

The 1930's Synarchist assault on Australia

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Anglo-Dutch parliamentary systems are a puppet show, in which the strings are held by central banks, which in turn are controlled by a cabal of private financiers. In times of crisis, these private financiers destabilise the parliamentary systems, and replace them either with parliaments that will bow to their interests, or even, as happened in much of Europe during the 1930s, with outright fascist regimes.

It is not acknowledged in standard history texts, but fascist military coups were prepared for Australia, too, in the early 1930s—at both the state and federal levels. The would-be perpetrators were Synarchists in the mould of Mussolini and Hitler, and their backers, as in Europe, were to be found in the upper echelons of the financial oligarchy. Their efforts peaked in 1930-1932, during the intense confrontation between the "old Labor" forces of Jack Lang, Frank Anstey and John Curtin, on the one side, and the "Money Power"—centred in London, but with powerful, aggressive allies inside Australia—on the other. The spectre of a fascist coup was instrumental in the toppling of the Labor government of James Scullin and the ouster of Lang as New South Wales PM in 1932, dealing a grave setback to Australia's potential national development during the depression, and throwing much of the population deeper into misery.

Was "Australian fascism" just a flash in the pan? Why return to the history of such an unfortunate period, when a pro-Nazi movement flourished in Sydney, Melbourne and the bush, with backing in high places?

The history of the Synarchist assault on Australia in the 1930s cannot be ignored as a curiosity or relegated to a footnote, because the world, Australia included, is once again plunging into an economic depression—a systemic one, of the type in which the deployment of fascist mobs and police-state repression is the stock in trade of a desperate financial oligarchy. Moreover, not only is the 1930s assault on Australian society and our national identity in danger of being repeated, but the direct heirs of the 1930s perpetrators are alive and active to carry it out. It is impossible to grasp Australian politics in the first decade of the 21st Century, without knowing the never-repudiated roots of

the Australian Liberal Party in the pro-fascist Synarchist movement of seven decades ago.

Faced with the threat of the pro-sovereignty, pro-national banking tendencies in both the Federal Labor Government of Scullin and Lang's New South Wales Labor Government, the British Crown and the City of London, with their allies among the "Anglo-Australian" comprador elites of Australia, developed a two-pronged attack. They would keep the parliamentary façade if possible, by driving Scullin and Lang from power through "political" means. But in case those maneuvers failed, they simultaneously created mass fascist armies of storm troopers, capable of seizing power.

The stormtrooper organisations were the Melbourne-based League of National Security, and the Old Guard and the New Guard, based in Sydney. Combined, these three groups comprised over 100,000 well-armed and highly organized militants. The best known of the three, though actually the least important, was the New Guard, led by Mussolini- and Hitler-worshipper Eric Campbell. The New Guard achieved notoriety on March 19, 1932, when New Guardsman Col. Francis DeGroot jumped ahead of Premier Jack Lang to pre-empt him, with a sword, at the ribbon-cutting for the Sydney Harbour Bridge.

These armed fascist brigades were modeled explicitly on the blackshirts and brownshirts of Mussolini and Hitler. Like them, the paramilitaries invariably had their front organisations: mass "citizens leagues," which shared the same philosophies, and whose members often did double duty, as both league activists, and members of the armed detachments. Both the armed brigades and their "citizen"



March 19, 1932. Fascist New Guardsman Col. Francis de Groot preempts NSW Premier Jack Lang to cut the ribbon at the new Sydney Harbour Bridge.

fronts were created, staffed and run at the highest levels, by the leading financial organisations in Australia.

Some of the relevant government files of the period have been carefully culled, while others are mysteriously missing. But enough evidence has survived, to demonstrate that the fascist citizens leagues and their armed counterparts were supported by top banking and corporate institutions, among them:

- the Bank of New South Wales, Australia's largest and oldest bank;
- Colonial Sugar Refining Co. (CSR), the largest corporation in Australia;
- J.B. Were and Sons, Australia's largest brokerage, and handler of government loans;
- G.J. Coles and Myers, the two largest retail firms in the country;
- leading executives or directors of the BHP and Collins House manufacturing and minerals empires; and many other banks, insurance companies, corporations, chambers of commerce and pastoral houses. This section of our report presents that evidence.

In New South Wales, the fascist armies were days or hours from marching on Sydney, an eventuality avoided only when King George V directed his Governor General, Sir Philip Game, to sack Premier Lang. An overt fascist takeover was forestalled, but at the sacrifice of Australia's best leaders and policies for that time of economic crisis.