

THE NEW TIMES

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SIXPENCE WEEKLY.

"UNDER THE THREAT OF WAR"

Only in war, or under the threat of war, will the British peoples submit to large-scale Government planning. Thus said the Financier-Socialist P.E.P. group in Great Britain, just prior to the war. This group has its devotees in all parts of the world.

The threat of war is the trump card being played by the local planners who, out of the blue, recently announced through Labor Minister Lemmon, that a gigantic production area is to be created in the Australian Alps. Electric power is to be provided by the diversion of the Snowy River. The whole scheme, when completed in 25 years' time, will cost £166 million.

In view of the present delicate international situation, it is rather strange that this large-scale planning, which it is admitted cannot result in any production for at least another eight years, should be "boosted" as a Defence measure.

In a very penetrating article in its issue of February 23, the *Sydney Bulletin* confirms our suspicions that this Australian T.V.A.—note that T.V.A. experts are to be brought from the U.S.A. — is primarily concerned with a further attack upon the States, and the building of the complete Monopoly State. The *Bulletin* writes: —

"The method of control of the scheme has not been decided on, but something 'national' in basis like the Tennessee Valley in the United States appeals to Federal Ministers. Despite the fact that Mr. McGirr is still determined that his State shall be the 'chief constructing authority' subject to further discussion with Mr. Chifley, the *S. M. Herald* learned at the weekend that the Federal Government will proceed with the scheme as an urgent defence priority whether the N.S.W. Government agrees to the Commonwealth Construction Commission or not. The Commonwealth Commission will 'undertake all the work.' And there have been bare and unobtrusive mentions of the use of the Supply and Development Act, which was brought forward as a 'defence' measure last year.

"It was here pointed out when that prickly and loaded piece of legislation was brought down that it was not a genuine defence measure; that it was virtually a bill to allow the Canberra Government to socialise the country in peace-time under the pretext that it was acting to provide defence, which the majority of the trade-unions which form the corpus of the Australian Labor party have no intention of allowing it to implement.

"In this case what the Government obviously intends to do is to take over a large

area of southern N.S. Wales, develop it along totalitarian lines on the vague pretext that in eight to 25 years, it will provide the machinery for the defence of the Pacific. Operating under the Act, if it is allowed to proceed, it can conceal costs of the enterprise, conceal even the names of those involved in it, give contracts without calling for tenders, decide who shall live in the area and who shall not, require any information which it needs from any inhabitant, censor all correspondence on the ground of security, give priority to labor and material for the area — and, in the present state of supplies for building and manpower, it will be forced to do so to carry out the project this side of the new century.

"In fact, the Government has the means to create a totalitarian enclave ruled from Canberra, provided the States and the public do not succeed in guarding their interests and rights and establishing now a definition of where 'defence' actually begins within the meaning of the Supply and Development Act, and where the rights of sovereign States and inhabitants of a region end.

"There might not be so much suspicion of this scheme if it were not put forward by a Government in whose background there is the bank-nationalisation programme, T.A.A., the Commonwealth shipping scheme, the Broadcasting Control Board, the gross inflation of the civil service, the internment of innocent Australia-Firsters, the unusual preferences to Metropolitan Cement companies, submission to Communist policy and flagrant inaction in the face of 'political' strikes designed to interfere with defence efficiency, with the working of the British system of government and the continuance of free enterprise. This Ministry has even put Communist Central Committee members on the boards, which govern vital industries.

"The scheme might be taken at more like its face value if it were not sponsored by a Government which at this very moment has allowed a crisis to develop in Newcastle, obviously the result of a wicked scheme of Communist sabotage applied on the flimsiest of pretexts, to endanger the operations of the Broken Hill Proprietary, upon which the whole of the immediate basic defence production of Australia de-

pends. And preparations for 'push-button' warfare would sound more assuring if there were any indication that the Government was doing something *now* to train and equip even a solid nucleus of fighting forces.

"Nobody will oppose hydroelectric development of large and suitable regions of Australia. But the development should be regional and the control as localised as possible. One of the arguments for the creation of a new State in the south-

(Continued on page 2)

OUR POLICY

1. The preservation of Australia's sovereignty as a part of the British Empire, and the exposure of all internal and external groups which attack that sovereignty.
2. The preservation and extension of genuine local government.
3. The preservation and strengthening of all Constitutional safeguards for the purpose of protecting fundamental individual rights.
4. The encouragement of all activities designed to bring Governments under more effective control by the electors.
5. The preservation and extension of genuine free, competitive enterprise and private ownership, and opposition to all Monopoly, whether it be "private" or State.
6. The support of a financial policy which will (a) permit free enterprise to make available to all individuals an increasing standard of living and greater leisure for cultural pursuits; (b) result in no further increase in the community's indebtedness and the sound business practice of gradually reducing existing debt.
7. Recognising that the basis of any sound economy is agriculture, the encouragement of agricultural policies which will ensure the preservation and building up of soil fertility by organic farming and gardening; and the prevention of soil erosion and the protection of forests and watersheds.

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.

TO THE POINT

"In the Bag?"

Following their defeat at the recent Prahran (Vic.) by-election, the Liberals have surely been given further food for thought by the latest Gallup Poll figures concerning this year's Federal Election prospects. These figures reinforce the growing belief amongst objective political observers that Labour has, over the past six months, regained a lot of lost electoral support and will, on present indications, win the next Federal Elections by a small majority.

This does not mean that it is impossible for the non-Labor parties to win. It is clear that many electors will support Labor, not because they endorse all Labor's policies, but because they are offered no genuine alternative. This is the crux of the political situation, not only in Australia, but also in Great Britain, where the Conservatives, in spite of a vigorous campaign led personally by Mr. Churchill, were defeated at the recent important by-election.

If the non-Socialist parties in Australia would immediately enunciate a constructive alternative to the Labor-Socialist programme, and campaign vigorously to mobilise public opinion in support of their policies, there is no doubt that Labor would be decisively defeated this year.

But Mr. Casey says that he and his associates are keeping their policy "in the bag" until just prior to the elections. If this negative attitude is persisted with, the non-Labor parties will most certainly be left "holding the bag" after the elections.

* * *

Overheard

Recently overheard: "I see where Mr. Casey says that the Liberals are not going to announce their policy until just prior to the Federal Elections."

"Yes. But I feel this is merely a subtle way of announcing that the Liberals have no policy except one of expediency."

Mrs. Lyons and Financial Policy

The Melbourne *Sun* of February 24 featured a speech at Canberra by Dame Enid Lyons, in which she defended her late husband and former Prime Minister, Mr. Joseph Lyons. Mrs. Lyons claimed that the Lyons Government brought Australia out of the depression. While all decent people will appreciate Mrs. Lyons' feelings when the policies of her late husband are attacked, it must be pointed out to Mrs. Lyons that the policies pursued by the Lyons Government were in reality the policies of the economic theorists, particularly Professor Copland. Such alleviation of depression conditions that did take place was the result of the increase in purchasing power brought about by an expansion of financial credit in this and other countries.

So far from the Lyons Government really defeating the threat of depression, only the preparation for war and the actual outbreak of war saved Australia from another major economic collapse. This fact is admitted openly by Professor Copland in his book, *The Road to High Employment*.

Depressions, "recessions," "inflation,"

"disinflation," and "slumplets" are the direct results of financial policy. If Mrs. Lyons were to direct her undoubted ability towards changing a financial policy whose authors always ensure that the politician takes all the blame for the results of that policy, she would be doing something really worthwhile to ensure that the name of Lyons is always highly regarded by all Australians.

Utopia

A picture of the coming "planned society":

"I have a vision of the future, Chum,
The workers' flats in fields of soya beans
Tower up like silver pencils, score on score
And singing millions hear the challenge
come

From microphones in Communal Canteens,
'No right! No wrong! All's perfect evermore.'

—John Betjeman.

*

Full Marks to Mr. Hollway

Mr. Hollway, Liberal Premier of Victoria, must be given full marks for his opposition to the suggestion that a Greater Melbourne Council should replace the multiplicity of suburban councils.

The Melbourne *Herald* of February 22 reported Mr. Hollway as follows: "I am not an advocate of unification. We see enough of its evil in the set-up at Canberra. Decentralisation is what is needed all over Australia."

What about Mr. Hollway's Government giving a real lead on this vital issue? It could, for example, start with its own transport policy.

* * *

The Jews and "Oliver Twist"

The Jews are always loud in their praise of "democracy" and "free speech," while complaining against violence. If press reports are to be believed, it appears that a considerable number of German Jews was recently successful in preventing a Berlin cinema from showing the British film, *Oliver Twist*. Although "Hitler is alleged to have liquidated all German Jews, even after a large number left post-war Germany to assist the violence of their fellow Jews in Palestine, there are still sufficient left in Germany to create riots to prevent Germans from seeing a film of which they do not approve.

The Jews object to the role played by the Jew, Fagin. Charles Dickens would be astounded to learn that he was "anti-Semitic." American Jews have also campaigned strongly against *Oliver Twist*.

It is significant that the Communist press has also joined with the Jews in objecting to the film. The Melbourne Communist *Guardian* of January 28 commented: "One can find little sympathy for Rank despite the care and artistry that has gone into the making of *Oliver Twist*. Guinness' interpretation of Fagin leaves a nasty taste in the mouth . . . The actor seems to have gone out of the way, aided by make-up, to emphasise that Fagin was a Jew."

Actors may carefully depict an Irishman, an Englishman — in fact, anyone except a Jew. This arrogance cannot be tolerated by people of independent spirit.

Frank Admission

There is at least one thing to be said in favor of the famous English Fabian Socialist, George Bernard Shaw: he frankly admits the inevitable results of Socialism in practice.

Not only has he said that Socialism necessitates manpower controls; he also points out that Socialist Governments result in greater corruption: "Yet so many Socialists believe that Socialist Government is incorruptible. It is, in fact, more corruptible than un-Socialist Government . . .

. . . An enormous extension of State power and activity carries with it a formidable extension of its possible abuse" (*vide Shaw's Everybody's Political What's What*).

Events in Great Britain and Australia have provided striking confirmation of Mr. Shaw's viewpoint.

* * *

The "Capitalist" Herald

The "capitalist" Melbourne *Herald* continues its campaign to try and break down the opposition of the doctors to the totalitarian "free" medicine and National Health Schemes. It is true that some mild criticism is levelled at the Government, but merely to give the impression of impartiality. Readers of the *Herald* are told "the B.M.A.'s objections to form-filling and some measure of supervision have too often been sustained in a way that looks like obstructionism." (February 23.)

The *Herald's* advocacy of compromise suits the totalitarian planners very nicely. Compromise enables fundamental principles to be forgotten.

If the Federal Government is genuinely concerned about the people's health, it will pursue a financial policy, which will enable all individuals to obtain sufficient financial independence to permit them to select their own doctors and to obtain the best medical attention. Thus can both doctors and patients have genuine independence.

Under the Threat of War

(Continued from page 1)

western corner of N.S. Wales has been the neglect of that area and the need for local people to control it, so that they can enforce the use of their resources.

"Canberra's Snowy River 'defence plan' looks very much like another wedge of the Socialist offensive — a substitute, perhaps, for the uniform-rail-gauge 'full-employment' provider, and a means of carrying out 'Labor's' socialisation platform directly against the spirit and intention of the Constitution by subterfuge and by a deliberate misuse of the defence powers."

In conclusion, we would like to stress the fact that Mr. R. G. Casey, Federal President of the Liberal Party, is also an advocate of large-scale "resource planning" similar to the T.V.A. This type of planning will sound the death knell of the States. We leave it to our readers to decide whether Mr. Casey and similar people are conscious of what they are doing, or whether they merely possess that immature type of mind that is attracted by bigness. But they must be resisted with all our might.

THE ZIONIST MENACE

While for thirty years the Arabs and those few far-sighted Englishmen who knew something about the realities of the case warned the world, in so far as they could make their voices heard against the massive and clamorous din of Zionist propaganda, that the Zionist movement, if unchecked, would become a deadly menace not only to the Arabs, but to the security of the whole Middle East and to the peace of the world, nobody listened to them. To-day with the peril of the present phase reaching its climax, it might be supposed that the truth of those warnings had been proved beyond all doubt. But incredible as it may seem there are still people, including influential leaders of opinion both here and in America, who refuse to see the danger and who continue to support the most outrageous and menacing of Zionist aims even to the detriment of British and American interests, even against the principles and authority of the United Nations, and in defiance of both justice and the requirements of international harmony and world peace. Truly international Zionism must be a formidable power to be able so to subordinate such supreme interests and principles to its own evil ends.

Let us recapitulate some of the major perils of the present situation. In the first place there is not the slightest doubt that both Britain and America, and the cause of world peace and world freedom, as it is understood in the West, will suffer grievously from the establishment of a Jewish State in Palestine, which is already largely Communist and which is being armed and encouraged by Russia and Soviet Agencies in Eastern Europe. Long before this grave danger and the facts which prove its existence were revealed by the British Foreign Office a few days ago, we drew attention repeatedly to what was happening, and we gave facts and figures and quotations from Zionist sources and Zionist spokesmen to prove what we said. But for months the danger, which apparently was fully known both to the British and the American Governments, and presumably to the United Nations, was allowed to develop unchecked. The Security Council and the United Nations Observers stood by and watched, while the arming of Palestine Jewry by Czechoslovakia and Russia, proceeded in the full light of day, and on the most ample scale, in naked defiance of the Security Council's truce conditions.

Britain had put the greatest possible pressure on the Arab States to accept the truce on, amongst other considerations, the grounds that, if they did not accept it, sanctions would be applied against them and in favour of the Zionists, which would result in the Zionists receiving arms and the Arabs being denied them. But this has been the very result of the truce. Instead of arms being denied to both sides or being supplied to the Arabs when it became known that they were being supplied to the Jews, only the Arabs have been subjected to this embargo and the Western Powers (who in their own interests and in the interests of the world as they see them, are straining every nerve to prevent the growth of Russian influence in every other quarter) did not lift a finger to prevent Russia from establishing a potential military base of a most dangerous character in the heart of a region which is deemed to be vital to Anglo-American interests. Is it not unbelievable that the Zionists should have succeeded in persuading the American Government to pursue such a policy?

But the danger to Britain and America and to the democratic cause, of the establishment of the Jewish State in Palestine is not confined to the probability of such a

State becoming a base for Soviet policy and possibly military action in that region. The establishment of the Jewish State would inevitably lead to the growth of Communism throughout the Middle East. This for two reasons: in the first place the impact of this disaster on Arab thought and feeling and on conditions in the Arab countries would create (and there are many signs that this is happening already) precisely that psychological environment in which movements like Communism grow; in the second place, and let this be clearly understood by those in this country and elsewhere, who base their hopes on ultimate peace and co-operation between the Arabs and Jews, Communism is the only framework within which such peace and co-operation in the Middle East might come about. Only if Nationalism among Arabs and Zionists is completely subjugated on the political plane can this conflict ever terminate, and the only force that can so subjugate Nationalism is Communism. England and America are therefore following a policy, which would end by placing the solution of the Palestine problem in Russian hands.

But again this is not the only danger to which Zionism is exposing Britain and America. Apart from this indirect but deadly threat to their joint interests, there is the immediate danger of Zionism and its aims dividing Britain and America to such an extent that they will not be able to pursue a common coherent policy in the Middle East, and so offer effective resistance to Russian influence. This danger is solely due to the fact that the Zionists can put such pressure on the American Government as to prevent it from fully aligning itself with Britain in the pursuit of a policy which is in the interests of both and which is the least unreasonable or unjust policy that could be pursued in the present circumstances.

Lastly, Zionism is well on its way to destroying any prestige or authority the United Nations may have ever had. From the moment that the Palestine question was referred to U.N.O., the New World Organisation from which so much was expected has been prostituted in the interests of a cause that has neither justice nor international expediency on its side, but only an unworthy alliance between false sentiment and the powers of blackmail.

—*Arab News Bulletin*, Jan. 21.

The Works Of C. H. DOUGLAS

In a review of his latest full-length work, *The Brief for The Prosecution*, the *English Truth* states that C. H. Douglas is undoubtedly one of the greatest minds of this century. In his various works he has provided a penetrating analysis of finance, government, philosophy, constitutionalism, &c. Those responsible members of the community who are concerned with the present increasing plight of the world must study Douglas if they desire to know what must be done to save our civilisation.

The following list of Douglas's works are available:

Social Credit..... 6/6
Written in 1924, this is one of Douglas's earlier works.

Credit, Power, and Democracy, 6/9
An analysis of certain aspects of the credit system.

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THE 1949 FEDERAL ELECTIONS

The fundamental principles for which this journal stands are no doubt clear enough to every regular reader. But many have, naturally enough, asked how these principles can be advanced during this important Federal Election year. In facing up to this question, we must be realistic and accept the political situation as it is, and then attempt to make the best of it.

As we have pointed out time and time again, the mere election of a new Government, particularly one led by such men as Mr. R. G. Menzies and Mr. R. G. Casey, would not automatically result in a reversal of the drive towards complete political, economic and financial centralisation. No Government will surrender power unless compelled to do so by an informed and united public opinion. It is essential, therefore, that we make the best possible use of this Federal Election year to increase our educational work amongst all sections of the community. The work done over the past few years has borne fruit in many places, particularly amongst the rank and file of the Liberal and Country Parties. This work has resulted in a growing restiveness concerning policies, a restiveness which we believe would express itself if a Liberal-Country Party coalition Government were elected this year and did nothing to reverse the policies being pursued by the Labour-Socialists.

After considering all factors, we believe that every effort must be made to defeat the present Chifley Government. If this Government is returned, even with a small majority, it would claim that it had received a mandate to intensify its Monopolistic programme. A Labour victory would also mean the continuation of the disastrous policies of Dr. Evatt. It is essential that this man be driven from public life. It would be worth defeating the Labour Government to accomplish this one important objective. From what we know, we believe that the defeat of the Labour Government is a much easier objective than the defeat of Dr. Evatt in his own Federal Electorate, although we trust that our supporters in Dr. Evatt's electorate are laying the groundwork for a campaign to try and remove this power-luster from the Federal Parliament.

From our point of view, we feel that the most desirable election result would be a Liberal-Country Party victory by a small majority. With the natural internal stresses in a Coalition Government, together with the fact that there is a number of independently minded Members of both the Liberal and Country Parties, such a Government would not be the strong Government which the Party bosses so love. It would be much more susceptible to pressure from the electorates.

This does not mean that we should work negatively for the mere defeat of the Chifley Government. But we believe that in conjunction with such a campaign we can effectively carry forward our fundamental work on the necessity for individual control of credit policy, responsible voting, constitutional safeguards, an exposure of the plotters against civilization, and similar matters. Plans are also being made to get a written statement from every candidate on such matters as the complete abolition of Uniform Taxation, the abolition of the Financial Agreement, the abolition of specific Government Departments, the imposing of a tax limit on all Governments, and other constitutional safeguards such as the Initiative Referendum and Recall.

This big programme is going to require the physical and financial co-operation of every supporter of this journal. Finance in particular is required immediately, and we again draw readers' attention to the current appeal of the Social Credit Action Group, which hopes to be the spearhead of a major campaign between now and the end of the year.

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In order to reduce its costs of production the *New Times* is now getting most of its routine work done by volunteers. This policy is saving many pounds each week. But, to maintain this policy successfully, a number of regular volunteers must be available.

Melbourne readers of the *New Times* are therefore requested to consider carefully what time they can devote each week to assisting the *New Times* and associated activities. The more volunteers who can devote a few hours' work weekly at the *New Times* office, the greater the progress towards expanding the influence of the *New Times* and the ideas for which it stands.

Volunteers are required for such tasks as the following: Wrapping the *New Times* for direct subscribers and newsagents, wrapping books, addressing wrappers, and envelopes, etc.

Volunteers are required especially for Tuesday and Wednesday evenings every week. Those who are only available on other evenings or on Saturday mornings can also be of great assistance.

Those who can help in any capacity at any time are requested to ring MU 2834, or to call at the *New Times* office, 5th Floor, McEwan House, 343 Little Collins Street.

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Introduction by Eric D. Butler.

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PALESTINE'S PLACE IN THE WORLD CRISIS

Mr. Arthur Rogers, whose book, *The Palestine Mystery*, has been reviewed in *The Social Creditor* writes from 2 Holly Bush Hill, N.W.3: —

Great Britain will be unable to defend herself, and her undertakings to other nations will fall to the ground, if there is not a just settlement of the Palestine problem. This grave situation may be seen from the following facts: —

1. There is no assurance that Great Britain's foreign policy, including her support of Western Union, will not be forcibly challenged by the Soviet Union. In such a conflict the most important area would be where Great Britain is least able to defend her vital interests and the Soviet Union best able to attack them.

2. The armed forces needed by Great Britain to resist the Soviet Union, and to carry out her international obligations, are entirely dependent upon oil or petrol for their motive power, but less than two *per cent*, of Great Britain's oil requirements are obtainable in the British Empire—in Trinidad. There are, however, vast oil resources in which the British Government has financial interests in Arab countries and in Persia.

3. Great Britain's chief source of oil supply is in Persia. It would come to an immediate end with an outbreak of hostilities with the Soviet Union.

4. The Iraq-Haifa oil pipe-line is in Zionist hands in the valley of Armageddon, in northern Palestine, and the Iraq Government declared on December 27, 1948, that they will not permit the oil to flow through it again "until the Palestine problem is solved and the Arabs' just demands met."

5. During the 1939-45 war, when transport from the Middle East became difficult, 40 *per cent*, of Great Britain's oil came from Venezuela. Since then, the Cominform has established its South American base in that country, where there is now a Communist organisation "in every village." Recent reports state that the Venezuelan Government, which seized power on November 23, is considering a cancellation of the existing oil concessions. More over, Venezuela is outside the sterling area. That source of oil supply is therefore no longer reliable.

6. Apart from the difficulties due to the great distance of the Dutch East Indies, there is now no assurance of oil supplies from that region. After the U.S.A. and Japan entered the last war, *The American Hebrew*, which is the chief organ of American Zionism, published an article in two consecutive issues emphasising that a return to the pre-war status of the Dutch East Indies could not be tolerated because "we" (the American Zionists) required the oil there.

7. Of the remaining major sources of oil supply, those which are not in Soviet hands, are under American control, and their yield is barely adequate for U.S.A. needs. Other minor sources of supply are altogether inadequate for British needs.

8. King Abdulla of Transjordan, who was appointed by the Colonial Office in 1921, is disliked by other Arab rulers; but, on account of the Iraq pipe-line, Great

Britain is bound by treaty to help Transjordan if attacked by another State. On the other hand, Zionist leaders have stated persistently that they need Transjordan as well as Palestine for their "national home," and they are backed by the Soviet Union. Great Britain's recognition of "Israel" as a Sovereign State would, therefore, be at the risk of starting, another Great War.

9. Great Britain would be without the oil supplies now needed for carrying on such a war. If not entirely overcome by the Soviets in a military sense, she would be defeated by the Zionist financiers of the U.S.A., who have often admitted that they financed the Russian Revolution.

10. There is a popular view that the U.S.A. Government (as well as the American people) are so hostile to the Soviet Union that they are certain to rush to the aid of any country at war with Communism, and can be counted upon to dispose of the Soviets at short notice by means of Atom bombs. Apart from the morality and military efficacy of Atom bombs, this view of the intentions of those who control American policy is not supported by the attitude of the U.S.A. to Communist successes in China. It is contradicted by the actions of the U.S.A. in relation to Palestine and the Dutch East Indies, where her policy has been closely aligned to that of the Soviet Union.

In view of the terrible dangers outlined above, every effort must be made to prevent the development of war from the Palestine issue. An explanation of the cause and cure of the Palestine problem is to be found in *The Palestine Mystery — Side-lights on Secret Policy*; but attention should be drawn here to certain events, which followed the publication and wide distribution of that small book. Consistently with the disclosures it made, Count Bernadotte formally advised U.N.O. to adopt a partition boundary whereby the Zionists would be excluded from the Dead Sea. He was promptly assassinated. The British Government, however, have held out for his partition scheme, and have refused to recognise "Israel" as a Sovereign State, in both cases against considerable pressure from the U.S.A. and U.S.S.R. and certain politicians at home.

There has been a complete and significant boycott of *The Palestine Mystery* in the newspapers of the United Kingdom which publish the advertisements of big-business combines, but in marked contrast there have been detailed notices in Dominion papers, while articles of two and three columns about it have appeared conspicuously in the chief news pages of leading daily papers published in Brussels, Madrid, Buenos-Aires, Beirut, Cairo, Fez and Casablanca. There have also been three foreign radio broadcasts on the subject, while foreign publishers have asked for permission to produce French, Spanish and Arabic editions.

It is hoped that the foregoing will convince readers of this memorandum that it deals with a matter of over-riding importance and that they will give the subject the careful and immediate attention for which it calls.

—*The Social Creditor*, Jan. 29.

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THE SNOWY RIVER SCHEME

Strangely enough, it has remained for the Socialist writer, Mr. Clive Turnbull, writing in the Melbourne *Herald* — still more strange — of February 26, to draw public attention first to the most subtle danger concerning the proposed T.V.A. planning in the Australian Alps, and the diversion of the Snowy River. Mr. Turnbull writes: —

"Alarm of farmers in the Orbost area about the possible results of the vast Snowy River project — an alarm which may or may not be justified — emphasises the need for a comprehensive report on all aspects of this work and a full-dress Parliamentary debate before it is put in hand.

"Politics, national and international, apart, there are more important considerations than the provision of power. What we need to know is the whole ecological effect of the project — not merely how many kilowatts will be produced, but the effect on the whole natural environment, on rivers, soils, trees, pastures, crops, birds, animals and human beings over the great area directly or indirectly concerned.

"The engineer's view is only part of the picture, not even the most important part. Engineering triumphs such as T.V.A. in the United States have brought disadvantages as well as great benefits.

"Primary production is primary in every sense. Bread and butter are more important than electricity. The C.S.I.R. should be asked to report on all aspects of the project before we are carried away by visions of the colossal."

We would prefer someone more competent than members of the C.S.I.R. to investigate the ecological effects of the Snowy River diversion scheme. Members of this Government institution are generally tainted with the large-scale planning mania.

The President of the Orbost Shire Council, Mr. E. W. Johnston, has warned "the diversion of Snowy River water could ruin some of Victoria's best pastures, and convert Orbost into a ghost town."

But this is not likely to worry the large-scale planners who do not seem to realise that upsetting the balance of Nature can have most serious long-range effects. The rights of individual farmers were completely over-ridden by the Tennessee Valley Authority planners, who had the backing of the U.S.A. Federal Government. The same treatment of East Gippsland farmers appears likely unless there is an effective protest.

Mr. Kent Hughes is guilty of neglect in not fighting harder at the interstate conference at which it was announced that two-thirds of the Snowy waters are to be diverted. But perhaps this gentleman has never heard of the subject of ecology. And what about the question of State rights?

MUNICIPAL COMPOST

Several compost enthusiasts have directed our attention to a recent newspaper report concerning an address by Sir Herbert Gepp to a meeting of Melbourne town clerks, council engineers and other municipal and shire representatives.

Sir Herbert Gepp said that the conversion of household garbage to humus fertiliser could become a big Australian industry. We understand that a company is to be formed to treat wastes in Melbourne, and that a plant costing about £100,000 will be required. It is claimed that this plant will turn wastes into humus within twenty-four hours.

Although we have not as yet obtained full details concerning this proposed venture, we are not unduly impressed. We have received from Sydney a report, which is not very enthusiastic about the product turned out after twenty-four hours of treatment in a plant similar to that proposed in Melbourne. Just why a machine, and a very costly one at that, is required to try and turn wastes into humus in twenty-four hours has not been made clear. No elaborate or costly machinery is required to make the finest compost, adequately "ripened" over a few months. Unless Councils take action to treat their own wastes along proven lines, we may find a monopolistic group seeking to "corner" all waste supplies, and to turn out a product much inferior to that being produced in all parts of the world by biological methods.

Ratepayers and other interested people should take this matter up with their local Councils.

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SUPRANATIONAL POWER

Whether any effective good is achieved by an endeavour, in which we persist, to play the part of Greek Chorus to the world's tragedy and agony, is not easy to assess. It must be true that before anything practically useful can be done, there must be some understanding somewhere of the nature of the crime and the location of the main criminals; and, with other victims of the triumph of hope over experience, we do something to add to that knowledge.

But it is little less than staggering to observe the general reaction to the publicising of a very considerable body of evidence demonstrating the callous treason which has shaped the affairs of Great Britain and her dependencies—we emphasise the word — during the past fifty years at least. The attitude most commonly met is that of the mildly interested spectator. The business is not of course to be compared to a League football match, or even to a good detective story, but, if you don't have too much of it, it will serve to while away an hour.

We put down a great part of our distress to the skilful cultivation of this attitude of *panem et circenses*. "Let George do it" is not necessarily a vicious policy; but to avoid disaster in any field of activity, it must be *ad hoc*; as a *principle*, it leads where it always has led, into slavery. Professionalism, yes; but not to the exclusion of the essential paramountcy of amateurism.

And in further extenuation of the inertness found in the face of the worst threat in two thousand years, there is the largeness of the canvas and the four-dimensionality of the action. It may be useful, therefore, to apply a pantagraph in reverse; to scale down the picture, even at the expense of detail, so that something comprehensible can be seen as a whole.

The argument, then, is that there is an international world power, which has as its aim its own transformation into a supranational power, unchallenged and unchallengeable, to which every knee must bow. Impractical and conceited intellectuals, gangsters and rogues all serve its turn. Its internationality takes the form of either appointing or controlling significant officials and executives in National Administrations and Industrial Cartels, and these men (and women) are under various forms of compulsion to obey the behests of the international power. Obviously, sooner or later, the interests of the international power (and no other interests receive a moment's consideration) require the re-shuffling of national powers, such as the British Empire, lest they become (as the British did become) a menace to world power. A national power in this situation is systematically attacked through the agency of other National Administrations and Cartels. Notice particularly the bearing, which this policy has on the idea, that either "Russia" or "U.S.A." would be allowed to emerge from any conflict supreme as *such*.

The organisation chosen for the first attack was Imperial Germany, for many fairly obvious reasons on which it is not necessary to digress. That the outcome of this first phase of the attack was foreseen is proved by the shift of focus by international interests both from Germany and London, to New York *before the War*.

The second attack overlapped the first, and the organisation was and is the U.S.A. The major techniques are the fomentation of war and revolution, and two of the later

instances are the conditions imposed by what is commonly called "Lend-lease" upon Great Britain and the fomentation of "Indonesian" revolt against the Dutch, preparatory to the grant by the "Indonesian Republic" of comprehensive concessions to a Mr. Matthew Fox, of New York. In the trading monopoly to be set up over the whole of "Indonesia" the "Americans" control 51 *per cent*, of the shares.

As throwing light on the Lend-Lease contribution to the current "Revolution" in "Britain," which is as British as the Bolshevik Revolution was Russian, the *New York Times* of February 7, 1941, is helpful. Its Washington correspondent remarks:—

"The suspicion is, and for some time has been, that the American and British New Dealers who have most influence with the President (Roosevelt), aim at a socialisation of industry in both countries; that the form of the Lend-Lease Act will assist in bringing about that result here; and that Ambassador Winant was selected as the best liaison officer to that end with Britons of like mind."

It may be observed that behind the shop-front provided by Mr. Winant, who was afterwards found shot, the individuals who actually collaborated with the "Britons" of like mind were Mr. Benjamin Cohen, Jr., and Mr. Sidney Hillman (Schmuel Gilman), the latter one of the most dangerous Jews who ever operated under the cloak of American citizenship. They were in the closest touch with P.E.P., Mr. Emanuel Shinwell and Mr. Silkin.

Commenting on this situation, the *New Zealand Mirror* in its August issue remarks:—"Acceptance by foreign nations of an International New Deal (P.E.P.) programme of economic regimentation was evidently to be the price for American aid in the war."

It should be noted that (a) There has been no investigation into the 1940 debacle, both on the Continent and to the mysterious orders which hamstrung the Royal Navy in respect of the invasion of Norway, (b) From that time, the position of Great Britain was that of a satellite power of the United States. The position of Mr. Churchill, his obsession with military victory even at the cost of permanent civil defeat, and the insistence of Roosevelt on the removal of Chamberlain, and his succession by Churchill, are instances of the ability and care with which the staff work of the international power is conducted.

Consider this picture; and then decide on the likelihood of a major adjustment of financial technique which would prove fatal to the Plot, and, in the light of it whether it is sounder to pretend, as in Alberta, that there is no fight ahead but only an intellectual conversion, or that the whole world is faced with the greatest battle of all recorded history, on the issue of which all ancillary issues hang; and that the enlightenment of those that have ears to hear is an obligation.

—*The Social Creditor*, Jan. 29.

Local Government Undermined

Local authorities' only alternative to bankruptcy was to let everything go to pieces, Mr. Muller (C.P., Fassifern) told Parliament yesterday.

Speaking in the Budget debate, he said that under present Labour Government administration it was only a matter of time before the local authorities went "broke" if they provided any real services. Only the Government was getting any facilities out of the State Transport Facilities Act.

Last year alone the Government had got £314,000 out of the operation of the Act, which had been used to balance the Budget.

Mr. Muller said that the Act was a straight out imposition on local governing bodies and country people.

Local governments had to find money to build roads, the State issued licences for those who used them, and then the State collected the money.

Attacking the petrol tax, Mr. Muller said that it had been originally imposed to provide money for road construction, but last year the Commonwealth Government took £20 million, only £6 million of which was returned in road works.

"If the Government is going to starve local authorities to death someone will have to take the responsibility," Mr. Muller added. "If it is going to murder local authorities and carry on from Brisbane, it is not going to follow its decentralisation policy, and is going to increase costs considerably." •

—*Courier-Mail*, Brisbane, Oct. 13, 1948.

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A READER'S CRITICISM

Sir, —Your editorial (11th February, 1949) will not receive acclaim from electors, who are entirely cognisant of facts concerning its contention that the State Victorian Liberal Party is opposed to subsidies. In actuality, Mr. Hollway, Premier, rebuked Chifley's fit of pique, which threw price control to the winds whilst abolishing controlling subsidies. The integral policies of Federal C.P. Fadden, and Victorian State Hollway are practically identical—each one standing for freedom of enterprise, subsidised control of essentials (hence price fixation, though fluid), —decentralisation AND for better conditions for the country's primary producers, on whose faithful labours depend the well-being of our commercial and industrial cities.

Your Editor got off on the wrong foot when he accused, as "schemers to destroy the C.P.", Premier Hollway's party, evidence of which is the breakaway from the Country Party of certain of its envisioned members who recognise this exact taint (i.e., scheming to destroy freedom and progress) which the *New Times* falsely attributes to the Victorian State Liberals.

We were so close to the brink of actual civil war, when the suspension of the operation of the Essential Services Act was determined upon by Mr. Hollway, after Deputy Premier McDonald had courageously taken the bull by the horns (which all Liberals praised him for), that we are amazed there can still be any purblind who fail to see a clarification of the situation which helped (and seeks yet to help) the non-militant unionists.

Yours etc.,

M. LYNN LEWIS

Stawell, 14/2/49.

Comment:

After carefully re-reading the editorial mentioned, we are very surprised that our contributor has levelled such forthright criticism. Neither directly nor by inference did we mention Mr. Hollway's handling of the industrial dispute late last year. And we certainly did not say that the Victorian Liberal Party is opposed to subsidies. We feel it rather unfair of our critic to base her case upon statements, which we never made.

Our editorial dealt with Mr. Fadden's definite promise that the Federal Country Party stood for the restoration of the price subsidy mechanism. There is no secret about the fact that a section of the Liberals — in all States — desire to absorb the Country Party under the plea of "unity" against the Socialist menace. Our plea was that the Liberal leaders should stop this destructive campaign, and join with the Country Party in enunciating a constructive policy. As yet this has not been done.

While it is true that Mr. Hollway has said he favours the continuation of subsidies, he has also made the statement that the only way to restore State rights is to elect a Federal Liberal Government next year. Are we seriously asked to believe that the Federal Liberals are really going to decentralise power? What is their definite policy? We don't know. And our contributor doesn't know, because Mr. Casey recently said that Liberal policy is to be kept "in the bag" as a "surprise" just before the elections.

While we hold no brief for the Country Parties, we have pointed out that they have shown more indication of attacking the real Socialist menace than has Mr. Menzies or Mr. Casey. Mr. Fadden's remarks are far more encouraging than any we have yet heard from Liberal leaders. — THE EDITOR.

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