

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 far our
lips are forging,
Silence is crime.
—Whittier.

THE NEW TIMES

Vol. 13. No. 12. MELBOURNE, FRIDAY, MARCH 28, 1947.

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Our charges for supplying and posting the "New Times" direct to your home or elsewhere every week are as follow:
Three months, 5/-; Six months, 10/-; Twelve months, £1.
Payments must be made in advance and sent direct to New Times Limited, Box 1226, G.P.O., Melbourne.
(Registered Office: 343 Little Collins Street, Melbourne, C.I. Telephone: MU 2834.)

New Federal Power Grab Exposed

The "Economic Stability" Bill

Easily one of the best and most important of the recent parliamentary speeches, which have come to our notice, was that made by the Hon. A. G. Warner, Member for Higinbotham Province in the Victorian Legislative Council, during the debate on the so-called Economic Stability Bill. We heartily congratulate Mr. Warner on his stand against the New Despotism, and we have much pleasure in publishing the full text of his speech as reported by "Hansard": —

THE HON. A. G. WARNER (HIGINBOTHAM PROVINCE).—There have been before the Government of this State in the last few years three important issues. One is the granting of State taxation rights to the Commonwealth; that was alleged to be a temporary measure but, unfortunately, it has become permanent. The next issue was centred upon a suggestion that Victoria should refer certain rights to the Commonwealth. The measure now before the House is the third important issue because it asks Parliament to delegate certain State rights to the Commonwealth. I consider that in his explanatory speech the Minister clouded the real issues involved in this Bill. The unofficial Leader, on his part, did not serve to clarify the situation, but dealt with subjects, which are not at issue.

SIR FRANK CLARKE.—I direct attention to the state of the House.

(A quorum was formed.)

THE HON. A. G. WARNER.—The main issue to which the present measure refers is the abrogation of State rights in respect of certain matters. The subject has been clouded by a suggestion that if this Parliament does not pass the measure there will not be that government by regulation, which is considered necessary to establish some degree of economic stability during the transition period from war to peace. However, no one has suggested that all the regulations should be guillotined. Doubt has been cast by the unofficial Leader on the question whether the Commonwealth has adequate power to maintain the necessary controls during the transition period to which I have already referred. I submit that there is plenty of evidence to show that the Commonwealth does possess that power, and that, therefore, the present mea-

sure must have some other object than that of establishing the Commonwealth right to handle matters which are necessary for the transition period. In support of that contention I would refer to Dawson's case against the Commonwealth as reported in the "Argus Law Reports" of 1946. I quote the following from the judgment: —

The change of circumstances consisting in the surrender of the enemy and the passing of the military purposes with a view to which the country had been organised does not mean that the measures by which it has been so organised must suffer an immediate constitutional collapse—to place a country on a footing to take an adequate part in such a war as that through which we have passed requires a co-ordinated and systematic series of measures which must re-shape the economy of the country—it is apparent that the change back from a war economy to an economy appropriate to peace is a task calling for further measures of a legislative nature, and the defence power is not insufficient to authorise laws for that purpose.

I repeat that the Commonwealth has the power.

THE HON. P. J. CLAREY.—When was the judgment delivered?

THE HON. A. G. WARNER.—In the course of this year. I emphasise that the High Court said—

The change back from a war economy to an economy appropriate to peace is a task calling for further measures of a legislative nature.

In other words, the High Court said to the Commonwealth: "You can enact further legislation and we will support it under the defence power." The Commonwealth has recently brought down what is known as "transitional" legislation. The High Court also said—

The defence power is not insufficient to authorise laws for that purpose.

A majority of the Justices of the High Court considered that post-war reconstruction justifies the maintenance of all existing

price, raw material and man-power controls. I believe the High Court will honour that statement—I prefer to believe it rather than propaganda to the effect that the Commonwealth needs the powers contained in the Bill. It has the constitutional right to do what the Court has said—to pass the laws and regulations necessary to protect the country during the transitional period. The High Court has not adopted an illiberal attitude and, therefore, this Bill must have some other object. I emphasise that—and this is the real issue. It does not matter whether the Bill is termed a Bill to cover the transitional period or whether it is said to be for the preservation of economic stability or any other purposes. It is not for the purpose of reconstruction concerning the war, because that power is already in the hands of the Commonwealth. Why does the Commonwealth want the Bill to be passed? I think we can better rely upon the course of conduct the Commonwealth has followed than on any of its words or promises. I am a great believer in examining the conduct of people rather than listening to their words.

The Commonwealth has made two attempts to have a referendum passed. On one occasion it attempted to grab every conceivable power, but it over-reached itself. Then it tried to obtain slightly less comprehensive powers. Later it sought to induce the States to abrogate their rights. All these attempts failed; now we have before us a Bill the purpose of which is not to give the Commonwealth powers during the transitional period. I repeat that the Commonwealth already has those powers.

THE HON. P. J. KENNELLY.—The Bill will not be proclaimed unless it is proved that the Commonwealth has not the necessary power.

THE HON. A. G. WARNER.—I do not believe that. The Commonwealth can and will use the measure to bring in regulations that will give it power it would not otherwise have.

THE HON. P. J. CLAREY.—The Bill does not give that power to the Commonwealth Parliament.

THE HON. A. G. WARNER.—In the course of my speech I shall show that it does. I draw the attention of the Leader of the House to the promises and suggestions the Commonwealth made in regard to the uniform taxation scheme. When its taxing rights were being taken away, the State was promised that it was being done for war purposes and those rights would be returned after the war. They have not been returned, and they will not be, if the Commonwealth can avoid having to return them. I am satisfied that there is power



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under the Bill—that is the only reason why it is desired—to enact legislation not concerned with the war. The Commonwealth Parliament wishes to continue to regulate our lives. It will have the power to fix the commencing date of regulations, to make further regulations or to modify and amend the present regulations.

The titles of the various regulations do not concern me; the words and powers in them do. The mere fact that they are termed "Economic Stability Regulations" or "Prices Regulations" does not make them smell any better! If the regulations are passed the Commonwealth—in co-operation with the Governor in Council of the State—will have practically every economic power required to cover banking, credit, acquisition of wheat, control of land, and over-all means of production and distribution. In other words, it will have all the powers necessary to implement the socialistic policy for which the Commonwealth Government stands. It will have authority to avoid paying just compensation because it will have State power; section 51 of the Commonwealth Constitution requires the giving of just and fair compensation. I believe the Commonwealth could acquire the

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Although not so very long ago the Sydney daily press and Mr. Calwell were engaged in a bitter feud, now Mr. Calwell is praised by his recent "enemies" as being a paragon of virtue so far as the bringing of Jewish "refugees" to Australia is concerned.

The Sydney "Sun" goes so far as to say "Mr. Calwell has been consistently constructive, wise and liberal in his migration policy."

The Sydney daily press, which is permeated with Socialists and Communists, has not made any attempt to give its readers the facts about the Canadian Spy Trials. Any criticism of Jewish policy is apparently taboo. We must accept Jewish "refugees" without complaint and not say harsh things about Mr. Calwell, who says nothing about Jewish outrages in Palestine and elsewhere, but tells Australians that they need to be more tolerant!

It is interesting to note that not only has the Sydney daily press taken the part



RT. HON. R. G. MENZIES, M.H.R.

of its worst critic, but that Mr. Menzies is always prepared to help Mr. Calwell when the criticism on the "refugees" issue becomes severe.

The Canadian Royal Commission, which investigated fifth-column activities in Canada, had much to say about the Canadian Association of Scientific Workers, members of which played an important part in espionage on behalf of "a foreign Power."

Here in Australia there is a similar organisation. One of its most prominent members is Dr. Makinson, Lecturer in Physics at the Sydney University. (Dr. Julius Stone, a Zionist, is Professor of Law at the same University.) In the Sydney "Daily Telegraph" of September 13, 1946, Dr. Makinson stated that he is a Communist. The Federal Secretary of the Australian Association of Scientific Workers is Mr. L. W. Hibbard, who works in the radio-physics laboratory of the C.S.I.R. Mr. Callaghan, a Communist who has been in charge of the Communist Party Scientific Bureau, has been a committeeman of the Australian Association of Scientific Workers.

It appears that we could do with a Royal Commission in Australia similar to the one appointed in Canada. It would be worth while to discover just how many Communists are in key positions in the Universities and other places of influence.

No doubt most readers have noticed with interest the bank advertisements appearing in the daily papers. For example, the Commercial Banking Company of Sydney says that it "stands ready to supply credit in full measure to competent individuals and companies for all constructive purposes."

It is well known that there is little difficulty in obtaining money from the banking system at present. But this liberal credit policy is of little use while production is deliberately restricted by high taxation and bureaucracy. No one wants to extend his productive effort under the present conditions.

There are more ways than one of controlling the individual. Control through the money system was a general control. Now we are having imposed upon us detailed controls. Control by coupon is much

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The resolution from the Tatura branch of the A.N.A. urging that the State Government appoint a committee to investigate the system of Alberta (Canada) was carried at the A.N.A. Conference. It now remains for those interested to see that this motion is given effect to instead of being pigeonholed as most of such motions are.

Apart from this matter, other A.N.A. resolutions indicated a realisation that wage increases, which go through industry and into prices, are futile. But nobody got to the stage of suggesting that extra incomes can be got to the people without going through industry as costs. That's an idea that needs pushing.

TRANSPORT TROUBLES: The Federal Government is reported to have informed State Premiers that the pegging of freight and fares on State undertakings is being abandoned. Doubtless this is to clear the way for increased fares following the recent strikes for more wages, and so we will soon receive the benefits (?) of Unionism in the form of increased transport charges. Meanwhile the benevolent State stifles private road-transporters, even those trying to get timber to town for houses. In this connection, timber haulers from Noojee (Vic.) say they may be forced out of business. All in all, it should be quite clear how greedy and inefficient this fellow "State" really is.

MEAT MUDDLE: Sir William Angliss recently said that he could see no way out of the meat deadlock unless the Government suspended price fixing. He said that he had been in favour of price control, "but I have been forced to change my mind." The obviously evil effects of price fixing are rapidly causing more and more people to change their views on this question. Two days earlier the President of the Graziers' Association of Southern Riverina (Mr. S. C. Burston), also blamed the price fixers, "whose reluctance to face facts had recently caused chaos in Sydney and threatened a

similar effect in Victoria." So we see these socialistic experiments causing the chaos that we were told they would prevent.

HEBREWS' HELPERS: The Ballarat Trades and Labour Council, apparently having no workers problems to attend to, recently discussed a statement on the Jewish Question by Mr. Gullett, M.H.R. The Council carried by 15 votes to 11 a motion expressing disgust at what was described as "this form of Jew-baiting." One of the 11 opposing the motion said that the Jews were exploiters who flouted Trade Union laws under sweat-factory conditions. Had the subject been "sweating," the discussion might have been an appropriate one for such a Council. The amount of Labor officials' time being taken up with non-Union matters, such as the Jewish Question, is rather extensive. It is curious to note the number of Hebrews' helpers on the workers' pay roll.

DEBT DATA: The total public debt of Australia at December 31, 1946, was £2,803,649,000. The debt outstanding from the 1914-18 war was £249,122,813, and that from the 1939-45 war £1,515,182,344. The remaining amount has been incurred by the Commonwealth and States for works and other purposes. £487,006,512 is owing in London. This is the sad story, in terms of money, of borrowing which has placed every Australian man, woman and child in pawn to the extent of approximately £350. Taxpayers have, of course, to foot the interest bill on all this.

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"ALBERTA SYSTEM" FOR TASMANIA?

"CANBERRA, Wednesday. —The Federal authorities said today that as Tasmania was a signatory to the financial agreement between the Commonwealth and the States it would be precluded from adopting the monetary system in operation in Alberta, Canada. Reports from Tasmania say that the State is interested in the Alberta system. Another probable barrier to the adoption by any State of a different financial system would be the uniform taxation system, which operates all over Australia."—Melbourne "Herald," January 29, 1947.

Evidently the centralisers are getting worried. Hence the above bit of bluff. It omits—among other things—any mention of the fact that Section 51 of the Commonwealth Constitution still leaves power over "State banking" in the hands of State Governments, which are therefore not yet completely hamstrung—indeed, they probably could go much farther than the Alberta experiment.

Some of the developments in Tasmania which have caused such worry at Canberra—and at the headquarters of International Finance, no doubt—are outlined hereunder:—

The following report appeared in the "New Times" of March 29, 1946:—

A member of the Tasmanian Parliament, Mr. Robinson, M.L.C., is seeking a full and public enquiry, by an all-party Joint Select Committee, into the methods of the Social Credit Government of Alberta, with a view to applying them in Tasmania. The Attorney-General of Tasmania says that his Government will consider having such an inquiry.

Mr. Robinson is also asking the State Government to invite Mr. Solon E. Low (who was Treasurer of the Social Credit Government of Alberta before he was re-



HON. W. G. WEDD, M.L.C.

cently elected to represent an Albertan constituency in the Canadian House of Commons) to come to Tasmania for consultation if he visits Australia later this year, as expected.

Later in 1946, the Hon. W. G. Wedd, M.L.C., wrote a booklet entitled "Awake," from which the following passages are taken:—

While we have the goods and services available in our State we should not allow our monetary system to deny to the people who produce these goods the right to a fair share. It is possible we will still be forced to retain our present monetary system. If this is so and it is allowed to function in the future as it does at present, we must find a means by which to counteract the detrimental effect it has on the welfare of the people.

If the representatives elected to our State Parliaments are genuinely anxious to accept their responsibilities and carry out their duties on behalf of the people of this State, it is their responsibility to get together and find a solution to this monetary system that deprives many of our citizens of the right to sufficient food, and shelter, and the necessities of life.

It is useless to wait until the time when a depression arrives, as it surely will if we continue with this outdated financial system, which retards the exchange of goods and services between the people who produce those goods and services.

During the years of war the production of goods, war services and essential services increased to a great extent, although the majority of our young, virile men were away fighting the enemy. If this production took place with the effort of perhaps only 50 per cent. of our wage earners, now that peace is with us we can look forward to a continuance of this increased production.

At the present time the only opportunity the people of this State have of acquiring these goods is to have sufficient money with which they can purchase them. If there is not sufficient money, even though there is an abundance of goods and services, the people of this State, who have

produced these goods, are denied the right to procure their fair share.

To solve this problem we must forget about this money system of ours being the most important thing in this world, and get the idea in our minds that the most important thing in this world and in this State is the people themselves who comprise this State.

If our financial system will not allow an abundance of this money to be available to balance the production of goods and services and accessible to all so that they can share in that abundance of goods, we must find alternative means of getting necessities to the people concerned. Therefore I will suggest that the other means should be that we set up a system of internal economy to overcome the faults laid down by our present external economy. By that I mean that our present money is an economy forced upon us from an external source, and that our standard of living depends on just how much of that external economy is available to our State and its people.

Here is my suggestion: We start a system of what is called Treasury Branches within the State. I would suggest that a Branch be set up in each Municipality. These Branches should accept the administrative job of being, more or less, exchange centres where people with one class of produce can procure credit notes so that they can by an exchange system barter their goods with the people who have the goods they want and at the same time desire the goods the other person wishes to dispose of. To illustrate this point let me suggest that there is a man in the North of the State who has some timber for sale. He cannot dispose of it although there are people who want that timber, because of the fact that there is a shortage of money amongst the people concerned. Some of the people who require that timber have a surplus of goods, such as produce, that he requires. Therefore if he can make the exchange both parties would be satisfied. This man goes to the Treasury Branch in his district and advises the Manager of that Branch that he has timber to the value of £200 for sale. He is given a credit in that Branch for £200 and informed that if he wants goods in any other part of the State he will be given a voucher that will meet the payment of purchase of those goods. In another part of the State will be a man with produce to the value of £200. He also gets his credit for £200 and is told he can procure goods to that value in any part of the State. Any person with goods can get his credit in any Branch throughout the State that will give him the right to procure the necessities that he requires. This same system can apply to people who are workmen and do not produce as employers. They can obtain employment and receive payment as a credit, which in turn can be bartered or used to procure the goods they require. One man may have plenty of goods but no money with which to pay for labour. A credit note at the Treasury Branch will enable him to procure that employee and that employee in turn can be assured of receiving a credit that will enable him to purchase goods on voucher.

This suggestion is not a new one. It has been tried and proved workable over a period of years in at least one part of the British Empire. In the small Province of Alberta in Canada they have through this medium of Treasury Branches and Sub-branches to the number of 43, as well as 199 agencies, been able to provide an internal economic system under the control of the electors themselves through their elected Parliamentary Representatives. This system has enabled Alberta to function without the financial restrictions that were previously imposed. These Treasury Branches provide the people with the means of progressively gaining control of their credit resources, and by competing with the financial institutions, breaking the monopoly control they have exercised, by making them relax credit restrictions and reduce interest rates.

These Treasury Branches supply the following services:—Deposits and withdrawals similar to our own Savings Bank and Current Accounts; Loans (approved subject to satisfactory security); Transmission of funds (drafts and money orders); Collection Services; Travellers' Cheques; Safety Deposit Boxes; Cashing of Grain and Produce Tickets; Government Insurance and many other services.

Such action, which can also be taken in this State, has meant that the people of Alberta have been able to have the development of Alberta industries stimulated, and have the cost of financial services reduced. It has made the people independent of the existing financial monopoly, prepared the ground for many economic reforms, brought many Government Services to rural areas, in a common-sense manner

brought to the people of Alberta a realisation that given the facilities they can achieve a society based on co-operation and common sense instead of one that divides the people and brings debt and chaos in its train.

Thus it is possible for us to bring some common sense to our own State as far as internal affairs are concerned.

The first essential is to decentralise control and administration to the greatest extent possible, and thus cut out all red tape and centralised bureaucratic control.

If Democracy is to function as it is supposed to function local government will have to play a major part in post-war reconstruction.

Local government is greatly restricted at the present time under the financial system which restricts, not only their spending money, but is taking a large proportion of their revenue in interest and handling charges.

With the introduction of Treasury Branches we will be able to utilise the labour and resources throughout the State in the interests of the people. Our people will have a sense of security and know full well that their living standards will be decided according to the efforts they make.

The following news-item appeared in the Launceston "Examiner" of January 25, 1947:—

The method of government in Alberta, Canada, was mentioned at a meeting of the University Council yesterday.

At the council meeting yesterday Mr. G. S. Carruthers gave notice to move that the faculty of commerce be requested to obtain details of a report on the various Acts passed by the Alberta Social Credit Government and afterwards disallowed and the reasons for disallowing them; the methods which the Albertan Government then adopted with results evidently most satisfactory to the people; whether similar methods could be adopted to give equally satisfactory results if adopted in Tasmania; to obtain the opinion of the legal members of the faculty as to whether, if the Tasmanian Government passed Acts for the purpose of adopting similar methods, such Acts might be disallowed by the Federal Government or Courts as being contrary to the Constitution.

From the Hobart "Voice," of March 8, 1947:—

Last week the University Council defeated Mr. Carruthers' motion that the Faculty of Commerce be requested to examine and report on Alberta's achievements. It may be unusual for Council to direct the work of a Faculty, whose position is somewhat similar to that of a Commission in charge of a public undertaking. But in this case teachers of economics have misled people and Governments in a matter of grave national importance. It is therefore the plain and simple duty of Council to ignore custom and ask the Faculty to admit its past error and publish truth, even if unwelcome to financiers and monopolists.

Under the headings, "Officer For Alberta" and "Liberals Protest" the following report was published in the Hobart "Mercury" of March 19, 1947:—

Opposition to spending £850 on sending Mr. K. J. Binns, economic adviser to the Government, to Canada to study Federal and State relations there, and finance methods in Alberta, was expressed by several members of the Opposition in the House of Assembly yesterday.

The Premier (Mr. Cosgrove), explaining the item in the Appropriation Bill No. 2, said it was proposed that Mr. Binns should inquire into uniform taxation, special grants and other questions relating to public finance in that Dominion.

Included in his work would be a study of the finance methods adopted in Alberta.

The Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Campbell) said he hoped Mr. Binns' inquiries would not be confined to finance, but would include primary production and other factors.

Mr. Wright said the item brought up the question, of paramount importance at present, of the relations between the States and the Commonwealth.

He had hoped the Government would have sought an elective convention of all States to consider alterations to the Constitution, rather than send an officer to study conditions in Canada.

"I am sceptical of this visit," he said. "I believe the idea originated to satisfy a small minority at the hustings during the election campaign."

"It is idle for this Government to bring forward revolutionary proposals, as currency and finance are matters for the Commonwealth alone."

"If inquiries are necessary, they could be made through the diplomatic staff of the High Commissioner (Mr. Forde)."

The Minister for Lands and Works (Mr. Brooker) said Alberta had not the power to introduce the Douglas Social Credit system, but it had achieved greater prosperity than any other part of Canada.

The Premier said it was reasonable to obtain the information first-hand, and it would be £850 well spent if they could find out how Alberta managed a £1,666,000 surplus without any great increase in taxation.

In committee, the Leader of the Opposition said that he would not be prepared to accept a report from Mr. Forde on the Alberta monetary system.

ERIC BUTLER IN QUEENSLAND

On Saturday, March 8, Mr. Butler addressed a small meeting at Wynnum. At the conclusion of the meeting those present decided to form themselves into a Voters' Policy Association and immediately get the anti-taxation and anti-bureaucracy campaign under way.

He left Brisbane on Sunday, March 9, and, as a result of floods destroying a railway bridge, did not arrive at Monto until 6 p.m. on Monday, March 10. He writes most eloquently of the shocking train service in Queensland: "The railways here are a typical example of State Monopoly. In spite of many centres being cut off from the main line because of the recent floods, road transport is rigidly excluded. It is a complete dictatorship and the citizens have to put up with it. The loss of one of my cases resulted in some typical 'buck-passing' by railway employees who have little interest in the public. They cannot be blamed so much as the use of a system, which must destroy even the best of human material. Queensland is a big State and a wealthy State, but it will never develop while it is strangled by the present railway dictatorship."

While centred at Monto, Mr. Butler attended meetings at small places in the surrounding district. Unfortunately the recent floods and bad roads were not conducive to large attendances. Some meetings resulted in informal discussion. After the Monto meeting on Wednesday, March 12, a strong Voters' Policy Association was formed. The best attended meeting in this area was at Mulgildie on Thursday, March 13, where there is a strong Electoral Campaign group.

On Monday, March 17, he went to Coalstoun Lakes to start a series of meetings in that area. This week he was in the Bundaberg area, and after meetings at Murgon and Pomona, will arrive back in Brisbane on Tuesday, April 1. He will spend a week in Brisbane before leaving for the Darling Downs.

INDIVIDUAL INITIATIVE

An example of a valuable "follow up," after a meeting, is given by the Queenslander whose letter, reprinted hereunder, recently appeared in both the local papers of his district:—

Sir,—As a matter of great moment to every one of us, I would be much obliged if you would insert the following in your paper:

Mr. Eric Butler, of Melbourne, gave a stirring address in the School of Arts, Wynnum Central, on the "Campaign to Demand Big Tax Cuts." He pointed out that Taxation, direct and indirect, takes £2/10/- out of every £5 that is earned in wages. The list of taxes is staggering: Income, Excise and Customs, Sales, Pay Roll, Entertainments, Estate Duty, Land, Flour, Gift, Gold and Miscellaneous Taxes. The huge army of officials, Government Servants or Bureaucrats, 400,000 in all, are rapidly turning Australia into a slave State, with wicked complications for everyone, and employers as unpaid tax collectors of the Government.

Coal is the most important thing in industry, and yet we are brought almost to our knees for lack of it by absenteeism in the mines, caused by high taxation. Our efforts to send food to Britain are rendered almost paltry by high taxation.

At the end of Mr. Butler's meeting a working committee was formed. We intend to have a house-to-house visitation to obtain signatures under a specimen letter to be forwarded to our Federal member, to put before Parliament. This will be taking place throughout the whole of Australia. These means have met with success before and are the most effective way of putting legitimate pressure to bear on our representatives at Canberra, and of making the voice of the people prevail.—R. S. DICKIE.

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He had sufficient confidence in Mr. Binns that he would furnish a worthwhile report. Dr. Atkins: I think it is a waste of money sending an officer to inquire into this fantastic scheme.

The item was agreed to by 21 votes to five. Those who opposed it were Messrs. Wright, Jackson, Marriott, and Strutt, and Dr. Atkins.

UNSEATING M.P.'s WHO VOTED FOR "BRETTON WOODS"

(A letter to the Editor from Bruce H. Brown.)

Sir,—Away back in 1940 it was pointed out by C. H. Douglas that the undisclosed objectives for which the unrevealed promoters arranged the outbreak of war in 1939 were as follows:—

(1) The establishment of the International Police State on the Russian model, commencing with Great Britain; (II) The restoration of the Gold Standard and Debt System; (III) The elimination of Great Britain in the cultural sense, and the substitution of Jewish-American ideals; and (IV) The establishment of the Zionist State in Palestine as a geographical centre of World Control, with New York as the centre of World Financial Control.

As usual, events have shown that Douglas was right.

The Bretton Woods "agreement" is a vital part in the plot, as it is the instrument through which World Financial Control is to be achieved, and in the light of this fact I was pleased to see the letter in last week's "New Times" from Mr. F. J. Tuck-field suggesting that action should be taken to unseat the Members of Parliament who voted for that reasonable measure. In my opinion the Commonwealth Constitution Act automatically unseats



PRIME MINISTER CHIFLEY.

Worked tenaciously to get Bretton Woods ratified.

them, but unfortunately it also includes a section which probably enables them to escape.

For the information of your readers and for purposes of record I set out the relevant sections of the Commonwealth Constitution Act as follows:—

Section 42:—

"Every Senator and every Member of the House of Representatives shall before taking his seat make and subscribe before the Governor-General, or some person authorised by him, an oath or affirmation of allegiance in the form set forth in the Schedule to this Constitution."

The Schedule to the Constitution:—

"OATH.

"I . . . do swear that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to Her Majesty Queen Victoria, Her heirs and successors according to law. SO HELP ME GOD!"

"AFFIRMATION.

"I . . . do solemnly and sincerely affirm and declare that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to Her Majesty Queen Victoria, Her heirs and successors according to law."

(Note: The name of the King or Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland for the time being is to be substituted from time to time.)

It will be seen that faithfulness and true allegiance are required from every one of them, and it is not sufficient to parade verbal and loquacious loyalty as some appear to think.

"Faithful" means loyal, constant, trustworthy, true to fact, firm in adherence to promises, oaths, contracts, treaties, or other engagements.

"True" means actual, not counterfeit, adulterated, or pretended; genuine, not spurious or hybrid or merely apparent; adhering faithfully.

"Allegiance" means the duty of fidelity to one's king, government, or Sovereign State; devotion or loyalty to that which is entitled to obedience or service.

"Sovereign" means independent of, and unlimited by, any other; possessing, or entitled to, original and independent authority or jurisdiction, as a "sovereign state" (i.e., one exercising the usual powers of self-government and of declaring peace and war without outside control).

"Obedience" means submission to another's rule, compliance with law or command.

"Treason" means adhering to the King's enemies.

"A Sovereign State" is a State, which has effective control over its own affairs; any action, which reduces the power of a State to control its own affairs, is disloyal to that State. Any act, which undermines or lessens the sovereignty of His Majesty the King is a disloyal act; and any Senator or member of the House of Representatives who knowingly surrenders the power of his sovereign to some other body or power is guilty of betraying the King and is false to his oath of allegiance.

As already indicated, the Bretton Woods Agreement is an important part of the anti-British plot, and its acceptance was forced upon the British Parliament by "America." The newspapers at the time

admitted that "America had driven a hard bargain." The British had to accept financial surrender or starve. In these circumstances the politicians of the United Kingdom felt obliged to give bad advice to His Majesty the King and to force him to acquiesce in the surrender to aliens of the sovereignty of the British Parliament. By this action those who voted in the British Parliament for the ratification of the Bretton Woods Agreement indicated their own allegiance to a foreign power.

Whatever excuse there may have been for this conduct on the part of British politicians, there is absolutely no excuse for similar anti-British action on the part of Australian politicians. It can be demonstrated that the ratification of this infamous document by the Federal Parliament will mean that, except in parochial matters, the Commonwealth Government will no longer have control over affairs in Australia, but instead we shall have the following position:—

(a) Domestic policy, price levels, and standard of living will be dictated and controlled by aliens;

(b) The supply of Australian money will be restricted at the dictation of aliens;

(c) Reconstruction and development will be curtailed to suit the ideas and plans of aliens;

(d) Internal currency will be regulated according to the gold held, not according to production or local needs;

(e) The Empire will be made into a collection of countries worked by debt slaves for the benefit of alien international financiers.

On the basis of the foregoing it is beyond argument that every member of the House of Representatives who voted for ratification has not only betrayed the Australian people but has been a party in the arbitrary transference of allegiance from His Majesty the King to a foreign instrumentality controlled by an alien power.

Section 44 of the Constitution Act provides as follows:—

"Any person who—(i) Is under any acknow-

ledgment of allegiance, obedience, or adherence to a foreign power, or is a subject or a citizen or entitled to the rights or privileges of a subject or a citizen of a foreign power; or (ii) Is attained of treason . . . shall be incapable of being chosen or of sitting as a Senator or a Member of the House of Representatives. . . ."

Section 45 says:—

"If a Senator or Member of the House of Representatives—(i) Becomes subject to any of the disabilities mentioned in the last preceding section; or . . . his place shall thereupon become vacant."

It therefore follows that every Member of the House who voted against the Sovereignty of the Australian Parliament has been declared by the Constitution to be incapable of sitting as a Member of the House of Representatives as from Thursday, the 20th March 1947.

This position is intended to be met by the terms of Section 46, which are as follows:—

"Until the Parliament otherwise provides, any person declared by this Constitution to be incapable of sitting as a Senator or as a Member of the House of Representatives shall, for every day on which he so sits, be liable to pay the sum of one hundred pounds to any person who sues for it in any court of competent jurisdiction."

Thus far everything is clear, and we should be able immediately to get rid politically of the whole 55 of the anti-British politicians, but Section 47 then comes in to open the question to doubt. This section reads as follows:—

"Until the Parliament otherwise provides, any question respecting the qualification of a Senator or of a Member of the House of Representatives, or respecting a vacancy in either House of the Parliament, and any question of a disputed election to either House, shall be determined by the House in which the question arises."

Obviously it would be farcical to ask the House of Representatives to declare that a majority of its members had acted disloyally, and the framers of the Constitution never contemplated the possibility of a situation of the character, which has now arisen. In any case, it could hardly be contended that an unworthy politician should be the judge of his own eligibility. Consequently the matter appears to be one, which should be taken as quickly as possible to a court of competent jurisdiction. It is high time something like this was done, as it must be clear to everyone who understands the implications of what is going on that our future living conditions are subject to the actions of uninformed, unreliable, unsympathetic, and unworthy men sitting in our chief legislative centre.

—Yours faithfully, BRUCE H. BROWN, 189 Hotham Street, East Melbourne, C.2 23rd March 1947.

NEW FEDERAL POWER GRAB EXPOSED

(Continued from page 1)

proposed Mentone aerodrome site under the terms of this Bill.

THE HON. P. J. CLAREY.—No lawyer would agree with that contention.

THE HON. A. G. WARNER.—I have been advised to that effect by lawyers, and their advice is supported by decisions of the High Court. The regulations will give complete control to any political body, which is similar to the Labour party caucus. The regulations will not come before the Commonwealth Parliament, except that they will be laid on the table of the House; they will not come before this or any other State House.

THE HON. A. M. FRASER.—Why will they not come before this House?

THE HON. A. G. WARNER.—The regulations will be made by the Commonwealth Government; they will be authorised by the Act. They will not be passed by the Parliament.

THE HON. A. M. FRASER.—There is a clause providing that the regulations must be laid before the House.

SIR FRANK CLARKE.—They will be laid before the House, but the House will have no right to interfere with them.

THE HON. A. G. WARNER.—Sub-clause (1) of clause 3 provides—

The Governor in Council may by proclamation published in the "Government Gazette" fix a commencing day in respect of all or any Commonwealth regulations.

THE HON. P. J. CLAREY.—How does that give power to the Commonwealth Government?

THE HON. A. G. WARNER.—It will be given through the State Governor in Council, who, or which, is controlled by the Federal caucus.

THE HON. P. J. CLAREY.—But how does that sub-clause transfer power from the State to the Commonwealth?

THE HON. A. G. WARNER.—The Bill will empower the Commonwealth Government in that way.

THE HON. P. J. CLAREY.—It will do nothing of the sort.

THE HON. A. M. FRASER.—You have laid down the weirdest proposition I have ever heard—that the Federal caucus will control the State Governor in Council.

THE HON. A. G. WARNER.—Sir George Goudie mentioned his experience of the Governor in Council. There is no doubt that the Governor in Council issues orders in accordance with decisions of Cabinet, which is instructed by caucus.

THE HON. P. J. CLAREY.—That is not peculiar to one party.

THE HON. A. G. WARNER.—I agree that there may be a caucus for a Conservative party or some other party, but that does not make me like the system any the better. I believe Government

should be by the people for the people. As the representatives of the people, we should be given an opportunity to examine legislation in detail.

THE HON. P. J. KENNELLY.—That is not denied.

THE HON. A. G. WARNER.—I am pleased to have that admission. Regulations passed by the Commonwealth Government must be laid before the Commonwealth Parliament within fourteen days, but not before this House.

THE HON. A. M. FRASER.—One should not expect Commonwealth regulations to be laid before this House any more than State regulations should be laid before the Commonwealth Parliament.

THE HON. A. G. WARNER.—That is specially avoided in the measure.

THE HON. A. M. FRASER.—It could not be included.

THE HON. A. G. WARNER.—Members of this House are elected by the more mature and thrifty people of the community; we were not elected to preside at our own funeral—and that is what will be done. This House was established to preserve the rights of the people.

THE HON. A. M. FRASER.—As Denison said, "To quell the all-prevailing spirit of democracy."

THE HON. A. G. WARNER.—Notwithstanding anything Denison said, the people are satisfied with this House as it is. Power should reside where responsibility lies; we are responsible to the people of the State. We should not abrogate our power to some clerk in Canberra who, under instructions from a Minister or caucus, will issue regulations authorised under the Bill. The people should be able to ascertain what the laws are, and so understand them. That is one reason why Bills are read three times before the House, and also why Standing Orders lay it down that so many days shall elapse between the different stages. The intention is to give the people an opportunity to learn what is proposed in Bills, and so enable them to make representations through their parliamentary representatives. Those rights will be taken away under the Bill.

In the course of my speech I shall discuss bureaucrats and civil servants. I wish to deny any prejudice against civil servants as individuals. I worked with civil servants in the Commonwealth Government during the war, and they are equal in intelligence, ability, and in other ways to any business or professional men; but there is an inclination among all men, when they are grouped together, to endeavour to acquire more power. Business tends, if it can, to obtain and acquire monopolies. Churches throughout the world endeavour to obtain adherents and

Notes on the News

(Continued from page 1)

GRACIOUS GOVERNMENT: The New Zealand Labor Government has graciously consented to permit the N.Z. Federation of Labor to apply to the Arbitration Court for increased wages. It must be most gratifying for the workers when their political servants are so gracious. Up to the present, Australian workers can apply to the Court without any reference to the Government because they have not yet achieved the full goal of socialistic serfdom. Anyway, N.Z. workers are looking forward to a substantial wage increase, which of course proves that they still have to fight for conditions in the socialistic utopia. At the same time they will be causing the cost of living to increase; that of course is the big advantage of Unionism?

RUSSIAN RENT LOW: The Russian Government has proved to be a bad tenant and has sought to evade payment of rent for the luxury estate of the late multimillionaire Pierpont Morgan. The estate's lawyers are reported in the press of February 28 as saying that, in addition to not paying the rent, the Russians have also refused to meet a bill for damage amounting to £7,816. This property was rented about eighteen months ago and was in the news when the local residents complained about nude bathing parties, rubbish being littered about, and destruction of amenities. Wonder what would happen if the U.S. delegates to the Moscow Conference behaved like this in a "State" house?

YANKEE YEARNINGS: The U.S. production potential is so immense that one would expect the Yanks' yearnings for a life of full and plenty to be satisfied; but, alas, it is not yet to be, because the higher-ups have decreed that much of this potential must be used for excessive export. Thus the carrot of plenty is rudely snatched away. These not-so-smart Yanks have been doing this for some years, but still the machines continue to swamp them with goods they are not allowed to enjoy. When all countries develop in a similar way (as they will), one wonders where the Planners will export to; maybe that's why Mars is being investigated. —O.B.H.

power, and at times have exercised very adversely the power so obtained. With sporting bodies, there is always a tendency to gravitate to central control. It is natural, therefore, that civil servants should endeavour to obtain in their own hands, particularly through heads of Departments, as much control and monopoly as they can. In the case of businesses and professions, there are laws to govern our civil lives. The bureaucrat, on the other hand, is establishing law, and I think it is time that we did something to curb the power of bureaucrats.

That problem is not local in its application. In England in May, 1944, the question of Government by regulation had become such a vital matter that the House of Commons, in spite of the fact that they were fighting for their very lives during the war, set up a Select Committee to consider the matter of preventing the abuse by bureaucrats of the regulation-making powers. The terms of reference were—

To consider every statutory rule or order laid before the House with a view to determining whether the special attention of the House should be drawn to it on any of the following grounds:—

(ii) that it is made in pursuance of an enactment containing specific provisions excluding it from challenge in the Courts either at all times or after the expiration of a specified period;

(iii) that it appears to make some unusual or unexpected use of the powers conferred by the statute under which it is made;

I direct particular attention to that term in connection with the present Bill. The fifth term of reference was—

(v) That for any special reason its form or purport calls for elucidation.

In 1931 a Select Committee of the Commonwealth Senate was appointed, and it recommended that all regulations made under statute should be scrutinized to ascertain that they are in accordance with the statute, that they did not trespass unduly on personal rights or liberties; that they did not unduly make the rights and liberties of citizens dependent on administration of any point of judicial decision, and certain other matters. This Bill brings all the regulations into that atmosphere.

(To be continued.)

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AUSTRALIANS AT THE CROSSROADS

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

During our first talks over this station we warned listeners that there was no possibility of any genuine post-war reconstruction while the electors accepted financial and economic policies designed to turn Australia into a completely totalitarian country.

There are still many wishful people who believe that conditions will improve without any effort on their part.

Others have, become cynical and say that nothing can be done. This spirit of defeatism has been deliberately created by the controllers of centralised propaganda. The individual is expected to accept passively whatever the Government or the controllers of the Government propose.

Now, it is surely obvious that no genuine democratic society can be built unless such a society is comprised of free individuals. Free individuals are those who can voluntarily associate for any objective they so desire. Our democratic and Christian way of life was built up in order to free the individual from as much external control as possible.

All power is derived from the individual. The Christian religion placed great emphasis upon the importance of the individual. We have the statement that the Kingdom of God is within the individual. There is also the statement that the Sabbath was made for man and not man for the Sabbath, which means that institutions should merely serve individuals, that individuals are far more important than institutions.

But today the individual is told that he must be controlled and sacrificed in order that institutions may become stronger and more irresponsible. He is told that he must not be "selfish," but think about and work for the "common good" and "collective security."

There is no such thing as the "common good," only individual good. There can be no real security unless every individual has security.

We all have to clear out of our minds the jargon that has been deposited there by the enemies of our way of life. We have to examine carefully many of the ideas that we have taken for granted. Unless we do this it is certain that what civilisation we still have left will be destroyed.

As a typical example of how we are all being conditioned to accept slavery without too much protest, let us examine so-called education. Education has become nothing more than blatant propaganda. This is particularly so in the Universities, today permeated with pro-Socialist and pro-Communist doctrines. Most of the economic instructors at the Universities are either products of, or influenced by, the London School of Economics, which was established by Socialists and International Finance to train a fifth-column to destroy the British Empire from within. Many of our young people leaving the Universities today have been so indoctrinated with alien ideas that they firmly believe that they possess superior wisdom which should be used to plan the lives of their fellows. Thus many of them take jobs in the ever-increasing Federal bureaucracy.

At one time it was generally recognised that parents should have effective control over the education of their children; that local educational bodies were better than centralised propaganda departments masquerading under the names of Education and Information.

Not only is the Federal Government striving to bring all education in Australia under Federal control, but it has taken the first step towards allowing an international body to control education in this country. The Federal Labor Government has agreed to vote £61,000 of the Australian taxpayers' money to the United Nations' Educational, Social and Cultural Organisation.

We had in Australia last year one of the so-called educationalists issuing propaganda on behalf of the idea of international control of education. Speaking in Adelaide he said that this international "educational" organisation should have the power to compel all countries to conform to what it wanted taught.

The word "education," like the word "science" has been used deliberately to mesmerise people. We have lost sight of the fact that genuine education and genuine science are merely means to an end. That end is increasing benefits for the individual.

It has been well said that man does not live by bread alone. The modern pagans ignore this and insist that so long as "the State"—an army of insolent officials—looks after the individual's material well being, he should be satisfied.

High taxation is used to make it impossible for an increasing number of people to have their children educated at institutions where emphasis is placed upon the

fact that man not only requires bread; that he also requires religion—or a philosophy, use what term you will. It is outrageous that parents who do not want to send their children to State schools, but to one of the various Church schools, should be taxed for the upkeep of the State schools and then have to pay to send their children to a school that they desire. No specious arguments can alter the fact that this is most undemocratic, to say the very least of it.

Of course the self-styled "progressives" claim that all religious training should be abolished in favour of what they term "scientific" education.



PARLIAMENT HOUSE, CANBERRA

Most of the "science" being rammed down our throats today is nothing but superstitious jargon. For example, "science" has been applied to agriculture, and the results are alarming. The forcing of the land by chemicals has resulted in soil exhaustion and soil erosion, and increasing disease in both plants and animals. Now "science" says that more and more organisation, chemical sprays kindly supplied by the chemical combines, and officials are required to try and grow a little disease-free food for the human race. "Science" says that large-scale power farming, aided by the chemical combines, is the most efficient form of farming, in spite of the fact that the evidence of a thousand years of good husbandry proves that this type of "science" is dangerous nonsense.

In Great Britain today there is a growing revolt against "scientific" farming; farmers are learning that they get better results in quantity and quality when they work in harmony with Nature instead of trying to exploit her. They are learning that the composting of animal and vegetable wastes for the soil is far superior to all the products by the chemical combines.

THE HORSHAM VOTERS' POLICY ASSN.

(To the Editor.)

Sir,—Since the Horsham Voters' Policy Association launched an anti-taxation and anti-bureaucracy campaign a good deal of success has been achieved, whilst we have suffered a couple of setbacks which may even yet be turned to our advantage.

Owing to a misunderstanding over dates our original letter to the "Horsham Times" was printed a little early. It was intended that the campaign be launched by Mr. Butler when he addressed a meeting here on February 28, so that the early publication of my letter caused a minor disturbance to the pre-laid plan of attack. However, in view of the opposition of other fixtures in the town on the same night a very gratifying attendance of 40 odd interested citizens "snatched up" the 200 demand forms, which we had obtained from the League of Rights.

In order to extend our activities throughout the electorate of Wannon a further 5000 demand forms were printed locally—ready addressed to Mr. McLeod, M.H.R. (We were amazed that there were people who did not even know the name of their representative.)

Until recently our activities were confined to the Horsham district alone, as it was decided at our meeting early in February that we should pursue a policy of "crawling before walking." We have now spread our wings and a letter has been sent to most papers throughout the electorate.

A mainstay in the campaign has been the "Horsham Times," which has given us every support. Our local paper has published our letters, which we are endeavouring to supply at least once a fortnight, without question or censorship, and the report of Mr. Eric Butler's lecture was well featured with excellent headings.

Our first set-back was met when the Dimboola "Banner" refused to co-operate—both the editor and the proprietor contending that "The Horsham Voters' Policy Association has no local interest for Dimboola," and they would not help at any price.

After about fifty signed demand forms had been sent to Mr. McLeod, a covering letter was forwarded asking him for a statement of his feelings towards the objectives

of the campaign. A reply evading the points at issue has been received from our Member. The following is the full text of Mr. McLeod's letter:—

"I wish to acknowledge receipt of your letter, and state that I have received a number of pamphlets urging the abolition of all direct taxation on £6 per week or less and a 40% reduction of taxation of incomes over £6 per week. In reply I wish to point out that reductions in direct taxation of £33m. have just been granted.

"Taking peak war-time taxation, including this £33 million, we have reduced taxation, direct and indirect, by £95 million, the greatest relief given to the lower income groups.

"The war is over, but the bills for the costs have still to be met, such as liabilities for repatriation of servicemen, pensions, etc. This year's expenditure of £65 millions for social services will be increased next year.

"Subsidies of many millions a year to keep down prices to consumers and prevent inflation have to be found.

"On the one hand we have requests for increased payments in respect of social services, and on the other hand requests for reduced taxation, but as the Prime Minister has stated, the position will be under constant review, and further reductions will be made when the financial position indicates that such is possible."

A further letter will be sent to Mr. McLeod, but in the meantime we urgently require further support from electors throughout Wannon. Demand forms are available from us, but as these cost us just under £1 a thousand for printing (SALES TAX at 10% brings it to a little over £1) we would be glad if a donation towards covering the expense is included with each order.

—Yours, etc., R. G. FISCHER, Hon. Sec., Horsham Voters' Policy Association, 4 Pynsent-street, Horsham, Vic.

Political Pointers

(Continued from page 1.)

more effective than control by money; it is more rigid.

The "Canadian Social Creditor" of December 26, 1946, contains an article dealing with the open admission by the Financial Editor of the Toronto "Daily Star" that the debt system of finance must be challenged. The "Canadian Social Creditor" comments as follows:

"The only time when money doesn't talk is when there are no goods and services, or not enough. And in the last few years, some powers-that-be have taken good care that shortages should result. Farmers were paid not to grow wheat, sugar beet raisers were prohibited from raising sugar beets, etc. Taxation added to the cost of living, so that \$1.00 today buys about 46c of what it bought before the war.

"Maybe that is why the 'orthodox' bankers and experts are admitting the economic truths we pointed out in 1935. Maybe because they realise that now, even with money, the people still won't have economic power. Which is why we pay more attention to political democracy. For now it will take correct political administration to save us from being sold out to international planners who will have power to create shortages and shackle us with restrictions, to save us from being made the victims of a gigantic State machine which will prevent free enterprise from functioning and will kill individual initiative which, in by-gone years, made Western peoples great.

"The fight has shifted. For the time being, the emphasis must be placed on bureaucracy, planners and planning.

"Beware of Boards, of planners, of plans, of centralisation of power in any form.

"Only through freedom can we regain abundance. And that is the Social Credit mission—the life more abundant for all."

* * * * *

It has become commonplace to hear people parroting the idea that any policy, no matter how disastrous to the individual, is beyond criticism so long as it is "scientific."

The "Age of Science" that we hear so much about has resulted in the training of "scientists" as narrow specialists who are used to further policies they don't understand. Outside their own sphere they know little or nothing. They have no background against which to judge their functions. They are similar to the city child who thinks that all milk comes out of a tin. Science, real science, is an instrument; it is not an end in itself. The Chancellor of the University of Chicago has well said: "Though the question how we get what we want is scientific, . . . what we should want, is not. Man should have clear and humane ends, and to clarify them, and make them appropriate to humanity, he needs philosophy and religion."

Coupled with the "Age of Science" is the "Age of Reason." Reason is also a mere instrument, not a God to be worshipped. Major Douglas has summed this matter up as follows: "The Reason, like a slide rule, is incapable of furnishing anything more than the logical sum of the data provided. It is a pure instrument, and can prove nothing."

* * * * *

"In the sense that I am going to use it, and I think I will be using it correctly, the word religion has to do with a conception of reality. It is the binding back either of action, or of policy . . . to reality. . . . It does not necessarily mean, for instance, that your conception of reality is a correct one, but it does mean that you are postulating that there is something which we refer to as real, and you are basing your policy upon that reality."—C. H. Douglas.

Social Credit is a policy of a philosophy, a policy designed to free the individual. Social Credit is applied Christianity.

—E.D.B.

SUGGESTION TO A.B.C.

(To the Editor.)

Sir,—Herewith copy of letter sent today to the A.B.C.:—

"Being an interested listener to the Nation's Forum of the Air session, I feel it would be most educational to hear a discussion on the following subject—"Do incomes generate at the same rate as prices, in a machine age?"

"I suggest that, if possible, the forum be conducted in Melbourne, and that the Editor of the 'New Times'—a democratic publication—should be given the right to select two speakers for the negative side."

* * * * *

I acquaint you of this letter in the hope that someone may care to write to the A.B.C. from Melbourne, asking for the same subject.

—Yours etc., W. W. DRAKE, Launceston, 17/3/47.

"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 2/7. posted. Make sure of your copy by ordering now.

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