

Aberhart Speaks.
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Now, when our
land is in 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 (1807-1892).

New Regulation Opens Door to Dictatorship

Exposure In Parliament

Although the daily press has given some fragmentary and rather one-sided reports of parliamentary and other reactions to what is generally called Regulation 77, no adequate idea of the overwhelming case against it has been made public. We therefore publish hereunder the full text of Mr. Maurice Blackburn's speech in Federal Parliament on April 29, as reported by "Hansard," but with our emphasis and sub-headings:

Mr. BLACKBURN (Bourke): I move—

That the National Security (Mobilisation of Services and Property) Regulations under the National Security Act, made by Statutory Rules 1942, No. 77, be disallowed.

Honourable members will recall that these regulations were discussed by the Leader of the Opposition (Mr. Fadden) a few weeks ago upon a motion for the adjournment of the House, but the motion did not enable the chamber to express its opinion of the regulations. I am now asking the House to disallow them. These regulations, taken in conjunction with recent amendments, empower the Minister or a person authorised by a Minister to direct any resident of Australia—

- (a) to perform such services as are specified in the direction;
- (b) to perform such duties in relation to his trade, business, calling or profession as are so specified;
- (c) to place his property, in accordance with the direction, at the disposal of the Commonwealth.

"A BLANK CHEQUE"

As a result of the recent amendment, the statutory rule also compels a person to do, or to refrain from doing, such acts or things as are specified in the direction. No principles are laid down in the regulations for the guidance of the Minister. The granting or the withholding of directions is a matter which the Minister may decide for himself. In this respect, the regulations differ from any other laws that have been made. I

say "laws," because in that term I include acts of Parliament and regulations which are made under the authority of an act of Parliament and have the force of law.

ARBITRARY RULE

The essence of a law is that it should be a rule of conduct and should lay down principles for the guidance of the people who have to obey it. In addition, the matter should apply to people generally. That need not be every person in the community. The people concerned may belong to a particular class, but the laws should apply to those persons generally; everybody will have a fair opportunity of knowing the obligation that the law imposes upon him.

These regulations are made by the Executive under parliamentary authority, and should comply with that principle, but Statutory Rule No. 77 does not observe it. All other regulations make some attempt to do so, because they contain expressly, or by implication, principles upon which the Executive must govern its conduct. The regulations contained in Statutory Rule No. 77 are the only ones that do not even attempt to comply with the principle. Some regulations which formally comply with this principle are nevertheless arbitrary practice; but Statutory Rule No. 77 makes no pretence at being anything but arbitrary in form or substance.

PERSONAL POWER FOR P.M.

Statutory Rule No. 77 empowers a Minister to give such directions as to

a man's performance of service or acts, or abstention from acts, or use of his property as the Minister may think fit. It is true that this House received a promise that the Prime Minister himself will be the person who will grant authority to do these things and that if oral authority be given to any person, the right honourable gentleman will shortly afterwards confirm it in writing. But the fact remains that the Prime Minister may do these things at his own discretion; no principles have been laid down in the law for the purpose of guiding his conduct. I was deeply impressed by this passage, which appeared in the daily press last Monday:

LIKE HITLER'S DECREE

"At the end of the meeting, Goering read a decree giving Hitler—regardless of any existing law, decree or personal right—power to compel any officer, soldier, official, or civilian to do his duty by all means. The decree provides for the imprisonment of those who place private interests before single-minded duty. Members approved the decree by rising in their seats.

"I demand obedience of the whole nation both at the front and in the rear," Hitler said. "There is no well-earned right to leave or holidays.

There are only duties and obligations. I myself have no time for a holiday; I have scarcely had a holiday since 1933."

When that news was published, everyone seized upon it as evidence of the rapid deterioration of the morale of the German Reich, but the decree invested the leader of the German nation with the same power as Statutory Rule No. 77 has already granted to the head of the Commonwealth Government. If it be a mark of decadence in Germany for the Fuehrer to be vested with absolute power to give such commands as he chooses, it is also a mark of decadence in the Commonwealth of Australia.

SUPPORTED BY EXTREMISTS OF "LEFT" AND "RIGHT"

These regulations have acquired a factitious popularity with the extreme Right and the extreme Left. Elements who form the extreme Right content themselves by saying that, after all, the regulations are being used, or threats have been made to use them, against no one but the workers. The extreme Left comfort themselves with the thought that if they wait long enough, the regulations will be used against owners of property. Recently, in an article in

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MUST WE HAVE A POST-WAR SLUMP?

Army Education Writer Misses Vital Point

By ERIC D. BUTLER

"Salt," the authorised education journal of the Australian Army, has, since its inception, told soldiers that there must be a better state of affairs after the war. But "Salt" has never yet tackled the only real obstacle to a better world.

That obstacle is a financial policy, which is hampering the fight for victory and piling our debts higher and higher: a financial system which allows the private trading banks to issue new money as a perpetual interest-bearing debt against the nation; a financial system which sabotaged the victory we fought for in the last war, and which will repeat that sabotage after this war unless sufficient people learn something about money.

Under the striking heading, "Must We Have a Post-War Slump?", "an Australian economist"—name not given—writes on post-war problems in "Salt" of May 4. The economist signs himself "Peaceplanner." "Peaceplanner," although he may not know it, could be almost termed a socialist. I quote:

"Whereas the Government has inaugurated war-time expansion through demand planned by the Departments of Munitions, Supply, War Organisation of Industry and the Army, in peacetime demand would be planned by the Departments of Social Services, Health, Works, Commerce, and Supply.

"Whether the production is undertaken by private or public enterprise is less important than the absolute necessity that the demand be mobilised, maintained, expanded and publicised by the Government, and not left to the fitfully beckoning finger of profit

and the necessarily limited foresight of Business."

Just how a Government is going to mobilise "demand" is rather intriguing. The function of Governments is not to mobilise demand; the main function of Governments is to take orders from the electors and to carry them out. And to suggest that a Government could conduct any project as efficiently as "Business" is not based on facts. In fact, a brief look at the performances of our Governments should convince any reasonable person that the less they have to do

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PANIC BUYING

Following the planners' panic clothes-rationing, the better-off public, anticipating more bungling, adopted the method of playing safe and procuring their needs. Not altogether intelligent, perhaps, yet understandable. Many shoppers remarked on the quantity of Japanese and German stocks liberated; which, if true, would indicate planners behind the planners. Leaving these considerations aside, the "big buy" shows what happens when the public is cashed-up. This should be kept in mind if the bankers start their post-war depression.

NOTES ON THE NEWS

Owing to the calling up of grave-diggers, cemetery officials are in a spot of trouble. At the opposite end of life, it is said that expectant mothers have their event hastened artificially because of a shortage of doctors. So we observe the planners' effect on life's first and last chapters. It is to be hoped there will be no shortage of grave-diggers when their planning comes to an end.

BASIC WAGE. Once again higher costs, in the form of a 3/- increase in the basic wage, have been added to production, and, of course, there will be a profit on the 3/- to be added also. This means a still higher cost-of-living. It illustrates the inadequacy of the present wage system. Until such time as it is supplemented by consumer-credits of a debt-free character, issued direct as individual incomes, without going through industry as a cost, workers will continue to imitate a dog chasing its tail.

SURRENDER TALK. The newly-elected Anglican Archbishop of Melbourne, Dr. Bath, dealing with reconstruction, is reported as saying, "Can we create a League of Nations

[Federal Union] with a progressive programme, surrendering something of individual sovereignty [freedom]?" Even this so-called follower of Christ has apparently joined the bankers' crusade against the freedom of the individual—that priceless freedom sanctified by the Crucifixion. It is a distressing thought that the principles of Christianity can be so violated from "within." And aren't we fighting a war to retain our "individual sovereignty"?

A.R.P. BUNGLE. Numerous instances are quoted of A.R.P. Warden's begging and borrowing money in order to purchase equipment. No wonder they are becoming discouraged, when the Government which

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THE WAGE SYSTEM—THE GREATEST VESTED INTEREST IN THE WORLD

A Dialogue Broadcast from 7HO Hobart, at 6.30 p.m. on Sunday, May 10, by The Electoral Campaign Speakers.

B.—In the various discussions we have had in these sessions you have repeatedly made the statement that the chaos, friction and discontent we have seen throughout the world since the last war have been produced deliberately.

J.—I have made that statement several times, and it is based on a very large amount of evidence.

B.—You contend that if the producers of this world were freed from artificial financial restrictions they could supply us with such a flood of goods and services that the ridiculous struggle for existence as we know it to-day would be banished from this country.

J.—Those are the facts.

B.—I have met people who don't believe them.

J.—That doesn't alter the facts.

FEW REALISTS

B.—But how can you expect people who have never been inside a factory to know what goes on there, and how can you expect people who have never planted a seed in their life to imagine what can be done by scientific farming.

J.—It is impossible to present the truth effectively to people who have no great experience of the realities of life, and little knowledge of the past or the present.

B.—You are content then to talk to the few?

J.—If 10 per cent. of the people know the truth and appreciate the truth and are willing to act on it, that is more than sufficient to keep the nation alive and healthy.

B.—But this question of production: engineers and farmers and manufacturers know about the potentialities, they meet it every day, they read about it in their technical journals—but clerks and Government officials, school teachers, etc., etc., and all those who have never made anything in their lives, how can they know anything about these things, unless men like yourself tell them about it?

J.—I can tell them about it, but I can't make them appreciate the importance of the facts. Appreciation of facts requires experience of

realities and a knowledge of life which is not very common among city-dwellers, and especially among the great army of petty officials.

FACTS OF PLENTY

B.—Suppose you give us some of the facts of modern production.

J.—I have sheets and sheets of them; I would require about two hours to do it.

B.—You can select a few.

J.—Very well, you asked for it—how do you like this? The city of Detroit turns out Australia's requirements in motor cars, 80,000 a year, in two days.

B.—That's useful; that should stick in somebody's brain. Go on.

J.—It is calculated that there is sufficient power and plant in the U.S.A. alone, if fully used, to supply the needs of five times the number of people on this earth.

B.—H'm; that's too much. I don't think that it will go down. It's too impressive, or, as the Englishman said when he first saw a tropical sunset, "Don't you think it's a trifle overdone. What?"

J.—Or as the old lady said when she saw the giraffe at the zoo, "It's not true."

B.—Can you give us some statements that won't shock people too much; something not too far away from their daily experience?

J.—Well, try this one: "With the means that science has already placed at our disposal we might provide for all the wants for each of us in food, shelter and clothing by one hour's work per week for each of us from school age to dotage."

B.—Mercy on us! You're getting worse. Anyway, who said that?

J.—Lord Leverhulme.

B.—He's a capitalist, isn't he?

J.—Well, what about it?

B.—Some of the Socialists in Hobart won't accept his statement.

J.—Who cares? The man has done something, and probably knows more about these things than all the so-called Socialists in Australia put together.

B.—These statements you have been making: they are only state-

ments. Give us some plain facts: we want facts.

J.—All right; here is something that should interest you. It is by the journal called "Engineering," of London: "The mechanisation of knitting has proceeded to such an extent that the number of loops it is possible for a single operator to produce is now over 3,000,000 per minute; whereas the number of loops knitted or crocheted by hand is certainly less than 300—a 10,000-fold increase."

B.—Ten thousand stitches while I do one! But I can't knit 300 stitches a minute; I've often tried to keep time with the clock, so the machine would do nearer 100,000 loops to my one—and, hey presto, there's your stocking! Oh, let the machines make them! Tell me about some more.

J.—The Lancashire cotton industry, by working a full week, can supply the total requirements of Britain for a year.

B.—In one week! Good. Go on.

J.—A girl with a machine can make 60,000 razor blades in a day.

B.—Um. Go on.

J.—The technologist can easily produce a razor-blade with a tungsten carbide edge on a steel base that would last a lifetime or more.

THE WORK COMPLEX

B.—And what would the little girl on the machine do?

J.—She would lose her job, of course.

B.—And her income?

J.—No job, no income.

B.—And so, to make jobs for everybody . . .

J.—We must stop all inventions!

B.—Is that the only way?

J.—No, there are other ways.

B.—War! It is a disgusting thought.

J.—Do you know that designs have been produced for a motor car

that will run over 300,000 miles without overhauling?

B.—Let's see. Doing 6000 miles a year—300,000—oh, it would last about fifty years. Oh! give me one.

J.—Would you like to hear about the production of wheat and apples and . . .

B.—No. No; that's all right—we've heard plenty about that. I believe the Government has threatened to shoot any person found growing more wheat.

J.—Would you like to hear about . . .

B.—Well, just for the last, give me an example from Australia.

J.—In the Australian tobacco trade a cigarette machine installed before 1934 is capable of turning out 12,000 cigarettes a minute, or over 700,000 an hour. Only three employees are needed to tend the machine and its productive service equals 700 pairs of hands.

B.—Wheee! 700,000 cigarettes an hour! That's—let me see—700,000 hourly for eight hours—7 by 8=56. That's 5½ million a day, with only three operators! And they charge—how much for cigarettes?

BENEFITS WITHHELD

J.—8d. for a packet of ten cigarettes—worth about 1d. a packet.

B.—Where does all the money go?

J.—Mr. Curtin takes 5½d. of the 8d.

B.—Mr. Curtin must be a capitalist, then?

J.—Oh, no. Mr. Curtin is a Labour Leader, not a capitalist.

B.—What's the difference between a capitalist and a Labour leader? They both take money from you.

J.—We shall discuss that later, perhaps. Anyhow, the difference is so slight that it is scarcely worth arguing about.

B.—What was the price of cigar-

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THE KING AND THE FINANCIERS

Every Britisher that I know wishes to retain the King (God bless him) as a vital element in our political structure, and it seems certain that the time must come when the issue of the King versus the international financiers will come to a head, and we can all hope that such a day may be near at hand.

There are on record a number of cases where the people joined together to resist an overbearing, or harsh, or stupid King; and one wonders sometimes whether it would not be possible now to make some different kind of rally to assure the King that we would welcome some open sign of leadership from him on this issue. He surely could devise some way of showing that as King he will not tolerate a superior and foreign and clandestine power operating in his dominion to rob his people of their freedom and economic security by retaining anti-social financial policies, or by any other form of black magic.

There seems nothing to show that the immediate present is an opportune time for any such rally; on the other hand, there are many reasons for suggesting that the issue outlined above must be solved, and solved in favour of the King, if the British Commonwealth of Nations is to be continued as a vigorously healthy experiment in political, economic and cultural democracy. If, as citizens, we sense the coming tussle, we can be on the look out for any and every avenue of educating our neighbours and any officials and parliamentarians that we have access to, and so prepare their minds for response and action when the call comes.

The King (God bless him) makes it his business to know what is going on amongst the "Forces" (God strengthen them); amongst "the workers" (God bless them); amongst "the idle rich" (God bless them); amongst the poor and downcast (God succour them); and he must know by this time that, although we have "ad-

vanced" in scientific accomplishment, although we have multiplied schools, altruistic institutions, and political expediency machinery, we, as citizens, nearly all suffer from some form of restriction or degradation which is artificial and irritating.

This theme could be enlarged upon in numerous and various ways. Let us consider here one aspect only:—Our boasted and complicated legal system of wage and "conditions of employment" determination is at last becoming recognised as the farce that it is. Any action along the lines now laid down is taken inside a vicious circle; and if we had a modern Dean Swift to satirise this "dog chasing his tail" act, it would easily be laughed out of court. Dealing more seriously with the matter, we can say that the whole process is literally and shockingly corrupt, using the word in its root meaning sense. Corruption is not in any way allied to dishonesty or dishonour, but it implies that disrupting processes are involved.

More specifically our Conciliation Courts are corrupt because they are divorced from REALITY; but this is not the place to array facts and trains of reasoning to prove this statement. My suggestion is that all who have been expecting that the standards of living of any group of persons can be raised, by any known means within the tight boundaries of orthodox finance, should "take a tumble" as to the futility of such procedures. This will, in my opinion, make preparation for the time when all concerned can join "on the side of the angels" in the coming tussle of the King and his people versus the international gangsters.

—C. H. Allen.

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PREMIER ABERHART SPEAKS

DELIVERS ROUSING ADDRESS IN ANSWERING THE OPPOSITION IN LEGISLATURE

Following are highlights from the address given by Premier Aberhart during the Throne Speech debate in the Alberta Legislature:

Declaring that the Opposition has no policy, and that if it had, any hiding of that policy, provided it was of value to the people, was not to the benefit of the people, Premier Aberhart said when the Opposition leader likened his policy to a baby he made a great mistake. "We all know that it takes more than infantile policies to solve the man-sized problems of to-day."

Premier Aberhart divided his address into three main parts and stated:

OUTSTANDING OBJECTIVES

Now, Mr. Speaker, I think it is high time that the people of Alberta should recognise two or three important facts that stand out like the masts on a ship with sails full-spread toward the harbour of freedom and security:

1. First, I should like to say that the Province of Alberta is quite outstanding and most unique in its objectives and in the position it is gradually securing.

A. Albert is quite outstanding and unique in the position it has assumed and maintained with regard to the protection of its citizens from the ravages of Finance. Alberta is the only Province in Canada that has lived within its means and has not increased its Provincial debt. This position has been sustained during the last five years and we are entering another

year determined to maintain it. No other Province can make that proud claim.

We all know what that means: It means that our Interest Charges will not be constantly rising, and consequently there will be no increase in taxation necessary except to the extent that the people are to be given greater Social Services, Health, Education, Good Roads, etc.

THE SANCTITY OF CONTRACT BOGY

I am aware, Mr. Speaker, that the Opposition has hurled invectives against the Government for not meeting in full the Interest Charges on our Contractual Bond Obligations of the previous Governments. That is old stuff now. Our citizens had ample opportunity to pass judgment on that at the last election. So why trot it out again...

What do the Honourable Members of the Opposition expect us to do? Do they suggest that we should have paid the full bond interest at the expense of our people's health, education, etc.? Do they suggest that we should allow men, women and children, citizens of this Province, to suffer and die needlessly from tuberculosis, poliomyelitis, cancer and other scourges in order that the demands of the financial corporations should be satisfied? ...

Here is the question we must face:

"Is there anyone who would expect us to cast aside the sanctity of the fundamentals of life and of home, and all they imply in terms of our Christian faith, in order that the sanctity of the contract might be fulfilled in the demands of the Financial Interests in their worship of Mammon and the God of Gold?"

If so, then, Sir, I do not hesitate to inform him that we will not agree to that philosophy at all, for it springs from the jungle of selfishness and paganism. . . .

I need not remind this House that in dealing with the Debt Question we followed a precedent established by no less a Government than Great Britain, who in the altered circumstances of post-war conditions was forced to default to the United States, not only her interest charges but her principal obligations as well.

May I remind you that we have only defaulted half the interest charges, and yet compared with Great Britain the condemnation of our action has been sounded far and wide while the justification of Britain's action has been generally recognised. Why should there be this discrimination against Alberta? Come, now, be fair!

All this but brings out the fact that Alberta has achieved an outstanding and unique position in regard to the Debt situation and this the Financial Interests fear.

B. Again, Alberta is quite outstanding and unique in its progressive Health measures that have been taken to relieve pain and suffering caused by disease and lack of medical care.

The Speech from the Throne has called attention to the commendable and outstanding increase in our Clinics and Nurses, which are put at the disposal of our people. Compared with other Provinces, our progress in caring for Tuberculosis, Poliomyelitis, and Cancer is becoming most encouraging. Alberta people everywhere are willingly admitting (if not politically blinded) that our policy in the Health Department is producing salutary results and this Government should be given credit for it. Of course, we have not done all we should like to have done, but you know the reason. We haven't the money. That is all.

C. Again, Alberta is also quite outstanding and unique in the exceptional progress it has made in connection with its Educational System. I speak with some hesitation here lest I appear to brag. Our Province has secured a

continent-wide reputation of having a most progressive, efficient and up-to-date Educational System.

Some of our Larger Units are recording the changes that have been accomplished and these records show magnificent advancement from dilapidated, unsanitary, tumble-down buildings, cold and gloomy; to beautiful, warm, well-lighted, up-to-date structures, most of which are all paid for when completed.

Statistics will show that since the Larger Units have been instituted, the attendance at school and the demand for higher education has greatly increased. At the same time the cost per pupil per day with all the additional facilities and improved conditions is little more, and in some cases less, than under the old system.

It would be most unfair, therefore, for anyone to declare that our policies in the Education Department are not producing the most excellent results, bringing the higher facilities of learning to the Rural children as well as to the Urban students. I am delighted to know that this is being recognised.

D. Alberta is also quite outstanding and most unique in its plan and policy of building roads.

I heard a man say the other day that this is the first time in the history of this Province that we had real good roads. He went on to tell of the strenuous time he had about ten years ago to get from Calgary to Edmonton. He said that he finally got stuck and was obliged to stay all night by the roadside. That was between eight and ten years ago. Our policies are quite different from those of the previous administration. They had the custom of building roads on borrowed capital. Our Public Works Department has been paying for the roads in full as they are built and the money voted was all spent on the roads. We have no slush funds.

Hence, in five years, our citizens have been able to notice the wonderful results that have been accomplished and they are giving credit where credit is due. The people of Alberta have little patience with those who attempt to criticise the policies of our Public Works Department. They know that it is results that count, and they know also that the next five years will see still greater progress.

E. Do I need to point out any further, Alberta's outstanding and unique position which she has attained and sustained during the last five years? I hope I am not wearying you. The present move towards the Enlarged Municipal Unit is surely a sign of further progress and I am confident that the results of this move will be equally as beneficial and outstanding as those of the large Educational Unit. When this is accomplished, not only will Manitoba call attention of its Members to Alberta's progress in Education, but probably both Manitoba and Saskatchewan will come to the Province of the Foothills to view its unique progress and study the principles and policies that have produced these results. . . . (To be continued.)

THE WAGE SYSTEM—The Greatest Vested Interest in the World.

ettes before the last war?

J.—About 3d. a packet.

B.—And they're now 8d. a packet. (Laughing.) What a wonderful thing this cigarette machine must be; 3d. twenty-five years ago, now 8d. Wonderful thing, invention—what! What a wonderful age we live in. You must be proud to be an engineer.

J.—Now, then, don't get rough. I am not proud to be an engineer; I am an engineer because I like making things. When I was younger I thought I was a very important member of the community; I thought I was reducing the drudgery of the world, making life more pleasant and more secure. But I know now I am not.

B.—You were only doing men out of jobs.

J.—That is the job of all engineers: to do men out of jobs. Think of that motor car that can run for fifty years; and of the razor blade that lasts a lifetime.

B.—And the stocking that doesn't run into ladders.

J.—All these things would throw armies of men out of work.

WORKERS RESIST PROGRESS

B.—But there is no sense in doing work that is unnecessary—that is sheer stupidity.

J.—But if we could do away with the railways to-morrow, who do you think would be the first to protest?

B.—The railway men, of course.

J.—Why?

B.—They would lose their jobs.

J.—You mean, their incomes?

B.—Well, both.

J.—But which is the more important, their job or their bread and butter?

B.—Their bread and butter, of course.

J.—So you can see now that the greatest vested interest in the world is the wage slave—the man who is dependent on a wage.

B.—But it has always been that way.

J.—That is not so. In the days before machinery there was always plenty of work, no man needed to look far for work. Nowadays, in peace time men are dependent on others to make work for them. Jobs

are scarce except in war time. Men are greater slaves to-day than they were in feudal times, and they have not the same economic security. In the old days men used to starve only during a famine; now they starve during a glut.

A FUNNY SYSTEM

B.—Men are not permitted to live unless they have a bread ticket—money.

J.—And the bread tickets are issued by the financial monopoly, with the assistance of the political parties and the trade unions.

B.—No job, no ticket.

J.—No ticketee, no shirtee.

B.—What a funny system!

J.—And I think we are the funniest, stupidest people that ever inhabited this amazing planet.

B.—How future generations will rock with laughter when they read about these times—and these tickets.

J.—They will know about the stone age, and the bronze age, and the iron age—and the ticket age.

B.—How many died because they couldn't get any bread tickets.

J.—And how they destroyed the wheat because there weren't enough tickets.

B.—And how the German Socialists followed Hitler because he promised to steal tickets from somebody else.

J.—No ticketee, no blackshirtee.

B.—You mean the other way round—if you didn't wear the blackshirt you got no bread ticket.

J.—Or, to put it into the usual language—if you didn't belong to the National-Socialist Party you didn't get the honour of doing useless work for a large salary.

FOUR FACTS

B.—Now, where have we got to? Let me see. Fact No. 1: We have power-driven machinery which produces enormous quantities of goods and, at the same time, does away with an enormous amount of human labour. No. 2: You and I are not permitted to take any of this huge heap of goods that is turned out so easily unless we have money, which we are calling a ticket. No. 3: We are not allowed any tickets to buy any of this huge heap of surplus

goods unless we obtain work to produce a still greater surplus. No. 4: So we all leave this huge surplus of goods at home and go abroad to fight others to get a few tickets from foreigners to buy our surplus at home.

J.—To get tickets that could be printed for a few pence per gross.

B.—Well, I don't suppose African savages could be so stupid.

J.—Not unless they were suitably educated!

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FRIDAY, MAY 22, 1942

No. 20.

PROMISES AND PERFORMANCES

In the "Herald" of May 9, under the heading of "Silent Revolution," appear certain statements attributed to Sir Stafford Cripps. Among them, three are especially significant. They are: (1) "The power of vested interests and finance will give way to the rights of common people." (2) ". . . money no longer places in the hands of a comparative few the enormous power of pre-war years." (3) ". . . of the world after the war, I am thinking primarily of how we shall be able to keep peace."

All citizens worthy of the name are alert for indications of the nature of the post-war world. Hence, statements of men such as Sir Stafford Cripps are worth more than a cursory examination. The first quotation, so far as it goes, is admirable. It points to a future which every true democrat is striving to bring about. The second statement is so complete a misstatement of the facts of financial control, that one finds difficulty in reconciling it with the experience and ability of its author. It is contradicted by innumerable statements of world authorities. Selecting at random, one may quote the following. Reginald McKenna, in January, 1924: "The amount of money in existence varies only with the action of banks in increasing and decreasing deposits and bank purchases. . . . And they who control the credit of a nation direct the policy of governments, and hold in the hollow of their hands the destiny of the people." Sir Drummond Fraser, vice-president of the Institute of Bankers: "The Governor of the Bank of England must be the autocrat who dictates the terms upon which alone the Government can obtain borrowed money." The late Pope Pius XI. speaks of those who are able to control credit, and that none dare breathe against their will.

Surely a man in the position of Sir Stafford Cripps cannot plead ignorance of such facts. It is clear, to even the most superficial observer, that the financial system controlling Australia, Britain, United States of America, etc., has not had its power of credit creation restricted to any significant extent. On the contrary, everything points to an increasing concentration of financial monopoly, accompanied by a more complete and extensive control over the destinies of governments and people. In the light of these facts Sir Stafford Cripps' statement is seen in its true light as utterly worthless and misleading.

Like the first statement, the third makes no contact whatever with the present problem of the cause and cure of war. Armed conflict is merely an extension of economic conflict, and economic conflict, whether between nations, groups, or individuals, is primarily due to fear of insecurity. While governments remain the channel through which finance spreads its tentacles over the life of the community, no security is possible. While the amount of money in circulation is dependent on the wish of the financial monopolists, insecurity is as certain as sunrise. Fear of depression, increased taxation, declining standards of living, and armed conflict must remain part of our lives.

Promises of a world of peace and plenty have long since lost their power to stimulate. What is required is the first instalment of the future democracy. Judging by publicity given to various aspects of our war effort, our governments spend almost as much time and effort in raising finance as the country spends in production itself. The recent Australian Banking Commission, in paragraph 504: "The Commonwealth Bank . . . can make money available to Governments and to others free of any charge." Dr. Evatt, in a letter from Canberra dated 27/11/40, said: ". . . the creation of credit should be the function of the organised community, and I agree that in the present crisis the Commonwealth Bank should be empowered to become the exclusive lending authority." Mr. Curtin, in the "Locomotive Journal," December 14, 1939, wrote: "When we are in power we shall proceed to redeem the national bank from its slavery. . . . The cost of war can be met without piling up huge debts and without interest payments sucking our national life-blood." If these statements were meant, why, then, does our Government not put them into effect? If it was not intended to carry them out, then why, in the name of all that is honest, were they written?

If such things were done it would do more to stimulate national pride and effort than all the oratory Australia can ever produce. And, until production is freed from present financial shackles, speaking of one hundred per cent. war effort is just idle talk.

REALLY HOT NEWS

To the Editor: Sir,—O.B.H. each week gives us some very pithy comments on the current "news," and doubtless will have noticed the really hot stuff paraded before us during the past week. May I call particular attention to four of these items, as follows:—

(1) Melbourne "Age," 12/5/42: "A letter of 1000 words cabled from Australia and signed anonymously, 'Some Students of Public Affairs,' has been published by the 'Times.' It attempts to analyse Australian public opinion and states: 'It is thought that Mr. Curtin has not dealt firmly enough with his colleagues, who wished to scare the bourgeoisie, if not impoverish them, and has shown excessive fidelity to the Labor dogmas in refusing to form a Coalition Government or introduce conscription for service overseas.'" Comment: Who in Australia is in the position to bear the expense of cabling a thousand words to the "Times"? Who in Australia is on such terms with the London "Times" that its columns are immediately opened for such propaganda? Who in Australia has been pressing in such an unseemly fashion for a so-called National Government and for conscription of men for service overseas? Trace that man and you have "Some Students of Public Affairs"! One guess should be sufficient.

(2) Melbourne "Herald," 16/5/42: "London, Friday. It was only with the publication of Sir Keith Murdoch's despatch in the 'Daily Mail' that the average person here realised fully what Australia was up against. Sir Keith's statements that in the Coral Sea, 'no guns fired, otherwise than into the sky; aircraft did all the work,' and telling how aircraft torpedoes tore holes in the light forces and how troopships were not contacted, how the heavy, well-balanced fleet was traced and attacked by dive-bombers and torpedo-carrying planes, were all revelations as far as the public was concerned." Comment: How did Sir Keith Murdoch come to know all about the battle, in view of the fact that official reports containing such information were secret and had not been officially released? And who authorised Sir Keith to retail the information contrary to all official injunctions to hold our tongues on such subjects? Is any action against him contemplated under the National Security Regulations?

3. Melbourne "Argus," 14/5/42: "Mr. Hughes said that the effect of Mr. Dedman's action had been that wealthy people had stocked their wardrobes but others would go naked in the icy blasts of winter. Mr. Calwell said that Mr. Dedman was too ready to follow economists of the University type who were on the Government payroll. If the Government was too faint-hearted to shoot some of these economists it should sack them." Comment: The danger of the "wealthy" looking after themselves at the expense of the financially poor, was particularly stressed last year in a booklet entitled, "Banks and Facts," but the madhouse economics are still preferred by Governments. And why shoot or sack men who have faithfully done what they were paid to do? Professors Copland, Giblin, Mills, Walker, etc., have all worked to the end that the people shall be kept in financial servitude, and that is precisely the job for which they were "selected." What the Government should do is to instruct them to produce a method for getting the people freed from financial slavery and allow them four weeks in which to do it. Failure to involve imprisonment as impostors.

4. Melbourne "Argus," 14/5/42: "The appointment of Mr. Colin Clark as deputy director of the Department of War Organisation of Industry for Queensland was announced by the Department yesterday. Mr. Clark is a graduate of Oxford University, and has been Director of the Queensland Bureau of Industry, Government Statistician, and financial adviser to

the Queensland Treasury since 1938. He was assistant secretary to the British Government Economics Council from 1931 to 1938." Comment: Another of the professional economists who put financial fiction before physical facts. He took part in the crime of imposing financial poverty on the people of England at a time when their productive capacity was sufficient to give every one of them a much higher standard of physical comfort. He came to Australia at the instigation, or with the blessing, of local economists who had similarly betrayed the Australian people, and has followed Professor Brigden, who played such a sorry part before the Tasmanian Parliamentary Monetary Inquiry. What sort of "advice" has Mr. Colin Clark been giving the Queensland Treasury since 1938? Has there been any reduction in taxation in that State? Indeed, it is the highest taxed State in the Commonwealth and is now being put forward as a reason for increasing taxation in Victoria. The community can expect little benefit from this latest appointment, but will find in it additional reasons for despising the symbols we should be encouraged to respect, viz., the symbols of academic learning. He has said a great deal about national income, but very little about the controllers of it. He is full of concern for the investment of capital but has shown little concern for the welfare of humanity, which is the most important capital of all.—Yours faithfully,

17/5/42.

Bruce H. Brown.

BOOKS TO READ

"Federal Union Exposed": A book you MUST have. By Barclay-Smith. Price 1/- each.

"Banks and Facts": How to Finance the War for an All-in War Effort. By Bruce H. Brown. Price 6d. each.

"Money": What it is and how the Money System Works. By S. F. Allen. Price, 1/- each.

"Victory Without Debt": Showing that Victory can be Won Without Creating a Huge Burden of Debt to be Paid Off After the War. By Barclay-Smith. Price 1/- each.

"Answer to Tax Slavery": Explains the Taxation Racket, and shows WHY we Really Pay Taxes. By Barclay-Smith. Price 1/- each.

"Story of the Commonwealth Bank": The Story of the People's Bank and How it Could and Should be Used. By D. J. Amos. Price 1/- each.

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NEW REGULATION OPENS DOOR TO DICTATORSHIP

(Continued from page 1.)

the Melbourne "Labour Call," the Minister for Aircraft Production (Senator Cameron) explained that the regulations would enable the Government to take a person's property without paying for it. He pointed out that, at present, the property-owner was sufficiently strong to resist any attempt to confiscate his property, but that these regulations would empower the Government to seize property without granting compensation.

PEOPLE MISLED

When the Minister for Aircraft Production wrote that article, he could not have known that the Prime Minister had made a pronouncement on government policy regarding it. The right honourable gentleman had assured the House that property could not and would not be seized

without compensation. He expressed the view that even if the Government desired to confiscate property, it was bound by section 51 (xxxii.) of the Commonwealth Constitution, which provides for the acquisition of property on just terms from any State or person for any purpose in respect of which the Parliament has power to make laws. I believe that the honourable member for Warringah (Mr. Spender), and I know that the Attorney-General (Dr. Evatt) agreed that these regulations did not empower the Government to acquire property without compensation. At any rate, the Prime Minister made it perfectly clear that the Government would not attempt to do so. Therefore, those people who believe that the Government will, under these regulations, be able to seize property, are follow-

ing an "ignis fatuus" which will lead them into a quagmire.

Mr. Menzies: By "ignis fatuus," the honourable member doubtless refers to the Minister for Aircraft Production?

Mr. Blackburn: No, I do not think he is a fire. I contend that people who believe that Statutory Rule No. 77 will enable the Government to seize, say, the property of the Broken Hill Proprietary Company Limited without paying for it are misled. The Government has no intention of pursuing such a policy.

GOVT. HAD ENOUGH POWERS

The statement has been made that the regulations have already been made to mobilise the full resources of the nation for the purposes of the war. The Government has promulgated many regulations: as, for instance, the Economic Organisation regulations. We have man-power regulations and the Emergency Control regulations. The last, in time of danger in any part of Australia, give great powers to the military. The Government has the inherent, the prerogative, right, if the country is sustaining actual invasion, to take property without paying compensation in order to resist invasion. We have built up these regulations until the Government has the fullest power it could possibly require to control at the present time the labour and property of every individual, except that if it takes property, it must pay compensation. It has more power over labour than over property.

The point of difference between those regulations and Statutory Rule

No. 77 is that when the Government made the regulations dealing with man-power and economic organisation it laid down generally principles for the guidance of the Executive, upon which the Executive has to act; but this statutory rule does not attempt to lay down principles for the guidance of the Executive, which is left free, so far as the rule is concerned, to do as it likes.

EVIL OF DESPOTISM

There is no need for the rule unless the Government wants to be invested with arbitrary powers. I am not in favour of investing any one with arbitrary powers, not even my honourable friend, the Minister for Labour and National Service, than whom I know no one in whom I have greater confidence. I am not even in favour of having arbitrary power myself, because I believe that for any one to have arbitrary power is inconsistent with freedom. The evil of despotism is that it rests upon the good will or the bad will of one person, who can say: "This I will; this I command; let my will stand as the reason." The regulation gives the Government arbitrary and uncontrolled power, subject only to the Constitution.

It has, in fact, been put to use. It was used against the coal-miners, with an assurance that it would not be used or threatened to be used against men who were on strike with the approval of their unions. It was said that it was used against the coal-miners because they were disregarding their union and their

(Continued on page 7.)

RUSSIA AND ORTHODOX FINANCE

(To the Editor.)

Sir,—I shall attempt to answer some of Mr. Butler's six questions ("New Times," May 8).

(1) Question 6: Mr. Butler asks me, for the benefit of your readers, to explain simply his financial system. The task seems somewhat irrelevant, or if relevant, much better suited to his own talents. But it does seem relevant to comment on just one phase of his financial ideas.

Judging from the available evidence I should say that the brightness of these ideas is sometimes shaded by a cloud. Or, in other words, there are spots on the sun. For example, some thoughts about loans and taxes. Personally, I have no love for either, but let us see the facts objectively.

Suppose the whole able-bodied population of a country to be fully employed, and all its machinery employed also. Then war throws a great strain on the country's economy. Millions of men are transferred either to the fighting forces or to the making of arms and munitions. It now becomes essential that the production of goods other than materials for war must be curtailed, and the distribution of such materials curtailed also, if not immediately, then just as soon as reserves begin to run low. This is taxation in the physical sense. So, if finance is to reflect the physical facts, there is no escape from financial taxation, except in so far as this may be modified by gifts or by genuine loans.

The situation pictured above is substantially that in which the Soviet Union found itself after Germany attacked.

So, in answer to Mr. Butler's question: "Is the Russian Government financing its war effort by public loans and taxation?" the answer is not only "yes," but "there is no other way, except by taxation alone."

I am sorry I cannot oblige Mr. Butler with even approximate figures relating

to Soviet debt and taxation, but I should be surprised if the former does not prove to be comparatively small, and the taxation very great, and necessarily so.

In regard to the question concerning gold, I hope to answer that if Mr. Butler will first answer the questions I raised on the same subject in your issue of March 8.—Yours, etc.,

A. W. R. Vroland.
Gardiner, Vic.

CAN YOU HELP?

(To the Editor.)

Sir,—In order to carry on my work it is essential that I obtain the active support of some of your readers. Since being in the Army I have only had my spare time and leave in which to work. I have had no time to myself for months.

I have one or two projects in mind which will require some prompt assistance from anyone who can spare a few hours per week to do some work for me. This will mainly be research and indexing. I also desire to obtain the services of one or two typists. The matter is urgent. Anyone who would like to assist can write to me care of the "New Times," stating what he or she can do.—Yours, etc., Eric D. Butler, Melbourne.

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—Mr. R. Stokes, in the British House of Commons, April 16, 1940.

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Must We Have a Post-War Slump?

(Continued from page 1.)

with the running of people's lives the better.

An individual who has sufficient MONEY can, in normal times, obtain anything he wants, from a house to a motor-car. No Government is needed in the transaction. All individuals could get what they want if they had sufficient money in their pockets. And private enterprise, assured of a reasonable profit, can deliver the required results.

Give the people access to sufficient money and they will mobilise their own demand for the things they want, and not for the things which a Government may think good for them.

"Peaceplanner" ignores this matter completely.

IMPORTANT ADMISSION

He makes an important admission when he says:

"This war has taught us that if the nation as a whole, spontaneously, and, more likely, through its Government, constantly presents industry with ready-made new demands, industry can, must, and will meet it."

True, but our Governments have had access to additional money to pay industry since war broke out. Where did they obtain it? The great bulk of it, as even orthodox economists and bank apologists now admit, has been created by the private trading banks at practically no cost to themselves. They only lend this money to our Governments to carry on the war effort. Hence, the bigger the war effort, the bigger the debts owing at the end of the war. As we are still paying taxation to meet interest charges on the debt created against us in the last war, it is hard to see, unless debt and taxation are abolished, how we can escape a "financial collapse" at the end of this conflict. The banks refused to make so much money available in the years of peace. "Peaceplanner" makes no reference to these facts.

AVOIDING DEPRESSION

"The great hope of avoiding a post-war slump lies in a systematic, balanced and co-ordinated expansion of the entire Australia economy in response to Government investment or Government prompting."

All very nice; but what is the Government going to invest? Money? Where are they to obtain the money? No mention made of this.

After telling us the many different things we could do after the war, "Peaceplanner" states: "Where necessary, the Government itself could promote new lines of industry that private firms lack confidence to undertake unaided."

I challenge "Peaceplanner" to tell me one project that private enterprise lacks confidence to undertake, providing that it is given sufficient financial inducement. The whole problem is a money problem. There is no other problem.

FEAR OF SLUMP HAMPERS WAR EFFORT

"Peaceplanner" must be given full marks for the following introduction to his article:

"People are talking about a post-war slump. Business men, trade unionists, and the men of the services who want to come home to a job and economic security—we've heard all sorts express doubts. Memories of the 1931 and 1921 slumps keep poking themselves up and causing apprehension.

"The fears are a brake on our war effort, and a danger to our post-war effort, too. They make the industrialist reluctant to extend his plant—desperately needed now—because he fears it will be idle afterwards. The worker feels he ought to get his "cut" now because he fears lean times later. Business people and local authorities in new munitions and military areas are hesitating to do their utmost for their populations, because they feel that theirs are "boom towns," which will fizzle out in the post-war slump. The soldier, the sailor, the airman is

worrying now about his prospects after demobilisation.

"These are all natural fears of men who are honestly taking account of past experience. They are disastrous fears at a time when the war calls for absolute concentration on the job in hand."

Then follows the following ridiculous nonsense: "They are unnecessary fears, because we have learnt from past (and present) experiences. We now know what to do." Well, what do we do? "Peaceplanner" tells us to "prepare now." Prepare for what? The only way to prepare for the prevention of a post-war slump is to take steps to prevent any further increase in debt and taxation, and to ensure that we Australians control our own money-supply. All the vague generalisations in the world don't alter the fact that a further piling up of debts to the private trading banks will mean crushing taxation to pay the interest bills. Taxation has become more and more oppressive as the private banking racket has grown. Can "Peaceplanner" tell me what we are going to do about this matter after the war—or now?

NOTES ON THE NEWS

(Continued from page 1.)

is responsible for providing the necessary finance lets them down. It is just another instance of the war-effort being obstructed through lack of figures in bank ledgers and on pieces of paper (called money). It is time these A.R.P. chappies started in to learn something about this mysterious substance which they are all chasing. Research into this question would quickly disclose who's fooling them and holding up the works.

WAR-EFFORT LIMITS. The daily press of May 5 reports a Mr. J. Cranwell as saying: "Firms had been asked by the munitions industry to extend their premises, but they could not get sufficient skilled men for present plant." He said that as the Government opened more factories, the position would get worse. Another aspect of extending plant is that loans have to be obtained from banks, who, of course, hold the title as security; and when, as after the last war, they cause a depression by calling up these loans, and obtain full ownership almost without cost, while the patriotic producer pays the penalty, is it surprising that he is not anxious for trouble of that nature?

PAY WORRIES. Unlike most word-spinners, Mr. Paul McNutt put up a strong and successful plea to "keep U.S. troops and their dependents free from pay worries." This champion needs to be careful, or the banks will brand him as a fifth columnist. Incidentally, it is worth noting that our troops' political representatives are paid well to plead their cause—a fact which all soldiers should keep in mind when these pleaders appear before them for a renewal of their freedom from pay worries.

JAPAN'S ELECTIONS. Tokyo Radio reports the first general House of Representatives election for five years, and that there are 1079 candidates for 466 seats; 15 million males only are eligible to vote. The election is one year overdue, and probably would have been delayed longer had their war effort been less successful—presumably there is the usual secret Government behind the scenes, which fixes those matters over there. It seems that the Japs also simply obey self-appointed leaders, and that the common people do

DEMAND NOT EFFECTIVE

His suggestion that there was a depression because the people made no demand is undiluted piffle. The people were short of money. They were short of money because the private banks, at the direct instigation of Sir Otto Niemeyer, representing international finance (which, incidentally, saw that Hitler had no money shortage), said that there was a shortage and took steps to bring about a shortage. Overdrafts were called up, Governments were financially starved. The banks refused to create sufficient money. That was why business stagnated. In spite of "Peaceplanner's" remarks about good profits, business as a whole was, and still is, sinking deeper and deeper into the mire of debt. The banks reign almost supreme.

"Peaceplanner" also says: "We never recovered, then, from the lead which plant capacity gained over demand..." But real demand wasn't satisfied. The people wanted things which they didn't have the money to buy. Industry would have supplied the people's demands, if those demands had been backed by sufficient money.

There can be no peace and prosperity until our Governments become supreme in the creation of the nation's money supplies. To-day, the banks are prac-

tically the sole creators of our money supply. Reginald McKenna, chairman of the Midland Bank, was right when he said: "Those who create the credit (money) of a nation direct the policies of Governments and hold in the hollow of their hands the destinies of the people."

What a pity "Salt" doesn't give some facts about this, the greatest anti-social racket of all time! Can it be that they are afraid to mention this matter? I wonder.

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN NOTES

(From United Democrats, 17 Waymouth Street, Adelaide.)

Plympton Social Credit Group: This Group is active in its own particular area, and is even attracting visitors from other quarters. At the May meeting, Mr. C. H. Allen, from Millswood, and Mr. O. Vogt, from Glenelg, were present. Both visitors spoke. Mr. Allen dealt with a new series of articles on "Maladies and Remedies," which he is having published in the "Farmer," one of the most widely-read country papers in South Australia. Mr. Vogt delivered himself of a very interesting philosophical statement of "Conditions and Prospects." The very refreshing and vigorous earnestness of the new approach which he brought to the matter, appealed to members of the Group. At the next meeting, on June 4, the Group will have Cr. C. J. Poole, of West Torrens District Council, and hopes to introduce Social Credit interest into the consideration of Council matters. The Secretary of the P.S.C. Group is Mr. B. Hancock.

"Empire in Danger" Leaflets: Some time ago we had quite a large number of these printed, and when Mr. Harvey was able to devote time to the matter, we had plans for their distribution. Now, when everyone is so busy, arranging for their distribution is no easy matter. However, we have recently sent out bundles to people we know. One bundle was back within a few days, all signed. An old supporter at Ettrick Brae also sent back a bundle of signed forms within a short time. (This man has made a practice of sending in signed forms. It's not a bad habit.) Another friend from Tumby Bay—relatively new to our ideas—also wrote a very encouraging letter, saying that he had not only distributed the leaflets, but copies of the "New Era" and the "New Times," also had sold or distributed a number of booklets, and, incidentally, had found quite a number of people who were thinking our way. If you are able to find time to distribute these leaflets, write in for them, enclosing cost of postage only (50. 1½d.). Donations towards their cost, however, will be welcome.

Next Executive Meeting: Thursday, May 28, 8 p.m.

Books to Read: "Enemy Within the Empire" (6d.); "Money-Power v. Democracy" (9d.); "Federal Union Exposed," "Victory Without Debt" and "Answer to Tax Slavery" (each 1/-). Please add postage.

—M. R. W. Lee, Hon. Secretary.

S.C.M. OF S.A.

The Social Credit Movement of S.A. will hold their next monthly meeting in the Rechabite Hall, Grote-street, Adelaide, on Thursday, May 28, at 8 p.m. At the conclusion of general business a lecture will be given by one of the members.

—J. E. Burgess, Hon. Sec.

—O.B.H.

THE BIG IDEA

By C. H. DOUGLAS, in the "Social Creditor" (England).
(Continued from last issue.)

The Free Silver Campaign of William Jennings Bryan ("The coinage of silver on demand to a ratio of sixteen to one") forms a curious chapter both in United States history and that of monetary agitation. It was unsound in principle, being, in the genuine sense, currency inflation not differing very fundamentally from a bank-note printing scheme.

The late Arthur Kitson, who took an active part in it, was in the habit of observing that not one in a thousand of the millions who supported it, understood it, and the man who understood it least was William Jennings Bryan.

But Bryan, known as the "silver-tongued orator," was a spellbinder of the first rank, and in his final campaign in 1907 his speeches raised his nation-wide audiences to a condition of emotional hysteria which was of greater value to a candidate for the Presidency than mere intellectual conviction. His famous phrase, "You shall not crucify Mankind upon a cross of gold," is still current.

BANKERS BEAT BRYAN

The bankers reacted to the threat of interference in the usual way. They called in overdrafts, ran a press campaign which prophesied blue ruin, and finally engineered a major business panic and depression, the repercussions of which were felt all over the world. Bryan was defeated by a nonentity, Taft, in the Presidential Election, by a narrow majority, after a Primary Poll which excelled all records of intimidation and corruption. Bi-metallism was practically never heard of again.

The political atmosphere which existed after the defeat of the Free Silver agitation was so uniquely favourable to the schemes of the Warburgs that it is almost permissible to wonder whether Bryan was not an unconscious tool of international Finance. In any case, there is a warning contained in its sequel which those monetary reformers to whom technical soundness is secondary, might well take to heart. As my experience grows, I am increasingly confident that one, at least, of the key words leading to an understanding of the conscious Evil Forces in this world, is "perversion." The matter is so important that I propose to revert to it at a later stage of the argument.

WARBURGS "PUT IT OVER"

In working for the monopoly of credit, the Warburgs took the line with the general public, of course without appearing directly, that although Bryan was wrong, banking reform was necessary to "strengthen" the banking system against such shocks as it had just sustained. To the country bankers, little more than pawnbrokers, it was insinuated that unless they were able to increase the volume of their loans, some crack-brained scheme such as they had just escaped would "provide the people with money" and so menace their monopoly. It took about five years of skilful propaganda, backed by unlimited funds and the full influence of Masonic Lodges; but the result was the Federal Reserve Board, with practically complete control over the U.S. monetary system, and Warburg at its head—just in time for the War. Or possibly the War awaited its consummation.

In order to understand this series of events in proper perspective, and to account for the emigration of two immensely wealthy and successful German-Jews, closely in touch with the Kaiser, from Hamburg to Chicago and New York, two facts must be grasped. The first is that Great Britain, or at any rate the "City of London," was a very large creditor of both the United States and Russia, and, in consequence, in a posi-

tion to make representations upon foreign policy to both of them, as well as being interested in constantly improving relations with her debtors.

PLANNED WAR WITH BRITAIN

And the second fact is that war with Great Britain was a settled policy of those who controlled Germany, for at least fifteen years before a shot was fired, and possibly for much longer. I speak of what I know.

In the early spring of 1899, I crossed from New York to London on a fourteen-knot, one-class steamer, the S.S. "Menominee," of the Atlantic Transport Line. As we were leaving Sandy Hook, we were passed by the crack Hamburg-Amerika liner, "Kaiser Wilhelm der Grosse," steaming at twenty-four knots, flags flying, band playing. One of the "Menominee's" officers observed, "Those fellows tell everyone they're going to drive the British off the

seas." The Hamburg-Amerika Line was controlled by Ballin, the Kaiser's Jewish adviser.

I had not many fellow-passengers, and only one of about my own age and general interests—a young German Baron, von Perucher, whom one would have expected to be travelling on the German boat. He was a diplomatist, and was returning home from Brazil to the German Foreign Office. During the ten days of the voyage we saw a great deal of each other, and on one occasion I repeated the remark of the ship's officer, no doubt in the light of a good joke. He said, very seriously, "It is sad, but war between Germany and England is inevitable—there is not room for both of us. England has passed her apex, and the future is with Germany."

COLD-BLOODED MANOEUVRE

In the light of this policy, it was obviously most important, firstly to minimise the importance of Great Britain's creditor position, and to paralyse Russia, the ever-present threat to Germany's Eastern flank. By virtue of the commanding position over American credit in which Warburg stood at the outbreak of war in 1914, the United States were a serious handicap to the Allies until Jewish influence and bribery brought about the downfall of the Russian Empire and the withdrawal of the potentially irresistible Russian

Army from the conflict. By this time, Britain had become a debtor, largely by guarantees on behalf of other belligerents. The fact that a number of Russians, estimated at nearly thirty millions, perished as the direct and indirect result of this manoeuvre has, in general, only received casual attention.

At the "Peace" Conference in Paris in 1919, when the Financial Clauses were passed, which made the resumption of the War inevitable, Germany was represented by one Warburg, and the Allies by another.

(To be continued.)

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The district president had also said that southern district reference boards had been held up because employers' representatives had failed to appear. One case had been held up for three months."

The Prime Minister is prepared to accept the statement of that president that the Government's regulations were a contributing cause of the disputes on the coal-fields.

TENDS TO CREATE MORE INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES

Any one who understands the temper of the Australian workers well knows that if we threaten to use penal power against individual workers, their union, no matter what it may think of the act against which the penal power is to be used, will take sides with them. Any one can foresee that, and the Minister for Labour and National Service knows it perfectly, as does every one with industrial experience. More than twenty years of my life I have spent as an adviser of trade unions, and I am familiar with their problems. I know what their reaction is to threats against individual members. I assert that this regulation has made the conditions in industry worse; it has tended to create dispute where there was no dispute before, and has tended to make unions take sides with their recalcitrant members. I have suggested a way of dealing with these problems, but that is not relevant to this motion.

OBVIOUS DISCRIMINATION AGAINST THE WORKERS

On this occasion I would remind the House of how the Government dealt with Statutory Rules 76 and 77. Statutory Rule 76 says that a person deriving profits from the carrying on of a business shall not part with such assets as will preclude his paying to the Commissioner of Taxation so much of those profits as are in excess of an amount equal to 4 per cent. of the capital employed in the business. The capitalists, who were opposed to that being done, induced the Government to agree that Statutory Rule 76 should not be brought into operation until a date fixed by resolution of both Houses—and that means never.

It is obvious that one treatment is being meted out to the capitalist and another to the worker. In those circumstances, how can we expect any one to obey the Government? A government that does such things will not obtain obedience from any one for very long.

DICTATORIAL POWER

I am expressing my opposition to the rule, and I hope the House will disallow it. I shall not speak longer, because I spoke at length upon the subject on a motion for the adjournment of the House. I want the House, however, to realise that it is being asked to approve or disapprove of a regulation vesting in the Government arbitrary, dictatorial power to discriminate between people; in whose exercise the Government has no guidance except its own arbitrary will. That, I submit, is the objection of principle to the regulations.

M.L.A. REPORTS TO ELECTORS

In presenting his quarterly report to the electors of Coburg (Vic.), Mr. C. Mutton, M.L.A., expressed his disgust at the continued recess of the Victorian State Parliament.

Despite the fact that Japan had declared war on this country since State Parliament went into recess the Government had not seen fit to call Parliament together but in his wisdom or otherwise Mr. Dunstan had set up various committees without reference to the people's State representatives.

Dealing with the question of household fuel, Mr. Mutton stated that in November last he had warned Parliament that there would be a serious shortage in the coming winter. This fact was obvious to him, as the Minister of Forests had stated that he would not permit trucks fitted with gas producer units to enter the forest area, and as it was impossible to secure petrol to transport firewood, the threatened shortage was now a reality. Wood yards throughout the Metropolitan area were now denuded of stocks and closed up.

Mr. Mutton brought forward the question of "block" milk delivery and stated that, to the best of his knowledge, both supplier and consumer were dissatisfied. The con-

tinued recess of Parliament robbed members of the opportunity of discussing such vital matters. The only activities that Mr. Mutton could report on were those outside the parliamentary sphere. Acting as assistant to Mr. Maurice Blackburn, M.H.R., a good deal of his time had been taken up with serious cases of hardship within the City of Coburg, mainly due to the military call-up. He cited many instances of individual financial hardship and sacrifices. When dealing with these matters with the military authorities he and Mr. Blackburn were faced with a difficult problem. After being referred from place to place within the military organisation it was obvious that nobody desired to accept personal responsibility for the circumstances. A little success had been achieved, but much remained to be accomplished.

The electors of Coburg claim that their State Representative, by his action in holding quarterly meetings of his electors, has set up a proceeding unique in at least this country. He and the electors are endeavouring to put into practice the thing we are fighting for—Democracy. Other State and Federal electors please note.

—E. J. G.

NEW REGULATION OPENS DOOR TO DICTATORSHIP

(Continued from page 5.)

officers. We have seen its use threatened, however, against the Amalgamated Engineering Union, the members of which struck work with the approval of their union.

CURTIN'S CONFESSION

Threats of that kind have aroused the anger of the unions; and the Prime Minister, in an attempt to retrieve the position for himself, admitted that the regulation was playing its part in multiplying disputes. I quote from the "Argus" of Saturday, April 18:

"Mine-owners had no right to exploit the nation's obligation to get coal by taking advantage of workers

in forcing changes from existing practice, Mr. Curtin said to-day.

"He had been informed by the president of the Southern District Australian Coal and Shale Employees Federation, whom he regarded as a reliable and patriotic unionist, that the cause of the Wongawilli mine being idle on Wednesday was a refusal to make certain payments, thereby trying to break down a condition operating at the colliery since 1939. The president had said the miners believed the management in that district was trying to take advantage of the war and the Government's regulations to deprive members of many hard-won conditions.

AN EDITOR'S LAMENT

The editor of my newspaper can't make it out at all. He has written editorials by the Irish mile on the subject of the sanity of those who are benefiting from the present financial arrangements and the dulness of those who consider you shouldn't destroy things just because you look like being short of figures; but seemingly all to no purpose.

"Costless Credit is far from being a dead letter even in these stirring times," he says.

Well, now, would you believe that? Wouldn't you have thought that with the stirring of the times people would have been in such a confounded muddle that they couldn't possibly notice the startling insufficiency of our total liquid assets when placed alongside our war expenditure?

It doesn't take much to surprise some editors, for this one goes on to say that among these "financial cranks" (he doesn't mean the bankers, either) "are many who have taken all there is to be had out of the present monetary system, and are now anxious to test the possibilities of some other way of finding money to meet our obligations." I cannot find it in me to doubt the editor. I'm a bit that way myself. As a matter of fact, I consider I've got about all I am likely to get out of the existing system, and I suppose the same can be said about him who lines up for rations. So to me the wheeze doesn't appear so dastardly as the editor seems to think it is.

HEN AND EGG COMPLEX

Of course, that isn't the interesting point of the article. I look to the editor to correct me if I'm wrong, but his objection appears to be based not on the credit itself, but on the costlessness thereof. He prefers his credit painfully acquired. I believe there are lots of people like that. I fancy it comes of reading books like "John Halifax, Gentleman," in early youth. Ease is not of itself a recommendation. I tremble to think what the editor will feel when he discovers—if he ever does—that banks do not exert themselves when they create credit.

But quite apart from the costlessness or otherwise of credit, I have frankly to admit that people like the editor puzzle me. They appear to possess what I call the hen and egg complex. They seem unable to decide which came first, things, or the symbols representing things. You can't dismiss them, of course. They

exist—like the people who believe that the earth is flat, and they exist on approximately the same mental plane, I should say.

LEARNING FROM HISTORY

Nevertheless, I am obliged to admit that the writer of the article which started all this has stumbled on a thought we shall do well to perpend. He says, "not to read history is a dubious recommendation for any reformer." I quite agree. We don't pay half enough attention to history. We usually content ourselves with a few vague references to Magna Carta, Habeas Corpus and Guy Fawkes day, but normally fail to notice with sufficient discrimination who does the dirty work and who gets the victor's palm. And it doesn't touch us once that there may be a possibility that the real kudos goes to an unsuspected party who neither fights nor covets the victor's palm.

We have observed, it is true, that it has been successively necessary to curb the power of the barons, of the king, of the merchants, and, finally, of everybody; but we do not appear to have sufficiently observed why it was necessary, and why we aren't any nearer to sovereignty than we were before. Maybe a closer study of history will reveal the catch. If so, let us have history by all means.

I am the more convinced that the author of the article is on the right track because of something I have observed in history myself. I refer to the surprising, but overwhelming, patriotism of the great bankers! Our writer may have had this in mind, though he doesn't actually refer to it. He does, at any rate, remind us of it when he proceeds to acquaint us of the fruit of the common man's neglect of history "which, in the present case, would shut him off from knowledge of what happened in the United States of America, which tried to float out of its troubles on inflation soon after the Civil War."

BANKERS AND INFLATION

Please don't think I'm going to be tedious about inflation. Thank goodness we all know what that is by now. It is a creation of credit by

a public, as opposed to a private, monopoly. No, what I am concerned in for the moment is what happened in America after the Civil War. It seems that the House of Rothschild was so convinced that Abraham Lincoln had stumbled on something which was death to the creation of money by private institutions that it convinced itself, or at any rate, what was more important, the people, that the life-blood of the British race, and of the American race, to say nothing of the life-blood of posterity, was all dependant upon the undoubted right of the bankers to pretend to have something they hadn't got.

This conviction, that the welfare of the race depended upon the bankers, and not upon the race, was so strong that early in the nineteenth century the House of Rothschild had to write a letter to its American representative, drawing attention to the paramount necessity of allowing the President of America to fool around with notes and coin, while forbidding him absolutely any access to the

real money of the country, with which all business was transacted.

THE LATE MR. LINCOLN

Old Abe didn't see it that way, and got himself accidentally shot in the back. Presidents have been much more careful since. They, at any rate, can be said to have read their history. They know that the banks aren't going to allow the people to be fooled, even part of the time, by the heretical doctrine that the earth is not raw material for a mortgage.

I feel that Mr. Lincoln would have been saddened to-day to have it borne upon him that although, in the terms of his triumphant and familiar declaration, "You can fool all the people some of the time, some of the people all the time, but not all the people all the time," nevertheless you can come as near the third alternative as will matter for practical purposes—while the press owes its celebrated freedom to overdrafts and advertisers.

—Footle.

"NOSEY PARKER IN THE GARDEN"

The following passage on the Fabian Manifesto of 1893 is from "English Saga," by Arthur Bryant:

"... By attacking the private ownership of property they [the socialists] struck unconsciously at the foundation on which the historic policy of England's individual liberty had always rested. Because the privilege of ownership had ceased to be widespread as in the past, and had become restricted to the few, they supposed that its destruction would extend freedom to the many.

"They forgot that, apart from economic liberty, political liberty has little meaning. Only so long as a man knows that he can defy superior power and still support himself and his loved ones is he a free man. Without that knowledge, whatever his standard of living or theoretical status, he is a kind of slave. And when all power is vested in the State and the State is the owner of both the worker's homes and the means of production, private liberty becomes a rather nebulous thing. There was little enough liberty for the workers under the rule of the nineteenth-century joint-stock capitalist, except, of course, the liberty to starve. But in the Fabian paradise which was to take its place, though there might be a great deal

more comfort, there was to be no liberty at all. The State, or rather the State official, was to rule all things.

"Such a paradise, at first sight, seemed to offer so many things of which the English worker stood in need. It offered better wages and conditions of labour, cleaner and more commodious homes, social services and public amenities in place of the drab negation of the utilitarian city, above all, the end of the shameless exploitation of poverty by wealth, which robbed men and women of their self-respect. Yet when the promised land was examined more closely, it was seen to contain a presence which was not acceptable to an Englishman. For there in the midst of the garden stood Nosey Parker, with the sword of the all-seeing State. . . .

"... The Socialists, in their passion for statistics . . . forgot that the liberty of the workers in the aggregate may bear little relation to the liberty of the worker as an individual. They did not see how pathetically helpless he might be against the pricks of petty tyranny."

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