Philosophy

History

Dear Fellow Australians.

The time has arrived when you must make up your minds to demand back those freedoms which you placed in pawn for the period of the war. The pawnbrokers must be asked to redeem their pledges. But it is all too clear that the pawnbrokers are showing a marked disinclination to give over the vast powers they have exercised over the past

five years. They are even suggesting that some of the things you pawned are now "old fashioned," and not worth having. Unless you challenge the pawnbroker NOW, you will soon lose the feeling of what real freedom means, and be content to be pushed around and regimented for the rest of your lives.

Power, particularly irresponsible power, not only degrades those who use it, it also degrades those who are subject to it. Time and time again you have been assured that the powers you were giving over to bureaucratic officials would be in safe custody, and would be given back to you as soon as possible. You are indeed very trusting if you think that this is likely to happen unless you take correct action.

The lust for power feeds on power. Look back over five years of Government at the hands of well-paid bureaucrats and recall the tactics they have adopted to mould this country on the very lines of the Germany we went to war to destroy. These bureaucrats are not going to give over their great powers; in fact, they have indicated very clearly that they intend to carry on with their efforts to fit the Australian people into some mould which they have decided upon. - Eric D. Butler

#### **Consumer Price Discounts: The Answer to Inflation**

Inflation in Australia has produced a welter of confused argument about possible remedies, generally resulting in a vague suggestion that we must "tighten our belts"; "produce and export more"; and accept "heavy financial restrictions" to solve the problem. The latter generally embraces increased taxation, restrictions on bank lending, higher interest rates and

a multitude of controls. The Superficial philosophy behind these so-called remedies aims at allowing "supply to catch up with demand". While academic argument distinguishes between what is called "cost inflation" and "demand inflation", when it comes to remedies the restriction of demand is the only factor taken into account.

Thus we have a paradox, in which the constant policy of tackling inflation by increasing charges, taxation and costs never varies. All evidence points to consistent failure wherever such policies have been adopted. Undeterred by the evidence, however, the same policies are continuously applied. Nemesis now awaits not only the economist, but also his victim - the man in the street. The effect of this unvarying repetition is to produce economic class warfare. The housewife opposes the grocer and the butcher. The worker wages war on industry. Country resents the city, and everyone bites the hand whch feeds him. Such a situation is the seed-bed of revolution. - Jeremy Lee

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AUGUST 2024 : VOL. 60

**NEWS HIGHLIGHTS BACKGROUND INFORMATION COMMONWEALTH AFFAIRS** 

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## **REVERSING INFLATION**

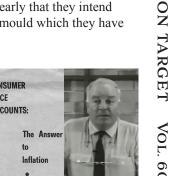
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Sack the BUREAUCRATS

and Win the Peace!

ERIC D. BUTLER

Price 60

THE ELECTORAL CA



#### Asjor Clifford Hugh Douglas,

— əyı in his earlier years were those of engineer with died in 1952. Among other posts which he held Social Credit Movement, was born in 1879 and economist, author, and founder of the Douglas .I.Mech.E., M.I.E.E., consulting engineer,

and Pacific Railway; Deputy Chief Electrical Engineer, Buenos Aires, Lachine Rapids Hydraulic Construction; Peterborough, Canada, - Assistant Engineer, Canadian General Electric company,

Chief Engineer and Manager in India British

Farnborough (GB). Assistant Superintendent, Royal Aircraft Factory Westinghouse Company;

R.A.F. (Reserve). During the First World War he was a Major in the Royal Flying Corps and later in the

yard on Southampton Water for several years. After retiring from his engineering career, he and his wife ran a small yacht-building

yacht had a special appeal for him. The combination of beauty with functional efficiency in a successfully designed racing

One of his most interesting jobs, just before the 1914 War, was that of conducting teaching, it should be put on record that he practised what he preached. ran through his land. Since decentralisation of economic power was of the essence of his helping to build his small hydro-electric-powered house, sited on the local burn which tools. Later, when he moved to Scotland, many of his friends and followers remember dynamo which lit and warmed the house as well as providing power for lathes and other When he lived in an old water mill in Hampshire he used the water wheel to turn a

in what was to be one of the earliest examples of complete automation in the history of work on the Post Office Tube in London, with later supervision of the installation of plant preliminary experimental work and preparing plans and specifications for the electrical

#### .gurreering.

From Economic Democracy First edition (1920), by CH Douglas

#### Institutions exist to serve Individuals

unbridled industrialism checks their growth, then industrialism must be reined in. if social customs hamper their continuous expansion - they must be modified; if contained in it. If a State system can be shown to be inimical to them it must go; industry or society must exist contingently to the furtherance of the principles as a basis of constructive effort, it seems clear that all forms, whether of government, Accepting this statement (systems were made for man, and not men for systems)

That is to say, we must build up from the Individual, not down from the State.

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# **ON TARGET**

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For Political & Economic Realism

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