

# These Cowardly Police Methods Must Be Stopped

THE gutter press continually peddles fantastic fables "the knock on the door" and similar lies about Soviet police "tyranny," while covering up the gross of Victorian police methods, especially those employed in the case of the Miller family.

The testimony of his sister by the police is a lie to all Australians. The only real basis for the fastidious in this country is the threadbare cloak of order." Here it is:

On Friday, May 6 I was sitting at my desk in my flat in Elm Grove.

I knocked on my door. I found a telegram boy said: "A telegram for Miss Miller." I said: "Miss Murdoch's door," and went to clear before I could do so two men burst into my room.

They said: "You can't come out I was hurried back into of the room. We are detectives. I said: "Your search warrant?"

"We don't need any search warrant." "You have interfered with the girl in this room."

"I said: "This is ridiculous," and told them they were either to leave or I would call the police who were in my house to search my room for purposes. They continued to question me, making allegations regarding the girl.

Half an hour of questioning took me to the kitchen where I was further questioned. I said: "I have no statements to make."

Mr Murdoch Climbed To Power By Gigantic Frame-Up Of Gallipoli Campaign Staff

MR Murdoch's press chief Sir Keith Murdoch's first step up the ladder of success was a gigantic frame up, which sacked a General Staff

in Hamilton, who commanded at Gallipoli, began an expose of Murdoch, which he was sent to the Governor-General in Australia, and to the secretary of the Criminal Investigation Department, but was dissuaded from doing so by others on his staff, who did not want the indignity of having the world know that they were sacked on a lying story by an "old petty mean person."

Hamilton released the Gallipoli Diary, 1915, which revealed that Murdoch had some unscrupulous person was Lord Hamilton the notorious press

Mr Murdoch's press chief Sir Keith Murdoch's first step up the ladder of success was a gigantic frame up, which sacked a General Staff in Hamilton, who commanded at Gallipoli, began an expose of Murdoch, which he was sent to the Governor-General in Australia, and to the secretary of the Criminal Investigation Department, but was dissuaded from doing so by others on his staff, who did not want the indignity of having the world know that they were sacked on a lying story by an "old petty mean person."

## SUBSCRIPTION FORM

Manager, THE GUARDIAN, 346 Lt. Collins St., Melb., O.L. Single copies 6d. With THE GUARDIAN for a period of 12 months (12/6) — 24 months (24/6) Post Free. Postal notes, cheques, payable to Victorian Guardian Newspaper.

# Party Doesn't Fear Royal Commission

WHILE not fearing an inquiry into its policy and activities, the Communist Party clearly states that Holtway's Royal Commission is nothing but a mask to hide his Government's cheat-the-people-record and to divert attention from war preparations.

The Communist Party welcomes all opportunities to freely explain its policy and activities, which are already well-known.

A statement issued today on behalf of the Victorian Executive of the Communist Party says this: The statement declares that the real aims of the inquiry are to divert public attention from the Government's war preparations, attacks on wages (witness the recent action against Westinghouse workers), and resistance to a basic wage increase.

The Royal Commission goes side by side with these plans. The capitalists and their "Liberal" Government are preparing to put the burden of the gathering economic crisis on the people.

But the Communists will continue the struggle for peace with all their might, the statement continues.

Exposures of the Government's hopeless bungling of the electricity supply, its policy of increasing prices and encouraging black markets, will be continued by the Party.

There is no term of reference in the Holtway Government's Royal Commission of which we are afraid, nor could there be.

The Royal Commission is no genuine attempt to inquire into Communist policy or activities.

It is part and parcel of a whole series of attacks that this Government has initiated against the democratic rights of citizens, as for example, the film censorship bill, the arrest of street speakers, the prosecution of union leaders, the refusal of the use of town halls.

Mr Holtway himself is witness to the fact that it is no genuine inquiry. We have seen the Royal Commission in the past, in the case of the "Baker" and "Miller" cases, and in moving the second reading of the

Bill to set up the "impartial" Royal Commission, he said: "We all realize that Communism threatens the very basis of society" (Age, May 11).

On April 24, as part of his campaign of intimidation, he said: "There will be some surprises when evidence is called by the State Royal Commission into Communist activities" (Herald, April 24).

In other words, Mr. Holtway is merely using the Royal Commission to further his policy of suppression and intimidation. There is to be no impartial inquiry. As it is clear that Sir Keith Murdoch and his friend Mr. Holtway have hatched this plot against the people, there is no doubt that the daily press and particularly the press that unscrupulously individual Sir Keith Murdoch will continue to misrepresent the proceedings before the Royal Commission.

Therefore, the Communist Party will take special steps to get the truth to the people.

Although the present phase of society has revealed judges deserting their so-called impartiality and openly taking

sides in political matters, the proposed Royal Commission is too big for them. No volunteer was forthcoming from the Victorian Supreme Court Bench. The judge had to be conscripted.

The Labor Party leadership has once again revealed its entire lack of principle and backbone. In the parliamentary debate there could have been no more pathetic spectacle than that of the so-called Labor members.

These people have abandoned the rank and file members of the Labor Party to their fate, for, assuredly the sneering and intimidation of the Royal Commission will not be confined to Communists.

The Communist Party calls on all its members the whole Labor Movement and on all citizens to throw this Royal Commission right back into the teeth of the Holtway Government, to use the Commission to expound and protect the great principles of freedom, and democratic traditions of the Australian people and through it to deal a blow against this Government from which it will never recover.

# "LADY TOLD ME TO SAY IT WAS HIM," GIRL TELLS COURT

COLLAPSE of the police "case" against Mr. Miller at Richmond Court followed the breakdown of the story the girl had been told to tell.

Here is how the evidence unfolded:—

Prosecutor: Do you remember Tuesday evening? You and your brother were going somewhere?—Yes.

(Later she admitted that she did not know the days of the week.)

Where did you go? To get some loaves. Did you come home along Elm Grove? Yes.

Did a man speak to you? Can you see the man's coat? The little girl turned around and pointed at Mr. Miller.

And later: Prosecutor: What furniture was in the room? A bed, a low bed, piano and wardrobe.

How did you get on the bed? I went and lied on it.

The Prosecutor then, with questions, got the little girl to describe the alleged offence.

After this the little girl described how she went home and told her brother Edward about it. Here her evidence was inconsistent—first she said she saw Edward inside the house then she said it was outside. It was at this stage that she made her outburst: "I couldn't get off the lavatory."

The frame-up first showed out when Mr. Cullity cross-examined the girl about the time that elapsed between when she told her grandmother what had happened and when the police were seen. This is how it went:

Mr. Cullity: You knew on the day it happened where the man lived? Yes.

And your grandmother spoke to you the next day? Did she ask if you knew where the man lived? Yes.

And did you say no? No.

Yes, but when grandma asked you the next day what did you say? I said I knew.

Well, did grandma say "Come down and show me where it is"? Yes.

And did you tell grandma it was in Elm Grove? Yes.

Grandma did not take you down to the place, did she? No.

At no time before you saw the police? No.

At this stage the little girl said she had seen three doctors on different days. She also admitted that she had often played with her brother around the block of flats in which Mr. Miller lives.

The little girl said she used to stand on a window sill (Mr. Miller's window is on street level) and look through at the man and lady. The man, of course, was Mr. Miller.

She also said it was because she had looked through the window that she knew there was a piano, a wardrobe and a low bed in the room.

The little girl also admitted that she used to knock on the doors of the flats and that one day before Easter Mr. Miller had given her some fruit and told her to go home.

It was on this day that she had knocked on his door.

The whole story broke down when Mr. Cullity asked: When you told Edward (the little girl's brother) the night the thing happened that the man put you on a tall bed, that was true, wasn't it? Yes.

Then it was not this low bed where the man gave you fruit that you were put on? No.

And the room where the man gave you fruit has got only one bed? The low one? Yes.

So seeing that you told Edward that it was the tall bed where the man put you on, it wasn't that room at all, where this man lives (indicating Miller) was it? No.

Perhaps it did not happen in Elm Grove at all? No answer.

Now, see that man (indicating Mr. Miller), that's not the man whose bed you were on, is it? No.

You are telling me the truth aren't you? Yes.

Did anyone tell you to say it was that man? Someone told me to say it.

Who? A lady.

After cross-examination the magistrate asked the prosecutor if he wished the court to hear other witnesses.

Prosecutor: I have no other material evidence implicating the accused.

He added that it was useless going on with the case owing to the position it had been reduced to by the child's evidence.

# Innocent Men Treated As Criminals

ALTHOUGH innocent, Mr. Miller had to spend five days in jail.

Innocent, he spent five days in jail. Innocent, he was subject to the humiliating and soul-destroying monotony of prison routine, involving the loss of all his rights as a human being.

Marched from a cell at 7 a.m. to be locked in a yard with nothing to do but to tramp endlessly back and forth.

Locked up in a cell again in solitary confinement at 4 p.m., with a few torn magazines for "entertainment" until lights-out at 8.30 p.m.

Cut off from the outside world, from newspapers, from friends, from all help.

No visitors permitted at week-ends.

Only two visits permitted in one week. And what visits! A warden sits behind grilles two feet apart, through which the visitor is seen as through a double veil. A few words, and then: "Time's up!"

Innocent, framed, but unable to fight back, hemmed in by prison walls. He knows that powerful forces will destroy him if he can make the charge stick. It is a heavy charge. It is a silly charge.

What could a man do about it, confined in four walls?

Mr. Miller says he knew his friends, his party comrades were fighting back outside giving him strength.

But what of a man who had no friends, standing alone?

IS THIS "MATTER OF JUSTICE"?