stand up to the competition of private enterprise, and ensures the upkeep of the inefficient State Railways by restricting modern motor transport. Country people, in particular, suffer the worst under the Railway Monopoly's yoke. They should write to their State Members and insist that the shackles be removed so that production and distribution can proceed.

PINK PROFESSORS: During the Parliamentary disclosures of Soviet fifth-column propaganda being disseminated through the Melbourne University and Victorian schools by pink professors and other Moscow satellites, Mr. Cain, in the absence of the Education Minister (Mr. Field) from the Chamber, disclaimed any knowledge of these activities. Messrs. Edmunds, Dunstan, Oldham and Hamilton all produced evidence of propaganda work by the executive of Australia-Soviet House. It was pointed out that five Melbourne University professors hold office in Australia-Soviet House; they are Professors R. M. Crawford, G. S. Browne, Bernard Heinze, J. N. Greenwood, and H. A. Woodruff, whilst Professor R. D. Wright, although not holding office, also joined these professors in their recent attempt to prevent Mr. J. J. Maloney from criticising Stalin's dictatorship. When we also note that clergymen and judges assisted the suppressive efforts, and remember the lessons of the Canadian spy trials, the situation is well worthy of investigation by Australia's counter-espionage organisation.

TAXATION TROUBLES: The recent increased and extended betting tax is one result of the Uniform Taxation scheme, under which States are dependent on Canberra handouts. This limits State taxation to probate duty, land tax, duty stamps and betting. Some people may think it a good idea to limit State Governments in this way, but they forget that there is no limit on the Federal Octopus. It would be a good idea if the people, under a Bill of Rights, could dictate what all or any Government could take. But as it is, the people are, and will be continually, robbed by the big Canberra wolf and also by the little State wolves. Yes, this Bill of Rights is badly needed.

BUILDING BURDENS: Melbourne building costs are estimated to have gone up at least 85% since 1940. Despite "price control," costs have risen 17½% in the past year, and they are still rising. Commenting on this, Melbourne "Herald" Special Correspondent, L. W. Whitehead, remarks: "The average worker's dream of a home of his own will just remain a dream with building costs at their present level." That's a rather obvious observation and, as usual, there was no helpful suggestion as to how the accepted "insufficiency of purchasing power" could be rectified. Some day these

ink-spillers will realise that it is an elementary problem to increase incomes without inflating prices; that is, to get income to the consumer direct from the banking system without going through industry as a cost. The housing situation is an urgent and understood problem through which the idea of supplementary incomes may be introduced. The ideas should always be connected with a practical situation.

COINAGE CONSPIRACY: Great Britain's recent move to replace silver coins with nickel ones is not popular with certain influential groups in U.S., and thereby hangs a tale. Under Lease-Lend, U.S. loaned Britain about £826,000,000 to be returned in kind within five years. Silver producers in U.S. hoped that Britain would have to repay the debt by buying silver in the world market when post-war prices were high; but the converting of silver coins into nickel coinage has short circuited the scheme. Actually Mr. Morgenthau had no statutory power to lend silver abroad, but he did so by secret agreement with the silver "bloc."

PASTORS' PISTOLS: Eleven U.S. pastors have demanded the right to carry pistols to aid them in stamping out the crime wave in Ohio, were murder and other crimes rampant. They say that the Mayor, Direc-

(Continued on page 3)

Significant Political Pointers

There was much consternation and many denials by the food planners when it was reported last week that there is a world glut of grain. The following report appeared in the Hobart "Mercury" of November 18:—

Reuter's financial editor says the world grain hold up, which has introduced symptoms of scarcity when none exists, is ready to collapse any day now. World grain bins are ready to burst and a huge glut awaits buyers. Harvests this year were huge, with the biggest wheat crop since 1940, and the biggest maize crop in history...

Communist Strachey, "British" Food Minister, was very annoyed about the above statements, and said that bread rationing must continue in Great Britain.

An obscure item in the Melbourne "Herald" of November 21:
"One hundred and twenty tons of food parcels from Australia have been lying

New Governor-General

(To the Editor.)

Sir,—I recently heard over the wireless that "the Duke of Windsor had applied to Mr. Attlee, the British Prime Minister, for a job, and had been told that there was nothing whatever for him."

Could not the Duke have been invited by our so-called "statesmen" and "representatives" to come here and represent H.M. the King in Australia, for us?

I agree with the secretary of the Empire Honour League, Mr. W. Q. Murchison, who says, "We feel that the appointment should be given to a direct representative of the Crown from Duke of Windsor Britain."

It seems to me that "statesmen" both in England and Australia have been very rude indeed to H.R.H. the Duke of Windsor. Personally, I would like to see such men as those hanged. A low class of men just working for their own ends.

Now we see another move to separate Australia from the mother country!

—Yours etc., BEATRICE L. SUTER, St. James' Ave., Bentleigh, Melbourne, S.E. 11. November 24, 1946.

in a shed at Tilbury Docks since early August, awaiting instructions from the Ministry of Food, says the "Daily Mail."

"A Ministry official said the time-lag was not exceptional, because the allocation of the lists for the whole country had to be checked with local authorities and transport arrangements completed."

Nothing is exceptional where the bureaucratic Socialists are concerned.

During the West Australian transport strike the staff of the privately owned Midland Railway Co. carried on as usual. The staff of this Company have their own unions. Apparently there are points in favour of private employers after all!

"Out of the twenty-four key persons accused of espionage in Canada, no less than nineteen were Jews."

—The "Canadian Social Creditor," September 12, 1946.

Miss Agatha Chapman, a "Canadian" who was arrested on a charge of selling information to Russia, is described as an "economist to the Bank of Canada." The Russian-Jew, Rasminsky, was educated at the London School of Economics, and is said to control the policy of the Bank of Canada. This gentleman also "represents" Canada on the International Monetary Fund.

From Trevor Smith's London Round-up in the Melbourne "Herald" of November 4:

"The people—and you find them expressing themselves all over the country at meetings and in letters to the newspapers—feel they cannot continue indefinitely producing goods for the rest of the world without getting something for themselves."

"The President of the Board of Trade (Sir Stafford Cripps) is unrepentant and relentless, and stands firmly on his austerity policy. He says that if he puts more (Continued on page 2)



TEN YEARS' TASMANIAN BROADCASTS

(Electoral Campaign talk by JAMES GUTHRIE, B.Sc., on 7HO, Nov. 24.)

Next Sunday's will be the last broadcast you will hear for a considerable time from this session. Thus will end ten years of continuous weekly broadcasts. During those ten years we have attempted to place before a few people the realities of the political position. Our organisation, having branches throughout the British Empire, has fairly large resources of talent and brains, but our resources in money have been scant, because we had nothing but criticism to offer the big financial monopolies which run the political parties today.

Early in the piece we realised that the ability to understand the political set-up that confronts this world was not so much a question of logic as a question of experience, combined with the ability to appreciate certain eternal values. This being so, it followed that the number of persons capable of appreciating the political situation was very small—that number being probably less than one in a thousand of the adult population.

Viewed in this light, ballot-box democracy, where everyone over 21 has a vote, can be seen to be full of dangerous possibilities, especially where that vote is manipulated by a few men, and used as a "mandate" to penalise every minority.

This alone, however, fails to explain the position of ever-increasing helplessness in which the taxpayer and his family find themselves. It doesn't explain, for example, why the British people, with more political experience than any other nation, should, after the most successful military campaign in their history, find themselves reduced practically to serfdom, and reduced almost to starvation level.

INTERNATIONAL PLOTTERS

We find, therefore, that wars are something quite different to what the daily newspapers and public men have led us to believe. Wars are not like fights between two naughty boys; they are more like prizefights, with the promoters standing well outside the ring and holding the prize-money. The promoters are not very fussy if the fighters bash themselves senseless—in fact, they prefer it that way.

The promoters of the last prize fight can be recognised as a group of very powerful men, at present centred in New York, and who probably have been behind every scrap of the last fifty years—to go back no further. They have large interests in Russia and China, and controlling interests in the British Empire; they are violently anti-British, and are obviously working hard to eliminate England as a first-class nation, hoping that after England goes the rest of the British Empire will be chicken's feed.

We have, today, a powerful financial group fighting for world control, and there is little doubt that the Communists and the London School of Economics are being used by them as a fifth column in every country.

The Bretton Woods Agreement is obviously the work of this New York group, and it is designed to prevent any revolt against dollar diplomacy. England was forced to sign the Agreement in order to get a loan from New York; Australia is under no such compulsion to sign. England had to sign to get food for her people; after she had signed she did not get the food. Australia, please take notice.

There seem to be two things for thoughtful citizens in Tasmania to do; the first thing to do is to focus the limelight on those who would destroy the link which binds the British people together—as without that link, our existence as a free people would cease to exist; and the second thing to do is to build up a solid State in Tasmania, as free as possible from interference by the political larrikins of Sydney.

FACTS TO BE FACED

In a city, where a large number of people are jammed together in a small space, all problems become exaggerated; the work of many people is very unattractive and un-

satisfying; the work of many more is quite valueless. It is easy to see, therefore, why the big cities, especially the big industrial cities, supply us with our political plague spots, and, at the same time, control the majority vote.

This ballot-box democracy, dangerous in small States, becomes political dynamite when it is used to control large States, or groups of States, as in Russia, India and Indonesia. These vast groups of peoples can be used by a few men for purposes completely unknown to the millions who are conscripted by the party machines.

Out of the French Revolution came the conscript armies; out of the Russian Revolution came the country of one political party and the concentration camp. This devilish work of destruction was made easy by the work of the Socialist intellectuals; it is the result of the mania for planning on paper without reference to the lessons of history or to the world we live in.

The Socialist intellectuals of any integrity have repudiated their life work; they have gone back on practically everything they have said, but they have done the damage, and few know that they have changed their minds. So it is that a generation has been reared on theories, which have no relation to any world ever known. And the complete severance of theory and practice has burst wide open the minds of men and women to every political charlatan who can find money to back him—and there is no shortage of money for political charlatans.

THE PRICE OF LIBERTY

Our task has been largely one of exposure. It is necessary to expose the enemy before you can fight him. This is neither a popular nor an easy task, but a very essential one. And the cost of carrying on this work has been left to a small number of us. We have appealed to the citizens of Hobart for assistance, but it has not been forthcoming, so we have decided to shut down this session next Sunday.

Our exposure of the evils of machine politics and of the party system has, however borne some fruit, and the fight put up by the Independents of this State is likely to encourage others to come forward. But however good may be the representatives you put into Parliament, they will not be able to achieve great success unless they get very much more help and loyalty than they have had in the past. And I am sorry to say there is very little sign of this help and loyalty forthcoming as yet.

Too many so-called responsible people expect to buy freedom for their families at bargain prices. Men of experience, education and responsibility are strangely dumb in the face of probably the greatest collection of rackets every known in the history of man. This was not always so. What has happened to our "leading" men? Have they suddenly become dumb, or are they specially picked for the job?

The character of the big city daily newspapers in this hour of crisis is appalling; their chief task appears to be to bewilder as many people as possible. In this they have been very successful.

If we have been able to throw a little light in a few dark places, or to inspire one or two men to put up a fight to save the last remnants of Western civilisation, then our work has not been in vain—occasional assistance from our listeners, however, would have made our task lighter.

NATIONALIST NEWS FROM THE U.S.A.

In the "Australian" daily press, practically all cable "news" from the United States is selected and/or "slanted" (before or after transmission, or both) according to the Internationalists, pro-Judaic viewpoint. Therefore, for the information of our readers, we publish the following exclusive items provided by the Nationalist News Service (but it does not automatically follow that we endorse all the persons and policies associated with the N.N.S. or kindred organisations): —

WASHINGTON, September 30, 1946.

The pro-Russian speech made by Henry Wallace in New York City was for the purpose of appeasing the large Jewish population. Truman did not endorse the Wallace speech; however, an election is on in New York State, and the Democrats depend for victory on a large Jewish vote, which is mostly pro-Russian.

Jimmy Roosevelt, eldest son of the late F.D.R., is now State Chairman of the Democratic Party in California. Recently he made an attack on Gerald L. K. Smith over the radio, urging that all candidates endorsed by Christian Nationalists be defeated. Jimmy is hoping to be Governor in 1950. He expects to be a candidate for President in 1952.

Congressman Everett M. Dirksen, of Illinois, by the authority of the Congress and in co-operation with Ernest S. Griffith, Director of the Congressional Library, has

prepared a great document entitled "Communism in Action." It is a 144-page document dealing with every phase of Russian life under Communism. It is an expensive survey, which only the Congressional Library could afford to make. In fact, the Congressional Library is one of the few places where the information contained in this document could be found. It is divided into fifteen subjects, dealing with the following: (1) Five-Year Plan; (2) the Soviet Productive System; (3) Management; (4) Labour; (5) Forced Labour; (6) Living Standards; (7) Agriculture; (8) Finance; (9) Transportation and Communication; (10) Government; (11) National Defence; (12) Education; (13) Leisure Time; (14) Religion; (15) How Much Freedom. The document draws no conclusions, but merely sets down the facts. It is one of the most deadly indictments of Communist fakery ever to appear in print. This document will be made available in the near future.

Congressman Ellis Patterson, of California, believes that Christian Nationalists should be imprisoned. He has introduced a Bill into Congress making it a criminal

offence to criticise a Jew. The Bill very definitely will not pass.

A writer and author, who uses the title, "Mr. X," has prepared a document entitled "The Mysterious Death of Franklin D. Roosevelt." He lists nine ghosts that must have haunted F.D.R. before he died, as follows: (1) The Tyler Kent Episode; (2) the Mystery of Pearl Harbour; (3) the Japanese Offer to Surrender Before Okinawa; (4) the Assassination of United States Senator Huey P. Long; (5) the Appeasement of the Comintern; (6) Lend Lease; (7) Bargaining in Human Slaves; (8) the Destruction of Food and Commodities—Planned Scarcity in the Face of World Famine; (9) False Promises Concerning the Possibility of War.

The Communist Party in England has started a campaign of seizing private property, known as the "squatter system." Confidential reports are coming into Washington to the effect that similar things will be attempted in the United States.

America First leaders and key men in New York State have been advised to support Tom Dewey for re-election as Governor, and Irving Ives in his campaign for



THOMAS E. DEWEY

the United States Senate. America First leadership is not completely satisfied with the character and principles of these two men, but they prefer them to Lehman and Mead. Herbert Lehman, former Governor of New York (and first Director-General of U.N.R.R.A.), is a member of the family, which owns the international Jewish banking house known as Lehman, Inc. Dewey has confided to insiders and certain Christian Nationalists that he is alert to the problem of Jewish aggressiveness.

An almost unlimited sum of money has been set aside by certain political gangs centred in New York, dedicated to a campaign to unseat Theodore Bilbo, recently elected to the United States Senate for another term. Bilbo's alertness to current issues, his opposition to such character assassins as Walter Winchell, and his determination to oppose the mongrelisation of the race, has inspired highly financed opposition to his being seated.

Policy-makers in Washington (in the State Department) still include many individuals who stick to the Morgenthau doctrine of "Turn Germany back to pasture." Informed observers believe that these individuals deliberately retard efforts to get German economic machinery working. They will continue to do so until fired. Note: These individuals support Henry Wallace and his pro-Soviet philosophy.

Senator Elbert Thomas, Chairman of the Military Affairs Committee of the United States Senate, is one of the three members of the Senate who approved, supported, endorsed and praised Henry Wallace's pro-Soviet speech.

THERE IS A MOVEMENT IN YOUR STATE

Literature and Information relating to subjects dealt with in the "New Times" are obtainable from the following movements:

The United Electors of Australia, 343 Little Collins St., Melbourne, Victoria.

The Douglas Social Credit Movement in Victoria, 1st Floor, The Block, Elizabeth St., Melbourne, Victoria.

The United Democrats, 17 Waymouth St., Adelaide, South Australia.

The Electoral Campaign, 101 Collins St., Hobart, Tasmania.

The D.S.C.A. of N.S.W. and The Electoral Campaign (N.S.W. Division), 3rd Floor, 296 Pitt St., Sydney, New South Wales.

The Electoral Campaign (Queensland), Room 14, 2nd Floor, 142 Adelaide St., Brisbane, Queensland.

Douglas Social Credit Movement of W.A., 544 Hay Street, Perth, Western Australia.

AN INVITATION

Melbourne supporters of the "New Times" are invited to an American Tea ("bring a gift and buy a gift") to be held at the home of Mrs. aBeckett, 14 Tintern Avenue, Toorak, commencing at 3 p.m. on Saturday, December 7. Proceeds will aid the funds of the Douglas Social Credit Movement of Victoria.

Political Pointers

(Continued from page 1)

goods in the shops, Britain's exports, on which the Government's entire economy is built, will decline.

It is not a case of Export or Perish, but of Export AND Perish.

"I could abolish rationing tomorrow," Mr. Strachey declared, and pile the food shops of every town in the country with food if I took off price control and allowed prices to treble. There would be a glut of food, not a shortage.

"That is the one thing this Government will never do. The price of the main food items in the cost-of-living index has risen by only 22 per cent, from their 1939 level, and we are still holding them at that level.

"Only strict rationing, strict price control and large subsidies by the Government can hold food prices down at that level, but is it not well worth doing? We shall not be able to take off rationing until the present world food shortage has been righted.

"In some cases, such as meat, I am afraid it will take a few years rather than a few months. But the position will get slightly better."

—The "Daily Telegraph" (England), October 28, 1946. —E.D.B.

NAMES AND ADDRESSES REQUIRED

Mr. Eric Butler desires to thank those readers who have sent him names and addresses of people to supply with specimen copies of the "New Times." But much more co-operation is required before his proposed scheme to help to increase the circulation of our journal more rapidly can be tried on a worthwhile scale.

All that readers are asked to do is to select the names of any people they think may be interested in the material appearing in the "New Times," and, together with addresses, forward to Mr. Butler, c/o Box 1226L, G. P.O., Melbourne.

At least 500 names are required for the scheme. Eight specimen copies of the "New Times," together with a suitable covering letter, will be sent to each person. Surely every present reader knows of at least one or two people likely to be interested in the "New Times." Send in their names and addresses immediately. No payment is required, although some readers may care to enclose a small donation to cover at least some of the cost of postage to the people whose names they submit.

As soon as sufficient names have been forwarded, the scheme will be started. It is hoped to start early in the new year. If the scheme proves to be self-financing, it may then be expanded.

All readers are urged to give this important matter their immediate attention.

"THE LIFE OF A POLICEMAN."

"The Life of a Policeman," by A. W. Noakes, is a book in two parts. The first part contains a lot of humorous incidents concerning the police, and some pungent criticism of Government Administration, also a plea for a better understanding between the public and the police.

The second part contains a description of conditions in the Inland. The author advocates an adequate water supply, to prevent the Inland from becoming a second Sahara Desert, and the scheme prepared by Mr. L. B. S. Reid, M.I.M. & C.E., for diverting the floodwaters from the rivers on the Western side of the Dividing Range in Cape York Peninsula into the Inland. This is the first time this scheme has been published, and it should attract wide interest.

Sandwiched in amongst the humorous incidents and other matter are some thought provoking philosophy on life, and suggestions on Social Credit lines for better conditions. An interesting and instructive book.

The price is 2/-. Single copies and particulars of wholesale rates from The Electoral Campaign, Room 14, 2nd Floor, 142 Adelaide-street, Brisbane.

"THE FIFTH COLUMN AND ITS TECHNIQUE"

Hear—

Mr. JOHN WELLER

— on —

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 5, at 8 p.m.

— at —

The Douglas Social Credit Movement of Victoria, "The Block" Melbourne. (Entrance through grille in Elizabeth Street).

AN IMPORTANT NEW BOOKLET "OUR SHAM DEMOCRACY."

By JAMES GUTHRIE, B.Sc.

Price: 1/1 posted

Now obtainable from: The United Electors of Australia, 343 Little Collins Street, Melbourne, C.I.

THE OBJECTIVES OF "TOTAL" WAR

By C. H. DOUGLAS in "Sovereignty."

If the general public is not imbued with full consciousness that war is the ultimate problem of civilisation, the responsibility for such lack as there may be does not rest with the organised publicity, which provides our syndicated information.

We are told of the horrors of the atomic bomb, of which a demonstration was conveniently available as the final episode of Japanese industrialisation; and concurrently, without discussion, and with every evidence of long preparation, world organisations have come into being and are functioning with the ostensible, and obviously laudable aim of dealing with war by making war so one-sided that it becomes a police, rather than a military, problem.

It would be wickedly perverse to underestimate the arguments, which can be adduced in support of this attitude. Perhaps the fairest material prospect ever opened to human vision, the Promised Land of Plenty and Leisure, appeared, towards the close of the nineteenth century, to be at hand. The Diamond Jubilee of Queen Victoria marked the perihelion of a British Empire superficially invincible, widely, if not universally, respected, and far more united than any organisation of comparable size, either before or since the disintegration of mediaeval Europe; and a Continent of Europe which, if it betrayed disquieting signs to the trained observer, yet remained the unquestioned and unquestionable centre of civilisation and culture. Fifty years later, Europe lies in ruins; its grace and culture rent and torn, the helpless prey of conflicting ideologies and half-crazed fanatics; it and the British Empire, attacked from every quarter and disrupted by internal intrigues, would appear to be mere children of the storm of war, whose only hope of survival is a refuge under the shadow of a World Government which will prevent its repetition. It may be so; but it would be unwise to resign our fate into alien keeping unless we are sure

that we know all the facts and that we understand the nature of our policy. And the first fact on which we need clarity is as to the nature and object of war itself, so that we may know what it is we are trying to avoid. A man who regards spots on the skin as the essential evil of smallpox, and keeps out of the sun to avoid freckles in consequence may easily defeat his own ends.

UNDERLYING POLICY

The material ruin, which is the accompaniment of modern war, as well as its heavy casualties in human life and happiness, may easily mislead us into supposing that mere destruction is the primary objective of war. No professional staff officer would agree; he would probably quote the well-known words of Clausewitz, which are as true today as when they were first written: "War is the pursuit of policy, by other means." That is to say, war is a culmination, or an expedient, amongst other expedients.

The primary object of war is fear, and one of the most noticeable features of contemporary propaganda is the inculcation of the fear of what will happen to us if we

do not resign our affairs into other hands. It has always been axiomatic that courage—resistance to fear—is a cardinal military virtue; and we may observe that world-government propaganda is directly aimed at the neutralisation of such courage as remains to us.

Now the essence of fear is the aberration of judgment, and it is desirable to consider this condition in connection with the revealing statement which appeared in the organ of P.E.P. ("Political and Economic Planning"), of which Mr. Moses Israel Sieff (most probably only the spokesman of much



MAJOR C. H. DOUGLAS

more important people) was at that time the Chairman—a curious organisation which appears to have been in almost unchallenged control of British internal policy since 1931, closely interlocked with the New Fabian Society as well as other national and international forces. Mr. Sieff's organ remarked: "We have proceeded from the assumption that only in war, or under threat of war, will a British Government embark on large-scale Planning." It is a fair deduction from these words that the interests of P.E.P. were vitally bound up with the promotion of war as an agency of compulsion and that "Planning" requires an aberration of judgment to be accepted.

REGIMENTATION WINS

We have just seen that the primary object of war is the aberration of judgment, and it is only a short stage from this to the elimination of judgment. This is inherent. It cannot have escaped notice that unity of military (in the widest sense) command was a feature, and quite a rational feature of the war, which was resumed in 1939. If you have only one desire or objective, judgment of objectives is over for you. Your whole life becomes a mere question of administration and it can be expressed graphically by a triangle with the apex uppermost. At this apex the Commander-in-Chief is told against whom he is to exert pressure. Everyone below the apex relinquishes personal sovereignty over his objectives in favour of "discipline."

We know that it is impossible to have war without two opposing sides; and we can say therefore that war is a condition of affairs in which both sides are under the strongest possible pressure to subordinate or discipline each and every individual to an objective which is not even understood, but is accepted from above.

The side, which "wins", is the side, which remains "disciplined," i.e., functionalised for the longest time.

But when hostilities cease we invariably find that "functionalism" persists. The victorious armies are not demobilised; food restrictions, building restrictions, travel restrictions, are only relaxed, if at all, with obvious reluctance. Both sides may, on balance, be heavy losers in modern war, but there is always one winner, "functionalisation." War, then, is not necessarily between nations; it may be between Government and People.

IMPOSING SERFDOM

Now, although the normal man refuses "Planning" or functionalisation "except in war, or under threat of war," there are powerful interests with functional objectives, which are determined to extend functionalisation to every field of activity. Vertical trusts are one form of such interests, and the raw material of them is "employment" or "Labour," and there is, although most Labour politicians may not understand it, the closest connection between "Labour-Socialism," vertical trusts or monopolies, and war. August Bebel, in 1892, assured Bismarck that "the Imperial Chancellor may rest assured that German Social Democracy (Socialism) is a sort of preparatory school for militarism." The reverse is equally true. Militarism is the best possible preparatory school for Socialism. Bismarck accepted the argument in full, never in any way interfered with the Socialists (who were busily engaged, inter alia, in debauching British trades unionism) and himself remarked: "We march separately, but we fight together."

Without presuming to define the whole nature of that mysterious creature, man, it is nevertheless possible to say fairly accurately that he "possesses" a number, perhaps an infinite number, of functions. Provided that fear can be brought to bear, he can generally be persuaded to surrender any one and eventually, practically all, of these functions, to external control, so that "he," the independent will, the possessor of initiative, is eliminated. The individual has then lost his sovereignty, and cannot prevent the handing over of his "national" sovereignty any more than he can prevent his material property in land or otherwise

Notes on the News

(Continued from page 1.)

tor of Safety and the Chief of Police are either unable or afraid to do anything about the situation. To some extent, this position appears to be fairly general. It is even noticeable in Australia, where the crooks, gunmen and murderers have very little fear of the authorities; and citizens, who have placed their trust in "The State" and given up their arms, are at the mercy of the underworld. This also applies where they have surrendered themselves to other forms of racketeering, such as rationing, price fixing, and the master racket—taxation. Of course, the latter rackets are quite legal; the only difference at the moment being that the robbery is without violence.

ROOSEVELT'S RUSES: Mr. Ira Hirschmann, in his book, "To a Promised Land," tells how the late President Roosevelt planned a mission for rescuing Jews from Europe. Mr. Hirschmann was commissioned to visit Turkey in 1944 with instructions "to take any steps necessary to rescue as many Jews as possible." He was authorised "to negotiate with enemy, diplomats in Turkey and to disregard the normal wartime prohibitions against dealing with the enemy." By direct negotiations with Roumanian diplomats, "Hirschmann obtained passage into the Red Sea of rescue ships which brought out thousands of Jews from Roumania." Apparently F.D.R. overlooked the Gentiles under the yoke of Hitlerism. This corroborates other evidence that Roosevelt was a willing tool in Jewish hands. He was surrounded by what was known as the "Jewish bodyguard" at the White House.

PROTOCOL PLANNERS: An article in the Chicago "Women's Voice" of May 30, by the Jew, H. H. Klein (New York attorney), casts an interesting light on the "Protocols of the Learned Elders of Zion." The writer states that the Learned Elders of Zion and a body known as the Sanhedrin are identical; that the "Protocols" were published about 50 years ago, and that the Sanhedrin has carried out the plan, as set out in the "Protocols," to govern the world. He has since published a book entitled "Sanhedrin Produced World Destruction," in which he says: "The Sanhedrin is only another name for the Learned Elders of Zion, and they are implementing all the steps in the programme outlined in the Protocols." This should stimulate interest in "The Mysterious Protocols" now available in all States at 2/7d posted. —O.B.H.

ON THE RECORD

COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA
Minister for Transport and External
Territories Canberra, A.C.T.

3rd April 1946
Mr. E. Blair, c/o Jeffrey's, Griffith, N.S.W.

Dear Mr. Blair, —I have your letter of 28th March, and desire to thank you for your congratulations on the stand I have taken in connection with the Bretton Woods Financial Agreement.

It is my conviction that it would be a tragedy of the greatest magnitude to Australia if we ever permitted questions affecting our domestic policy to be determined by an authority outside this country. —Yours sincerely, (Sgd.) ED. J. WARD.

from being alienated by a Socialist Government.

LAYOUT OF TYRANNY

If we imagine the apex of the military hierarchy which is organised to control the fighting function of man to be represented by a dot, and a similar dot to represent the apex of an organisation to control each of the functions of the individual—a Ministry of Food, Housing, Transport, Supply, etc.—and place them side by side in a horizontal line, and then draw from each of these dots a line to the individual whose functions are thus taken from his own control, the diagram thus produced is again a triangle, but this time its apex is downward.

Perhaps it may be advisable at this point to observe that there is nothing necessarily mystical about this diagram. It is one quite familiar to "Scientific Management" experts and is used in factory organisation. The link, which converts the dots into a line, is Finance.

If on the top of this inverted triangle we superimpose the diagram of the military organisation (which in "peace-time" is represented by N.K.V.D. or Gestapo), which supplies the fear-motive, we have the Red Star of Russia, the Seal of Solomon, the works diagram of the World Socialist Empire. Fear, the objective of war, is to be permanently with us in "peace."

Fanciful, you think? Not very fanciful if you will observe events and disabuse yourself of the idea that history is just disconnected episodes, rather than, as it is, long-term policy crystallised. Theoretical? Yes. But unfortunately the world is in the grasp of theorists to whom misery and death of millions is a grain of dust beside the working out of their designs.

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PROGRESS OF FINANCIAL APPEAL MANY MORE DONORS REQUIRED

The Social Credit Action Group reports a fair response to the appeal for £2500 launched on November 5. The total amount subscribed will govern the rate at which an eight-page illustrated "New Times" every week can be attained and the circulation more rapidly expanded. Not only is it desired to keep Mr. Eric Butler campaigning full-time, it is also desired to have several other full-time campaigners.

In last week's "New Times" it was shown how 1575 actionists contributing regular amounts ranging from 3d to 5/- per week could easily contribute the £2500 being sought. The table below sets out how many donors are being sought to contribute various weekly amounts, and progress results: —

Weekly Amount.	Donors Required.	Acknowledgments.	Donors Obtained.	Donors Needed.
5/-	25	Previously acknowledged 11.	11	14
4/-	50	Previously acknowledged 4.	4	46
2/-	100	Previously acknowledged 14; Women's Group, D.S.C.M.; Mrs. S.P., Gardenvale, Vic.; Anonymous; R.V., Shepparton, Vic.;	18	82
1/-	200	Previously acknowledged 4; A.G., Elwood, Vic.; Mrs. O.M.G., Sorrento, Vic.; Mrs. G.C.M., Brighton Beach, Vic.; J.D.McL., Apollo Bay, Vic.;	8	192
6d	400	Previously acknowledged 15; J.J.D., Richmond, Vic.; W.J.K. Minyip, Vic.; JP., Toolern Vale, Vic.; T.W.G., Glen Iris, Vic.; F.H.A., East Kew, Vic.; R.W.G., Box Hill, Vic.; W.H.K., Murrayville, Vic.; R.L., Highton, Vic.; A.E., Redcliffs, Vic.; the following person has promised 3 sixpenny amounts weekly: H.C., East Malvern, Vic.;	27	373
3d.	800	Previously acknowledged 3; G.R., Magill, S.A.; C.P., Sydney, N.S.W.; J.F.C., Rochester, Vic.; M.J.R., Stockton, N.S.W.; C.A.G., Boggabri, N.S.W.; A.A.B., Highett, Vic.; J.D.O.B., Moonee Ponds, Vic.; Mrs. H.V.G., Strathmerton, Vic.; Miss L.M., Armadale, Vic.; J.M., Seville, Vic.; B.G.G., East Melbourne, Vic.; J.N.R., Yallourn, Vic.; E.M.O.D., Eltham, Vic.; E.J.B., Griffith, N.S.W.; H.L.A.S., E. Malvern, Vic.; B.R.L., Malvern, Vic.; the following person has given 5 threepences weekly: M.M., Allansford, Vic.; the following have promised 3 threepences weekly: C.G., Sunshine, Vic.; R.A.G., Yandiah, S.A.; E.J.L., Elwood, Vic.; R.B., North Ringwood.	36	764

The guarantees of the donors acknowledged above total £357/10/- per year. The fact that only 104 people have guaranteed this amount should stimulate others to make their contributions. Many more donors are still required if the goal of £2500 is to be attained. In order to save time, labour and postage, contributors are urged to pay their donations for twelve months in one amount if possible; failing this, for not less than three months if possible. 5/- per week is £13 per year; 4/- per week is £10/8/- per year; 2/- per week is £5/4/- per year; 1/- per week is £2/12/- per year; 6d per week is £1/6/- per year; and 3d per week is 13/- per year.

All payments to be sent to W. J. Carruthers, 32 Kendall Street, Ringwood, Vic.

THE TRAGIC LESSON OF YUGOSLAVIA

(Concluded from last issue.)

The following is from the current "Reader's Digest's" condensation of a forthcoming book by Bogden Raditsa, who comes from an old Croatian family, was for many years a high-ranking official of the Yugoslav Government, in 1945 became chief of foreign press section of the Tito regime's Ministry of "Information," and is now engaged in journalism in New York:

I began to be concerned about my own status. I had long perceived the use that the Communists were making of me. I had a certain following among Yugoslav readers. Now, if I published an article in a Yugoslav periodical, it would be given to read to young intellectuals who had been arrested by the Communists; and the Communist commissar in their prison camp would say to them:

"See! Raditsa, who is not a Communist, is in the Government, accepting Tito's democracy. Why should you not accept it, too?"

Two young Communists had been thrust into my office. With the support of the chief of personnel of the Ministry of Information, Nedelkovich, they undertook to deal with the foreign correspondents in Belgrade. I was to be chief of the foreign press section; but I was to have no contacts with the foreign press.

It seemed to me that all Yugoslavia was being driven into madness by the Com-



"MARSHAL TITO."

munist frenzy. In Dalmatia young Communists were chosen to become perfected Communists by being obliged to shoot such fascist prisoners as happened to be their childhood friends. In Montenegro, when certain of Mikailovich's "Chetniks" were seized, their sons who were Partisans were schooled to Communist reliability of character by being made to shoot their fathers.

I realised that whatever I could do for my country I could not do within its borders. I had been unable to disguise my unhappiness, my horror. Thereupon I was accused of being an American agent, and I learned from friends that I was being followed by agents of OZNA.

I decided to resign, to go abroad. But I was told by an official: "Kardelj forbids you to leave the country."

Then I proposed to resign but remain within the country, in my home province of Dalmatia. I talked with Velko Korach, the Ministry of Information's real chief: He said:

"If you do not like what you are doing now, you may enlist in a labor battalion to rebuild a destroyed village or you may be mobilised, into the army. But you cannot just resign. Nobody is free in this country to resign without permission." I said to myself: I must escape. I must find somebody who will quietly get me a passport.

I knew it could not be Korach, Korach wanted to keep me in Yugoslavia, and urged me to join the Communist Party. I said:

"I cannot. The Party requires a man to renounce his ties to humanity—and indeed to family and to God."

Korach became pale—and very formal. He no longer addressed me as "Drug" (Comrade) Raditsa, but only as "Gospodin" (Mr.) Raditsa.

"Gospodin Raditsa," he said, "you are a man who does not believe in an ideal." "But I do believe in an ideal. I believe in total humanity."

"Gospodin Raditsa, you do not believe in an ideal. You could not kill anybody for an ideal."

"No, I could not. I have seen fascists kill. I have seen you Communists kill. I have seen enough hate. What our country, needs now is love."

Korach looked at me with an ultimate coldness and said:

"That, Gospodin Raditsa, is a bourgeois view, a capitalistic conception."

COMMUNIST AND FASCIST AFFINITY

I hastened my hunt for a passport. I was able to say, truly, that it was necessary for me to go to Italy to settle some urgent family affairs. I approached a Communist official who was a man of education and of sensibility. It would be wrong to say that such Communists do not exist. They do. This man obtained a passport for me, entitling me to go on a British plane to the Italian port of Bari.

Looking back over my experience, certain facts seem clear:

1. The Russian long-range design regarding Yugoslavia is to unite its six peoples to Bulgaria and Albania in a Balkan Federation and then to bring that federation into the Soviet Union as a "Republic." Then the Soviet Union would stretch from the Black Sea to the Adriatic Sea and, through Albania, to the Mediterranean. Never, even in Czarist days, has Russia been in a position to contemplate so large a sweep into the West.

2. An obstacle to this design is the sudden unpopularity of the Russians in Yugoslavia. For hundreds of years, ever since the days of Turkish rule, the Yugoslavs have looked to Russia as a deliverer. Two months of Russian occupation sufficed to destroy the dream. These Communist Russians were not a superior people. They had less education, less culture, a lower standard of living, than the Yugoslavs. They added nothing to Yugoslavia but the brute force, the organised ruthlessness, in which Communism had trained them.

3. The Yugoslav Communists, who, by means of Russian soldiers, have made themselves into the governing element, are relatively few. They would not poll ten percent, of the votes in really free elections. Many Yugoslavs see clearly, now, the affinity between Communism and German Fascism. Belgrade wise-crackers, behind their hands, call Tito "Titler" and his regime "Ti-to-talitarianism."

RESISTANCE OF CHURCH

4. The chief source of resistance to the Tito regime in Yugoslavia is religion. Hence the war conducted by that regime against the Church.

One night in Belgrade I was talking with Dr. Lyubo Leontich. He had been one of the first outright Fascists in Yugoslavia. But to Communists it is not a crime to have been a Fascist, provided you afterward go over to an alliance with the Communists. Dr. Leontich had gone over. He is now the Yugoslav Ambassador to London. He and I were talking about Monsignor Ante Bonifachich, Archbishop of Split. Bonifachich, during the war, in his pastoral letters, had condemned both the fascist "Ustashi" and the Communist Partisans for their massacres in Dalmatia. He had saved many young Partisans from Fascist bands, both Dalmatian and Italian, and had finally been arrested by OZNA.

"It will be necessary to execute him," Dr. Leontich told me.

"Why? What has he done?" "What he has done is not the point. It will be necessary to execute him in order to show that the new Yugoslav Government is not afraid of the Church."

But the clergy and their congregations are not intimidated. In Zagreb I saw a procession of people coming into the city from a shrine of the Virgin Mary. With them was Archbishop Stepinets, who had just been released from a three-week arrest by the Partisans. He came along in the procession in the midst of 20,000 who tumultuously shouted:

"Long live Stepinets! Long live Christ the King!"

Virtually all Yugoslavs belong either to the Roman Catholic Church or to the Eastern Orthodox Church. And in the Serbian East, as in the Croatian and Slovenian West, it is religion that stands staunchest against Communist domination.

COMMUNIST DECEPTION

5. Americans are extremely popular in Yugoslavia. They need not fear that their contributions to Yugoslav welfare are unrecognized. The People's Front Government insisted that the U.N.R.R.A.'s chief executive in Yugoslavia should be a Russian, but the mass of Yugoslavs are fully aware that it was chiefly from America that the U.N.R.R.A. help came that saved perhaps 5,000,000 Yugoslav lives.

Yugoslavs know of America from their fellow-countrymen, thousands of whom have settled in the United States, and by letters or visits home have spread the news of American liberty and opportunity. Today that news has a fresh meaning. Now, more than ever, Yugoslavs think of the land of the free beyond the ocean. America, not Russia, is the dream of peasants and workers alike.

Americans are not to be advised by me or by any other Yugoslav as to what their international policies should be. I nevertheless think that I would not go beyond the bounds of hospitality if I ventured to point out the basic lesson that Americans can learn, for their own benefit, from what has been happening in Yugoslavia.

That lesson is the deadliness of the deliberately deceptive language used by Communists and their accomplices everywhere, including America, when they strive to trap their fellow-citizens into economic and political co-operation with them. The whole tragedy of Yugoslavia can be traced to that deception.

The Communists promised Yugoslavia a "federation" of six equal peoples organised into six separate self-governing "republics." They have given Yugoslavia an omnipotent Government concentrated at Belgrade. When the Communists said "federation" they meant centralised dictation.

The Communists promised Yugoslavia political liberty for all anti-fascist parties. They have produced political liberty in

Yugoslavia only for the Communist Party. And political liberty for them means complete political dominance by them.

The Communists promised Yugoslavia freedom of private property. They have taken 75 per cent, of Yugoslav industry and trade into ownership and operation by the State.

THE NEW RULING CLASS

The Communists promised Yugoslavia that there would be no ruling class. Today the best food, the best clothes, the best houses go to the new Communist officials. There is even a derisive phrase for the people as a whole. They are called the "Siva Massa," the "Grey Masses." They are said to be the necessary water in which Communists can swim.

The Communists promised Yugoslavia peace. They have given Yugoslavia an army of 500,000 men, and have indoctrinated that army with ceaseless propaganda for new and bloodier international conflicts.

The favourite words of Communists in enticing people into their web for temporary co-operation and ultimate betrayal are "peace" and "democracy." Yugoslavia proves utterly that when Communists say "democracy" they mean a new domination, and that when they say "peace" they mean more slaughter, both within nations and between them.

I have dear friends in America. They see the hope of the world in the development and perfecting of democracy in America. They are indeed right. But I should like to say to them:

My newspaper seems to hold this view in common with me. It doesn't say so outright, of course; in fact, it would rather

THE CURSE OF PLENTY THREATENS!

By "FOOTLE"

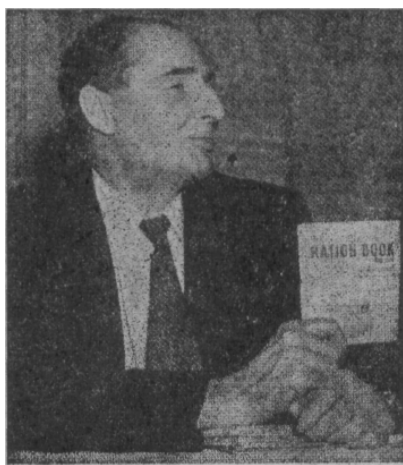
I've always had the idea that people aren't much use to the economic system: in fact, I seem to remember saying so in these pages. I like to be fair; I try to see things from the planners' point of view, and it becomes clear that even at our best we are a lot of muddle-headed mutts.

The fact of the matter is that you can plan in detail for THINGS, but not for PEOPLE—they always allow their own pettifogging affairs to come into the business. I really think the only solution in the long run will be the extermination of the human race and the substitution of a nice line of robots responsive to economic plans and not allergic to them.

go out of circulation than agree with me about anything; but at any rate it did announce a relevant cable (London, November 16) in letters visible at twenty yards, thus: "WORLD GLUT IN GRAIN FORECAST; SWOLLEN STOCKS CAUSE ANXIETY."

The point is, we are in the midst of one of the greatest and best organised famines in the history of the world—and now this silly glut appears out of nowhere! Humanity is getting up to its old larks again: starving in the midst of plenty. That's what it likes best. It's enough to drive the planners mad. There they were, not only with plenty practically abolished, but well on the way to getting Britain to subsist on half rations, when up pops a dirty great big harvest out of nowhere and nearly sandbags them!

There ought to be a Royal Commission about it. Nowadays you can get a Royal



MR. STRACHEY

Commission about anything from petty larceny to high treason, and usually without hurting anybody. We might find out who is to blame for sabotaging our scarcity, if it is the growers, it is hard to see how they managed it.

BIG GLUT, BUT HOPE REMAINS

According to this cable, Reuter's financial editor writes that "the world's grain bins are ready to burst and huge gluts await buyers." He says the world grain harvest this year is huge, with "the biggest wheat crop since 1940 and the biggest maize crop in history."

Apparently, this threat arose when no one was looking, or else when the experts were looking and couldn't decide what it was. Anyway, where are the "New Deal" planners? Surely they will know what to do about it! They can't have started their Christmas holidays yet.

Reuter's financial editor continues: "Great gluts dwarf the deficit of grain in Germany and the savings effected by British rationing."

But there is still hope that this terrible glut, which is causing such anxiety, will not reach Victorious Britain and Starving Europe. According to Reuter's financial

ADELAIDE TOWN HALL MEETING

Mr. Eric Butler will be the principal speaker at a special meeting in the Adelaide Town Hall next Wednesday evening, December 4.

The purpose of this meeting is to launch the South Australian League of Rights, an organisation which resulted from the successful 1946 Vote No Campaign.

It is expected that 30 minutes of Mr. Butler's address, from 8.30 p.m. to 9 p.m. (South Australian time), will be broadcast over 5DN, Adelaide.

Be careful with whom you share that great task. Be on guard against people who wrench words from their moorings and send them against their meanings. Be careful about people who falsify their beliefs in order to arrive at their objectives. Be careful about people whose vocabulary is yours but whose record wherever they hold power is your destruction. Do not be "Koristine Budale." Do not be "Useful Innocents."

editor, "the limitations are now: (1) Transport; (2) Money arrangements; (3) Red-tape complications and the prevalence of misinformation."

That is a very powerful trinity, with the apportionment of responsibility well spread. The Communists have been doing quite a job with Transport. Money arrangements are in the capable hands of Mr. Baruch and his associates; but I can't say off-hand which of them is in charge of Red Tape and Misinformation.

Incidentally, this isn't the sort of thing I would have expected Reuter's financial editor to describe in such a way. His tone is the kind adopted by one about to wish a sailor's farewell to the Management, and not by one who expects to remain in an editorial chair. He makes it sound as though he is impatient to see the impact of glut upon scarcity, and to blazes with anxiety!

MR. STRACHEY STANDS FIRM

However, the same report assures us that Britain's Minister of Food (Mr. Strachey) is standing firm. He is, in fact, unimpressed by the conspiracy of Nature and the growers to bung up the Scarcity Plan. Addressing a meeting of the National Union of Agricultural Workers, he is reported to have said: "There are the faintest signs of improvement in the world food situation, but the improvements in 1947 will be counter-balanced by American action in de-controlling prices." Also: "The immediate food situation in Britain . . . is one of the utmost gravity."

If you want to know what I think, I should say Mr. Strachey was an economist or something.

The same report states "the Argentine is displaying signs of anxiety and recently sold the British Ministry of Food more maize at falling prices." Reuter's man says that "the U.S. Government has on hand swollen stocks of grain" available for export. Concerning American farmers, he says that they "are anxious to sell wheat stocks because they can see the market falling." The wheat position in Canada is similar.

So, it appears that: The growers are anxious because the price is falling; Europeans are anxious to buy while the buying is good; Strachey is anxious to maintain the "status quo." Quite a lot of anxiety all round!

Don't let us underestimate Mr. Strachey's anxiety. Maintaining the "status quo" involves all sorts of things beyond the understanding of you and me. You and I would have jumped to the conclusion that if de-control meant anything at all it would mean that, according to the sacred Law of Supply and Demand, a glut would tend to lower prices and thus be favourable to the buying-power of Britain's "dollar loan."

But the sacred Law above referred to has, of course, to reckon with Mr. Strachey. He is not going to see his life's work undone by mere natural forces and common food-producers, aided and abetted by this supply-and-demand business. He was given the task of administering scarcity, and how the blue blazes can anyone do that if someone removes the scarcity! Dash it all! Be British!

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