

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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## War Against the British Goes On!

### Internal and External Enemies

(Radio Talk by ERIC D. BUTLER over 3CS, Colac.)

From the inception of this session we have been warning our listeners of the rapid deterioration of conditions in Great Britain under the present Socialist regime. We have attempted to make public the information not being given in the monopoly press. Many said that we were exaggerating the seriousness of the position, but now the press is at last admitting the truth.

The manner in which the real position is now being revealed would suggest that we are expected to believe that Great Britain is nearly finished, and that nothing can be done to save her. It is true that freedom is nearly destroyed in Great Britain under a system of Government, which becomes more and more totalitarian every day. Here in Australia we continue to follow the same disastrous road that is being taken in Great Britain. Every country in the British Empire is marching along the same totalitarian road. The further we march along this road, the more difficult it will be to turn back—if we decide that we want to turn back. However critical the position may be at the moment, we must not allow our initiative to be paralysed by the very clever propaganda suggesting that the British Empire is no longer able to maintain its sovereignty and must become a junior partner in an American-British coalition.

As usual, most of the propaganda designed to convince us that the British Empire's sun has at last set, comes from America. The New York "Herald Tribune" says:

"With the passing of the British Empire, one of the greatest balance wheels of the nineteenth century has disappeared. There are but two powers which can replace it—Russia and the United States. These are the only two sources from which can come the military power, economic strength, and political and social ideals which can stabilise the new world."

A Senator Russell of America is so convinced of our collapse that he has suggested a plan under which England, Ireland, Scotland, and Wales would become member

States of the U.S.A. It is also suggested that Australia, New Zealand, Canada and South Africa should be invited to form a similar association with America.

This proposal to absorb the British Empire is simply a rehash of the Federal Union propaganda put forward early in the war. At that time Great Britain's desperate military position was used to try and force an association in which the sovereignty of the Empire would have been destroyed. Federal Union was backed by the German-Jewish international financial groups with their headquarters in America. A well-known member of one of these groups, Mr. James Warburg, actually wrote a book advocating Federal Union. Another Jewish international financier, Sassoon, openly suggested that the British people would have to give over their traditions and become a part of the United States. However, there was too much opposition to the liquidation of the British Empire at that time, so a more suitable situation had to be arranged. The cessation of military hostilities was the signal for the intensification of economic warfare against the British people.

In spite of the obvious continuity of war against the British Empire by a group of international plotters who have used the international financial system and the imposition of various forms of political and economic monopoly control, there are still some woolly-minded people who do not realise that we are engaged in a war to the death against gangsters. How pathetic it is to hear so many well meaning people say that the disastrous conditions we have today are merely the result of a system and that we must fight the system. We are

not fighting a system; we are fighting the individuals using the system to destroy us. Who has ever heard of policemen trying to fight crime? Policemen fight criminals. Every policy, political, economic, financial, or military, is the result of a decision by some individual or group of individuals.

It may be argued that many operating the system of tyranny being imposed upon us today do not understand the purpose of the system. But somewhere there must be someone who does understand, and the sooner those responsible are dealt with, and dealt with very firmly, the greater the possibility of preserving what little civilisation we still have left.

Individuals must be made responsible for their actions. We can start with our Members of Parliament and make it clear to them that we as electors look to them to fight on behalf of their electors instead of abdicating to our enemies all the time. Parliament at present merely meets to legalise what the totalitarian planners have decided. The local totalitarian planners do everything to further the policy of the international plotters. And yet some electors think that the casting of their vote at election time has something to do with the control of this country! Electors have got to organise in every electorate and tell the local Member that unless he stands up and fights the local agents of the enemies of the British Empire, they (the electors) will remove him at the next elections in favour of a representative who will do some fighting.

The resources and ability of the peoples of the British Empire are more than sufficient for the preservation and extension of the British and Christian way of life; there is no need for us to surrender to the powerful international groups working for our destruction. But we cannot fully and freely apply our abilities to the use of our resources unless we defeat the policies of destruction being imposed upon us today.

While it is true that the Socialist planners in Great Britain and this country have been a Godsend to our enemies, we must not forget that the so-called Conservatives and Liberals were used first to introduce these policies. It would be useless to replace the Socialists with their "opponents" and expect an automatic improvement. As we have explained in many previous talks, the Socialist policies of controls and planning have been introduced by Socialist and "non-Socialist" Governments.

We are now seeing an intensification of the devilish policy of transferring initiative



MR. CHURCHILL

and power from individuals to institutions which are either directly or indirectly controlled by International Finance. No longer has the individual any definite rights, which he clearly understands. Back in 1939, Lord Hewart, a former Lord Chief Justice of England, wrote in his great book, "The New Despotism," that there is "a persistent and well-contrived system, tending to produce, and in fact producing, a despotic power which at one and the same time places Government Departments above the sovereignty of Parliament and beyond the jurisdiction of the Courts." Lord Hewart warned that compulsory State insurance and other similar schemes for destroying the individual's control over his own money were responsible for the introduction of what he termed "bureaucratic lawlessness."

It was the "anti-Socialist" U.A.P. Government, which attempted to introduce the compulsory National Insurance Scheme. The electors exerted so much pressure upon individual Members of Parliament that this scheme was abandoned in 1939, but the Labor Government re-introduced the scheme under a new label. It was the U.A.P. Government, which introduced the first social-

(Continued on page 2)

### Significant Political Pointers

Mr. Turnbull, representative for the Federal Electorate of Wimmera (Victoria), recently stated in the Mildura "Sunraysia Daily" that dried-fruit growers could be assured that he will do all in his power to save Empire Preference. But he urges growers to hold meetings and send personal letters to Canberra.

As reported elsewhere in this issue Mr. Turnbull has had a large number of letters demanding drastic tax reductions, and no doubt is beginning to appreciate the active support of his electors.

A functioning democracy can be established by electors forming Voters' Policy Associations in every centre and working to bring the local Member under their direct control.

The following letter appeared in the "Sydney Morning Herald" of March 4:

"The following figures will give some idea of the high taxation paid by companies. We are a small concern (proprietary company) employing about 60 persons. For the period ended June 1946, we paid to the Govern-

holders will pay varying amounts (from 2/- to 17/- in the £) on the £4000 which they receive as dividends, the ascertained total being approximately £2000. My personal dividend was £223, from which the Government received £192. It will be seen, then, that from the operations of our company for a period of twelve months the Federal Government received approximately £11,688, and shareholders approximately £2000."

"The more a thing is found to be self-sufficient, the better it is.—St. Thomas Aquinas.

"Those who . . . are economically unfree, who cannot stand on their own feet and look after themselves and their families if they are discharged, are always subject to having their wills coerced. They have no effective power except the final power of revolution. They have been denied the blessings of liberty even if the State gives them a dole or a job after they have become unemployed; for it is a delusion to suppose that the State is more gentle a master than the private employer, if the State gets complete control over a man's support. The delusion, which is widespread in our world, comes from ignoring the first of the maxims: All power corrupts and absolute power corrupts absolutely."  
—Herbert Agar, in "A Time for Greatness."

Those who are bemused with the stream of "scientific" material which asserts that highly centralised agricultural production is more efficient than small-scale production, should carefully read the following from H. J. Massingham's book, "This Plot of Earth": "In Sir John Russell's 'English Farming' (1912), a table of figures was given from seven European nations classifying among other statistics the acres per worker and the output per acre in 1937. In the first, Great Britain headed the list with 33.8, more than double the figure of the country that came next to it (Denmark) and treble that of the country next to Denmark (Continued on page 4)



MR. J. B. ("TAX GRAB") CHIFLEY

ment taxation as follows: Federal land tax, £14; pay-roll tax, £502; income tax, £1258; sales tax, £4565; income tax deductions from employees, £3348. Our profit for the same period was approximately £4000. Our share-

## NOTES on the NEWS

Recently, U.S. globetrotters have regaled us with written and spoken statements on our general backwardness, and implied that we should hitch our aspirations, cultural and material, to the land of the stars and stripes—pardon, stripes. Judging by reports published in the Melbourne "Sun" of March 7, there is another sphere in which U.S. excels—namely, crime.

"Record U.S. crime figures last year disclose a daily average of 36 murders, 33 rapes, 173 assaults, 172 robberies, 891 burglaries, 630 motor car thefts and 2580 miscellaneous crimes." The crimes and debauchery of the Hollywood stars are not included; nevertheless, it certainly is a much higher score than our own, even after allowing for population.

**LABOUR-CAPITALIST LEAGUE:** Some time ago a case of Tasmanian workers supporting higher prices was reported, and now comes another case of workers at that dreadful monopoly place, Broken Hill, where unions have joined forces with the Barrier Mining Co. in order to obtain a price increase on lead. ("Smith's Weekly," March 8.) The reason for this is that B.H. workers get a bonus based on the price of lead (meanwhile other workers are demonstrating against price increases). In this case we witness Labour and Capital united in a common cause.

**FRENCH FINANCE:** A Paris report of March 1 informs us that "all French wage-earners receiving less than £14/12/- a month will get a special allowance bringing their incomes to that level." It is said to be a temporary indemnity against increased living costs until the compulsory price-cutting programme is effective. As the compulsory price-reduction scheme (mentioned previously) is probably foredoomed to failure, this subsidy may be permanent. No details are given, but it is almost sure to be a levelling-down device financed from taxes, much of which the workers themselves will pay directly or indirectly. However, some bright spark may hit on the idea of providing the subsidy from new money, which does not go through industry into prices. Then it will be a real benefit.

**TALLOW TROUBLE:** The dead hand of socialistic price-fixing, after stifling most forms of production, has started to sabotage the soap supply by fixing the price of tallow at an unremunerative level—although the "fixers" themselves will not even work at stifling production without a reward for their "labour." There's plenty of tallow, but it doesn't pay operators to process it. That's the position also in most short lines. What we have to consider is, do we want a pretty scale of fixed prices and no commodity, or do we want competitive prices and commodities? All sane people will agree that the most important matter is to get the commodities. If we look closely at this matter we will find price-fixing is behind nearly all shortages; between taxation, rationing and price control, all production is well and truly fixed.

**MONOPOLY MERGERS:** The U.S. Federal Trade Commission has asked Congress for legislation to block the purchase of a company's assets if the transaction would tend to promote monopoly. The Commission's report states that "1800 U.S. companies have been swallowed up by purchase or merger since 1940," and that "the mergers include activities traditionally regarded as the realm of small business—food, textiles and non-electric machinery." The report also points out that "rapid growth of super-government in industry (Continued on page 3)

## POLITICIANS ALREADY HAVE ENOUGH POWER—AND PERHAPS TOO MUCH!

We are indebted to one of our Sydney readers for sending us part of the Sydney "Daily Mirror" of March 12, containing an article under the above heading. This is one of the rare cases in which we are able to agree with nearly all of an article in a big daily newspaper. The article is more remarkable—and may be a "straw in the wind"—because the daily paper in question has been giving considerable support to the Labor Party. As most of our readers will not have seen the article, we reprint it in full hereunder:—

The purpose of this article is to warn the people of Australia that the desire of Liberal, Country and Labor Governments to secure more power is never ending. The people's greatest safeguard is their Constitution, which politicians are so anxious to "amend."

According to Sir Stafford Cripps, President of the Board of Trade, Britain is to continue along the road of planned economy and industrial regimentation on wartime lines. Britain today is in a bad way, and many outside observers are of the opinion that things would be much better but for the pusillanimous leadership of Prime Minister Attlee and the application of theoretical idealism, which has little relation to realism.

Planned economy means suppression of individualism and enterprise, and it can be sugarcoated and made to appear palatable, but it still boils down to controls and regimentation of employers and employees.

Australia is vitally interested in Britain's economic future and our heartfelt sympathies go out to the British people in their present dire straits.

### THE LUST FOR POWER

Here in Australia we find wartime controls and administration still closely clamped on the Australian people. As in Britain, where 2,130,000 civil servants are still necessary for a planned economy, we find in Australia that the army of bureaucrats has not dwindled, but has increased with the coming of peace. We find Information Minister Calwell last weekend advocating that another attempt "must" be made by way of a referendum to secure the industrial powers refused by the people at the last referendum.

This lust for power by Federal politicians is disquieting. The Australian people have emphatically negated in three referendums additional powers for regimentation and restriction of individualism. The people gave the Federal Government the power to control social services, pensions, etc., but to date the assumption of such power has not shown any great step forward.

### PEOPLE V. GOVERNMENT

Mr. Calwell can rest assured that the people of Australia will not grant any further powers to politicians: they consider they have enough power already. During the war Australians saw the application of power, which took away their rights and liberties, and they accepted it in times of national crisis. But Australians are not going to give such power to politicians in times of peace.

In this respect the same comments apply to all Governments. Mr. Menzies and his colleagues have shown the same desire for power, centralised at Canberra. In fact, all political parties seem anxious to have the people hand themselves, handcuffed and leg-ironed, into their care.

Australians can thank the Constitution of this Commonwealth, which provides that all Governments that want extra powers must ask the people for them first. The people, on past results, have shown themselves jealous of this right, and have declared, in effect, that Federal politicians have enough powers already.

### ASSAULT ON STATE RIGHTS

The assault today is aimed at the disintegration of State rights. Argument that a Central Government can properly govern the whole of Australia and perform the functions of State Governments cannot hold water. Where would the people of far-away States such as Queensland and West-

ern Australia stand with all government centralised in Canberra? The State Governments are there to develop and build.

Creation of the Loan Council put the States in the role of mendicants. Today the States have to go cap-in-hand to Canberra, and, like Oliver Twist, keep asking for a little more to keep water conservation, soil erosion and other national undertakings and public utilities alive.

### BUREAUCRATIC GOVERNMENT

When it is realised that most government today is by Boards and Commissions, one shudders to think how peoples of the outside States would fare at the hands of



INFORMATION MINISTER CALWELL

Canberra. The Bruce-Page, Lyons and other Governments were perhaps primarily responsible for the reprehensible system of bureaucratic government, and the whittling away of the rights of Parliament and the people.

However, this Government has done little, and it is time it did something, to restore to Parliament the functions of government, and to cut the activities of these multitudinous Boards, Commissions and Committees. This fungi on Government developed before the war, ran riot during the war, and now threatens to overwhelm the country in peace time.

If necessary, let us have a Commission to deal with these Boards and Commissions, but they must be dealt with in some way.

\* \* \* \* \*  
[While heartily endorsing nearly the "Mirror's" entire article, we feel obliged to record our disagreement on at least four points: 1. The heading. (Politicians definitely have too much power.) 2. The seemingly implied idea that "things would be much better" in Great Britain under a strong leader—a fuhrer (Material conditions might be even worse, and real democracy at least as far away. Things would be much better if there were not so many pusillanimous electors who merely "choose" at elections what seems to them the least of three or four pre-selected Party evils, leaving future policy to the Party politician and/or his hidden masters.) 3. "This Government has done little to restore to Parliament the functions of government." (It has done nothing in that direction; on the contrary, as the "Mirror" scribe indicates elsewhere, it has been, and still is hell bent on doing the opposite.) 4. "A Commission to deal with these Boards and Commissions. (We know of no evidence showing that Beelzebub ever has or ever will cast out Beelzebub. The way to deal with Government Boards is to abolish them.)—Editor, "New Times."]

## WHIGGISM IS NOW UNDER JUDGMENT

(From "The Social Creditor," England.)

**One of the most important, and one of the most difficult, ideas to get into the general public mind in this country at the present time, is that, bad and dangerous as is the present Administration, the election of, or coalition with, an unreformed titular Conservative Party could quite easily prove fatal.**

We are not in the confidence of Lord Woolton or Mr. Churchill, and do not ever expect or desire to be, but we have no particular difficulty in stating their policy. It is Whiggism with modern improvements, and the period of Mr. Israel Moses Sieff's (Marks and Spencers) Departmental Store mentality as the reigning inspiration of 1931-39, which succeeded Alfred Moritz Mond's reign 1918-30, is to be continued and expanded by Lord Woolton's (Lewis—Cohen's—Departmental Store) mentality in 1947-? If great nations were even mainly Departmental Stores (we have no doubt Lord Woolton believes that is the case), there might be encouragement in the prospect. But, in fact, rationing and the departmental store mentality go together, and,

we trust, soon. As our decadence is precisely and definitely due to the obsession with "trade," the outlook is grave in the extreme.

There is a desperate fatalism associated with the Whig outlook, which recalls the moving spirit of the Gadarene swine. The first article of the long series, which led to the birth of Social Credit as a body of doctrine and Government in Alberta, appeared in "The English Review" in 1918 under the title of "The Delusion of Super-Production." Every word of it is applicable to the present situation.

To anyone who was sufficiently involved in industrial and departmental policy at the First Armistice, it will be obvious that we have learnt nothing and forgotten nothing, and are heading straight for a repetition on possibly a final scale of every disaster of the last twenty-five years. "Increased Production" is replaced by "More Exports";

Lord Inchcape in 1919—"we are a poor Nation, only hard work and economy will save us"—is paralleled by Lord Woolton—"we are impoverished, everyone must work harder"—and our "Statesmen" agree on only one slogan, that of 1920, "Produce more and consume less."

We are now convinced of what we have long suspected, that we have no longer a Party system of Government in this country, but a permanent and concealed coalition with substantially an agreed policy. One slight evidence of the correctness of this opinion is the payment of practically a Cabinet Minister's salary to the Leader of the Opposition. We believe that the Election of 1945 was an arranged election; that American troops, with their hatred of "Tories" who, they believed to a man, lived on taxes ground out of "the Colonies," were kept in this country as unofficial canvassers; and that the three months' interval between the poll and the declaration of the result, together with the identification marks on the ballot papers, outrage any belief in dmarkrazi.

The 1931-39 P.E.P. Government differs only from the present P.E.P. Administration in having as titular head Mr. Attlee instead of the Whig Baldwin (Mr. Chamberlain had only one duty, either to avoid or prepare for war). And both of them, Messrs. Attlee and Baldwin, have been grafted on this desperate Whig mentality, which has been the curse of this country from Cromwell's day to the present.

There is a peculiar blindness associated with obsessions of any nature, which appears to ensure their failure even to achieve more than temporary success in their narrow objective.

The people of Great Britain were far better traders, manufacturers, and farmers when their standards were set entirely outside trading, manufacturing and even farming. "Seek ye first the Kingdom of God [Reality]" is not merely a moral sentiment: it is a discovery much more important to "business" than atomic power. Once, we appear to have had it, at least to a limited extent, in our possession, and those were the days of Merrie England. Then we began to whine about it in the nasal tones of Praise God, Barebones and the Pilgrim Fathers; and we founded the Bank of "England," under typically false pretences, with as much secrecy and celerity as might be. The horrors of the Industrial Revolution, the "French" Revolution (travestied by the congenial Whig, Carlyle) and the child labour of Lancashire mills, which financed Marx, were not slow to follow.

Over a sufficient period of time, it is simply beyond discussion that belief (faith) is conclusively formative—that it is the matrix of events. It does not appear to be essential that it is "correct" belief in order that it shall be formative; but when it appears in the world of events, it appears to come under "judgment" by some absolute standard, "the Kingdom of God."

Whiggism is now under Judgment.

### LETTER FROM ANTWERP

"Everybody here is talking of the coming trade depression, which is grotesque when you think about it. Fancy talking of a trade depression when soap, oil, milk, sugar, etc., is almost unobtainable. What will happen when there is plenty again? We feel as though we had just walked out of prosperity."

"Both here in Belgium and in Holland, the German dictatorship has been exchanged dictatorship . . ."

"The Banque Nationale refuses to grant any money for reconstruction. It is now two years since the liberation, but those who suffered war damage have not received a penny; some have been granted a loan at 2 per cent. Those whose property was destroyed by the German and Allied armies and those whose property was damaged by billeting, etc., remain without any form of compensation. The Belgian Government says that the Belgian Government must pay for it by Lend-Lease. The Belgian Government replies that it has no money."

—Letter dated December 22, 1946, published in "The Social Creditor," England, January 18, 1947.

### THE INTERNATIONAL MONETARY FUND

"If you see a Director of the Fund going to one country or another, don't jump to the conclusion that that country's currency is shaky. It is our job to establish contact with all 39 countries in the Fund. It is our responsibility to see that members live up to their obligations to maintain currency stability."

That statement was made by Camille Gutt, managing director of the 7,400,000,000-dollar International Fund, at a Press conference held in Washington, as reported in the "Washington Post" recently.

"I have not seen the slightest sign of interest in the Fund from Moscow," said M. Gutt at the Press conference. Russia is not a member. Stressing the powers to be exercised by the Fund over member countries, he added: "In some cases the Fund will recommend ways of keeping the present par value; in others it will propose changes in the exchange rates and in the economic policies to be followed accordingly."

Directors will owe no loyalty to their own countries who appoint them. The Bretton Woods articles provide that all governors, executive directors and officers will be immune from legal process, will be granted diplomatic status and their salaries will be immune from taxation.

—"Democracy," N.Z., Feb. 26.

## WAR AGAINST THE BRITISH GOES ON!

(Continued from page 1)

istic food Boards. The Labor Government has merely extended the idea.

The Churchill Government laid many of the foundations of the present socialistic planning in Great Britain. It may be that Mr. Churchill had to compromise with the Socialists in order to maintain unity throughout the war years, but, whatever the truth of the matter, the defeating of the National Socialists in Germany increased the imposition of National Socialism upon the British people at home.

Now that the internal fifth-column is sabotaging the British Empire, it is no longer possible for the British people to help the Greek Government to hold back the threatened Communist revolution in Greece, which, if it comes, will extend Russian control still further.

Already it is all too apparent what is going to happen in India when the British leave.

The American people are being told that they will have to take over "world leadership," which will mean controls and the same type of planning in America as we are experiencing. Already it is being suggested that added American commitments abroad will mean that proposed American tax-cuts will have to be abandoned.

The general international policy of the international gangsters is perfectly clear: the absorption of the British Empire and the United States under one centralised control, thus destroying British culture and the British way of life. The Soviet threat to the world is one of the main excuses put forward as a reason for more and more centralised control of the British people and the Americans. If the British Empire is eliminated, leaving only two major groups, we can expect suitable action to absorb the two groups under one centralised world control, which is what International Jewry has been working for, for centuries.

The threat of centralised tyranny can only be defeated by individual initiative. Every Australian who uses his initiative to expose the plot to destroy us and helps to further action to bring our political representatives under our control is playing a vital part in saving the British Empire, the last bulwark against World Tyranny. Let every one of us do his bit to preserve and strengthen this bulwark in order that our children do not grow up as serfs.

### BRETTON WOODS

(To the Editor.)

Sir,—I desire to extend to your other readers an opportunity to register their emphatic opposition to the treacherous Bretton Woods Agreement, the decision to ratify which will come before the Commonwealth Parliament shortly, by forming a movement to unseat any Member of Parliament who fails to vote against this treacherous measure becoming law.

Should Australia agree to comply with its provisions and that of the "Monetary Fund," it would mean the transfer of power over all internal financial arrangements, over exchange rates, over preference to other members of the Empire, to a small group of international financial banking houses, the majority of whom are of German origin.

Our currency would be tied to a worse form of "Gold Standard" than that which nearly caused great disaster in Britain from 1925 to 1930.

In brief, Australian citizens would, for all practical purposes, lose their sovereignty if this infamous measure becomes law. The power of withdrawal is only nominal, because once we sign the Bretton Woods and Monetary Fund Agreements, we become subject to any long-term treaties from which it would not be easily possible to withdraw.

I will be pleased to hear from any of your readers who will join with me in starting a movement that may gather such momentum throughout Australia as to cast out from Commonwealth Parliament all Members, of whatever Party, who do not vote against this disloyal document.—Yours faithfully, F. J. TUCKFIELD, 51 Church Street, Middle Brighton, Vic.

### 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 Fuhrer 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.

# THE FALLACY OF "STATE MEDICINE"

The following topical article is taken from the American magazine, "Better Homes and Gardens" for January, 1947. More than 2,900,000 families read the magazine, which has a high reputation for accuracy. Of course, the writer of the article, Michael Wright, is not a social creditor but what he says is worth reading carefully:—

This is how it was in Britain. The doctor got back to his office just at 2 o'clock. "How many?" he said to his nurse.

"Forty." Casually, without hurry, he put on his white jacket and poked his head into the waiting room where the 40 patients sat. "Will those of you troubled with headache please stand," he said.

Six stood. The doctor took identical printed prescriptions out of his desk and handed one to each of the six and dismissed them.

Then he said, "Will those of you troubled with a cough please stand." Another group got up, and again he handed them printed prescriptions and dismissed them.

The others, he took one by one into his private office for a few minutes. Two hours later the office was empty, the 40 patients gone. This was an average of three minutes to a patient.

And that, Dr. Edward H. Ochsner, of Chicago, testified at the recent Waener-Murray-Dingell Bill hearings in Washington, is how it is with socialised medicine in Britain.

In Germany, where they also had a compulsory system, some doctors did even better—30 to 40 patients in one hour.

This is how most doctors believe it will be here in America if our own womb-to-tomb compulsory health scheme becomes law.

Champions of compulsory health insurance say we must have it because modern care is so complex that a large portion of normally self-supporting people cannot afford the care they need.

They say it must be a federal system, because the poorer States must have the help of the richer ones.

They say we must have it to get doctors into poor communities, because without it doctors now gravitate to the prosperous cities where people can pay their bills.

And to clinch their case, they get even the President of the United States to point with horror to selective service figures to show what a diseased people we are: five million males "between 16 and 37 classified as unfit for military service—30 per cent, of all those examined."

Now it is true that doctors prefer to practice good medicine in hospitals rather than primitive medicine on kitchen tables, and hence usually don't set up shop in the bush.

It's true that there are the medically indigent. Already there are charity wards and services all over the country taking care of them. Three-fourths of all our hospital beds now are paid for out of public funds.

But does it make sense to regiment all our people and all our medical profession into one vast bureaucratic system, shot through with abuses and disintegration, simply to care for these comparatively few?

As for the five million 4-F's, the correct figure was not five million, but 4,217,000. Of these, 2,048,000 were the armless, legless, blind, the mentally diseased, the idiots, imbeciles, and morons. What medical care could have cured idiocy, brightened the morons, restored the amputated leg? Another 280,000 were syphilitic. Treatment for syphilis is offered freely everywhere. How could compulsory insurance have eliminated this group?

If you continue this breakdown, you end up, not with five million, but about 1.5 million, whose rejections might possibly be due to lack of medical care. And it is doubtful if compulsory insurance would have altered this figure.

They did not, most of them, lack care because they could not get it. They lacked it because they had not been educated to want it.

In most all communities, except a few rural ones, there are agencies, clinics, and hospitals that provide care entirely free or at costs the people can afford. In my own community, for example, there is a medico-dental bureau run by the medical society. Any patient can take medical and hospital bills beyond his means to them. They investigate the patient's income and debts and decide the amount he can pay, and how fast. These payments are pro-rated to the doctor and hospital, who accept them as full settlement.

And in my State an ambulance will pick up any indigent person anywhere in the State, take him to the excellent State university medical school hospitals, and return him to the care of his family doctor when the necessary specialised treatment is finished.

No, the trouble was not that most of these men could not get care. It was that they were afraid. That they were lax. They placed other things first—wrong things. Many a man will take better care of his car than of himself. Let the motor pound or the rear end lump, and he heads straight for the garage, pays a big bill for the cure. But this same man will himself pound and lump along for months, dosing with vitamins, taking pills to correct his "acid condition." Anything to forestall the evil day of going to the doctor who

what he dreads to hear—goitre, ulcers, cancer, surgery, something.

You know that sort. I know them. One I knew, until he died, was the editor of a big national magazine. He was smart, quick, driving. But he ate enough for a half-dozen people. He let his teeth go. He puffed and wheezed. But he wouldn't go to a doctor; better let sleeping dogs lie. When he finally collapsed and the doctor got to him, his blood pressure was high enough to kill him. It soon did.

There are many thousands like him. It is not the poor alone who suffer ill health unnecessarily, but all of the unwilling and uneducated in the matter of health care.

It takes more than prepaid care to bring a man health.

As for periodic check-up, the attitude is: Who wants to go to the doctor when there's nothing wrong? He'll think you're a nut, a neurotic, a hypochondriac.

There are many, of course, who actually are. When their bill is already paid by socialised medicine, they run to the doctor with everything. They want all that is coming to them.



SIR WILLIAM BEVERIDGE

They call their doctor at all hours of day or night for mere trivialities. "I am very sick. You must come right away." The doctor becomes discouraged, disgusted. And soon he comes to think: "What does it matter what kind of medicine I practice?"

The system sets his fees. It practically guarantees him his patients. It puts the good doctor on a level with the poor. It takes away his incentive to develop a reputation.

Dr. Nathan Sinai, an advocate of a compulsory system, says in his book, "The War of Health Insurance":

"The most startling thing about insurance countries is the steady and fairly rapid increase in number of days the average person is sick. In the United States, average recorded sickness per individual is seven to nine days a year. It is nearly twice that among the insured of Great Britain and Germany and has practically doubled in both countries since inauguration of insurance. It seems to be a safe conclusion that insurance has certainly not reduced sickness."

This puzzles most American doctors, since they assume that the intent of compulsory health insurance is to reduce illness and improve health.

Champions of socialised medicine point to care in the army and navy. True, it was the best in the world, the best modern medicine could provide. But that wasn't because the doctors were governed by the army. It was because they had priceless knowledge and skills developed by our free, non-political system of medicine and medical education.

If you doubt what happens in the long run without freedom and competition, look to the veterans' administration hospitals between the wars. These hospitals became a national scandal, the backwaters of medicine. Doctors stagnated. Research was discouraged. Improvements in medical science were introduced late and reluctantly. To remedy the deplorable state, General Bradley employed the part-time services of private doctors.

One of the pieces of propaganda for socialised medicine shows a woman in a state of malnutrition, clad in rags, surrounded by under-nourished children, likewise in rags, standing before a hovel. The caption says, "These People Need Medical Care."

Of course. But more than medical care, they need food, housing, sanitation, clothing, and education. Without these, medical care is fruitless, is nothing. Help for these people lies not in socialised medicine, but in education AND RAISING THEIR ECONOMIC LEVEL.

Rather than socialising medicine, would it not make more sense to put all our education, all our production and distribution of food, houses, and clothing under the thumb of the social security administrator? Then, through pay-roll deductions, we might guarantee everyone a quart of milk a day, steak, a car, and a Cape Cod cottage!

Or is that what Wagner, Murray, and Dingell are really up to. They reiterate that their scheme guarantees you free choice of physician. Yes.

Free choice among doctors willing to work under the system. Free choice if your doctor is willing to be paid according to the vote of the majority of the doctors in your community, or accept the dictate of the Surgeon-General in Washington. Free choice if your doctor's list is not already full.

If you go to a doctor who doesn't submit to the system, you'll have to pay extra, because neither of you can get any of the money you have already paid into the insurance fund. That is for doctors who join.

If you are sick and want a specialist, you can't have him unless your general practitioner requests it, or it is approved by the administrative officers of the district.

As for the doctor, he'll likely starve if he doesn't join, for most people can't afford to pay twice.

If he does join, he can't decide for himself how he'll be paid, or what. And he can't decide what sort of medicine he'll practice, because under the Bill the power to say who may be consultants and specialists is given only to the Surgeon-General.

Anyway, Senator Murray thinks this "free choice of physician" is "grossly exaggerated." A member of his family "travelled from Montana to Baltimore to be operated on by a well-known physician. When she got there, she found she could not have his services and was operated on by a total stranger and was entirely satisfied in every respect."

Naturally, Johns-Hopkins is famous; its staff so noted that you have utter faith in men you have never heard of. If "free choice" were of no consequence, why toot 3000 miles across the nation just to commandeer what she considered the best advice? What is wrong with the Montana sawbones who'd hack on her under compulsory insurance?

Estimates vary on how many administrative employees the system would need. The average is one employee for every 1000 people—and that's almost as many political employees as we now have doctors.

And what is the end? Britain started with a mild "socialised medicine" scheme in 1911. And where are they now? Last April "Time" reported of Britain's latest plan:

"The new plan ruthlessly trampled some of British medicine's most hallowed traditions. Voluntary and public hospitals, local points of pride for years, will be bought by the State. Private medical practice, while not abolished, will not be encouraged, and patients engaging private doctors will have to pay twice, in effect—once to the Government in taxes, once to the physician. Medical practices may no longer be sold to other doctors, but will be bought by the Government, dealt out to applicants from needy areas. Doctors who join the system will earn a civil-service salary, plus additional small fees for each patient."

It is interesting that nowhere in the Bill is the system of financing discussed. At \$40 a person a year—a low average of the estimated costs—the programme would run to four billion a year and up; nobody knows how far up. And yet to pay this bill, to pay the vast administrative army, the doctors, the hospitals, the nursing and childcare and other benefits, no method is outlined, no limits set.

The Bill only says that there would be created on the books of the Treasury Department a "Personal Health Services Account," to which would be appropriated such sums as might be required.

Sponsors of the Bill say that they intend that the tax be collected through pay-roll deductions, like the current social security tax. The worker would pay 1.5 per cent, of his income up to \$3600 a year; the employer another 1.5 per cent. Self-employed would pay 3 per cent. If this weren't enough—Congress would raise the pay-roll tax or make up the difference by subsidy.

Thus the Bill would budget everyone in together. Those more prosperous would be paying all out of proportion to their own risk so that the medically indigent would get care without charity.

A person who needs help should have it. So far as possible he should make his own way. Beyond that he should have help. But not in a manner that will tear down the quality of medical care to the rest of us.

Not in a manner that will destroy private practice.

Not in a manner that will destroy the voluntary hospital system.

Not in a manner that will give one-man control over medical research and education.

Not in a manner that will bind the physician in political slavery.

Not in a manner that makes men leeches, hypocrites, and servile to their Government, without the will to fight unceasingly for freedom.

## PLANNING

Said the newly-trimmed tree to the flowers below:

"Why must I be planned when I'd rather just grow?"

I may be a handsome, symmetrical sight, With branches well trimmed and all trained to grow right.

But no artist for me in his paint will dip brush.

He'll sigh for my sadness and paint a wild bush. In freedom there's beauty; in nature there's art.

When trimmed to a pattern, our glories depart.

A tree, like a man, must have freedom to spread, Or its soul will dry up and its spirit be dead."

—S. G. Clark, in "The Canadian Social Creditor."

# Notes on the News

(Continued from page 1)

must be halted to prevent a rise of super-government." It would be interesting to trace the source of the funds behind these mergers, which would doubtless lead back to a few men who also control the national credit and use it for their own ends. If the proposed legislation is passed, these men will have to be compelled to unwind their existing control.

**AUTO-DEALERS' ALARM:** U.S. car dealers now say that, by the N. American summer, buyers will be able to get immediate delivery of popular makes of cars. So much for supplies; but they are alarmed by the fact that "the big demand for cars has melted away because of high prices." Isn't it queer how "demand" can disappear? Fancy it melting! Notice that no shortage of cars is expected; it is a return to the era of a shortage of "money votes." Mass production needs mass buying, and mass buying is conditional on the "masses" having enough effective money; the car manufacturers have played their part, now it is necessary that the money manufacturers shall properly fulfill their function.

**PREFERENCE POINTERS:** The following impelling argument against abandoning Empire Preferences was contained in a press item of February 20: "The idea of transferring decisions on protective measures from the Australian Government to an international tribunal is alone sufficient to condemn the new proposals. The policy of most-favoured nations must favour nations with low wages and low standards of living; it would also concentrate capital investment in native labour countries." Fortunately there is some opposition to the plot to further disintegrate the British Empire, but much more is required if this section of the plot is to be frustrated. Apart from manufacturers, workers should have a keen interest in retaining Empire Preferences, which are a safeguard against coolie standards; they should strongly resist the moves by their misleaders to abandon these safeguards.

**BANANA BOYCOTT:** In addition to the dislocation of the meat industry in N.S.W. and later in Victoria due to price-fixing now comes a threat of a banana boycott through the same cause. Greengrocers at the Sydney markets have decided that unless price-fixing is lifted from bananas they will impose a ban on the fruit. They regard price-fixing as a prime cause of black-marketing. So we find price-fixing under fire from all sections of the community. Black-marketing has disappeared in all commodities, which have been freed from rationing and price control; is any further proof necessary to sustain the proposition that rationing and price-fixing are responsible for black-marketing? —O.B.H.

## DISPLACING HUMAN LABOUR

"In five minutes at the Vickers-Armstrong shipbuilding yards, the first welded prefabricated bulkhead of the new 29,000

ton Orient passenger liner 'Orcaades' was lowered into position in the bows of the hull by a travelling crane. Production of this 27½-ton slab of steel in the firm's work shops took only four days. In the days

of riveting, scores of workers would have been employed for ten days producing the plates, and riveters would have spent an other two and a half days in erecting them." —("News Chronicle," 25th January, 1946.)

"I have in front of me a page taken from the weekly journal of the Master Builders' Association called 'The Builder', which deals with new inventions for the trade. Anyone can see this new machine working in the London Brick Company's works on the way from Euston to Carlisle. I had better read the statement in this advertisement: 'Conservation of manpower and of fuel. One example is this one-man operated excavator, which can dig 10 tons at a bite—replacing 530 men. Every time the bucket is filled, one ton of fuel is saved.' That machine is operated in two or three of the works belonging to the London Brick Company." —(Mr. Edward Porter, Labour, Warrington, "Hansard," 28th February, 1946.)

## ACTIVITIES IN THE WIMMERA ELECTORATE

Mr. S. W. Butler, secretary of the Red Cliffs Voters' Policy Association, reports that his association is now disposing of its third thousand of demand letters for the tax and bureaucracy reduction campaign. As far as can be discovered, the local Federal Member, Mr. Turnbull, M.H.B., is answering personally all letters received from electors.

The campaign is now under way in various parts of the Wimmera electorate, but Mr. Butler urges that more "New Times" readers contact him for a supply of demand letters and send a small donation to cover the cost of printing and posting. Mr. Butler's address is Box 423, Red Cliffs, Vic.

## AN IMPORTANT NEW BOOKLET "OUR SHAM DEMOCRACY"

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# THE UNION OF ELECTORS AND THE INSTITUTE OF POLITICAL ACTION

The following article, published by "Vers Demain," Quebec, a month before the Richelieu-Vercheres election to the Canadian Federal Parliament, indicates the methods and arguments of the Union des Electeurs which won the signal Pontiac victory earlier in the year, and, although beaten in a traditionally "Liberal" stronghold (Richelieu-Vercheres) secured the "near eclipse" (vide "The Times") of the "Pro-

The Union of Electors is not an end in itself, but simply a means towards the attainment of a goal.

The goal is to put politics at the service of the citizen, and by means of politics to correct certain major vices, which prevent production from being at the service of the consumer.

Political and economic health, the common good, is therefore the end; the Union of Electors the political means employed to reach it.

It would be idle to take the trouble to establish a Union of Electors and then leave it to sleep and grow rusty.

When a group is founded in a parish, a county or a province, the task is not ended. It remains to make the group function—the means must be used in order to arrive at the end. And if the means proves too weak it has to be strengthened to make it more effective. It grows stronger as it grows in size and as it is used. It is an organism: exercise does it good.

That is why, if we insist on the multiplication and development of local, regional and provincial groups of the Union of Electors, we insist equally on their use, on their being put into operation.

## POTENTIALLY PRODIGIOUS

In building the Union of Electors we are setting up a political strength of incomparable power. Few people realise it yet, because it is something new, because nobody has yet seen a whole people united and organised to demand the fulfilment of desires, which are in everyone's mind and heart.

The Union of Electors of the Province of Quebec, although the first and largest in the world, is still nearer to its birth than to its maturity.

But it is easy to understand that in a town where the great majority of the citizens are always watching the facts of their town's administration and where they openly band together to demand some possible thing in connection with their town, not one municipal council would be able to resist such a demand or it would be condemned to disappearance; it would have to resign to give place to another at the earliest opportunity.

If we extend this state of affairs to a whole province, with the majority of electors thus organised, alive and prompt to express together and clearly their common will, what parliament, what government could ignore such a strength with impunity? And the same would hold good on the Federal scale.

## CONTROL REPRESENTATIVES

The Member of Parliament knows he is dependent on two forces—that of finance which grants his election expenses, and that of the vote without which he can neither obtain nor keep his seat. When the first strength is sufficient to bring the second in its train, it is the first, which chiefly guides him in his decisions. When the second force is independent of the first, the M.P. necessarily becomes more attentive to his electors than to those who provide the election funds. When both, the money and the votes come from the same men, as in the case of M. Caouette, the M.P. is 100 per cent, his electors' man.

The Pontiac election demonstrated that the same men who vote are able to finance their candidate's campaign. And the expenses are then ten times, twenty times, thirty times less than if the candidate draws on heavily monied interests to sway an electorate which can be influenced by stunts dependent on money.

Corruption, direct or indirect, by money, will disappear as a Union of well-informed electors checks that corruption.

## CHANCES, WHICH REMAIN

In spite of the dictatorship of money, in spite of the tyranny of political patronage which can, at its will, heap tables high with good things or lay them bare, we still fortunately have in our officially democratic countries the right to speak, to write, to meet and associate together.

If we lived in Russia, we would have to proceed in the dark, and develop secretly a powerful "maquis," before dreaming of

## 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.

freeing citizens or of breaking tyranny. Thank God, we are in Canada, where we can proceed openly. Let us take advantage of our situation. In spite of lesser obstacles, let us raise a huge Union of Electors, to break the dictatorial network, which is enmeshing us more and more, economically and politically. Quickly before it is too late.

## A GUIDING FORCE

The Union of Electors, called to become therefore a force for the future, the most formidable, potentially, that the democratic world has known.

But, because it is a formidable strength, this strength must always be used for good. It would be a disaster to see it one day serving against Order for the promotion of anarchy.

It would then be merely a travesty of a Union of Electors. Intrinsicly, one cannot see how electors would seek, collectively, things, which would be detrimental to them individually. But history teaches us that these travesties do occur, that the spirit of evil can take over institutions which are good in themselves and use them in an entirely opposite direction from that of the ideal which presided at their birth. A classic example is that of the Order of Templars, which became the instrument of Freemasonry and Cabalistic Jewry. There are others.

The Union of Electors, called to become a great force, must never become a blind force. That is why, not only are its members required to instruct themselves even before organising themselves, but the Institute of Political Action also retains the mission of guiding the Union of Electors after it has been established.

## POLITICAL ACTION INSTITUTE

The Institute of Political Action is essentially an educating and directing organism. The Institute is not simply a collection of people; it consists of selected men and women who have definite qualifications. To recruit them, the Institute appeals to all those who feel they have conviction and courage. The only condition is that they must be ready to do voluntary work for

## KILLED BY THE SOCIALIST PLANNERS

The two items republished hereunder, from the London "Daily Express" of December 27 and the Melbourne "Advocate" of March 12 respectively, give further evidence of the real character of Socialist planning, and should be a warning to Australians to strive desperately against the New Despotism while there is yet time:—

A dying man was refused an extra two ounces of fats a day by the Food Ministry although a diet expert and a surgeon decided the allowance was essential to keep him alive.

The allowance was stopped on the advice of the Ministry's medical advisers, who had never seen the patient, says a letter to the "British Medical Journal" from the man's private doctor, Dr. Humphrey Foxell, of Edgbaston, Birmingham.

Early in October, the patient, a man of 54, was discharged from hospital after a serious operation.

He had lost two stones in weight, and was fed through tubes.

In hospital he had been given the extra butter or margarine and two pints of milk a day.

Dr. Foxell wrote to the local food officer, who agreed to continue the allowance. Some days later Dr. Foxell received a letter from the divisional food officer stating that the Ministry's medical advisers ruled out the extra butter "as there is no call for a lubricant for swallowing in such cases."

Two pints of milk a day and three eggs a week were allowed.

Dr. Foxell then wrote to Dr. Edith Summerskill, Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry.

He said the extra fats were needed "not as a lubricant but to help to maintain life." Three weeks passed. Then Dr. Foxell received a reply, dated November 18, and signed by Dr. Summerskill's private secretary.

"The refusal of the extra allowance," it said, "was fully in accordance with the recommendations of our medical advisers. Dr. Summerskill feels, however, that this is a case where an extra 2 ozs. of butter a week should be allowed on compassionate grounds."

"Compassionate grounds, indeed" writes Dr. Foxell. "The necessity of maintaining life was apparently dismissed and the patient was to be allowed 'on compassionate grounds' to go downhill by the recommendation of the medical advisers to the Ministry."

On November 29 Dr. Foxell wrote to Dr. Summerskill that his patient had died. "Is this a foretaste of control?" asks his letter.

A recent issue of the London "Weekly Review" . . . states that in the week previous to its issue (January 9, 1947), three cases had been reported from Birmingham in which the Ministry of Food had refused to give authority for extra fats, milk, or both, to be obtained for patients suffering

The movement, according to the directions they receive from the officers responsible. Once they have entered the group of active people who make up the Institute, these men come in contact with others who are in better training and with the directors. They read the paper more carefully because they have to find in it intellectual stores with which they may engage in discussion with the electors. Thus they form their minds.

They also form their hearts, become accustomed to sacrifices, to devotion, to self-denial. They also meet many opportunities of moulding themselves to a precious state of humility, which in no way lessens the conquering spirit.

As they perfect themselves, if they persevere, they are given responsible functions in the Institute, in which they develop their personality even more.

It is thus that, little by little, those who have willingly answered a first call and who have had the courage to stand firm, become infected with a spirit, which is the spirit of the Institute of Political Action.

Their objectives are pure, and as it is not their own well-being, but order and the common good which they seek, they are markedly equipped to unite and to give political guidance to the electors.

It is thanks to the existence of this Institute of Political Action that we may hope to see the great force of a Union of Electors remaining at the service of order.

Certainly the members of the Institute are fallible, as other men; they too are capable of erring and following the wrong track. But they themselves have a guide—the paper, "Vers Demain." And "Vers Demain" is not published secretly; it is not circulated by stealth. Any moralist or priest may examine it. If we consider the fighting spirit of "Vers Demain" and the daring line it takes in denouncing politicians of prestige and powerful influence, we may be sure that the slightest deviation, the slightest breach of principles of which it might be guilty, would be sharply reprimanded. Is this not a sort of safeguard for the doctrinal organ of the Institute of Political Action and of the Union of Electors?

All this takes away our fears and gives us ardent vigour to set up as quickly as possible the formidable strength of the Union of Electors.

Members of the Institute of Political Action, because you have the light with you, and because you desire what is good, move forward without fear. Set up the Union of Electors everywhere. But do not abandon it when it is founded. Do not abandon it to die of weakness. And do not abandon it to fall into the hands of wrong-minded men, of revolutionary elements or cunning politicians.

## Political Pointers

(Continued from page 1.)

(France). In the second, Great Britain was at the bottom of the list, averaging less than half the output per acre of Belgium, Denmark, Switzerland and the Netherlands. "Now these figures do mean something; they mean that in the displacement of men by machines on the land Great Britain outdistanced the other six European countries, which were 'also rans,' while these countries made her an 'also ran' in the actual yield of crops per acre. Those that headed the list in this output per acre—Denmark, Switzerland, Holland and Belgium—are all peasant countries. . . . What is more, they are countries which still practise husbandry, and by methods intensive. . . . rather than extensive. They return at least some of their wastes to the soil on organic principles and so the less exploit and exhaust their lands. The same is true of our own country in all instances where few are broken up into many farms. Thus, an estate of 1000 acres under four farms in Lincolnshire was sub-divided into 90 ton-acre farms. The results were (1) an increase of the population from 40 to 180, and (2) a triple increase of yield per acre. I have proved in my own region that the yield per acre fifty years ago was double what it is now under modern conditions. . . . Thus, we do not need to go outside our own land to prove that, where it is not starved or unduly handicapped by financial pressure from without, small-scale beats large-scale farming every time."

"Physical force is power for the purpose of keeping order, but it is not power for the purpose of perfecting life."

—Rev. G. A. Studdert Kennedy, in The Warrior, the Woman and the Christ."

Comment in the Brisbane "Telegraph" of March 12 on the swearing in of Mr. Mc-Kell as Governor-General:

"There was a notable absence from the ceremony of members of the public. The galleries reserved for outsiders were filled almost exclusively with prominent departmental officials. . . ."

## SECRECY ON BRETTON WOODS

The following report was published in the Newcastle (N.S.W.) "Sun" on March 12:—

The secretary of the Newcastle branch of the Federated Ironworkers' Association (Mr. R. C. Morgan, said today that the secrecy surrounding details of the Bretton Woods agreement created suspicion that the people of Australia were "being taken for a ride."

Mr. Morgan said that he wrote to Mr. R. James, M.H.R., asking him to receive a deputation to discuss the agreement, and he also asked for a copy of the agreement.

"Mr. James replied that, as the House was sitting, he could not receive a deputation until later, and that no copies of the agreement were available," Mr. Morgan said.

"We are now wondering whether the people of Australia are being taken for a ride and whether even members of Parliament themselves know what it is all about."

"The tone of Mr. James' reply suggests that. We believe that before the agreement is ratified trade unions and members of the public should know the precise terms. The Labor Party has no right to compel the people to agree to anything of such particular importance as this agreement when they know nothing whatever about it."

"It seems to be a peculiar set-up in view of the possibility that the committee controlling the fund under the agreement could interfere with the economic and domestic life of Australia."

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