

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.

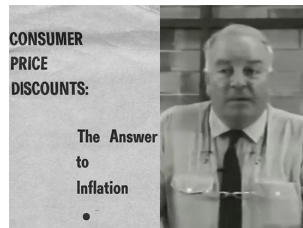
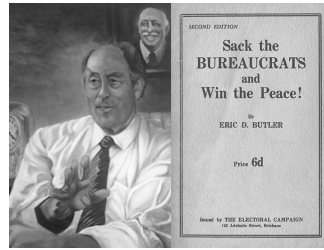
The lust for power feeds on power. Look back over five years of Government at the hands of well-paid bureaucrats and recall the tactics they have adopted to mould this country on the very lines of the Germany we went to war to destroy. These bureaucrats are not going to give over their great powers; 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 which feeds him.

Such a situation is the seed-bed of revolution. - Jeremy Lee



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Major Clifford Hugh Douglas,

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

Canadian General Electric company,

Peterborough, Canada, — Assistant Engineer,
Lachine Rapids Hydraulic Construction,

Deputy Chief Electrical Engineer, Buenos

Aires, and Pacific Railway;

Chief Engineer and Manager in India British

Westinghouse Company;

Assistant Superintendent, Royal Aircraft

Factory Farnborough (GB).

During the First World War he was a Major in the Royal Flying Corps and later in the

R.A.F. (Reserve).

After retiring from his engineering career, he and his wife ran a small yacht-building

yard on Southampton Water for several years.

The combination of beauty with functional efficiency in a successfully designed racing

yacht had a special appeal for him.

When he lived in an old water mill in Hampshire he used the water wheel to turn a

dynamo which lit and warmed the house as well as providing power for lathes and other

tools. Later, when he moved to Scotland, many of his friends and followers remember

helping to build his small hydro-electric-powered house, sited on the local burn which

ran through his land. Since decentralisation of economic power was of the essence of

his teaching, it should be put on record that he practised what he preached.

One of his most interesting jobs, just before the 1914 War, was that of conducting

preliminary experimental work and preparing plans and specifications for the electrical

work on the Post Office Tube in London, with later supervision of the installation of

plant in what was to be one of the earliest examples of complete automation in the

history of engineering.

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

Institutions exist to serve Individuals

Accepting this statement (*systems were made for man, and not men for systems*)

as a basis of constructive effort, it seems clear that all forms, whether of government,

industry or society must exist contingently to the furtherance of the principles

contained in it. If a State system can be shown to be inimical to them it must go;

if social customs hamper their continuous expansion - they must be modified; if

unbridled industrialism checks their growth, then industrialism must be reined in.

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