

THE NEW TIMES

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"Ye shall know the truth and the truth shall make you free"

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MAY 1974

THE INTERNATIONAL SCENE

By *ERIC D. BUTLER*

During seven weeks of constant campaigning, I travelled through New Zealand, touched down for one meeting on the West Coast of the U.S.A., spent three weeks moving across Canada to Toronto, then down to Washington for a five-day conference before going to the United Kingdom, returning to Australia via Rhodesia and South Africa. One of my overall impressions is that civilised societies are all disintegrating at an accelerating rate under the impact of inflation and its associated results. Unless constructive steps can be taken to reverse inflation, orderly societies everywhere must collapse into chaos, probably followed by a type of Communist-military dictatorship.

It was on the morning that I left Rhodesia that the news came through about the coup in Portugal. This dramatic event could play a major part in deciding whether Rhodesia and South Africa can hold on in the face of mounting international pressure. Beyond doubt one of the major causes of the coup in Portugal was the deteriorating finance-economic situation. Inflation has been undermining the Portuguese along with all other European nations. It has been clear to me for some years that the Portuguese enthusiasm for the war in Mozambique against the terrorists, backed by the Communists, was waning. Young Portuguese did not feel that they had any real stake in Mozambique, with the result that their main objective was to stay alive until they had completed their tour of duty and could return home to Portugal. The position in Rhodesia is quite different, where the Rhodesians, both European and African, feel that they are fighting to protect what is theirs. Unless members of a society feel that they have a concrete stake in that society, there is no strong feeling to defend it. One sees this right around the world as inflation makes it increasingly difficult for the people to own property in any meaningful sense.

At the World Anti-Communist League Conference in Washington, I was most interested in hearing a former Chilean Senator explain what had happened to bring the Allende regime to power, and what happened subsequently as he attempted to impose an open Marxist dictatorship. Allende capitalised on the finance-economic problems of Chile to obtain office, gaining support from many who saw the urgent necessity for some type of reforms. But the Allende programme stimulated inflation at an accelerating rate. The production system started to collapse, food supplies became hard to obtain. As I listened to an account of the destruction caused by inflation I thought of an incredible comment by Australian Labor Treasurer Frank Crean, who had said that nations

had survived an inflation rate of 600 percent! It is instructive that having saved Chile from a Marxist take-over, the Chilean military Government now finds itself plagued by a rising inflation rate!

FOOD SHORTAGES AHEAD?

Up until a few years ago it appeared certain that in spite of finance-economic problems, primary producers throughout the free world were capable of maintaining adequate production, even if consumers had to pay increasing prices for their food. But now a dramatic change is coming over the situation, as I have witnessed in Canada, the U.S.A. and the United Kingdom. Beef and pork producers in these countries are slowing down production because their costs are growing faster than the capacity of consumers to meet the higher prices necessary to recover these costs. Western Canadian and American beef producers told me that they had no other alternative to going out of production unless some answer could be found to inflation. The Trudeau minority Government fell on the inflation issue. But the Progressive Conservatives and New Democratic Party who voted them out have no solution either. Should the Progressive Conservatives win the coming Canadian Federal Elections, the programme proposed, including price and wage freezes, will merely accelerate the economic dislocation now so obvious in Canada. The increasing numbers of strikes, which accompany inflation, are adding to the breakdown. "The Roast Beef of Old England" is an unpleasant joke in the United Kingdom, where increasing numbers of people can no longer afford to eat beef, except as an occasional luxury.

Since returning to Australia I have had the opportunity of a close look at the Australian agricultural scene, and here the story is becoming the same as in other countries. The rural crisis cleared large numbers of Australian farmers off their properties, some going out of production or being taken over by city speculators trying to find

some way of hedging against increasing inflation. The speculators are not over enthusiastic about too much production. Wool prices temporarily improved, primarily because of feverish Japanese buying. Those woolgrowers who had managed to survive started to reduce their indebtedness. But prices have been falling disastrously during the current selling season. Costs of production have increased enormously over the past two years, which means that woolgrowers are now faced with another crisis. And now beef producers are worried as Japanese buying eases. Japanese buying is dominated by the American finance-economic crisis, resulting from one of the highest inflation rates in the world. The last massive wage increases, following the national strike, must result in still more inflation. And more convulsions.

The European Economic Community, hailed as a "great miracle" which the British could not afford not to join, has turned into a nightmare. Inflation and mounting industrial unrest are causing havoc. British public opinion has forced the Wilson Government to take the first steps towards getting the United Kingdom out of the EEC. Italy has blatantly broken the EEC tariff rules and Denmark threatens to do likewise. Italy is on the verge of a collapse, which could bring the Communists to power. The French and the Germans continue their controversies about agricultural and other policies.

THE END OF THE ROAD

The Wilson Government got the coal miners back to work by the expedient of more of the debt-drug which temporarily eases the pain of a crisis, only to result in still greater crises later. But then the Amalgamated Union of Engineers staged another disastrous strike. In sheer desperation Mr. Wilson had had to resort to consumer subsidies in an attempt to halt the inflation monster. If only he would finance these out of new credits he would be hailed as the man who showed how inflation could be constructively ended. But the use of consumer credits requires a direct assault on the credit monopolists, something the politicians fear.

Unless the non-Communist nations reverse inflation, it can be said now that they are doomed. Inflation not only produces disastrous economic results; it poisons the whole fabric of society. Democratic institutions, already deeply corrupted, cannot survive accelerating inflation. Water-gate has shown for all to see just how far the corruption has gone in the West. Civilisation is now at the end of the road. That is my firm impression after my 1974 international tour. Social Credit is the key to the situation.

But I also see encouraging evidence throughout the English-speaking world that a process of regeneration is gaining in strength. The immediate future is one of great dangers, but it is also one of tremendous challenge. As C. H. Douglas predicted, a small body of men who knew what to do and how to do it could prove decisive when the crisis became acute enough. We are on the threshold of historic developments. We either go further down the disaster road or we turn back to take another road.

"INFLATION CAN BE BEATEN"

Under the above heading the following excellent letter was featured in "The Herald", Melbourne, of May 13:

Inflation is not, as some politicians would have us believe, an incurable disease.

Inflation is a state in which industrial costs, and therefore prices, outstrip personal incomes as consumer purchasing power.

This gap arises because of a time lag, when costs incurred, perhaps years before, are included in current prices, making these greater than personal incomes.

For example, the Snowy Mountains Scheme involved millions, spent over 25 years.

Yet, today, this capital charge appears in the price of water and electricity, though clearly employees would have spent the money they got years ago in order to live.

How then can they pay the related "cost" in today's prices?

The solution for inflation is to subsidise consumer prices by taking the "capital" charge out of prices.

Money to do this would come from the Reserve Bank, which, under its charter, is directed to provide money for the "economic prosperity and welfare of the people of Australia".

In practice, consumer prices would be lower and industry's bank overdraft reduced by the sum involved. No one would lose.

—**C. A. Haythorpe**, Corhampton Road, North Balwyn.

THE FEDERAL ELECTIONS

Readers will receive this issue of "The New Times" after the Federal Elections. Irrespective of which set of politicians are now the Administration at Canberra, the basic problem destroying Australia still remains. That problem is accelerating inflation. Neither Mr. Whitlam nor Mr. Snedden put forward any constructive policy for eliminating inflation. All they offered were many and varied handouts, to be financed, of course, by the taxpayers themselves.

We will report in our next issue on the activities of The League of Rights during the campaigning up until the elections and the referenda. This will be a most inspiring story. Events continue to prove the League right, with the result that it is attracting increasing support.

Australia is set on the same explosion course being followed by other non-Communist nations. Coming events are casting their long shadows ahead. The League pronounces that it is ready now for the next round in the battle for survival.

TOP SECRET GUEST LIST OF BILDERBERG CONFERENCE

The "Bilderbergers" are a group of internationalists whose activities have for many years attracted the attention of students of international power politics. "Washington Observer" managed to scoop the world's press by printing a list of guests who attended the 1971 Bilderberg Conference held in Woodstock, Vermont, U.S.A. In its issue of May 15, 1974, "Washington Observer" publishes a list of guests to the conference held in the Hotel Mont d'Arbois, Megeve, France, on April 19-21. The hotel is a luxurious resort owned by Baron Edward de Rothschild. "Washington Observer" states that the list, procured at some personal danger to WO's reporter", is not complete; at least one other Rothschild attended and 20 other unlisted persons:

MEGEVE CONFERENCE April 19, 20 and 21, 1974 FINAL LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

H.R.H. The Prince of the NETHERLANDS

Chairman

Ernst H. van der BEUGEL

Professor International Relations. Leiden University
Honorary Secretary General for Europe

Joseph E. JOHNSON

President Emeritus, Carnegie Endowment for International Peace
Honorary Secretary General for the United States

C. Frits KARSTEN

Managing Director, AMRO Bank N.V.
Honorary Treasurer

AUSTRIA

ANDROSCH, Hannes

Minister of Finance

IGLER, Hans

President of the Confederation of Austrian Industrialists

BELGIUM

DAVIGNON, Vicomte

Director General Political Affairs,
Ministry of Foreign Affairs

JANSSEN, Daniel-E.

Director-Deputy General Manager, U.C.B., S.A.
Lecturer, Brussels University

SNOY et d'OPPUERS, Baron

Former Minister of Finance

CANADA

AIRD, John B.

Senior Partner, Aird, Zimmerman & Berlis

DUPUY, Michel

Assistant Under Secretary of State for External Affairs

GRIFFIN, Anthony G. S.

Chairman. Triarch Corporation Ltd.

SAUVE, Mrs. Jeanne

Minister of State for Science and Technology

DENMARK

ANDERSEN, K. B., M.P.

Former Minister for Foreign Affairs

SCHLEIMAN, Jorgen

Commentator Foreign Relations, Danish Radio

TERKELSEN, Terkel M.

Editor-in-Chief, "Berlingske Tidende"

FINLAND

ROSSI, Reino

Managing Director, Finska Socker

FRANCE

ALPHAND, Herve

Former Secretary General, Foreign Office

BAUMGARTNER, Wilfrid S.

Former President, Rhone-Poulenc S.A.
Honorary Governor, Banque de France

CHALANDON, Albin Former Minister

Member of Parliament Former
Inspecteur des Finances

FAURE, Edgar

President of the National Assembly

FAURE, Madame Lucie

Author

FONTAINE, Andre

Editor-in-Chief "Le Monde"

Author working paper

GUINDEY, Guillaume

President, Compagnie Internationale des Wagons-Lits
et du Tourisme

HERZOG, Maurice

Former Secretary of State
Member of Parliament
Mayor of Chamonix

LEPRINCE-RINGUET, Louis

Member, "Academic Francaise"
Member, "Academic des Sciences"
President, "Organisation Francaise du Mouvement
Europeen"

ROTHSCHILD, Baron Edmond de

Banker

GERMANY

KAISER, Karl

Director, German Institute for Foreign Affairs
Author working paper

KIEP, Walther Leisler

Member of Parliament

SCHMIDT, Helmut

Minister of Finance

SCHRODER, Gerhard

Member of Parliament

SOMMER, Theo

Editor-in-Chief, "Die Zeit"

WISCHNEWSKI, Hans-Jurgen

Member of Parliament

WOLFF von

AMERONGEN, Otto
Chairman of the Board, Otto Wolff A.G.

GREECE

PESMAZOGLU, John S.

Former Deputy Governor, Bank of Greece

INTERNATIONAL

DAHRENDORF, Ralf

Member of the Commission of the European Communities

GOODPASTER, Andrew J.

Supreme Allied Commander Europe

KOHNSTAMM, Max

President, European University in Florence

LARRE, Rene

Director, Bank for International Settlements

LENNEP, Jonkheer Emile van

Secretary General O.E.C.D.

LUNS, Joseph M.A.H.

Secretary General, N.A.T.O.

ITALY

AGNELLI, Giovanni

President, FIAT S.p.A.

BETTIZA, Enzo

Journalist, "Corriere della Sera"

CITTADINI CESI, II Marchese

President, Association pour l'Etude des Problemes de l'Europe

COLONNA di PALIANO, Prince Guido

Chairman, La Rinascente

DUCCI, Roberto

Director General, Political Affairs

LA MALFA, Giorgio

Professor of Economics, Milan State University

LEVI, Arrigo

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RONCHEY, Alberto

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Correspondent, "La Stampa"

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MYRVOLL, Ole

Member of Parliament

TIDEMAND, Otto Grieg

Shipowner

SWEDEN

WALLENBERG, Marcus

Chairman, Skandinaviska Enskilda Banken

WICKMAN, Krister

Governor, Bank of Sweden

Former Minister for Foreign Affairs

SWITZERLAND

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GREENHILL, The Lord

Banker

Former Permanent Secretary, Foreign and Commonwealth Office

Author working paper

HEALEY, Denis

Chancellor of the Exchequer

JONES, Aubrey

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RODGERS, William

Minister of State for Defence

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UNITED STATES

ALLISON, Graham T.

Professor of Government, Harvard University

BALL, George W.
Senior Managing Director, Lehman Brothers

BERGSTEN, C. Fred
Senior Fellow, The Brookings Institution
Author working paper

CAMPS, Mrs. Miriam
Senior Research Fellow, Council on Foreign Relations

CHACE, James
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GRUNWALD, Henry A.
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Economist

LORD, Winston
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MATHIAS, Charles McC.
U.S. Senator

MONDALE, Walter
U.S. Senator

PERKINS, James A.
Chairman, International Council for Educational
Development

ROCKEFELLER, David
Chairman of the Board,
The Chase Manhattan Bank N.A.

ROCKEFELLER, Nelson A.
Former Governor of New York State

SONNENFELDT, Helmut
Counselor of the Department of State

STONE, Shepard
President, International Association for Cultural
Freedom

SEARCHING QUESTIONS ABOUT "DEMOCRACY"

The following thought-provoking article by Mr. Ron Gostick, National Director of The Canadian League of Rights, appeared in the April issue of "The Canadian Intelligence Service", prior to the collapse of the Trudeau Government and the announcement of a Canadian general election. We commend it to our readers in the wake of yet another Australian contest in political bribery, which leaves unresolved the questions raised by Mr. Gostick:

The Toronto Globe & Mail was one of the powerful Eastern newspapers, which played a central role in obfuscating political reality and bringing the Trudeau regime into power six years ago. And while still failing or refusing to consider the significance of the Prime Minister's own earlier political background, the Globe & Mail is now at least becoming increasingly disturbed at the results of the Trudeau leadership.

The following excerpts are from the lead editorial in the April 20th issue of the Globe & Mail:

"Canadians cannot communicate by mail. Canadians cannot move from one place to another by air. Canadians cannot safely navigate the St. Lawrence Seaway. As the usual immense group of third parties affected by disputes involving relatively small numbers of workers, but without any voice in what goes on, they are suffering incalculable personal and economic loss.

"This is happening in the midst of runaway inflation. It is happening in the virtual absence of government. The Government, which signed on for the job, is inhibited by its commitments to New Democrat David Lewis, by the new set of demands, which he is making upon it. It is afraid of what the Conservatives may do.

"We know, or we assume, that the Government's main purpose now is to struggle through to a Christmas-tree budget, which Finance Minister John Turner could hardly want or agree to produce. But whatever is on the Government's Christmas tree, it will not serve a

country whose people are without mail service, who cannot travel by air, whose Seaway is blocked to vital cargoes . . ."

That's the view of the press friendly to the Government, as we move into spring 1974.

Just consider this situation: Two weeks ago some of our C.I.P. mailings were delayed due to a shortage of envelopes, if you please, right in Toronto! A week ago, some of my colleagues at a conference in Washington were delayed and inconvenienced by sporadic Air Canada "strikes". And this week I can't even guess when this issue will reach you due to the Postal "strike". In the meantime, our Prime Minister has been playing on West Indian beaches, insisting that "the world is undoubtedly unfolding as it should"!

One consequence of this now almost constant abominable disruption within our society is a loss of confidence and faith in our free society, usually referred to as a "democracy" throughout most of the Western World. Even our journalists are now questioning the future of "democracy".

RICHARD NEEDHAM opened his Globe & Mail April 16th column in these words:

"Dean Inge dismissed democracy as a system which counts votes instead of weighing them. As he pointed out, two dolts can outvote a man of learning; two parasites can outvote a producer. Such a foolish system can

only destroy itself in the end; but for the time being, it's the one we have in Canada . . . "

LUBOR ZINK in his April 5th column in The Toronto Sun, captioned "**One man, one vote on death course**", said:

"About three decades ago novelist Nevil Shute (best known for his portrayal of the aftermath of nuclear war, *On The Beach*) foresaw the deep moral, political and economic crisis free men and their social structure are now going through.

"Visualizing Britain near collapse in the 1970s, Shute traced the root of the trouble as he saw it developing, even then, to short-sighted, selfish, misinformed or simply ignorant voters.

"Dealing with what he foresaw to be near disastrous consequences of our voting system, Shute had one of the characters of his novel. *In The Wet*, an Oxford history professor, say:

" 'No despot, no autocratic monarch in his pride and greed has injured England so much as the common man. Every penny that could be wrung out of the nation has been devoted to raising the standard of living of the least competent elements in the country, who have held the voting power . . . The politicians who have come to power through this system of voting have been irresponsible and ill-informed, on both sides of the House.'

"Speaking through the Oxford don, Shute explained:

" 'One man, one vote, has never really worked. It came in at a time of liberal social awakening in the middle of the nineteenth century. The governing elements in this country leaned over backwards to redress the wrongs that previous generations of their class had wrought upon the common man, and they made all men equal in deciding the affairs of the country . . . '

"The result? 'The common man has voted consistently to increase his own standard of living, regardless of the long-term interests of his children, regardless of the wider interests of his country.'

"When I first read Shute's *In The Wet*, I was outraged by his challenge of the one man, one vote principle which my generation absorbed with mother's milk as the natural order of things. Shute, I thought, was a cantankerous reactionary, for no one else could possibly question the very essence of all progress in the evolution of genuine democracy.

"After three decades of close observation and study of the political and economic scene, Shute's challenge of the most sacred cow of the untouchable mythology of our time no longer shocks me.

"Painful as any questioning of deeply ingrained popular assumptions is bound to be, no one who has been carefully watching the obvious decline (and by now decomposition) of our increasingly fragmented, greedy and unmistakably suicidal society can fail to question the method of selection of our governments. No one who looks at election campaigns objectively can fail

to see that they amount to contests in bribery of the electors with tax money.

"Projecting the built-in corruption with the common sense clarity of a mind undistorted by preconceived or fashionable ideas, Nevil Shute foresaw the mess of the 1970s three decades ago.

"What Shute perceived ahead of almost anyone else was the perversion of liberalism in the anything goes scramble for votes that became the political credo of the democracies after World War II. Shute foresaw that in a relatively short time no elected government hoping to retain voters' support, will be able to reconcile the imperatives of prudent and responsible administration with the requirements of popularity contests.

"He foresaw that under our voting system and vulnerability to misinformation and subversion, effective power will inexorably come to be exercised by the least stable segments of the community. He also foresaw that in these circumstances no government seeking re-election would be able to tackle any long-range problem requiring monetarily unpopular measures.

"Groping for some way to avoid the death throes he saw free society voting itself into under the one man, one vote rule, Shute suggested a system of multiple votes determined by the voter's contribution to the well-being of the community.

"In Shute's book the system of weighted votes was pioneered with great success by Australia and adopted by Canada. Eventually it saved Britain from chaos and collapse.

"Shute's idea is, of course, still too 'radical' to be given a try before the liberal death-wish of the Western world runs its 'progressive' course to the totalitarian finish."

PETER WORTHINGTON former Moscow correspondent for The Toronto Telegram and currently Executive Editor of The Toronto Sun, in his April 19th column, captioned "**Is democracy bowing out?**", notes the deterioration and decline of Western nations, including rampant inflation and ineffective political leadership. Worthington draws attention to somewhat similar conditions in Russia before the Bolshevik seizure of power, and in pre-1933 Germany.

Even ARNOLD TOYNBEE, the revered historian of the liberal establishment, is now issuing storm signals. The Toronto Globe & Mail, April 15, carried this report:

"LONDON (AP)—Historian Arnold Toynbee predicted yesterday that the free enterprise system will disappear and that affluent nations will soon be living in what he called a permanent siege economy.

"Mr. Toynbee, who celebrated his 85th birthday yesterday, wrote in The Observer that those developments would stem from the plundering of the earth's irreplaceable natural resources.

" 'Man's plundering of nature now threatens him with pollution and depletion,' Mr. Toynbee wrote. 'In so-called developed countries like those of Western Europe,

the United States, and the Soviet Union and Japan, growth is going to cease.'

"The author of the 12-volume A Study of History predicted that ruthless, authoritarian governments will have to impose a regimented way of life to conserve resources; free enterprise will die . . ."

Mr. Toynbee goes on to suggest that our loss of affluence could be a blessing, leading to a purer, more spiritual life.

We rather suspect that the accelerating series of world crises is not so concerned with our spiritual welfare as with serving as a pretext for surrendering national sovereignty and establishing a "world government" with all-powerful sanctions—to solve the crises, of course, and "settle things".

Mr. Toynbee's observation respecting our plundering of resources is a valid one: but heaping all the blame upon "free enterprise" is not. For decades "free enterprise" has been subservient to the controllers of Finance on the one hand, and expanding Government on the other. And it has been during this reign of Shylock and Caesar that we have witnessed the accelerating assault upon our natural resources—not only to satisfy our own needs, but to bolster up Communist regimes!

However, policies of "planned obsolescence" and the wholesale export of our products and resources just to create "employment"—policies dictated by the financial rules under which "private enterprise" is forced to operate—do waste and plunder the resources the Creator put at our disposal, and do filch from our people a large measure of potentially leisure time. As a recent issue of *On Target* put it: "So long as the distribution of purchasing power is tied to 'work' alone for the worker, and the present policy of financing the economy and government with

ever-increasing waves of debt, interest and taxes, that long will the only alternative to 'plunder' be collapse. It's a pity Mr. Toynbee and other modern historians fail to tackle the present financial policy which causes the abomination we all deplore."

Readers of this Service will appreciate the truth expressed by today's journalists respecting the disintegration of Western society and the dangers we today face. And many of us, indeed, have pondered on the disastrous consequences of the universal, secret, and totally irresponsible 'vote', which today constitute our "ballot-box democracy".

This is not the place, and perhaps mine is not the pen to go into technical details of an alternate policy to the present one of disaster and national suicide. But alternate policies there are.

Let us not despair or become as pessimistic as Mr. Toynbee and the eminent scribes. Who is to say that our younger generation will not see through the sham, the hypocrisy and the social/economic criminality of our past and present finance-dictated policies? Who is to say that a generation which put Man on the moon will not be followed by one which learns how to conserve and more wisely use the fruits of the field and the resources of God?

Even the heavy, bloodstained blanket of Communism could not destroy or kill the human spirit, could not silence the Morozes and the Mindszentys, could not prevent the miracle of Solzhenitsyn. For these men live by Faith. And faith is limited by neither time nor geography. Indeed, faith is the cement, which must bind all good societies. Faith is the starting point of hope and regeneration.

No, the future does not belong to the pessimist and the captive of despair. The future, thank God belongs to those of faith.

"THESE LATTER HOURS"*

The nascent science of Social Dynamics presents many urgent problems for solution to its students, and perhaps one of the less understood is that of the distinction between Social Momentum and Applied Force.

There is an idea in the minds of many people, I think, that the world and the rulers of it are susceptible to some description of death-bed repentance, and that, in consequence, the penalty of their past policy can be averted. It is very doubtful indeed whether such an idea has any sound foundation. The prevention of a great war, for instance, in order to be effective, requires the removal or shutting off of forces which lead to a great war, 15 or 20 years before the war will otherwise take place. It has always seemed to me that 1923 was the critical year in regard to the situation in the world today, and approximately the latest date at which the disasters which threaten us could have been avoided, although that is by no means to say that they cannot be mitigated. In 1923 it became

obvious that bankers had learnt nothing and forgotten nothing, and, as Mr. Otto Kahn said at Ottawa, "They had been a little anxious, but now had the situation in hand."

The traditional success of British Governments in dealing with various situations that may confront them (which from one point of view has provoked the criticism, so universal on the Continent, that we have no policy other than expediency) is due, I think, to our concentration upon problems of momentum, rather than upon problems of original forces. When such momentum is comparatively small—as is the case where communications are slow, agriculture and small industry are primitive, the dissemination of news and propaganda is comparatively restricted, and in general the conditions are those which existed up to the beginning of the present century—the brake is a more effective and simpler mechanism than are the engine controls. When it is necessary to affect the judgment of

only a small number of comparatively well-educated people, constantly in touch with each other and familiar with the practice and technique of governmental action, a change of policy is easy and can be comparatively rapid. But such is not the case today. Political propaganda has reached dimensions previously unknown, by means of syndicated newspapers, broadcasting, motion pictures and so forth, whilst the submission of large populations to a uniform economic system based upon finance, and producing parallel problems everywhere, has generated mass emotion on a scale which is reflected in the wars and revolutions contemporaneous with it.

If the situation is looked at in this light, it must evoke even some sympathy for the unfortunate statesmen who are supposedly responsible. If we regard them as free agents with the best intentions, which is in most cases much to assume, they are faced with the necessity for action along two distinct lines, both of them full of difficulty. In the first place there is the reduction of the momentum towards disaster which has assumed such formidable proportions; and the difficulties which surround effective action of this nature—even the dangers of a directly opposite result to that which is desired—are exemplified by the breakdown of efforts at disarmament. But with the magnitude of modern social forces, it is not much use applying the brake if the vehicle is still hell-bent to destruction on full throttle. The forces which make for destruction in the world today, which have produced the situation which is now so menacing, are more powerful than they were 25 years ago, and there seems to be little more prospect that their direction will be diverted.

Without pressing material analogies too far, it may be observed that the stored energy of matter in motion is proportional to mv^2 . If we have a flywheel one tonne in weight turning at 100 revolutions per minute, it takes a great deal more to stop it if it all in one piece, than if it is split up to 20 flywheels weighing 1 cwt., and of correspondingly less diameter. The analogy is crude, but it is suggestive of what I am convinced is the truth, that dictatorships representing the power of many millions of people must be disastrous if the dictators are in control of policy. It is quite possible to have all the power of a unified dictatorship and yet to have control over it in such a manner that its policy can be rapidly changed if it is recognised that the dictatorship is merely functional, and not one of initiative. Freedom is a real thing. It is the most important thing, which is at stake in the world today, and it is beyond all other things necessary that its nature should be understood. It is the power to choose or refuse one thing at a time. It is the power to choose whether you will play cricket or whether you will play golf, or whether you will play neither. Quite emphatically it is not the power on the part of the non-player to change the rules of cricket or golf; that is not freedom, it is oppression. As the freeman of Arbroath

said to the Pope when he opposed the enthronement of Bruce: "It is not glory, it is not riches, neither is it honour, but it is liberty alone that we fight and contend for, which no honest man will lose but with his life."

The dictatorships of the world at the present time are slaveries, not because they dictate that their industries shall be carried on to certain programmes, but because they dictate that everyone shall take part in them under either economic or administrative pressure. And this is just as true of Fascism as it is of so-called Communism as practised in Russia today. The fact that such dictatorships may be for a time functionally efficient is quite irrelevant. The more efficient they are under conditions which remove the power of initiative from the individual, the more certain it is that they must come into conflict with each other and produce a world catastrophe.

How much time is required both to apply the brake and reverse the engine, and whether there is sufficient time, I do not know; but only individual initiative submitting itself to functional discipline for the purpose of reaching that objective can have any success.

MRS. JOYCE MEW FOR ANNUAL DINNER

Guest of honour at the 1974 Annual Dinner of "The New Times" is Mrs. Joyce Mew, Chairman of the British Housewives' League. She will bring us a special message from the British "front". During September and October Mrs. Mew will be lecturing throughout Australia under the auspices of The Australian League of Rights, covering all States.

Every "New Times" Dinner is special, but this year's annual function will be held in the shadow of the most catastrophic events yet experienced during this century. Every supporter eligible to attend should make a firm booking now to be present. Date: Friday, September 20. Place: The Victoria, Little Collins Street, Melbourne. A donation of \$6 per person must be forwarded with bookings. Seating space is limited, so guests are restricted to those who qualify to be called "hard core".

The League of Rights Annual National Seminar, to be held on Saturday afternoon and evening, September 21st, will be dealing with the burning issue of inflation. Three "top-line" speakers.

The League's National Action Conference will be held on Sunday, September 22. Interstate and country supporters visiting Melbourne for the above functions, and requiring private accommodation, should make their requirements known as soon as possible. Guests at the Annual Dinner may nominate friends with whom they wish to sit. **MAKE YOUR BOOKING NOW.**