

A VISION OF AUSTRALIA.

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Australia has given much to her citizens, gold, wool, iron and steel, coal, grazing and farm lands and now oil and uranium. We are all proud of this island continent. Our men have died in two great wars that we may live and enjoy our tradition of freedom and happiness. Our first loyalty is to this country and the future it promises our children for it is not enough to ensure the prosperity of our generation. Australia must always be a land where free men can live and work happily together. "We must stand on our own feet² as England's ^Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr Butler? said recently. We must learn thus to do this in every way, economically and politically for only ~~in this way~~ can our future independence be guaranteed. The only Australians who cannot support plans to achieve this end are the communists.

Ant. Aned force
In 1940 the Japanese forces crossed the Owen Stanleys. Men of the ~~2nd AIF~~ drove them back and saved this country from invasion. In the last twenty five years the Asian races have asserted their own nationalism against influence from the Western Countries. French armed forces are in difficulties in Indo-China where one million men have been fighting ceaselessly since the war against Viet-Minh rebel or communist forces. *Indonesians have done* ~~The Dutch have been thrown out~~ *then almost to take over the country* of Indonesia while it is only on the last twelve months that the British have cleared large areas of Malaya from Communist terrorisation.

Australia is faced with a double peril from the north brought about by the teeming millions in these Asian lands. A thousand million living on a panikin of rice a day, how much better some of them could do with Australia in their hands. These peoples are learning western ways and their recently aroused nationalism has been harnessed to the communist cause. Whether or not ~~these~~ ^{they} people have absorbed the communist doctrine they are backed by the might of Russia. Their danger to us is very great. We have a ~~great~~ land vast in size and empty of people. We cannot rely on America to defend us forever,

indeed our pride as Australians would not allow it but we can only defend ourselves when we have developed and mastered the resources of our own country. Then we shall be a great people free and worthy of our Australian heritage.

This danger from the north is great and urgent. ~~It~~ It can only be combatted by foresight and initiative, by planning and development that will lead to a Greater Australia, to greater happiness for more people. I hope to live to see forty million people in this ~~great~~ land for only then would Australians take their true place in the maintenance of world peace and prosperity.

In the next few weeks I want to talk of things now happening that will materially affect the future development of this nation. We have inland abattoirs in the Kimberleys from which beef is exported by air, ~~We~~ we are experimenting with new breeds of cattle that may well boost our output and although we have doubled and redoubled our carrying capacity in some areas as yet we have only scratched the surface in pasture improvement and stock management. Our steel is being made into ships, aeroplanes and countless other things necessary for existence. Our best cloth is as good as any in the world. All this is not enough. Recently we have discovered oil and uranium. English technicians and engineers expect to have atomic energy for industry within fifteen years. We have the uranium, we must plan to use it, not just as a dollar export but to develop our own resources that we may defend ourselves as a nation that our people may live in peace and happiness. With atomic energy it may well become possible to fill our inland lakes ~~permanently~~ and waterways (permanently) on whose borders new communities of Australians would ~~spring up~~ grow.

~~MATTERS~~ We must have men of vision and initiative who can foresee and plan these things. It would take much research and thought to decide which direction these developments should first follow. These things are a challenge to our leaders, they are a challenge to every Australian with faith in the destiny of this continent as a place where our children and grandchildren may grow and prosper.

If we submit in the face of this challenge we may be sure that this nation will be changed by other races in a way that will make it impossible for our own traditions and way of life to survive. I have faith in our people . We shall not fail.