

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!
How, when the padlocks far our lips are forging,
Silence is crime.
—Whittier.

THE NEW TIMES

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Are Legislative Councillors Reactionary?

Are Party Hacks Better than Independents?

While it is the fashion to criticise Legislative Councils as being "reactionary," it is instructive to note, for example, that at least two Members of the Tasmanian Legislative Council have proved by their actions that they have a far greater understanding of genuine representative government than have most Members of our so-called, popularly elected Lower Houses.

Here is a brief survey of what Mr. W. Wedd and Mr. D. Lonergan, both Independent Members in the Tasmanian Legislative Council, have been doing in Tasmania in an attempt to prove to the electors that their political representatives should be their paid servants:—

Many may recall that Mr. Wedd received considerable publicity throughout Australia last year when, in spite of threats by of-



MR. D. LONERGAN, M.L.C.

officials sent from Canberra, he carried out his previously declared intention to distribute, to the people of Hobart, apples which the Apple and Pear Board were leaving to rot in orchards. Many people thought that Mr. Wedd was bluffing when he publicly warned the Apple and Pear Board of what he intended to do unless they took action to get wasting apples to people who needed them.

Mr. Wedd is not a big man physically, but he knows how to fight for the electors. He is a businessman, is quiet and very courteous. But he can hit hard when necessary. He possesses courage and integrity and makes every effort to do what he says he will do.

Mr. Wedd was helped during the famous apple distribution by Mr. D. Lonergan and Mr. George Gray.

Mr. Gray was elected as an Independent in the Tasmanian Lower House at the State election last year, a very encouraging event for Mr. Wedd and Mr. Lonergan.

Mr. Wedd was first elected to the Tasmanian Legislative Council in May 1944. Prior to his election Mr. Wedd had demonstrated as a Member of the Glenorchy Council that he was genuinely desirous of giving service to electors. He had also got together a group of Hobart businessmen to study political and financial problems. He entered the Legislative Council by defeating the President of the Council, the Hon. Thos. Murdoch.

Mr. Lonergan was elected to the Legis-

lative Council in May, 1945, defeating the strongest Labor Member in the Council by over 1000 votes. Mr. Lonergan is also a businessman and a Member of the Glenorchy Council.

It is interesting to note that all clergymen, servicemen and service women, and all those who pay ten shillings, or more per week in rent can vote for the election of Members to the Tasmanian Upper House. In spite of this comparatively wide franchise, which means that at least one member of every family has a vote, Labor has been unable to elect more than a few Members. This indicates that the most responsible electors in Tasmania do not vote Labor.

Before being elected to the Legislative Council, Mr. Wedd promised his electors that he would contact them by radio at least once a month, apart from organising electoral meetings at which he would report on what was happening in Parliament. Mr. Wedd fulfilled his promises and his work soon revealed him as a genuine servant of the electors, so much so that he was inundated with requests, which should have gone to Members of the Lower House.

After Mr. Lonergan had been elected—on the same basis as was Mr. Wedd—Mr. Wedd and Mr. Lonergan each put £100 into a fighting fund and established a weekly radio hook-up covering the whole of Tasmania. Their revealing and hard-hitting talks are discussed from one end of Tasmania to another. Their public meetings result in record attendances.

As just one example of what these two democrats have done, prior to the last Tasmanian elections they each paid out of their own pockets £50 to conduct a tour of portion of Tasmania, carrying out their threat to hold meetings in other Members' electorates and tell the electors what was going on in Parliament. Local Members were invited to attend meetings, but were usually absent. Needless to say, the press gives their meetings practically no publicity.

At meetings both Mr. Wedd and Mr. Lonergan ask any critics of their actions—and they have many—to come on to their platform and make their criticism. Very few opponents have availed themselves of these offers.

No one hearing either Mr. Wedd or Mr. Lonergan speak can fail to be impressed with their integrity. Their record as genuine representatives of their electors is without parallel in Australian politics. It is a record, which should inspire others to seek to emulate.

The initiative in electoral control of Members of Parliament, should, of course, come from the electors. It is the apathy of the electors, which has helped to bring about the present shocking situation in this country. In spite of their excellent lead, both Mr. Wedd and Mr. Lonergan have expressed the opinion that many who applaud what



MR. W. WEDD, M.L.C.

they do will give them little tangible backing. For example, in spite of their large listening public, appeals for financial support to continue radio talks have produced disappointing results. Tangible physical and financial support must come from the many. The few can only point the way.

Among other now-famous incidents in which Mr. Wedd and Mr. Lonergan have figured, was the placing of homeless ex-servicemen and their families in Stowell Hospital. This occurred in May 1946. Stowell Hospital is a large building that had been empty for months and was a source of provocation to those urgently wanting homes, particularly as the building was allegedly to be used by the Federal Government. Although Mr. Wedd and Mr. Lonergan appealed to the Tasmanian Labor Government to instal electric light for the residents of Stowell Hospital, nothing was done except to try and force the unfortunate inhabitants out. However, it is wonderful what the approach of an election will do. Just prior to the State elections the Labor Government made arrangements to have the

(Continued on Page 4)

A recent advertisement in the New York "Herald-Tribune," inserted by a group of Jews calling themselves the "League for Peace With Justice in Palestine," charges that the Zionist Movement is controlled and being used by Jewish international financiers to obtain control of the colossal mineral wealth of the Dead Sea.

It is further alleged that the rank-and-file of the Jews, who have little or no desire to go to Palestine, are merely pawns in a desperate plot.

While this revelation by some Jews is welcome, it does not tell the entire story of International Jewry's ambitions.

It is very significant that the Jewish population as a whole in Palestine is not prepared to co-operate with the British in stamping out the terrorist groups, whose policy of murder is virtually a declaration of war against the British.

Soon after "refugees" arrived in Sydney from the Far East, some attempting to enter the country carrying diamonds and bars of gold, it was reported that they were settled in flats and cottages secured in advance for them.

When this information was made public, a young returned serviceman paraded in Martin-place, Sydney, bearing a placard, which read: "Can you save my marriage? A home for my wife and baby daughter will do the trick. Refugees' arriving this week found flats. Why can't a returned soldier?"

Perhaps Mr. Calwell might know!

While officials are said to be busy making plans for the bringing of immigrants to Australia, more people are leaving the country than are arriving. Figures recently published reveal that Australia lost population by migration during the 12 months to the end of October of last year, when permanent departures exceeded permanent arrivals by 12,707.

The London "Times" of December 28, 1946, contains an interesting and revealing item of news about Mr. Max Warburg, former representative in Germany of the German-Jewish international financiers. Mr. Warburg has recently died in America, but apparently he did not bother to escape from Hitler's "persecution" until 1939. The "Times" reports: "Until 1939, when he was

at last prevailed upon to leave Germany, he had been one of the most prominent members of the Jewish community in that country. . . ."

"Each periodic measure of the flood-tide of money now pouring into the Federal coffers affords confirmatory evidence that the Treasurer's estimates of what he would get from various sources in the present fiscal year erred on the side of extreme caution, if not pessimism. In the seven



TREASURER CHIFLEY.

months to January 31. Customs and Excise receipts totalled £57,950,215, which is £15,474,385 greater than the haul for the corresponding period of last year, and more

(Continued on page 4).

NOTES on the NEWS

Many fishermen are reported to favour an association of producers to control the production, storage and wholesale distribution of their fish. There is no objection to that, but here's the nigger in the woodpile: They want legislation vesting power in their organisation to enforce their plans; they want the State to legalise a monopoly for them.

These fishermen, or the "smarties" using them, offer the bait of cheaper fish for the public; but there is no evidence that this would follow, and it will be odd indeed if a monopoly ever provides a cheaper commodity. Let fishermen and others organise themselves as they will, but they have no right to seek any such legalised special privileges. Consumers should sternly resist such moves.

HEBREW HOPES: Commenting on the possibility of Great Britain handing over her Palestine problem to the United Nations, Melbourne "Herald" scribe Douglas Willkie suggests that, if this were done, Great Britain is confident "that America will privately, if not publicly, use her weight to prevent Palestine becoming a Jewish State." He says, "Oil interests have widened America's interest in Arab friendship." So, it seems that other factors are emerging to dim the Hebrew hope of getting away with this rich prize, which they are claiming on "religious" grounds. Apart from this, there is the wealth of the Dead Sea, estimated to be worth trillions of billions in the form of basic chemicals. Jewish interests are striving desperately to suppress all information about this wealth, knowing that other nations may also lay claim to this land. They are playing a deep game for huge industrial stake's—under the plea for a spiritual home!

INCOME INFORMATION: According to income-tax returns for 1942 (war year),

out of 3,100,000 income earners in Australia only 1.6% received more than £1000 per annum. On this basis, if incomes of more than £1000 per year were distributed to wage earners on £400 or less per year, the net increase would be 3/- per week. That should be a steadier for the Socialist theory of solving the workers' problem by sharing. Again, the Labor Report from the Commonwealth Bureau of Statistics shows that between 1911 and 1943, average money wage increased by more than 130%, but the average real wage increase was only 23%. Of course, the reason for this is that wage increases that go through industry are costed into prices, and therefore cannot benefit workers. These facts should encourage workers to examine the idea of receiving income direct from the banking system to prevent price inflation.

SMOKERS' SQUEEZE: Australians will spend about £33 millions on tobacco and cigarettes this year, and the benevolent Labor Government will squeeze £24 millions of this from them in duties. A large packet of cigarettes at 2/- would cost only 6d if sales tax and duties were removed; similarly, a 2 oz. packet of tobacco at 2/10d need only cost 10d. Matches at 1/6 per doz. carry a tax of 1/0½d. Thus Ben Turpin now gallops along under the cloak of legality. Once upon a time, in the days of free counter-lunch, one could buy a 3d packet of smokes from Mine Host; with this a

(Continued on page 3.)

HOW SOVIET HELPED TO START A SECOND WORLD WAR

Nazis' Two Secret Agreements With Reds

The following article, reprinted from the London "Nineteenth Century and After," November, 1946, makes terribly clear the fact that the controllers of Soviet Russia were anxious for the start of a world war in order to further their own policies, and had no scruples in collaborating with the Nazis—until the latter gangsters turned on the former:—

There is no longer any mystery about the secret Soviet-German agreements of August 23rd and September 28th, 1939.

Even before the Nuremberg trial their existence was generally known.

The Germans did not conceal the existence of the secret agreements.

On July 17th, 1940, Hitler declared that Russia's and Germany's respective spheres of interest had been determined once and for all.

Then, when he attacked Russia on June 22nd, 1941, he actually admitted the existence of a secret agreement covering the eventuality of war "should Britain succeed in inciting Poland to make war on Germany."

SOVIET'S HUSH-HUSH POLICY

The Russians, however, kept silent on the subject, and when the German, counsel, Dr. Seidl, tried to submit the text to the Nuremberg Tribunal, the Soviet prosecutor, General Rudenko, protested strongly. But although Ribbentrop's legal adviser, Dr. Gaus, was not invited to give evidence—although it was he who really prepared the agreement—the truth is now almost completely established. There is the evidence given by Ribbentrop himself and by the then Under-Secretary of State, Dr. Weizsaecker. Much as he would like to do so, General Rudenko cannot prevent the world from learning the big part Russia played in making the war possible.

Why did Germany offer so much to Russia as the price of her complicity? How can the subsequent changes in the demarcation line be explained? What were the real intentions of both sides when they signed those agreements? The Nuremberg trial throws light on some of these questions, though not all of them. Unfortunately the German war criminals have not been asked to give evidence, which would help to establish the historical truth about those agreements. As General Rudenko said during the examination of von Weizsaecker, the Tribunal was "judging German war criminals, not the foreign policy of the Allies."

TEXT OF FIRST AGREEMENT

The text of the first secret agreement must be quoted, as it has received very little publicity. It was signed on August 23rd, 1939, and ran as follows:—

"On the occasion of the signature of a Pact of Non-Aggression between the German Reich and the U.S.S.R., the undersigned plenipotentiaries of both parties raised in a strictly confidential exchange of views the question of the mutual delimitation of the spheres of interest of both parties. This exchange led to the following results:—

"1. In the event of a territorial and political transformation of the areas belonging to the Baltic States, Finland, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, the northern frontier of Lithuania automatically constitutes the frontier between the German and Russian spheres of interest, while both parties recognise Lithuania's claim to the territory of Wilno.

"2. In the event of territorial and political transformation of the territories belonging to the Polish State, the spheres of interest of Germany and the U.S.S.R. will be delimited approximately on the Narev-Vistula-San line. The question whether in the interest of both parties the maintenance of an independent Polish State will be considered desirable will be definitely decided only in the course of the further development of political events. In any case, both Governments will solve this question in friendly understanding.

"3. Where South-Eastern Europe is concerned, on the Russian side interest in Bessarabia is emphasised. On the German side complete disinterestedness is proclaimed in regard to that territory.

"This protocol will be treated by both parties as strictly secret."

The striking feature of this agreement is the extent of German concessions to Russia. Bessarabia, two-thirds of Poland and the whole of the Baltic States, with the exception of Lithuania—was that not too high a price for Russian support?

So it may seem now, but at the time the situation was quite different.

WHY NAZIS WERE PLEASED

General Jodl told the Nuremberg Tribunal about the fears and weaknesses of Germany in August 1939, and of the immense relief felt by the General Staff after the Pact with Russia was signed. The German generals, he said, were absolutely sure

that this Pact would deter Britain and France from entering the war. And as they (the generals) had very grave doubts about Germany's capacity to wage a war against the Western Powers, they acclaimed the Non-Aggression Pact with enthusiasm—no price was too big. If the Western Powers entered the war in spite of it, the Pact with Russia would prove even more important; for without active Russian support Germany would not be able to withstand an Allied offensive in the West.

At the time of signing the Pact the Germans could not anticipate that Britain and France would remain militarily inactive after declaring war. No general staff could base its plans on such a possibility.

General Jodl, and General Keitel before him, told the Tribunal how surprised they were in September 1939, by the Allies' inactivity. Germany's defences in the West were insufficient. "Our forces on the West Wall," said Jodl, "were so weak when we attacked Poland that we could not man all the emplacements."

If the German High Command took the risk of denuding the West Wall, it was because of the Pact with Russia. They probably calculated that there would be no major offensive by the French before September 15th. They may have known that



REBBENTROP AND STALIN (WITH TWO RETAINERS) STAND BY WHILE MOLOTOV ADDS HIS SIGNATURE TO NAZI-SOVIET PACT, 1939.

This picture is reproduced from the American pictorial fortnightly, "LOOK," of January 2, 1940, wherein it was one of the illustrations of an article entitled, "Joseph Stalin: Russia's Dictator" by one of America's well-known foreign correspondents, John Gunther.

the French-Polish secret military convention stipulated a big offensive on the fifteenth day of war, preceded by smaller offensive operations and air bombardments. Thus they expected to be forced to withdraw part of their forces from Poland and transfer them quickly to the West by September 15th.

NAZI-SOVIET AGGRESSION PLAN

For other reasons, too, September 15th was to be a critical date. The Germans anticipated that by then their troops would reach the Vistula and the San and that the Polish armies would reorganise and offer resistance on those rivers. It was Poland's only natural line of defence.

Thus a double crisis was expected and, from a German point of view, Russian intervention on September 15th would have been most welcome. Poland's resistance on the Vistula and the San was expected to collapse once the Russians had stabbed her in the back. The German armies could then be rapidly moved to the West.

There is reason to believe that Russian intervention was fixed for September 15th. Count Ciano notes in his Diary on September 14th that "... Goering gave a hint of the impending intervention of Russia," and three days later he noted a telephone talk with Ribbentrop, who said, "Russian intervention has taken place according to a pre-arranged plan." The date must have been fixed in advance and was almost certainly September 15th.

This may help to explain why the demarcation line was fixed on the Vistula. The Germans expected to be halted there and anticipated that they would need Russian help just at this moment.

But events developed in a different way. First, the German advance was much more rapid than expected. By September 15th the Germans had reached the Bug, leaving the Vistula far behind.

Secondly, the expected attack in the West did not materialise. The French remained inactive on the Siegfried Line, while the R.A.F. dropped leaflets instead of bombs. The Western Allies left Poland to her fate.

SHARED SPOILS WITH NAZIS

Under such circumstances it would have been extremely difficult for the Germans to withdraw from a large part of conquered Poland and abandon it to the Russians, who had taken no risks. German public opinion would not have understood that territory conquered by the Wehrmacht with German blood should be given to the Russians. One must remember also that all over the world the feeling towards Russian

intervention was one of contempt. The "Times" (London) wrote on September 18th:

"To the Soviet belongs the base and despicable share of accessory before and after the crime and the contempt which even the thief has for a receiver who shares none of his original risks..."

Hitler was thus forced to ask for a revision of the August agreement. And he had a good pretext for doing so: The Russians were two days late. They entered Poland not on September 15th, but on September 17th.

Why this delay? Ever since May 1939, a kind of unofficial war had been waged between the Russians and the Japanese on the Manchurian border. As long as it lasted, Moscow was rather unwilling to enter the war in Europe by attacking Poland. Therefore the Russians waited for the hostilities in the Far East to end. An agreement was, in effect, signed between the two countries on September 15th ending armed hostilities. The next day it was ratified. A day later Russian troops entered Poland. But they were two days late.

With this pretext, the German demand for a bigger share of the spoils was difficult to resist. Germany did almost all of the fighting, she had already conquered all Poland up to the Bug, and it was hard to ask her to withdraw and content herself with only half of Poland's territory.

TEXT OF SECOND AGREEMENT

On September 27th von Ribbentrop went to Moscow for his second visit, and on the following day another secret agreement was signed. It ran as follows:—

"The secret additional protocol signed on August 23rd, 1939, is changed in its first point in such a way that the area of the Lithuanian State comes into the sphere of influence of the Soviet Union, while, on the other hand, Lublin Province and part of Warsaw Province come into the sphere of influence of the German Reich. Compare

A LOAN AND RETURNING CHICKENS

Under the above heading, the following editorial appears in the "Yarrowonga Chronicle and Riverina Advocate" of January 31:—

The folly of Britain's acceptance of the American loan is already becoming tragically apparent. It had been claimed by its protagonists in England that most of the money would be spent in the purchase of capital goods, such as machinery and other equipment, to enable industry to produce goods urgently required to revive the country's trade. Yet in December a quarter of the loan had already been expended and only a small proportion had been used for capital goods. Instead, the bulk had gone into consumer goods, and so has been lost irretrievably. The purchases, ironically enough, included such items as petrol, films and tobacco.

Many of those who had been induced to support the loan did so on the plea that it was essential to the recovery of British industry; now they are witnessing the spectacle of its being frittered away on Hollywood films, the purchase from America of tobacco which Empire countries are capable of producing, and on American petrol, when it is being claimed that adequate fuel resources are available within British countries. Many of those who favoured the loan are suffering bitter disillusionment, as they begin to realise the magnitude of the blunder into which they were misled—a blunder the consequences of which have been further weighed down by acceptance of Bretton Woods, shamefully thrust upon Britain as a condition of the deal.

But this major post-war error will have served a valuable purpose if it impresses upon the people of Britain the need for a full measure of caution in her dealings with dollar imperialists and for standing firmly on her own feet in all her distresses, with the loyal support of the Dominions.

into the Soviet Union as a separate Polish Soviet Socialist Republic, just as their brothers in the east had to vote for admission into the Ukrainian and Byelo-Russian Republics.

"LIBERATION" FOR POLES

One interesting indication was contained in the note presented to the Polish Ambassador by M. Molotov's deputy, Potemkin, in the early morning of September 17th, just before the Red Army crossed into Poland. The note referred to the "kindred Ukrainian and Byelo-Russian people," who needed protection, and ended with a reference to the Polish people themselves:

"... At the same time the Soviet Government proposes to take all measures to extricate the Polish people from the unfortunate war into which they were dragged by their Unwise leaders, and to enable them to live a peaceful life."

In subsequent statements this reference to the Polish people was omitted, but on September 17th Moscow still believed that the Vistula line would become their new frontier. This passage in Molotov's note certainly excludes the possibility of respecting the independence of any Polish State. The Polish people were promised help to live a peaceful life—and, of course, nothing could be more peaceful than life in a Polish Soviet Republic under the mighty protection of the most peace loving of all nations in the world!

Russia's two days' delay changed all that. But although Russia's share of the spoils of common aggression was greatly reduced, the fact remains that at first Germany considered two-thirds of Poland as being not too high a price for Russian support. And now we know she was right: WITHOUT THIS SUPPORT SHE COULD NEVER HAVE DARED TO TAKE THE RISK OF MAKING WAR ON HUMANITY.

LEAGUE OF RIGHTS MEETING POSTPONED

The meeting of the Victorian League of Rights, which was to take place in the Assembly Hall, Melbourne, on Thursday, February 27, is now postponed until further notice.

ERIC BUTLER'S BOOKS

"The Truth About Social Credit." A clear and concise exposition of genuine Social Credit principles, with a complete answer to the popular idea that Social Credit has something to do with Socialism. Price 1/-. "The Enemy Within The Empire." Already tens of thousands of copies of this revealing booklet have been sold in all parts of the British Empire. Reveals how the rearmament of Germany was financed and the role of Dr. Schacht, the German Finance Fuehrer found "not guilty" at Nuremberg. Price 9d.

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"The War Behind The War." Although written early in World War 2, this little booklet is still an excellent introduction to the Jewish Problem. Price 3d.

The above booklets are obtainable from all Social Credit movements or from New Times Ltd., Box 1226, G.P.O., Melbourne. Include postage (1d per booklet) when ordering.

AN IMPORTANT NEW BOOKLET "OUR SHAM DEMOCRACY,"

By JAMES GUTHRIE, B.Sc.

Price: 1/1d posted.

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

THE SITUATION AND THE OUTLOOK

By C. H. DOUGLAS, in the "Social Creditor," England.

The termination of large-scale military activities on the Continent of Europe—the pivotal theatre, to which the others were subsidiary and on which their destiny depended—is now sufficiently a matter of history for it to be possible to estimate their relationship to an ultimate objective, and to see, also, the pursuit of that objective "by other means."

Any attempt to do this intelligibly must proceed from one of two hypotheses; either the world was, and is, in the grip of blind fate, "written in the pyramids," etc. or it is exhibiting the results of a policy derived from thinking man, in which case mundane fate, while conditioned to some extent by previous action and persistent deduction, is susceptible of "repentance" (thinking again or against) and compensatory action. It is on the latter hypothesis that the comments, which follow, are based, and if it is fallacious, it is obvious that neither they, nor perhaps any others, have any consequence. No policy, no cure.

It is necessary, in my opinion, to bear in mind that a policy must derive from a philosophy; and for this reason, and with some reluctance because I am well aware of the antagonisms which are aroused, I feel it would not be honest to omit the expression of an opinion which has been crystallising, so far as I am concerned, for some years.

The more conventional form in which the idea to which I refer is phrased is that we are engaged in a battle for Christianity, and that is true. But it is surprising in how many ways, practically, realistically, factually, it is true. And one of these ways is almost unnoticed, except in its derivations—the emphasis placed by the Roman Catholic Church on the family, and the steady, unrelenting effort to destroy the very idea of family and to substitute the State, by the Communists and Socialists, who with the World Financial Group, are the real body of Anti-Christ. Please observe that what most people mean by family nowadays is a unit contemporaneously composed of parents and children. It has no extension in time; the flash of consciousness we call the present is all that is allowed to this idea of "family"; and therefore it has no stability, because it lacks a dimension.

Now it is this very idea of impermanence and scorn of tradition which can be seen to be the keynote of the New Order which Mr. Anthony Eden for instance, was so well informed as to prophesy almost before the first shot was fired in 1939. Life now is to have no stable principles; property is yours just so long as an institution does not want it; you are no judge of what is best for you, and what you want does not matter. Everything is to be conditioned by the common good. The group is supreme over the individual; the flower exists for the benefit of the field.

This lack of stability is closely connected with a curious inversion. "Demon est deus inversus." We mouth Social Security and live in a prison on the edge of a volcano. We decry privilege in favour of "the common good," double our Cabinet Ministers' salaries, and institute and maintain priorities in every one of the decreasing facilities of a dying civilisation. We cannot build houses, so we steal them. We cannot play the game, so we change the rules. In the Face of the greatest crops in history we ration bread. We export immense quantities of goods we need ourselves to e.g., France, and refuse to take payment in wines, having raised the price of Algerian claret from about two pence a litre, its cost of production, to about fourteen shillings, its "Government" price. We talk about the necessity to avoid inflation, and we negotiate immense and irrational wage increases unrelated to any intelligible wage policy and prevent the goods to which they relate from reaching the wage market; and, having with the support of fifty years'

propaganda against profits obtained control of the national resources, we install a Chancellor of the Exchequer who disposes of the National Credit to our disadvantage, and cuts off the national dividend at its source—a rate of interest on the national capital account—while arranging that the real wealth produced goes abroad to be credited to the national capital account of our active enemies. These matters are not episodic; they are all connected with an intelligible philosophy. And the raw material of that philosophy is "the common man"—the amorphous group, the tool of that terrible Power which fights relentlessly for our destruction. It is very necessary not to confuse "the common man" with any economic class, perhaps more necessary in these days than ever before, although its characteristic does not change. "Crucify Him. Release unto us Barabbas. Now, Barabbas was a robber."



MAJOR C. H. DOUGLAS.

Majority "rule" with a secret ballot is the organising mechanism of "the common man," the vehicle of the subconscious, the animal man. "Father, forgive them, they are unconscious of what they do." Intellect is not concerned.

(To be continued.)

BOOKLETS TO READ

Obtainable from the United Electors of Australia, McEwan House, 343 Little Collins Street, Melbourne:—

"Federal Union Exposed." An interesting survey of moves leading up to World Gov. eminent. Price 1/1d posted.

"Communism, Why Not?" Contains some startling facts on the ramifications of Communism. Price 2/7d posted.

"The Answer To Tax Shivery." The menace of taxation, and a way out. Price 1/1d posted.

"Progress In Alberta." The story of a worthwhile attempt to establish economic democracy. Price 7d posted.

ELECTORS' TAX-REDUCTION CAMPAIGN SUPPORTED BY COLAC PAPER

After Mr. Eric Butler's recent meeting in Colac, held under the auspices of the Corangamite Voters' Policy Association, the following editorial appeared in the Colac "Herald" of January 29:—

No matter what a person's political opinions might be, it will be generally agreed that the time has come for a drastic cut in taxation. Time is marching on, and by his inexplicable attitude on the reduction of income tax; the Prime Minister (Mr. Chifley) is placing his party in anything but an enviable position. When the last Federal election was raging, and when Messrs. Menzies and Fadden were offering big cuts in taxation, Mr. Chifley promised to review the position of taxation from month to month. In the months that have elapsed, practically nothing has been done

"THE MYSTERIOUS PROTOCOLS"

The book published under the above title contains the actual text of the "Protocols of The Learned Elders of Zion." There is also a summary of each "Protocol" and subject matter relating it to present-day events. It is available from the United Electors of Australia, McEwan House, 343 Little Collins-street, Melbourne, at 2/7d posted. Make sure of your copy by ordering now.

to ease this crushing burden on the people of Australia. With rising costs, and less money, people are finding it extremely difficult to pay their way, and any relief seems as far off as ever.

An organisation in Colac, the Corangamite Voters' Policy Association, although not particularly strong at the moment, is gathering strength, and is at least doing something to put an end to this fearful bane of high taxation, which is crippling the whole country and creating industrial unrest and bringing about shortages of goods that are urgently needed for Australia to advance. In addressing a public meeting in Colac the other night, Mr. Eric D. Butler "hit the nail on the head" when he said, "No thinking person can be but gravely concerned at what is happening in Australia today. Although the military war was finished well over 12 months ago, conditions generally have deteriorated, and threaten to become worse. There are still shortages, controls, restrictions, and high taxation, and there appeared to be no immediate relief for the community." Mr. Butler went on to trenchantly criticise the bureaucracy of Australia.

Perhaps the bureaucrats are urging the Prime Minister to stand fast and allow the crushing taxation to continue. By cutting taxes some bureaucrats must go. Surely some of our bloated Government departments could well be axed. Instead of growing smaller, they are actually developing and overlapping State departments. Anyway, with its Uniform Taxation, the Federal Government has taken from the States all sovereign powers. The way the Federal Government is going, the time is fast approaching when practically everyone will be a civil servant. In fact, today we are all "working for Chifley," and the time is rotten ripe when some of the sturdy independence of the pioneers of this great land should be shown. Australia Day recently reminded us of those grand people who suffered so much to make Australia a great and free land. That freedom is fast slipping away.

The cry for a reduction of taxation is general. In Melbourne this week the United Women's Movement blamed high taxation among other things, for the industrial unrest. In a telegram to the Prime Minister, that women's organisation stated, inter alia: "Production must be increased by reducing taxation immediately." In the political science school in Wagga this week, Mr. W. C. Wentworth said, "the Government should fundamentally revise the basis of taxation to restore incentives. When taxation reaches a critical level, people wonder whether incentive is worth while, and the property system is impaired." Are all these people crying in the wilderness? Time is marching on, and those who refuse to give relief in the crushing burden of taxation will find themselves in the political wilderness. The advice given by Mr. Butler was sound.

ON THE RECORD

Because Professor Harold Laski is full of praise for Soviet Russia, it must not be thought that he does not understand Russia's totalitarian methods. Writing in "Reflections on the Revolution" (1943) Laski said:

"From this State (Finland), as from the Baltic provinces it was later to absorb, the Soviet Union sought strategic outposts. Finland yielded to most, though not to all, the Soviet demands. After a brief delay, the Soviet Government produced in the well-known Hitler manner a series of frontier incidents and provocations.

"Every item in the Soviet adventure in Finland coincided in character with that Fascist technique of aggression upon which, for six years, the Soviet Government had been foremost in heaping execration. There was the same manufacture of frontier incidents, there was the same denunciation of the constituted government as a band of robbers and reactionaries, there was the same insistence that a peaceful and friendly people constituted a threat or outrage. When Finland resisted, there was the same insistence that behind its defiance were the manoeuvres of the Soviet Union's enemies. There was the same refusal either of direct negotiation or of mediation after hostilities began."

Several other points concerning Laski are well worth noting:

He wrote the foreword to the Communist Manifesto by Karl Marx (Socialist Party of America Edition).

He is the author of "Why I am a Marxist."

The March 3rd, 1940, edition of "The Masses" referred to Laski as a Marxist who acknowledged Lenin as one of the great leaders and thinkers of all time.

In the "New Republic," October 30th, 1935, he said: "The defence of the Soviet Union is one of the highest duties a Socialist can fulfill."

HELP TO GET YOUR TAXES DOWN

Tax-reduction demand-letter forms are now obtainable from The Honorary Secretary, Victorian League of Rights, 9 Durham Road, Surrey Hills, E.10, Vic. The price of the forms is 2/- per 50/- or 3/6 per 100, post-free.

In addition to canvassing fellow-citizens, it is suggested that actionists who intend doing something about distributing forms should contact individuals in as many organisations as possible with a view to enlisting their aid.

This is an issue in which Laborites, Liberals and others of different political views, can co-operate for their individual and mutual benefit. Individuals in these organisations are, we are, sure, just waiting for a lead to go into action.

The "New Times" is most anxious to receive progress reports as the campaign advances in the various centres.

Write for your tax-reduction demand-letter forms NOW, and let us know what YOU are doing from time to time.

Notes on the News

(Continued from page 1)

man-sized feed would go free; then the smokes could be sold and the process repeated ad lib. Now, thanks to our benign tax-grabbers, those bad old days of free living are gone forever. Heigh-ho!

DEAD-END DEFEATERS: The Commonwealth Employment Service has started a campaign against dead-end jobs; a team of vocational officers (dead-enders) will visit as many schools as possible to explain to children how they can be helped. Other (dead-end) officers will advise parents about placement facilities available at all district employment centres; there will also be a drive to widen the range of vacancies available for boys and girls. Isn't that a cute idea to find jobs for the employment bureaucrats? Of course parents are quite incapable of attending to these matters, and they are to be encouraged to leave it to the supermen. It's about time these supermen found a spot of useful work for themselves.

POWER PLANS: The breakdown of coal production since socialisation in Great Britain is followed by a proposal to import electricity from Norway. This plan would cost hundreds of millions to lay a cable on the bed of the North Sea; but it is claimed that this would save at least 13% of coal, which is said to be the proportion of Great Britain's total output used to generate electricity. It is the same old story wherever Socialists obtain control. They are impractical by nature; they are not creative; they are like the cuckoos, who use the other fellows' nests. Socialists are often well-meaning people, which is all the more reason to beware of them. This is only one illustration of socialistic failure, which is also apparent in Australia.

ACTORS' ANTICS: Debauched Hollywood is now under fire for sponsoring Communist organisations and propaganda; unless this ceases, American Labor threatens actors and script-writers with picketing of all movie theatres presenting their films. Mathew Woll, a vice-president of the American Federation of Labor, is reported as saying: "Hollywood today is the third largest Communist centre in U.S." Speaking of the Commo. actors and actresses, he says: "Ill-equipped either by experience or learning, these light-minded mimics imagine they are doing something for the oppressed of the world. Actually they are permitting themselves to be used as window-dressers for the most tyrannical political system in the world, a system which crushes all human liberty and human dignity." Nuff said.

NUREMBERG NEWS: Coadjutor-Archbishop Simonds, who was present at the Nuremberg Trial, points out "cynical disgust was expressed that representatives of the Soviet Union were sitting on the Bench, since that nation had committed, and was committing at the time, the very crimes for which the Nazi leaders were on trial. This opinion as also widely held among highly-placed military officers of both British and American Armies." (Melbourne "Sun," February 3.) The same issue of the "Sun" featured the local celebration of the anniversary of the Red Revolution. A musical programme was provided by members of the Commo. outfit known as Actors' Equity. Apparently the dupes at the meeting have no idea of the true state of affairs in slave-plantation Russia.

MATERNITY MYSTERY: A mystery disease recently claimed the lives of 15 newborn babies at the City General Hospital, Leicester, England. Maternity wards in other public hospitals have been closed and others are suspect. The allegedly curious aspect of the situation is that babies born at home and those breast-fed are said to be immune; health officers are now advising expectant mothers to have their babies at home. One would expect doctors to avoid herding conditions, especially of mothers and babies. Why they ever recommend hospitalisation of babies is far more mysterious than the reported disease; surely the convenience of doctors has not clouded their vision or disproved the value of isolation. It's about time doctors joined in the demand for spacious homes and individual financial security as a means of stemming this hospital mania.

GANDHI'S GOAT: Wherever Gandhi goes, like Mary and the Lamb, goes his nanny-goat to give him milk; but when he visits Delhi the goat is left behind because he is furnished with a sumptuous limousine to assist him in keeping appointments. That in itself is rather strange, having regard to Gandhi's advocacy of "back to the bullock wagon" as a cure for India's ills. Needless to say, the modern automobile is not provided by the downtrodden coolies; it is supplied by a big-shot Hindu financier, G. D. Birla, one of the richest men in the world, who, with his brother, has big holdings in textiles and banking. The Birlas also own many newspapers and contribute generously to the Congress Party's coffers.

—O.B.H.

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GOVERNMENT OIL COMPANY'S PROFITS

In the course of a speech in the House of Representatives at Canberra on November 20, 1946, Mr. Archie Cameron, Member for Barker (South Australia), gave some revealing information about the finances of Commonwealth Oil Refineries Limited. According to Federal "Hansard," he said:—

Unless the views of some honorable Members opposite have altered, I have no doubt that before the debate proceeds very far we shall hear something of the wickedness of capitalists, and how they drain the pockets of the poor in order to pay enormous dividends to their shareholders. Every honorable member has been supplied with a copy of the report of Commonwealth Oil Refineries Limited. It is well to remember that of that company's paid-up capital of £850,000, £1 more than one-half is Commonwealth Government money.

MR. LAZZARINI.—Why does not the honorable Member bring forward something new? He spoke on this subject last week.

MR. ARCHIE CAMERON.—I did not then have certain information, which I have now. I have heard it argued that one of the most wicked things about the capitalist is that he used his profits, not to pay dividends, but to expand his business. According to the balance-sheet of Commonwealth Oil Refineries Limited, the profits of this Government-controlled business are not less than £600,000 under one heading, whilst under the heading "General Reserve" there is another £100,000, which I expect comes from the same source. That means that a total of £700,000 of the company's profits has been reinvested in the business. The insurance reserve, which also comes out of profits, represents another £118,647. What the next balance sheet will reveal is, at the moment, a matter for conjecture. My guess is as good as that of the honorable member for Werriwa (Mr. Lazzarini). The point is that the total profits made by this Government-controlled company, which has capital of £850,000, amounted to £986,955 for the last financial year. That is a profit of more than 100 per cent. What ought we to be hearing from honorable members opposite? I remind them that the Broken Hill Proprietary Company Limited has never exceeded that record, yet it was threatened with nationalisation by a former deputy Prime Minister until he became a Minister of State, when he forgot all about it. Let us see how this profit is divided. First, I notice that £72,800 is to be set aside to meet depreciation of assets. That appears to be a reasonable provision.

COUNTRY PAPER SEES SOME LIGHT

The following editorial from the Wangaratta (Vic.) "Chronicle-Despatch" of January 15 is refreshing evidence that there is growing recognition of the fact that it is impossible for consumers to obtain the full benefits of the modern productive system while the present financial rules are maintained:—

"Circumstances surrounding the recent increase of 7/- in the basic wage exemplify clearly the muddle into which the financiers of the country have drifted. The unrest among workers is caused by the inadequacy of the wages they receive, after tax deductions are made, to supply their needs in a market in which prices are a constant reminder of the degree to which inflation has taken place. The Arbitration Court, in granting the 7/- increase, doubtless considered that this was required, without deductions and taking into consideration the prices then being charged, to supply the workers' needs. But the worker found that an increase in so important an item in costing as wages meant an increase also in prices, while he was subjected, in addition, to a higher tax impost, both of which made inroads into the extra amount made available to him.

"The rapacious and insatiable tax department is thus perhaps the chief beneficiary. Besides the direct increase in income tax, it will collect more from sales tax and payroll tax. How, in such circumstances, can the workers ever expect to have their needs fully supplied? It is futile for them to expect that prices will remain stable while wages increase; and of course they cannot escape the clutches of the tax gatherer. They are tackling the problem in the wrong way. Our greatest need is to check inflation and so increase the purchasing power of the £. The first essential for this is a drastic reduction in taxation, both direct and indirect. An example of the insatiability of the taxation authorities is the recent rise in the price of tobacco and ciga-

ettes. Notwithstanding that excise collections are yielding £10 million more than previously, the withdrawal by the Government of a subsidy of £1 million odd was responsible for an increase in price, whereas the duty on tobacco should have been reduced sufficiently to enable the price to remain stable. Smoking is not regarded as a luxury by those who indulge in it—and most workers consider smoking essential—yet their cost of living is increased by the heavy tax on tobacco. The Government collects 1/6 on a 2/- packet of cigarettes: an extortionate amount.

"On the other hand, some means will have to be provided to prevent the vicious circle of price increases when wages are raised to relate to the pre-existing price level. A proposal has been made to overcome this by bringing into the economy a certain amount of money, which does not go through costs. This would mean the use of the national credit. Such credit could be utilised, among other things, for public works and other undertakings, and so save interest payments, which require heavy taxation to meet them. Our finances are getting into such a muddle that something must be done, otherwise peace and contentment among the community may be very difficult of attainment"

[**MR. LAZZARINI.**—That is chicken's feed compared with the profits of the major oil companies.

[**MR. ARCHIE CAMERON.**—I have strong reasons for believing that the profits of the private oil companies are somewhat similar to those of this Government-controlled company. It is time that there was another investigation of the profits of the oil companies.

Let us now look at the other side of the account. In 1945 the assets of the company were assessed at £271,000; today their value is set down at £345,000. There is not a great deal of information, but in each case those amounts are less depreciation. The total assets of the company, this Government controlled and half Government-owned company, which has not been in existence for such a long time, rose in value from an initial amount of £850,000 to £3,028,000 last year, but this year their value has risen to £4,163,000. So that in a period of twelve months on the company's own showing its assets have increased in value by more than £1,000,000, or a greater amount than its subscribed capital. In this document there is something for the Government to answer, but I have a strong suspicion that we will not get even a peep out of any Minister of State in regard to it.

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TAX-CUT CAMPAIGN IN N.W. VICTORIA

In a statement issued to the press in the Wimmera (Victoria) Federal Electorate, Mr. S. W. Butler, Secretary of the Red Cliffs Voters' Policy Association, states that over 1000 letters demanding drastic taxation reductions have been enthusiastically signed in the Red Cliffs area alone.

This result was obtained in a little over a week.

The Red Cliffs Voters' Policy Association has had its own letter-forms printed, and those desiring to help the anti-taxation campaign in the Wimmera electorate are urged to contact Mr. S. W. Butler or Mr. G. Fahey, of Red Cliffs, for supplies of letters. A small donation to cover printing costs should accompany all orders.

The Red Cliffs Voters' Policy Association has received a very encouraging letter from the Federal Member for Wimmera, Mr. W. G. Turnbull, who states:—

"1. The abolition of all direct taxation on incomes of £6 per week or less. I would not stipulate a definite minimum or maximum as you have in your question, as, owing to the way costs are rising, the £6 that you suggest may have quite a different value even next year, but would advocate and support a move to abolish all direct taxation on the basic wage.

ARE LEGISLATIVE COUNCILLORS REACTIONARY?

(Continued from page 1)

electric light installed at the Stowell Hospital!

Mr. Wedd and Mr. Lonergan have slowly but surely increased their prestige in the Tasmanian Legislative Council, even the subject of Alberta being raised without heated opposition. Several other Members of the Legislative Council, such as Mr. Robinson, from Launceston, another Independent, have expressed a desire that there should be an official investigation into the Alberta Experiment.

In his book, "Awake!" Mr. Wedd indicates very clearly that he has an understanding of the necessity of economic and financial reforms. Mr. Wedd also makes a very strong case for Independent Members of Parliament directly responsible to their electors. Dealing with the opposition to Independent Members, Mr. Wedd writes:

"Do not let the whispering campaigns tell you that a number of Independents will make a Party. You can answer that argument by quoting Municipal Government in this State. Your Municipal Councils are composed of Independent individuals. . . . These councillors do not have to ask for permission to stand for election. They simply sign a nomination paper and obtain the signature of two ratepayers. Subject to being ratepayers and clear of debt to the Municipality they can stand as free men and women. When the election of the Warden [President or Mayor] takes place, the whole of the Members cast their vote for the person of their choice. The successful candidate assumes office for the following twelve months. . . . There is no chaos, but complete freedom of voting. It is quite unnecessary for groups to take sides and oppose for the sake of opposing. Give thought to this question of Municipal government and compare it with what could take place with an Independent and freely elected Parliament. Then you must agree that instead of chaos being caused by Independents we would bring sanity to the present Parliamentary system that has come to such a sorry pass by the actions, or lack of actions, of Party politicians."

On all sides today we hear people asking: Why doesn't someone give a lead to correct the present chaotic conditions? Mr. Wedd and Mr. Lonergan have given a splendid lead in Tasmania. We have men of similar calibre in other parts of Australia. But such men cannot be expected to come forward and take financial and other risks if they can get little or no support from those from whom all power is derived: the electors. If the electors will take more interest in their own public affairs—for example, by doing all in their power to support the present tax-reduction campaign—they will find an increasing number of Wedds and Lonergans coming forward and anxious to serve them.

—Radio talk by Eric D. Butler over 3CS, Colac.

TAX-REDUCTION CAMPAIGN MEETING

In spite of the exceptionally humid weather, more than 100 citizens attended the public meeting at Red Cliffs on Thursday, February 6, to hear Mr. Eric Butler outline the anti-taxation and anti-bureaucracy campaign. This very fine meeting was the result of the excellent work being done by members of the local Voters' Policy Association. At the conclusion of the meeting large supplies of demand-forms were taken, literature was sold, and five new subscribers to the "New Times" were obtained.

Oppressive weather conditions were no doubt responsible for the small attendance at the Mildura meeting on Friday, February 7. However, those present were very enthusiastic and took demand-forms to get the campaign under way immediately. Literature sales were very good. The local paper, the "Sunraysia Daily," gave excellent co-operation with adequate publicity.

Mr. Butler left Mildura for Berri, South Australia, last Saturday morning. He addressed meetings in Berri and Barmera early this week and arrived in Adelaide on Wednesday. Further reports of meetings will appear in our next issue.

Political Pointers

(Continued from Page 1)

than £6,000,000 above the estimate for the term. On present indications, it seems not unlikely that instead of obtaining £89,000,000 from these two sources in the full year, the total will not be less than £100,000,000."

—Melbourne "Age," February 6. The arguments in favour of immediate drastic tax reductions are unanswerable.

Lord Inverchapel, British Ambassador to the U.S.A., speaking at an English-Speaking Union dinner in New York on December 10 of last year, said:—

"Many Americans have been inclined to see only that they were giving, and that Great Britain was spending, the vast sum of \$3,750,000,000 (£937,500,000).

"Many people in Britain have concentrated their attention upon the belief that the British almost alone among the victors of the war, and almost solely because of their exertions in the common cause, were going into peace saddled with a colossal burden of external debt.

"It is little known in the United States, but always in the minds of the British Treasury, that Great Britain owes the rest of the world, as a result of her exertions in the defeat of the common enemy, upwards of \$20,000,000,000 (£5,000,000,000).

"When it is recalled that peace treaties now being drafted by the Council of Foreign Ministers in this city impose upon Italy and the Axis satellites, as a penalty for their aggression, reparation debts amounting in no case to more than a modest \$300,000,000 (£75,000,000), the magnitude of the debt resting upon my country as a reward for its leadership in resisting aggression becomes particularly apparent.

"In discussions of the question of German reparations not yet concluded, few have suggested that the German people could pay, even over a long period of years, more than about \$10,000,000,000 (£2,500,000,000) in the way of reparations.

"It is an odd commentary upon the way the world works that the great aggressor should be likely to escape with a burden of foreign debt little more than half of that falling on the country which first took up the sword in defence of freedom."

"The new Rumanian Minister to Washington, Michael Ralea, was once a close friend and associate of Dr. Robert Ley, former Nazi Labor Front leader. Ralea led Nazi parades in Rumania. The Soviet Empire is full of such characters. They find it easy to switch from one brand of totalitarianism to another."

—"The Canadian Social Creditor."

In a recent address to the Empire Industries' Association, Lord Woolton said he was very apprehensive about Great Britain's ability to repay the American Dollar Loan.

Readers will recall that this Loan, the main price of which was the acceptance of Bretton Woods, was allegedly going to help the British people. But in spite of the loan the British people are now living under worse conditions than during the war years and have been recently warned that food rationing will be very severe for the next twelve months.

Now the British Government is being asked to alter Empire Tariffs under instruction from "America."

If Bretton Woods is such a wonderful scheme, why is it not helping to alleviate the conditions of the British people? The truth is, of course, that the British have been driven into a desperate position, which even sections of the Australian press now admit.

Australians should be more determined than ever to remain free of international agreements such as Bretton Woods.

Socialist planning inside the Empire is, of course, weakening our ability to withstand the increasing pressure of Dollar Diplomacy directed from Wall Street.

—E.D.B.

MORE FOOD SABOTAGE

"When the people of this country realise that food producers are ploughing their products back into the ground, they will wake up. Fruit is being allowed to fall to the ground. In my electorate alone, dozens of orchardists have allowed fruit crops to rot, and this year, thousands of cases of fruit will meet a similar fate; yet it is difficult for the people of this country to buy fruit. One orchardist alone, living within 30 miles of Perth, allowed 2000 cases of oranges to rot because he knew that if he harvested them, the return for his work, after purchasing cases and paying transport costs, would not have been more than one week's wages."

—Mr. Hamilton, M.H.R., during Budget Debates at Canberra on November 22, 1946.

DON'T MISS THIS

Extra copies of the January 31 special anti-taxation issue of the "New Times" are available at the "New Times" Office, McEwan House, 343 Little Collins Street, Melbourne. (Postal address: Box 1226L, G.P.O., Melbourne.)

The price to you, for a parcel of these extra copies, is 2/- per dozen, post free.

A supply of them will help you to further the tax-reduction campaign, so write or call for your parcel without delay.

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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.