

## Advocates Of Socialism, Free Enterprise Watch Election Test In Australia Saturday

By RALPH MORTON

NEW YORK—(AP)—The people of Australia vote Saturday on whether they want more, or less, socialism. The whole English-speaking world will be watching the outcome. So will some nations where English is not spoken.

The big question is: has a definite trend against socialism set in within the British commonwealth of nations?

Tracers of this trend point to the defeat last week of the labor government of New Zealand, tossed out by the free enterprise Nationalist party after 14 years of rule.

British Tories, chuckling behind their newspapers, predict the empire's labor governments will go out in the order they came in, first New Zealand, second Australia, third United Kingdom.

Maxim not Accepted

Although the basic issues, pro and anti-Labor seem the same in the three countries, it has yet to be accepted as a political maxim that as New Zealand goes, so goes the empire. Apart from the

surface similarity there are many important issues peculiar to each of the three empire nations.

Let's put ourselves in the place of the Aussie voter. Right off, you know, you must go to the polls. It's compulsory by law. If you don't go, you get haled into court and may pay a fine.

That means, probably, that more people proportionately vote in Australian than in New Zealand and Britain. Labor politicians say that means more votes for Labor. They say that much of the working class in New Zealand stayed away from the polls.

The government on trial is



OUT OUR WAY By J. R. Williams

that of Prime Minister J. B. Chifley, whose labor regime has been eight years in power.

The Australian can vote for a Labor candidate, or the candidate of the Liberal party of opposition leader Robert G. Menzies or the candidate of another anti-labor group, the Country party.

Menzies Next?

If labor is defeated, Menzies undoubtedly would be the next prime minister. But he would have to depend on support of the Country Party to form a non-labor coalition government. Labor argues such a coalition might prove weak. Australians decided three years ago to cling to labor

rather than this two-party coalition.

However, since the 1946 elections Australia has been plagued by strikes, some communist-led, by mounting prices and increasing government controls. Australia and New Zealand are both bound closely to Britain by economic ties, as well as sentimental and political ones. The financial crisis in Britain and the devaluation of the British pound have made it hard for the governments of New Zealand and Australia. Their currencies have been devalued.

Government controls requiring licenses for this and that, restrictions, and red tape have in-

furiated many people. The opposition parties say they will reduce these controls and make it easier for people all around.

Toughest Fight Yet

There is no doubt this is the toughest fight Australian labor has ever faced.

The Australian Labor party is a tightly organized trade union party. It is pledged to a policy of gradual socialization.

Its nationalization plans, however, with the exception of airlines, have been nipped in the bud by constitutional bars and organized opposition.

For one thing, The labor government rushed through parliament a bank nationalization act,

## German Press Accuses Westerners Of Wanting 'Cannon Fodder' Army

By BRACK CURRY

FRANKFURT, Germany—(AP)—The west German press accuses the western powers of trying to revive German militarism with a "cannon fodder" army.

The newspapers claimed the west wants an army of German "mercenaries" as a bulwark against the Russians.

But nobody has asked the Germans whether they want an army, the newspapers said, contending that the German people are overwhelmingly opposed to German rearmament.

Although Western Allied officials have announced publicly there are no present plans for rebuilding a German army, persistent reports have circulated that western military leaders favor such a step.

Recently a spokesman for West German Chancellor (Premier) Konrad Adenauer said the Bonn Government would agree under certain circumstances to form an army. But the spokesman declared the west German republic was not taking the initiative in proposing such a military move.

The spokesman said Adenauer was "fundamentally" against German rearmament because she needs her whole power for civilian reconstruction. He added that the Western Allies insisted, however, western Germany would be willing to raise an army-equipped by the United States—to serve as part of a European army under a combined European command.

Militarism Growing

Commenting on recent German press reactions, the U.S. high commission's press branch reported:

"The German press comes to the conclusion that while Prussian militarism has died, world militarism is growing and flourishing. . . .

"Despite all official denials, the discussions of possible military participation of Germany in defense of Western Europe will not down. The paradoxical situation is that the Allies, who have charged Germany's past military spirit with prime responsibility for the troubles of the last century, are now being reproached, with themselves adding fuel to the military flames."

The newspapers display sharp displeasure over what they call the nonchalance with which the western world takes into its calculations the use of young German manhood," said the press report. "Such a 'cannon fodder' army is rejected as out of the question."

The newspaper Frankfurter Allgemeine was reported as saying:

"Despite official denials, all the world knows that the coolly-working brains of the western generals and experts are weighing the problem of re-erecting the age-old 'bulwark against the east.' The fact must be stressed that this idea was born in Washington, London and Paris and not in Frankfurt or Bonn."

Against Atlantic Pact

The Deutsche Zeitung or Stuttgart said:

"All suggestions to include west Germany in the Atlantic pact were not made by a clique of German militarists but by foreign politicians and professional soldiers. We do not aim at remilitarization or recruiting of a west German army of mercenaries which, in case of war, would have to sacrifice itself."

The Mannheimer Morgen said: "The majority of Germans neither wants to wear uniforms again nor to be valued as mercenaries."

The Hamburger Freie Presse said in the next war the "poor continental armies would have to meet Russian super-forces and most probably be smashed by them. Such an honor would be most willingly transferred to the Germans."

Willemite, a mineral consisting mostly of zinc silicate, was named for Wilhelm I, King of the Netherlands.

far more daring than anything proposed by socialists in Britain and New Zealand. But the act was declared unconstitutional by the highest courts of Australia and the empire.

There is a further difference between the election situation in Australia and New Zealand. The New Zealand labor government just defeated had only a majority of four in parliament. Australian labor has 43 seats out of 75 in the House of Representatives. It holds 33 of the 36 seats in the elected Senate. Even if labor lost many Senate seats being contested (half the chamber) it could still control the Senate.

The Australian voter will give the answers to major political questions when he names his rulers for the next three years.

## AIDING JAPANESE STUDENTS

TOKYO—(AP)—The Japan chapter of the Military Government Association is lending a hand to Japanese seeking education in the United States. Funds for travel and incidental expenses not covered by scholarships are being raised through public subscription.

Miss Ethel B. Weed of Cleveland, Ohio, a member of the occupation's civil information and education section, is chairman of the drive. A minimum of \$10,000 for the initial fund is sought.

## Proposed Change Puts Umattilla On Sidetrack

UMATILLA, Dec. 8—(AP)—This town may find itself on a sidetrack.

Construction of a freight terminal at Hinkle, near Stanfield, would be the cause. The Union Pacific railroad proposes a new main line from Messner to Hinkle to Juniper and has asked permission to abandon the present main line through this town.

Construction of the terminal is to start shortly after the first of the year. The work includes 17 miles of mainline track between Hinkle and Juniper, tying in with a line to be built by the corps of engineers from Wallula to Juniper.

Changing the route requires approval of the Interstate Commerce commission and the Oregon Public Utilities commission.

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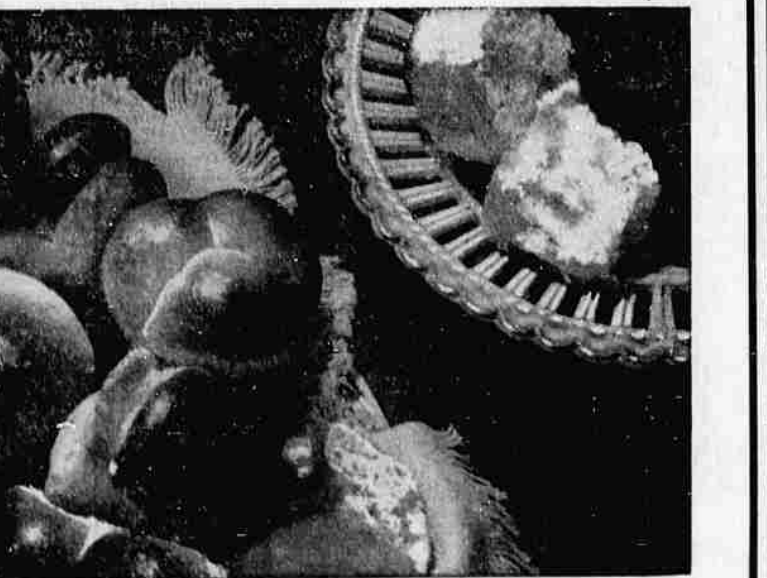
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  5. Bake 7 to 10 minutes, remove and serve piping hot.
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