

ers Union, the Australian Workers Union, and then the Labor Party itself. In 1892, at the height of the industrial battles, Spence rallied workers to the idea of expanding their fight beyond what he called the “too narrow” focus on wages and conditions, to the political challenge of taking over and governing the country for the good of all, which includes workers.

“In the days of what we call the ‘old unionism’... the old unions or organizations confined their attention solely to what was called, obtaining reasonable wages and hours of labour, or as good a wage as they could get, and to a resistance of the crushing tendencies of the employers. But the older unionists imbibed somewhat the spirit of the capitalist—their views were too narrow. They did not, or could not take much interest or do anything for those outside their own ranks or amongst the masses of the unemployed.... In the meantime there was spreading amongst unionists this idea... that they could not affect the improvement they desired by dealing only with the mere question of hours and wages. And so comes what has been termed the ‘new unionism’—a unionism wide and broad in its aim, and one which will certainly be far-reaching in its effects.... There is a difference in our aim which is a most noticeable feature. We are aiming now at securing an improvement by social and political reforms—and by that means alone a revolution will undoubtedly be affected in time...

“Let us not miss the opportunity. The work lies in our hands. Let us Agitate, Educate, Organize. We have the power if we have the will.... If any body of persons in Australia is to blame for the evils of our social system, it is the working classes. We have the intelligence and the power to change the conditions of life for the better, and have only to put forth our energy, and by unity of effort we can gain all that is

required....The masses must not only take a deeper interest in political questions, but they must make the politics of the country. The welfare of the people must be raised to the first place—must be the uppermost and foremost consideration. How best to secure the good of all without injury must be the aim—not commercial supremacy, not cheap production regardless of the human misery following, but rather the broadest justice, the widest extension of human happiness, and the attainment of the highest intellectual and moral standard of civilized nations should be our aim...”

Spence’s work led to the formation of the Australian Labor Party, and the world’s first ever Labor government, in the state of Queensland. The rest was history. Australia progressed under Labor governments, progress which included the world’s first free public hospital system, established in Queensland in the 1930s.

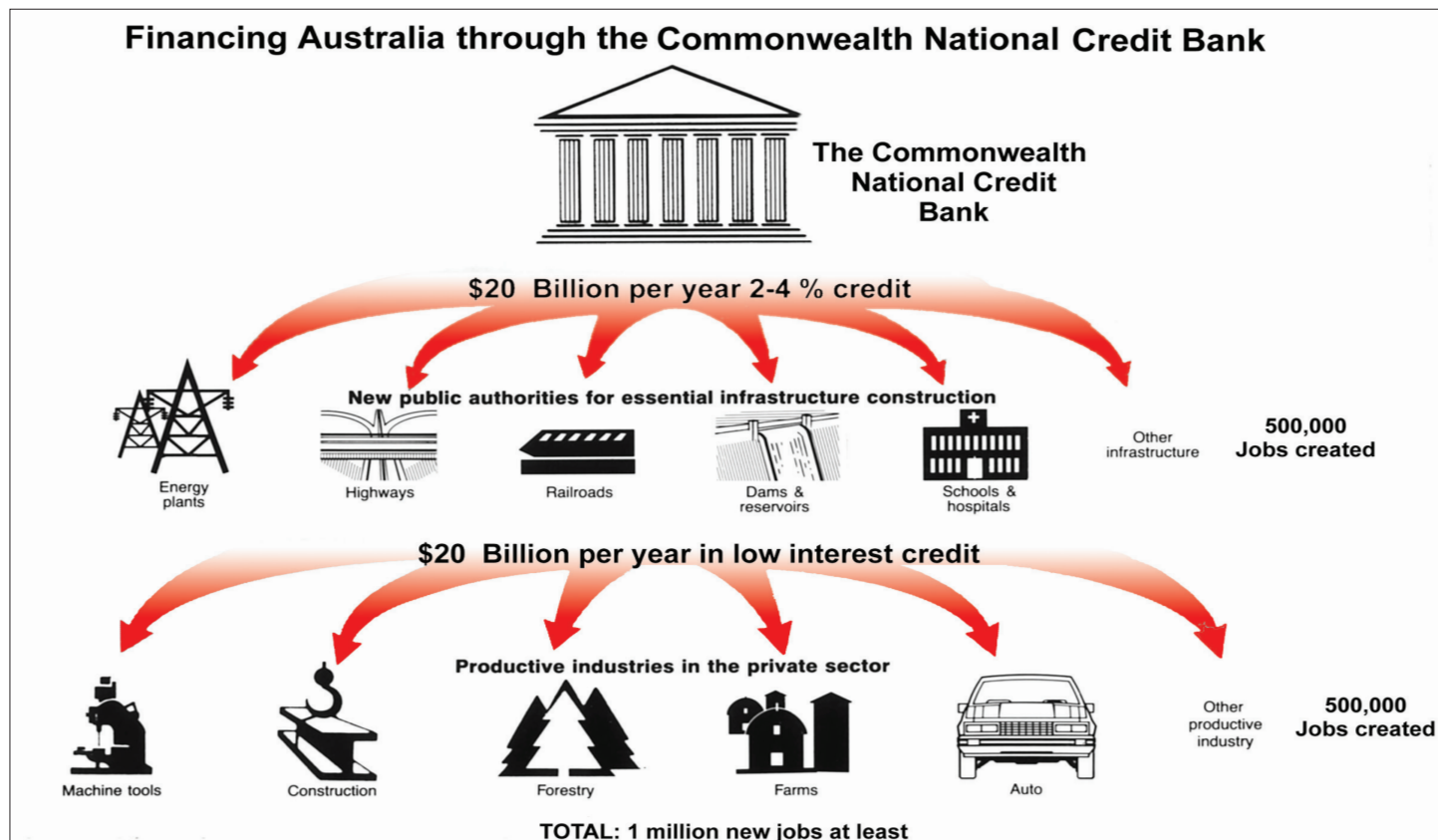
However, under Bob Hawke and Paul Keating, the ALP sold-out to the multinational bank behind Keating’s “reforms”, and betrayed workers to globalization. It is time for workers to again take the responsibility to change the system.

### Join the CEC

The Citizens Electoral Council is an independent political party founded in Queensland in 1988, by people who saw the globalization policies of the Hawke-Keating ALP and support by the Liberals and National were destroying Australia.

We have revived the ideals of the old Labor Party, and its fight for the common good and Australia’s economic sovereignty.

If you are sick of the current system, don’t let your voice be silenced by backroom deals between union bosses and the ALP, join our fight to change it.



# Citizens Electoral Council of Australia



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7<sup>th</sup> of October 2010

## Memo to health workers: It's time for 'New Unionism'

The following statement was issued today by Citizens Electoral Council Queensland Secretary Jan Pukallus:

**H**ealth workers have been betrayed by the state Labor government, as have all Queensland workers.

The party that working people created, out of the industrial wars of the 1890s, of which the most notable battles were in Queensland, has betrayed "working families".

Anna Bligh has sold out Queenslanders to a brutal austerity program designed to loot the state and slash living standards, under orders of the Inter-Alpha Group of banks.

The Inter-Alpha Group is a European banking cartel controlled by N.M Rothschild and Sons, and including banks such as ING and the Royal Bank of Scotland, which since 1971 has looted nations through privatization programs.

It is this Inter-Alpha gang which is directing Anna Bligh's firesale of Queensland:

Rothschild Australia chairman Trevor Rowe is the leading business adviser to the Queensland government, until recently the chairman of the giant Queensland Investment Corporation (QIC), and his Rothschild Australia was the lead advisor to Bligh's predecessor Peter Beattie's sale of Queensland's electricity retail assets in 2007.

The 9<sup>th</sup> August, 2008 *Courier-Mail* profiled Rowe, under the headline, "Meet Trevor Rowe, a man with wide connections". Authors Tony Grant-Taylor and James McCullough reported, "A prime part of investment banking, together with the skills of the dealer and trade, is broad connections—and Rowe forged very useful contacts. Former Liberal prime minister John Howard is a long-time Rowe mate. And Howard turned to Rowe, informally and sometimes as a formal adviser, on the sales of Telstra, Commonwealth Bank and Sydney Airport.

"Not that he was unwelcome on the other side of politics, as is evidenced by his appointment by

Queensland's Labor government in 2001 to replace Jim Kennedy as QIC chairman. And Rothschild won the much-sought-after mandate to advise the Beattie government on the sale of Queensland's retail electricity assets."

Now Rowe's Rothschild Australia is one of the three lead advisors, along with Merrill Lynch and fellow Inter-Alpha Group member RBS (The Royal Bank of Scotland), for the remainder of Anna Bligh's privatisation smorgasbord of ports, rail, roads and forestry.

### New Unionism

Nurses would be justified in feeling victimized by the Blair government's callous disregard for the common good, as they intersect it in their working lives, such as in the debacle over the payment of wages—which is not an accident, but the lawful consequence of government decision-making which is disconnected from people's needs, the use of Public-Private Partnerships to build hospitals, and even the policy of docking nurses' pay to charge for privatized parking at hospitals.

However, feeling victimized would be a mistake, because it blinds you to seeing that it is your responsibility to change the system that is causing the problem. When unions act like victims, they are open to manipulation, in that governments will often compromise with a noisy union just enough to placate the complaints of that one group, but not enough to fix the system that caused the problem.

The system is globalization; it is the sell-out of Australia to the multinational banks who have looted us to death through free trade, deregulation and privatization. It is time to end this, to take Australia back. It is time for New Unionism.

New Unionism is the term used by the great William Guthrie Spence, the founder of the Shear-

To compare the CEC's record to that of the growing chorus of leaders, including PM Julia Gillard, who claim that nobody could have seen this crisis coming.

### ORDER DVD

For a copy of our feature DVD *Homeowners and Bank Protection Bill: The Only Solution*, one-hour documentary, call toll-free 1800 636 432 or send this coupon to: CEC, PO Box 376, Coburg, Victoria, 3058 and leave ALL your details. Price: \$10.00 + P&H \$2.50



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