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Home Truths About The War

In the Federal House at Canberra last Friday a U.A.P. member laid the charge that those parliamentarians who are opposing Australia's declaration of neutrality towards the present war are anti-British. As the policy of this paper is very decidedly against any form of participation in the war, it may be taken for granted that the same charge would also be levelled against us by all those fervid, up-to-the-hilt patriots whose mature age or indispensability on the home front induces such bellicose courage in them at present. We therefore hasten to make our Profession of faith.

Are we anti-British? If loyalty to Britain means that we are content to see Australian workers pay a tribute of £10 millions a year to such Britishers as are represented by Mr. P. C. Holmes Hunt's Colonial Gas shareholders—of whom we had something to say last week—then we are most decidedly anti-British. If it means that we are content to cheat the Germans, French, Belgians, Japanese and Italians of a fair return for the trade they give us in order that we may accumulate funds in London to pay perpetual toll to the British bankers, then we are strongly anti-British. If it means that we are content to see the people of this country lower their standard of living to coolie level in order to suit the policy of the privately owned Bank of England (as expressed to us by those two great Britishers, Otto Ernst Neimeyer and Theodor Emmanuel Guggenheim Gregory), then we are emphatically anti-British. If our loyalty to Britain requires assent to the proposition of R. G. Menzies that a declaration of war by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland automatically means that Australia declares war, then we are violently anti-British.

But in dissenting from these and similar things we are not nearly so anti-British as those who subscribe to them are anti-Australian. We will go further and say this: We have the utmost sympathy towards those two million unemployed British workers and their dependents for whose sufferings R. G. Menzies had so little compassion as recently to declare that "the general impression in England was one of great prosperity." Had we anything to do with the administration of Britain we would give to every one of these poor people enough money to buy an ample sufficiency of those commodities which are either produced in England or easily exchangeable for English products abroad. Or if the Bank of England was still the

"FALL IN AND FOLLOW" — WHOM?

power overshadowing the throne, and if those English gentlemen directing it (who bear such fine old county names as Goschen) declared that there was plenty of money in existence already, and no need for more, then we should not hesitate to take them at their word and to tax the British bankers and monopolists right up to the point at which every family in England, working or not working, had an income of at least five or six pounds a week for a start. We should do this even if it meant leaving the Goschens and the Samuels and the Isaacs and so on a beggarly few thousand a year apiece.

This is our profession of faith. Does it not entitle us to claim that we are loyal to whom our first loyalty is due—to Australia—and that, as for Britain, we are more British than the British themselves?

Let us proceed to discuss the war.

SANCTIONS FOR ITALY—NONE FOR JAPAN

What is the reason for the British bankers (England's real rulers) being so concerned over Abyssinia? Why have they strained every nerve to induce League action against Italy when they merely shrugged their shoulders over similar action by Japan against the Chinese of Manchukuo?

This question was answered in the Federal House a few days ago by R. G. Casey, the gentleman who proclaimed himself a bankers' aide-de-camp when last month he made his historic triple denial of our public credit in the hour before cockcrow at Creswick Manchukuo, said Mr. Casey, was very different from the present dispute, as Japan virtually had been in possession of that country long before hostilities began.

Exactly. And before hostilities began in Africa the British bankers had in that country

virtually been in possession of Egypt, the Sudan, British Somaliland, Uganda, Kenya, Tanganyika Territory, Nyasaland, Northern and Southern Rhodesia, Bechuanaland, the Union of South Africa and its South West African mandate, the British Cameroons, Nigeria, Ashanti, Sierra Leone and Gambia. Not the whole of Africa, certainly, but a very sizeable slice of it, and incidentally comprising—except for the small settlement of French Somaliland, and the two poor coastal strips of Italian Somaliland and Eritrea—the whole area surrounding Abyssinia. By the same logic which assigned Manchukuo to Japan, therefore,

The discovery that there are still oil companies prepared to advance their private gain under the cloak of anonymity, careless of the effect their actions may have upon the peace of the whole world, is enough to confirm the very worst suspicions of "oil diplomacy" which have ever been uttered.

—"The Economist," Sept 7.

Abyssinia was to be regarded as fair game for exploitation by the British bankers. Hence the outcry over Mussolini.

"WISE AND PATIENT RULE."

We will be told, however, that it is unfair to drag up past history. The British bankers may have seized control over these countries. But that was in the long ago. It was—as long ago as when they got their hands on so much rich African territory at Versailles. It was as long ago as the last war. Could it be more recent than the most recent war? We are told, again, that British bankers are wise rulers of the native races. They even give them, if the races are numerous

enough (and the territories are rich enough) their own personal attention. Has not a British banker, and a titled one at that, just been appointed Viceroy of India (note the modesty that contents itself with that word "Viceroy")?

Let us look into this wise and patient rule a little. We do not propose to comment again on what, we have previously noted in these columns. We do not propose to say anything at all about the way in which at this very moment tanks and bombs are being wisely and patiently used to reconcile the Mohmands of the Indian North West Frontier to the ways of British finance. Those peculiar people, from what the daily press tells us, take a glory in fighting, and so it may be that tanks and bombers simply denote an indulgent humoring of native hobbies. In any case, they are mere Indians. They are not Africans. Let us look at how the native Africans are treated under the same financial administration.

In its issue of September 6 the "Manchester Guardian Weekly"—a paper that no one can accuse of being anti-British—contains a report of certain court proceedings in the Union of South Africa, which are rather illuminating. A farmer, a white man, was convicted of flogging four natives. "One of the victims, a man of sixty," says the "Guardian," "was so beaten with a sjambok that he could scarcely stand. Of another, a woman, the medical evidence stated that 'there was scarcely a part of her body that was not covered with weals.' The magistrate in passing sentence said to the accused: 'You treat your natives, who are also human beings, worse than any native I have ever seen treat his animals. I cannot understand that you are a human being.'"

That sounds fine, doesn't it, that righteous indignation of the magistrate? Wait a minute. How did

the indignant magistrate punish this brutal violator of the code of wisdom and patience towards the native Africans? Did he sentence him to five years' hard labour and a flogging?

The magistrate inflicted a fine of £15, or £3/15/- per flogging!

Commenting on the case, the "Cape Times" said it cannot be denied that such outbreaks of barbarity continue to occur with disgraceful frequency. And the Johannesburg "Star" stated that it would not be difficult to compile over a period of years a list "of formidable length and revolting in detail which would be a pretty poor advertisement of our reputation for justice and humanity."

SLAVERY IN AUSTRALIA

Wisdom and patience towards the native races!

We Australians, pioneering another debt to British finance, have seized our own country from native races. We also admit barbarous treatment of them in the past. But not today; oh, no!

Still, charges have been made that, under the Australian flag, the most revolting of all kinds of slavery is being openly carried on in the islands above Darwin—charges that young native girls are being sold into prostitution to the Japanese and Malaysians who frequent those coasts. Could there be a more horrible crime laid at our door? And what have those great upholders of British finance, Mr. Lyons, the Prime Minister; Mr. Menzies, charged under oath to administer the laws with equal justice towards all; Sir George Pearce, who has the sacred obligations of knighthood; and all the rest of our Cabinet—what have all these men, who are so quick to render lip service to honour and patriotism, what have they done to wipe this stain from our honour? They have sent a solitary policeman from Darwin to have a look into the matter, if he has time. If he has time, then our little native girls may continue to be sold, body and soul, to satisfy the

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The Hon. E. L. Kiernan, M.L.C.,
Parliament House, Melbourne, and
C/o Kiernan & Co., Bourke St., Melbourne.

Dear Mr. Kiernan,

We were very, pleased to see you make in the Legislative Council last week a strong protest against the iniquitous toll of interest extracted from the Australian people by those whom you very truly described as "the particular oligarchy which is controlling the financial affairs of the British nation." In the course of an impassioned speech to the House you calculated that our present rate of interest, at an average of 4½ per cent, sterling, is equal to about 6 per cent, including exchange; and that 6 per cent, allowing for the fall in commodity prices, is equivalent to something like 9 per cent. You then went on to say that, taking into consideration the drop in our national income, this in turn is equivalent to about 14 per cent, in pre-1929 terms.

Is your arithmetic quite sound, Mr. Kiernan, in including that last part? Have you not already allowed for the drop in the national income when calculating the fall in commodity prices? Let us at least be fair to the bondholders.

However, 14 per cent, reminds us of an interest charge nearer home. Is it not a fact that, while the Hon. E. L. Kiernan is protesting against usury in the Legislative Council, Kiernan & Co., of Bourke St., Melbourne, are

selling goods to the public on time payment and charging interest at a rate per annum which, by an extraordinary coincidence, means that purchasers are called upon to pay 14 per cent, interest on the company's outlay, 14 per cent interest on its profit, and 14 per cent interest on the interest on both? Besides which, is there not a "K" cash order and small loan business in the background?

We do not bring this up out of a desire to be unpleasantly personal, but for the following reason: In making your speech in the House you went out of your way to introduce an altogether irrelevant and quite uncalled-for attack on Social Credit. Hansard reports you as saying: "I am not advocating the wiping out of any debt we owe; I am not advocating any system such as that of Douglas Credit. Whilst the evils of the day are to a very great extent such as have been pointed out by enthusiastic supporters of the Douglas Credit system, the remedies which they propose are altogether fallacious, and I do not believe in them." Perhaps, Mr. Kiernan, you might on another occasion be a little more specific and indicate to the House just how and why these remedies are "altogether fallacious." In that case we shall be happy to answer your definite charges with something equally definite—as we have done in this little matter of interest rates.

THE NEW TIMES

Dental Treatment is Not Provided For in the Basic Wage or the Dole

The result is that the majority of the population have decay and pyorrhoea. The "National Dividend" would make available to everyone his heritage of (a) health, (b) education, and (c) sustenance in their fullest sense. In the meantime, dental science has produced (A) the only University proven antiseptic toothpaste in the world:

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Bestialities of Malayan pirates. Such, when the acid test is applied, is the Christianity of the Right Honourable Joseph Aloysius Lyons; of the Honourable Robert Gordon Menzies, King's Counsel; of Senator the Right Honourable Sir George Foster Pearce, Privy Councillor, Knight Commander of the Royal Victorian Order; of the Honourable Richard Gardiner Casey, Companion of the Distinguished Service Order and recipient of the Military Cross; of the Right Honourable William Morris Hughes, Privy Councillor, King's Counsel, and Minister specifically charged with the responsibility for the health of the people. Such is the honour of, the whole gang who are pledging Australia's loyalty to League of Nations' ideals—otherwise to the power and the profits of the Montagu Normans, whose family tree goes back to a Russian Jewess of Archangel; of the Niemeyers, the Guggenheims, the Goschens, and all their ilk. And if anyone dares to utter a word of protest he is unpatriotic, he is anti-British.

THE OIL CONCESSION MYSTERY

Is it unpatriotic, one wonders, to doubt the latest official version of the Abyssinian activities of the mysterious F. W. Rickett? Does one have to accept as gospel every statement from His Majesty's Government, and to discount as a bundle of lies every statement from his Majesty's Opposition?

The first story of the great oil and mineral concession granted to Mr. Rickett indicated a very active interest by British financiers. Upon an outcry being raised, this was denied, and the world was told that the financial interests were purely American.

What is the history of F. W. Rickett? It is very similar in many ways to that of Lawrence of Arabia, the other secret agent for British oil in the Near East. For a good many years he has been looked upon as a mystery man in the City of London. He does not appear as a director of companies, yet he lives as a very wealthy man, and he is closely associated with the great financiers. He has a magnificent mansion in Berkshire. He owns Amroth Castle, in Pembrokehire, the former home of Lord Kysant. He has spent long periods in the Near East obtaining British oil concessions. Two years ago Feisal, whose appointment as King of Iraq rewarded the efforts of Lawrence and his associates and made that country safe for British oil, visited England. King Feisal was the guest of Mr. Rickett during part of his stay in England. And now we are informed that F. W. Rickett, master of the Craven hunt, owner of British castles, secret negotiator for British oil interests, entertainer of British oil's puppet king, has suddenly, while living in England, transferred his patriotic and well rewarded activities to further the cause of

American oil against Britain in probably the greatest deal of his career. Such disloyalty of a secret service agent is difficult to believe. We prefer to think better of Mr. Rickett.

Why the announcement of the concession in the first place? Was it a bad slip? A newspaper coup? Was it deliberately done by Haile Selassie? Was it a feeler sent out? We don't know. But one thing is definite, and that is that the announcement followed upon Mussolini's declaration at Bolzano that Italy was ready to observe all British interests in Abyssinia. Let us leave it at that.

WHO PROFITS?

In view of all these things can our flag-wagging and bank-admiring patriots at Canberra wonder that the Australian people, much as they dislike Mussolini's horrible activities—horrible both to the unfortunate people of Italy and to the unfortunate people of Abyssinia—are overwhelmingly against being implicated in this sordid war? Can they wonder that the Australian people smile grimly to themselves as they read the Stock Exchange reports these days, as they note the rise in the price of base metals—as they note, for instance, how Broken Hill South rose 8/- last week, how North Broken Hill rose 8/-, how Zinc Corporation rose 7/9, how copper reached its highest level for several years? Just consider the connections of these companies for a moment. Broken Hill South has its headquarters in Collins House, Melbourne, and its directors include Sir Colin Fraser, Sir David Gordon and Major General F. G. Hughes. North Broken Hill is located in Collins Gate, the annexe of Collins House, and its directors include M. H. Baillieu, M. L. Baillieu, Sir David Gordon and W. S. Robertson. Zinc Corporation's headquarters are in London, where W. S. Robinson is managing director, with C. L. Baillieu as a co-director; its Melbourne office is Collins House, and the local board embraces W. A. Watt, Sir Colin Fraser and M. L. Baillieu. And in copper the Mount Lyell Company is also located in Collins House, with Colin Templeton, P. C. Holmes Hunt, K. M. Niall and D. York Syme on the board; while the chairman of the London board is A. Williamson, who is also chairman of the E.S. & A. Bank and other British financiers' concerns operating in Australia.

Look into these connections and ask yourself who profits by war. Ask yourself who suffers by it. Ask yourself how many of those who profit by it do any sentry go in the trenches. Ask yourself how many of the gentlemen enumerated above are likely to shoulder a rifle or don a gas mask.

Then fall in and follow—THEM. And until they go, let us send a policeman to look into matters—if he has time.

MENU FOR A REAL BANQUET

By B. J. BOOTHROYD, in "Reynold's Illustrated News."

"We Are Eating More," says the "Daily Express." That is good news for those who were under the impression that they were eating less, and shows what a liar your stomach can be.

"Britain," says the article, "is rapidly becoming a nation of large eaters. We are eating 9,246,575 pounds a day more than we did 10 years ago." That means about 3½ ounces a day each. So mind you don't stick a pin in yourself.

There is no denying this increase of eats. It has been proved by figures. Let us come to the details of your statistical orgy. Your consumption of butter has arisen from 15½ lb to 25½ lb a year, or nearly half a pound a week. You are oozing grease—don't touch me. Again: "Every two-legged animal in Britain eats one six-legged animal every year. In other words, one and a half four-legged animals."

You ate 150 eggs last year, you hog, compared with 116 in 1924-27. (A Voice: "I never, I ain't 'ad a negg since ") Peace! Here are the figures—150 eggs per head. Have you no head? If you have a head you ate 150 eggs. If you did not eat 150 eggs you have no head, only a large onion. I leave you to choose.

To continue: "We eat more chicken than we used to." Some people deny that they ever have chicken. That is to deny that they are British. For the British are eating more chicken, so people who say they never eat chicken must be foreigners, the cads.

EVERY ONE OF US

As for fruit, you are crawling with vitamins. "We each (not just some of us, mind you, but each of us) eat 144 oranges a year; 36 more than we did 10 years ago." And if you didn't know that, it shows how absent-minded you must be, letting 144 oranges slide down your neck without noticing them. It accounts for the prevalence of indigestion.

And so the tale of guzzling goes on. Many people deny that they eat all this. They say these figures are the average and that they are below the average. They say the increase in the average national diet has been brought up by the amount spent on other two-legged animals, such as £3/15/1 a week for "Mona" and "Mok," the two young gorillas in the Zoo, and £1/16/3 a week for "Boo-Boo" the chimpanzee and her daughter "Jubilee," while they themselves, are on the scale of diet worked out in the Report of the Ministry of Health Committee on Nutrition (5/10½ a week for an adult).

I agree that if the unemployed are living on that scale it may be difficult to make them believe that they are eating all those eggs and animals. This is an age of unbelief, and the unemployed are particularly atheistic in regard to the chickens they eat.

They do not know, when they eat their daily lunch of a pennorth of peanuts, that statistics prove they may be eating chicken. And when you ask them how many oranges they eat a year they say the answers a lemon per head.

They may, of course, be sincere. They may honestly believe they don't eat all that. If that is so, all I can say is that they do no regard their meals in the right light.

These people should give a little more thought to the relation between the individual and the nation. They regard their meals from too personal a standpoint. They are egotistical

when they should be 150 eggostatistical, if you see what I mean.

JUST FORGET IT.

It is all a matter of Right Thinking. If you feel you are not eating enough, suppress your idiosyncrasies and be an average man. Sink the personal in the national; forget you are William Briggs; remember only that you are one per head of the British population, which has increased its diet. That will reduce that sinking feeling. Mix a little statistics with the gravy, stir to a thin paste, and the scrag end will come out a chicken. Remember the slogan, "Where's George? Gone to statistics!"

Therefore my message to those who suffer from night-starvation in the daytime is: "Get Average-Conscious! Live a Nobler and More Statistical Life!"

When you sit down to meals and find there's only bread and marge, then remember that you are England, which eats one and one-eighth ounces of butter a day. Say to yourself, "Who dies if England lives? Who starves if England eats?"

And if that doesn't do the trick, borrow a mousetrap and catch yourself a bit of supper. That will bring you up to the average, for a mouse has four legs.

THE CHILD MIND

By D IZZIE

A recently formed Child Psychology Society intends to investigate all phases of the child mind. Its first inquiries will include deceit, theft, exaggeration, shamming sickness, defiance, aggressiveness, temper, cruelty, destructiveness, jealousy, inferiority feelings, nervousness, phantasy, dreams, subconscious conflicts and despondency. The founder of the society explained that its first object is to collect all information and place it within the reach of all, so it behoves us to help him in such a laudable object.

In the first place we would like to point out to him that it is not essential for him to study children only in order to discover the workings of the child mind. Many a childish mind is encased in an adult skull, as can easily be proved by a study of the speeches and writings of the majority of our politicians and economists. It is not suggested that every mind cursed with one or more of the above attributes is childish—far from it. Some of them are the unwelcome inhabitants of most minds. Can any of the unemployed be blamed for being despondent, or anyone in work for being nervous? Dreams are all that is left to most of us, and inferiority feelings our common possession in times of financial stress.

The deceit, exaggeration and jealousy of politicians are well known, and the phantasies and subconscious conflicts of economists are daily becoming more apparent.

The cruelty and destructiveness of our economic system is recognised as absurd and wanton, yet with what childlike faith the majority cling to the system and reverence its controllers. These are not children, although they exhibit the childish qualities of mind enumerated. Consequently they are outside the scope of this inquiry.

It is their puppets and hirelings, the politicians and economists who carry out their works and know not what they do, who have the child mind. Consider their plans for growing more wheat and how they turned that increase in wealth into bankruptcy for the producer. Was that deceit? Then to get out of the mess they shammed that the country was sick. We had an abundance of goods but no money, so the world was sick.

Then followed the Premiers' Plan with its cruelty and destructive.

BOOKS ON MONETARY REFORM

Why Poverty in the Midst of Plenty? By the Dean of Canterbury	8d.
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An Outline of Social Credit. By H.M.M.	1/1
Poverty Amidst Plenty. By C. Galloway	10d.
Democracy at the Cross Roads. By L. H. Holling	4/-
The Douglas Manual	7/6

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structiveness. The phantasy of work more, spend less, produce more, control of production, restriction, sabotage, spend wisely export more, import less and of substituting more for less and less for more as the plan struggled along. We have laughed at the child who prefers the penny instead of the three-penny bit on account of its size, but what have we to say of those who have made money the object of life and reject real wealth because it does not fit in with their ideas of bookkeeping? What child would refuse cake and take the bag it was wrapped in?

The Rt. Hon. Reginald McKenna said: "They who control the credit of a nation direct the policies of governments and hold in the hollow of their hand the destinies of the people." It is only the childish qualities of those controllers that prevents everyone from sharing in the abundance about us. Fear that they will lose power, and selfishness that will not allow others to have what they do not need. What does it matter to them if their puppets and hirelings make fools of themselves with their childish deceptions? When their usefulness is over they can be replaced. We are to blame, for it is our childish innocence and faith that enable them to get away with it.

It would be better for the society to cure us of this, as they will probably find that the children are only aping their elders.

A Mincing lane report states that the total purchase of coffee for the deliberate purpose of destruction, down to the end of May 1935, amounted to 49,842,450 bags worth £70,000,000.

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THE LAUGH OF THE PAPER GOD: "INSURANCE"

By GLADYS F. BING, in "Prosperity" (London).

"Prosperity" recently quoted a sentence from a Trade Union leader's speech: "Women are not an insurable proposition." The meaning was that no matter how much is paid by them into the Insurance Company via the Trade Union funds, women would always be sick enough to draw the whole of it out again. As bad as the fire-raisers, in fact! Absolutely no chance of a rake-off for financiers of any sort!

Once again women's unreasonable behaviour has forced the exasperated male to blow the gaff, namely — if you want out of an insurance company all that you have deposited with it you are an insolvent nuisance and quite uninsurable.

This, of course, applies to men also. But men, being more amenable to the bankers' bunkum called sound finance, never press their claims to an extent likely to incommode the Insurance Companies. Men become more and more and better and better "organised" in the interests of nuance.

It was a Trade Unionist who thus exposed the pathetic delusion, which lies behind the dream-security of Trade Unionism. It is Labor party socialists who fill their programmes of reform with every sort of insurance scheme for the amelioration of the hard lot of their supporters. They clamour for the organisation of all classes of workers into Trade Unions. They offer all Sorts of contributory "benefits" and pensions to the sick, aged, and industrially superfluous. All of the benefits to be contributed directly by the half-fed worker himself, or indirectly by the taxation of the few who will charge him for it on the price of his consumed goods.

APPEAL TO FIGURES

The sincerity of the Labor Party is not to be doubted. The sincerity of the good Socialist who advocated a pension of £1 a week at sixty is only to be matched by the colossal modesty of his claim and his innocence of financial methods. But this sincere ignorance cannot maintain a logical stand against his opponents' objection that all these social reforms cost too much money. Both advocate and opponent rush into argument on figures; figures of census, figures of contributions, figures of taxation, any sort of figures, but never the actual facts of the provision of wealth for needy people. Indeed, the supporters and opponents of all insurance schemes argue on the basis of the same banker's bunkum; that needy people cannot consume an adequate supply of eggs, bacon, boots and trips to Margate, unless somebody first "contributes," or is taxed, a weekly pound note from the already short ration allowed us by Mr. Montagu Norman.

Thus, while sincere Socialists try to make it plain to the Chamberlains of this life that the only way to provide for sickness and old age is contributory or taxed benefits, just so long can the Opponent prove that the "scheme will cost too much money." In just the same way the Home Office has told us that to provide concrete shelters for security against air raids will cost

too much money and no Socialist has dared to declare that concrete shelters are not built of paper (money) but by means of cement, stone, water, machines and men — of which we have an embarrassing glut. What both sides fail to see is that nobody really perishes for lack of paper. People perish from want of food and shelter—of which there is abundance.

INSURANCE A PART OF FINANCE

No social reform can be based upon insurance. For insurance is an integral and pernicious part of the financial confidence trick called Banking and Investment. It is as iniquitous as the present manipulation of financial credit and the security of starvation and crime, for insurance is perpetrated on humanity's gnawing anxiety and Fear. Fear of hunger — unemployment contributions; Fear of the cost of illness — health insurance stamps; Fear of the employer's power—Trade Union contributions; fear of fire, fear of loss, fear of the cost of death, fear of workmen's accidents. Building Societies are insurance built on fear of landlordism. Hire purchase is insurance built on fear of missing one's share of the goods in the shops.

Is there a soul in these islands who is not thus insured, sometimes two, three and four-fold? This financial grip on our lives is colossal and omnipotent because of our fear of scarcity in a world bulging with produce.

WHERE THE PAYMENTS GO.

Now where do all these insurance payments go? The weekly contributions of the Trade Union worker, the stamps of the poor little typist, the premiums of the harassed householder? They go to the great insurance companies who are eternally "investing" the money, that is to say, buying and selling securities. What are securities? Securities are large holdings of capital equipment, such as a big business concern like a chain of stores, a block of flats, a city like Cardiff, or any business undertaking that is paying a dividend.

Thus the Socialist who advocates contributory pensions, the Trade Unionist who believes in buying by instalments his future right to strike against capitalism —draws the means of striking from the profit-taking capitalism he denounces. Morally, he is shoulder to shoulder with the "parasite" who draws a dividend as a shareholder. He obtains his strike pay, his sick benefit from the same capitalistic, sweating source. (There is, indeed, a great block of foully sweating shops solely in the possession of the great insurance company, which specialises in health insurance. They pay an enormous dividend —cited by Socialists as an example of the crime, of profit taking).

So, because of his blind and idiotic faith in the social service of insurance the worker is tied up in, bound, gagged and stunned by the financial system which uses him as it uses his "enemy" the capitalist: to find work for the worker, to find "capital" for the capitalist and charge them both with the "cost" of it.

TRADE-UNION FUNDS AND BANKER-RULE.

The value of the insurance companies' securities decides the value of the Trade Union funds, and the Bank decides to half-a-crown how much strike-pay shall be available and to half-an-hour how long any strike can last.

No wonder the banker laughs!

This meek submission by the worker's political executives to the despotic tyranny of banker-rule is sounding the death-knell of democracy throughout the world. Democracy, the ideal, can never become a fact while the social reforms of the people's political parties are bound up in Insurance.

Insurance cannot exist side by side with security and plenty. It can only fatten on human Fear. Its great offices are temples to suffering and insecurity; its premiums are the sacrifices of our present genuine needs, and its "benefits" are but the rotten fragment of bait on the end of the hook that catches more of us.

And the god who presides in the temple is not even a solid god. It is a god of paper—paper promissory notes—and it laughs to see the workers scrounging pence from the housekeeping-money to pay their dues towards the fight against capitalism.

Insurance is Capitalism. How then will insurance fight against itself?

The insurance companies' balance sheet will control and determine the Trade Union balance sheet, and both will show figures of bits of paper. Yet when the miner comes out on strike his hungry stomach will not cry for paper, but for bread and meat and milk. And when he has been on strike long enough to exhaust the sum of figures on the balance sheet there will still be a glut of bread and meat and milk. But

he will have no claim to the food because the bank will say he may claim no more bits of paper. Thus, by his acceptance of the insurance system his logical attitude will be to starve silently while Insurance can lay a steak-and-kidney pudding on his grave.

FUTURE AND PRESENT

Trade Unionism and Socialism while in fact and in theory pledged and handcuffed to insurance schemes are not and never can be democracy, equality, liberty and fraternity. To pay stamps to a capitalist company that promises limited paper in a distant future while today we starve in the midst of plenty is no British people's political policy. It is the moonshine madness begotten of heeding the banker's bunkum about future security.

Sane action would be to acclaim the produce, which is available now. Ask for its distribution now.

There is no food in the gum licked off the back of an insurance stamp that promises food in an improbable future. The markets are glutted now. National Dividend paper can be printed now and given to desperate people now.

Socialists and Trade Unionists must leave the Insurance bankers to lick off the gum of the future. Food goes bad if it is not eaten now. Demand the National Dividend and eat—now, and stop that god of paper laughing his long, last laugh.

AS OTHERS SEE US

By WILLIAM BLACKSTONE

I have received the following letter from a Tokio correspondent:

Honored Sir: Have felt impelled to communicate in writing despite ignorance of English language rendering expression of good-will sentiments difficult, and circumscribing (too much) powers of evasion possessed by, say, Australian Cabinet Minister.

With sincere delight perused New Year's list of "Honors," and see Hon. Latham, John, now benighted. Much access of pleasure, still more to read in Melbourne "Herald" (for fifth time) that Honorable Latham, John, Sir, now more honorable than when politician—being now Judge. Writer highly regards Hon. Sir John. Have read in "Who's What" how Hon. Sir John accompanied Hon. Sir Joe Cook in capacity of Commander in Hon. Navy. Have been informed said Hon. Sir John became said Commander overnight—no previous experience necessary. True says lamented and great English poet, Hon. Gilbert, William, Sir,

"Stick close to Hon. desk and avoid bounding main,
"And you all may live to do very good for hon. selves in future many times again."

Have vivid recollection of Hon. Latham on goodwill mission. Personally saw Hon. gent, produce large bundle of papers containing sentiments of goodwill. Presumed same to be title deeds of large segment of Northern Territory, but assured by Hon. Latham that not that type of goodwill, but same comprised fulsome greetings from mayors of Melbourne, Mirboo North, Wagga, Jindivick East and Ding Bat. Said papers now adorn walls of saloon bar of "Goose and Turnip," Tokio. Effect very devastating.

Personally showed Hon. Latham Japanese fleet comprising nine battleships, thirty-four cruisers, ninety-six destroyers, fifty-seven submarines, etc. Hon. Latham thereupon expressed supreme pleasure at non-interference by League of Nations with legitimate expansion of Japan. Hon. Latham indicated probably stern attitude

by England, Lyons, Young Gnats, et al, if any funny business by Italy. Hon. Latham informs us Italian fleet not half our size.

It statement true that Hon. John, Sir, now Judge, please forward hearty and mendacious congratulation. Deliver same to nearest Banking, Insurance or Trustee Company or to secretary of local branch of Young Gnats for transmission. Have feeling report may be hoax and not a carrying out of "Herald" policy, "First with highest and lowest."

Very too much delighted to see newspaper motto lived up to.

Have perused "Argus" of 8/10/35, and see full report of speech by Hon. Lyons to Old Women's Irrational League. Hon. Lyons have state efforts of Hon. Ministry have led to "increased business and unemployment." Some scepticism existent amongst ignorant public as to "increased business." Have nipped snake of ignorance in egg and scotched same in bud by letter to "Tokio Bugle" pointing out:

- (i) Increased national debt of Australian peoples;
- (ii) Consequent sale of ledgers to banks, etc.;

'Phone: F 1996.

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Opposition and ignorant criticism now stifled and no more regarded than in your hon. country.

Have perused with interest question of inquiry into banking and noted names of Hon. citizens who will conduct same. Have further suggestion: If any hon. citizen charged with murder and desirable he not hang by neck suggest no trial by estimable jury but inquiry by convicted murderers. If suggestion approved by Hon. Cabinet would expect nominal fee for making same.

Not too more at present until more laughable news from your too funny land. If I do not hear from you again it will be too soon.

Yours for a bigger and brighter trade in Christmas junk.

SOITCHI ITURTS.

(In the belief that my correspondent must have misinterpreted the purport of the Prime Minister's remarks to the A.W.N.L., I have referred to the "Argus" of 8/10/35. The report of Mr. Lyons's address reads as follows: "Mr. Lyons said that it" (the Ministry) "had established confidence within Australia that had led to increased trade and commerce, and increased business and unemployment." My correspondent has dealt with the "business"; "unemployment" speaks for itself; now I wonder what the "trade and commerce" might be? C —W.B.)

THE WAY OF DICTATORS

In Soviet Russia the people are called upon to make an additional loan of 3,500,000,000 roubles during 1935 for "capital investment." This is equivalent to about three weeks' pay. In Germany a drastic levy of one billion marks has been laid this year on industry. This money is to be used to form a big dumping pool from which exports may be subsidised. It would appear that the dictators in both countries have substituted "scorpions for whips."
—"Prosperity."

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Extra Trousers and Economic s

At first sight the two subjects of our title may not seem to have much in common, for the first may be taken as signs of plenty, while the second has been well named the science of scarcity. In the person of the Honourable J. P. Jones, Member of the Legislative Council of Victoria, however, the two have a common meeting ground.

Monetary reformers will always have a soft spot in their hearts for Mr. J. P. Jones, for they cannot forget that he was one of the pioneers in Melbourne of the National Dividend idea when, as J. P. Jones the tailor, he so extensively advertised the extra pair of trousers that was given free with every J. P. Jones suit. So compelling was the idea that even today, when the tailoring trade has become another scalp on the belt of the Chosen Race, we still find numbers of these keen business men constrained to give their customers the extra pair of trousers for nothing. Or so they say.

But time hath its revenges, and its whirligigs have tossed Mr. Jones, via the backs of the workers (both literally and metaphorically), into a Conservative corner of the Conservative House of Parliament. And from that dignified retreat Mr. Jones, with all the knowledge of another foreign tour fresh upon him, electrified the world last week with his latest views upon finance, taxation and the public credit.

Beyond the passing remark that his plea for still more taxes — "Australia would improve her financial reputation greatly if she increased her taxation" — will hardly add to Mr. Jones's popularity amongst his latest political cronies, we wish here to advert only to that part of his oration which concerned itself with finance.

Mr. Jones, as befits a newly returned tourist, was mainly concerned with the state of our finances as they appeal to people in the best circles abroad. He explained with great care that our overseas loans do not really come from the millionaire bankers, as suspected, but largely from trustees "who act on behalf of beneficiaries, some of whom are unborn." Do you now realise the horrors of repudiation? Not only are you defrauding, as the "Argus" has so often told you, the widow, the orphan and the retired clergyman, but you may, for all you know, be snatching the milk from the mouth of the unborn babe. To be sure, Mr. Jones, with that charming lack of consistency, which he has displayed during his long political career, did admit that on one occasion, when he was in the Ministry, a loan was raised in a different fashion. Let him tell his own story:

"The loan could not be refloated in England. I know that because I handled the cables dealing with the matter. An English bank represented in this State took over the loan, and the whole transaction was completed in Melbourne in 24 hours. The authority concerned is indebted to that bank today, and will remain indebted to it until the loan is paid off." Exactly.

But it was in his philosophy of money that Mr. Jones was most surprising. "The greatest mistake many of us make," he said, "is to regard money as something quite different from any other commodity, whereas money is a commodity just the same as butter, cheese, beef, or anything else, and we have to pay the market price whenever we wish to borrow it."

Sad experience has brought home to most people that the market price has to be paid. But what is this about money being a commodity? If Mr. Jones is right, then the cost of the commodity should be ascertainable just as is the cost of a suit of clothes. Let us test it out.

We have two sorts of money in Australia. The first is what we call legal tender, and includes our Commonwealth notes and our coinage; the second is what is sometimes called our fountain-pen currency, or our bank deposits withdrawable by cheque. The total of the first comes to about £55 millions. The total of the second—which is arrived at by subtracting the legal tender held by the banks from total bank deposits—is about £500 millions.

What is the commodity value of our legal tender? The coinage has a face value of about £7 millions, and is mostly made up of silver. The last Commonwealth Year Book stated that the silver required to produce £3/6/- of coin cost 18/2, so we may take it that the commodity

value of our coinage is about £2 millions. We have a little over £47 millions in Commonwealth notes at their face value. It is understood that notes cost something like two pence a dozen to print, irrespective of their face value. Assuming this cost is correct, and taking into account the total number of notes held by the banks and by the public, their commodity value would be about £20,000. This gives our total legal tender money, with a face value of £55 millions, a commodity value—"just the same as butter, cheese, beef, or anything else"—of only £2,020,000:

But what about our £500 millions of bank deposits in excess of the banks' holdings of legal tender? What is the commodity value of these? It is precisely the value (like Mr. Jones's suits) of material plus workmanship. The material consists of some bank ledgers and some ink—we leave it to a costing expert to determine whether blotting paper should fairly be included. The workmanship consists of the application of clerks' skill to their tools, which in this case are pens. A generous estimate would perhaps assess the whole outfit throughout Australia at a quarter of a million pounds.

So that, if Mr. Jones is right, and if money is the commodity he says it is, the total value of all the money in Australia is well below £3 millions.

Something is wrong somewhere. Will Mr. Jones please enlighten us?

Tee-totally Anti-Tote

At the Baptist conference in Melbourne this week we have had the usual recurrence of those resolutions against strong drink and gambling with which the Council of Churches throughout Australia has so long been identified. Few persons who are reasonably fair minded will question the sincerity of the gentlemen who pass these resolutions at distressingly regular intervals. Still fewer will suggest that they have much first-hand experience either of strong liquors or of gambling. It may be taken; therefore, that the opposition of the Council of Churches arises from certain evil results in the community, which these churchmen ascribe to the aforesaid causes.

We do not deny the evils, but we do very definitely deny that in general either drink or gambling is a root cause, and we would earnestly wish the Council to start its investigations, not from the bar counter or the tote window, but from a stage earlier in the proceedings.

In the first place it will generally be admitted that the average man in an assured position does not give his wife a black eye nor leave his children without sufficient food. The same man will frequently be seen having a noggin or even a modest investment on the tote. Yet he does not as a rule finish up either a drunkard or a gambler. These vices are pretty well restricted to — hateful phrase — the lower classes. And so our good reformers would, whether the lower classes wish it or not, protect them against themselves by Act of Parliament. The only

thing that has not apparently occurred to them is that the lower classes might be completely abolished by Act of Parliament.

By abolition we do not mean to infer anything in the sterilisation line, but merely that it is quite practicable to lift the lower class, en masse, into a higher sphere. For what constitutes our modern distinction of classes? Not education or refinement or anything of that sort; but one thing only, namely, the possession of money. A man getting the basic wage or less is a member of the lower class. Give him three to five or six hundred a year, and you promote him to the middle class. From there to a thousand a year he is graduating through the upper middle class, until four figures give him his passport to the upper class.

That drunkards are lower class creatures is evident from any day's police court reports. Gamblers (pending the desired legislation) may be a little harder to classify, but we would assure the Council of Churches that a well-known colloquialism in Australia is substantially true, and that the majority of race goers, in their own phrase, go there to "get the rent." The racecourse is turned to in desperation by those in economic distress rather than by those who have a sufficient and regular income. The same applies to nearly every other form of gambling. Take card playing in its three most popular forms, poker, solo whist and bridge. The first is essentially a money grabbing game. The second and third are more of intellectual exercises, and to the true card player need no higher a stake than sufficient to penalise the careless or inattentive player. Yet, making the single sweeping exception of our Hebrew brethren, who almost invariably play poker because finance is their hobby as well as their inherited profession, what do you find? There is very little bridge or solo played among the so-called lower classes; there is very little poker played among those who have no bills to worry them.

It seems also to agitate the Council of Churches that money got from gambling (except on the Stock Exchange) is demoralising, since it is obtained without work. Never was there a greater mistake. If the Council finds this hard to believe, let it nominate one delegate to try and pick winners from now till Christmas, and another to sit in to a poker school a couple of nights a week—and then report back.

On one point we are unreservedly in agreement with the Council — that it is a scandal that money should have to be raised for hospitals either by the totalisator or by lotteries. We would go further and say that, when there are almost unlimited supplies of building material and any quantity of machinery and labour available, as well as plenty of foodstuffs for the labourers while they are working, it is a scandal that so-called sovereign governments should be unable to proceed with urgent works for lack of finance — particularly when one considers that finance is only a matter of book entries.

Coming back to our major issue, it amounts to this, that the efforts of the Council of Churches are directed towards increasing virtue by

whittling away still more of our liberties without adding anything to our economic security. We respectfully and very earnestly submit to members that they would achieve their objective more easily and more worthily by adding to the security without subtracting from the liberty.

By concentrating on their present activities they are unwittingly acting as the tools of high finance. If they doubt this, let them put it to the test. Let them come out with the uncompromising demand that every citizen of this country receive as of right full economic security. Then let them see how many distinguished financiers will respond to their invitation to speak at Pleasant Sunday Afternoons.

PERSONAL.

Sir Robert Knox, of Knox, Schlapp and Co., of Collins House, Melbourne, agents in Australia for Vickers - Armstrongs, the great armaments firm, has joined the Victorian board of the Commercial Banking Co. of Sydney.

Shadow Sparring by the Young Nationalists

The long awaited new platform of the Young Nationalist organisation has at length been constructed. As was to be expected, it is the flimsiest of structures, a mere packing-case affair hastily put together to hide the indecent bones of the old U.A.P.

As a literary effort it is quite all right, or sufficiently passable to do no shame to the Rhodes scholarship of Mr. W. S. Kent Hughes. "In the consideration of economic and industrial conditions", says the pronouncement. "We renounce the whole conception of a static condition of society, as postulated in the dogmas of laissez-faire and socialism . . . Modern scientific development has made available productive forces which, if economically exploited, are capable of improving the material well-being of the peoples of the world, and of providing a standard of living superior to that now possessed by great masses of mankind."

As it happens, the great masses of mankind knew all that long before it seems to have dawned upon the reformed Young Nationalists. But let us see what they propose to do about it.

The Young Nats. propose to do a bit of shadow sparring. Their packing-case platform is full of such mouldy old boards as "the progressive improvement of working conditions", and "reduction, where practicable, of working hours" — without any indication of how these highly desirable objectives are to be brought about, except in so far as reference is made to "international agreement through the International Labour Organisation." This would seem to indicate the old "After you" spirit for which the parent body of the Young Nats. has for so long been notorious, and hardly justifies the description of being a new platform.

In one place, however, the Young Nats. do come down to definite proposals. They proclaim themselves in favour of national health insurance, unemployment insurance, and contributory old age and invalid pensions. But what is this except laissez faire (otherwise devil take the hindmost), with a vengeance? Even under our present arrangements the State does, with however ill a grace, accept some sort of a responsibility for the unemployed and the destitute aged and sick.

(Continued on page 8.)

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LOUD SPEAKERS OF THE HIDDEN VOICE—OR STATESMEN?

II—Mr. R. G. Casey

By BRUCE H BROWN

By arrangement with the "Castlemaine Mail."

(Editor's Note.—This is the second of a series of three articles, of which the first appeared in our issue of October 4.)

It is on public record that Mr. R. G. Casey is a member of a family, which for years has been a substantial beneficiary of the debt system, and now, in the federal Parliament, he has presented a Budget, which places us further in pawn to that system for the benefit of a few privileged families.

Having been so closely identified with this debt system, and having obtained so much personal benefit from it, it is not altogether surprising that he should have admitted at Creswick that he did not know what people meant when they talked about public credit. To some extent that was natural, because hitherto he has been interested only in public debt. Such an admission would be bad enough if it came from an ordinary adult citizen, but coming as it did from the Treasurer of the Commonwealth, his confessed ignorance calls for the strongest condemnation and resentment. How is it possible for a man with such an outlook to serve the great bulk of the Australian people at this critical time?

THE BANK-OWNING METAL MONOPOLY

To get a proper picture of the situation it is necessary to bear in mind that the Casey family has, or had extensive financial interests in what is known as the Metal Monopoly. This metal monopoly owns the Commercial Bank, the National Bank, and the Bank of Adelaide, and, as we have shown previously, is closely connected with the Sugar and Tobacco Monopoly, which owns the Bank of New South Wales and the Bank of Queensland (which now forms part of the National Bank). Both of these monopolies are in turn connected with the Overseas Landed Group, in which Mr. S. M. Bruce, the Fairbairns, and Mr. R. O. Blackwood of the Melbourne "Argus," are, or have been principal members. This group owns the Bank of Australasia, the Union Bank and the E.S. and A. Bank. Members of the few families controlling all these banks, which in reality are private mints, depend on the debt system for their luxurious independence and power, and have a rendezvous at the Union Club in Sydney and another at the Melbourne Club in Melbourne. Mr. Casey is a member of both! At these clubs the "beneficiaries of the debt system" also meet the chief executives of the organisations comprising the different monopolies, as well as prominent members of Parliament, and if we judge from the remarks of Lord Huntingfield about the Carlton Club, such meeting places are convenient for the hatching of plans to continue the robbery of the community through the public debt and the heavy taxation resulting from it.

We should note in passing how T. V. Fairbairn succeeded S. M. Bruce in the Federal Parliament, and how the representatives of these monopolies so easily find a place in our legislative bodies. Sir Frank Clarke, for example, another beneficiary of the bank-owning metal monopoly, made his presence felt in the Legislative Council a week or two ago when he tried to thwart the Country Party's effort to reduce interest on mortgages; and we begin to see why Sir Thomas Bavin endeavoured to foist on the recent U.A.P. Conference in Sydney a Plan under which the Executive would have the final say as to whether a candidate was

"a suitable person to represent the Party." Perhaps it would be more correct to say that the Executive wished to be sure that only faithful tools for the debt-owners and money-manufacturers would be admitted as candidates. The inside story of how some of the U.A.P. members have been "selected" and provided with seats in Parliament would make interesting reading. Everything is allowed to run along quietly until the ramp of the usurers is threatened, and then the "Sirs" who earned their knighthoods in armchairs come out like cormorants and seek to mesmerise a mentally indolent people with a lot of high-sounding rubbish disseminated and featured through an obedient press. But that is by the way.

LOAN COUNCIL FINANCE

Seeing that Mr. Casey has been so closely and so directly connected with the private interests which control the finances of Australia, and seeing that the finances are the only things that have been "unstable" in recent years, it must be a source of great satisfaction to such interests to have such a man as chairman of the Loan Council, the body through which the will of the private money monopoly is imposed on the people of Australia. This body decrees what finance shall be made available to the States and the extent of the deficits they will be "allowed" to have. No matter what the needs of the community may be, the Government may "spend" only what these private dictators permit. All such finance consists wholly of privately manufactured credit-money, and even though the only outlay on the part of the private manufacturers is for pen, ink, and paper, it is added to the public debt at its full face value and we are required to pay interest on the lot in perpetuity. In other words, by the simple process of writing in books and sending a cheque to the Government, the financial institutions lay permanent claim to an ever-increasing amount of interest, and when they receive it they distribute it to the wealthy families who belong to the money-writing monopoly. This has been going on for years, and is the only method of finance known to Mr. Casey, who was educated at Cambridge—a place that has a poor reputation in regard to the teaching of economics. Mr. Bruce was educated at the same place, and you may thus see how Governments change but not our rulers.

LIAISON OFFICER TO TREASURER.

Mr. Casey has recently become Treasurer at the hands of Mr. Lyons, who never tires of praising the existing financial arrangements, and who attained to the Prime Ministership with the full approval and assistance of those who control such arrangements. Mr. Casey's elevation to the Treasurership is the culmination of progressive stages since 1924.

It was in 1924 that Mr. Casey, who up to that time had been connected with the mining and engineering companies of the Metal Monopoly, was sent to London by Mr. Bruce, who had had interests in the private banks, to become "political liaison officer between the British and the Commonwealth Governments." Here again it was a convenience for the private money controllers to have

such a man in such a position.

THE BETRAYAL OF THE COMMONWEALTH BANK

Soon afterwards Mr. Bruce himself paid a visit to London, and at a bankers' banquet explained how the Commonwealth Bank had been transferred by his Government to the control of "a board of directors charged with the duties of central banking." According to the London "Times" he also said this:—

"The intention is that the board shall control credit in Australia as the Bank of England regulates it in this country, and advice is now being sought from officials of the Bank of England as to the exact steps necessary to bring about a fully effective central banking system."

At the same time the late Sir Robert Gibson, also connected with the metal monopoly and just then appointed chairman of the Commonwealth Bank Board, was expressing himself in Australia as follows:—

"The Board of Directors of the Commonwealth Bank has given consideration to the advisability of conferring with the mother bank of the Empire, the Bank of England, on matters connected with central banking. In this connection, the late chairman had important discussions with Mr. Norman, the Governor of the Bank of England, by whose courtesy it has been arranged that Sir Ernest Harvey shall pay a visit to Australia with a view of investigating . . . and making recommendations

PALESTINE.

Sufficiency of capital; deficiency of labour; that is Palestine's problem. — "The Economist," Sept. 7.

that . . . the central banking system of Australia may be co-ordinated with that of the Bank of England and other central banks of the Empire."

The Bank of England, which controls credit in England, was, and still is a private company, and in the Bank Charter Act of 1844 under which it operates it is laid down that in all its dealings with the public the Bank of England is to carry out its transactions with regard to its own interests alone, and not with any view to the public advantage! The agent of this private concern, Sir Ernest Harvey, actually travelled to Australia with Mr. Bruce, and subsequent events, which are now history, prove how completely we have become its slave.

While all this was going on, Mr. Casey was the liaison officer between the two Governments, and the central bank system is neither more nor less than a system for securing the submission of the whole world to the control of private financiers. No fewer than 28 of such banks have been established since the war, and they are quite independent of the legislation of the countries in which they have been established.

IN CONSULTATION WITH THE MONOPOLISTS

To complete the story without going into lengthy details, it only remains to say that Mr. Casey was brought back to Australia in 1931 for service in Parliament, and that Sir Claude Reading, the present chairman of the Commonwealth Bank Board, is the direct representative of the Sugar and Tobacco bank-owning monopoly, while Mr. A. F. Bell, ex-director of the National Bank, represents the Metal bank-owning monopoly. In his capacity as chairman of the Loan Council, therefore, Mr. Casey, who had interests in the Metal bank-owning monopoly, consults with Sir Claude Reading of the Sugar and Tobacco bank-owning monopoly, both of which depend on the continuance of the fraudulent debt

system for the maintenance of their place and power.

NO KNOWLEDGE OF PUBLIC CREDIT.

According to the "Argus" of September 12, Mr. Casey publicly committed himself in this wise:

1. He did not know what people meant when they talked about public credit, unless they meant inflation.

2. No one had yet shown how to raise money on public credit.

3. He could not understand what public credit meant.

It was hardly straightforward on the part of Mr. Casey to associate the terms "public credit" and "inflation" in such a way that his listeners would be misled into thinking they are synonymous. They do not mean the same thing, and there is no excuse whatever for his suggesting that they do. "Credit" means belief, trust, and faith; and "public credit" means belief, trust, and faith in the ability of the community to produce what is needed by the community. Only a lunatic or a rogue would imply that there is any failure here in regard to production. The failure lies wholly in our fraudulent system of distribution, which, through private manipulation, prevents our citizens from having access to their own production. In the face of this, what respect can we have for a man who has the hardihood to say that he cannot distinguish between public credit and inflation? And what a reflection on Cambridge! "Inflation" means a rise in prices consequent upon an increase in the supply of money. If prices do not rise, there is no inflation; and it is quite practicable not only to expand the supply of money without a rise in prices, but actually to expand it in conjunction with a fall in prices. How improper it is, then, for anyone, and especially for a leading member of the Federal Cabinet, to bracket the ability of our people to produce with the thieving practice under which that ability is made the tool of a few discredited knights and other persons who sneak about under cover like snipers. As a matter of fact, inflation and deflation are the two blades of the scissors, which are at present cutting us to ribbons under the existing system. Even now great publicity is being given to the inflation proposals connected with our hospitals, but nothing is being said about the inevitable deflation to follow through hospital taxes and the like.

IS THE NATIONAL DEBT A MYTH?

If no one has yet shown how to raise money on public credit (and the Treasurer has stated definitely that such is the case), then the National Debt of approximately £1,250,000,000 is purely a myth, and we have been wantonly robbed each year through oppressive taxation to meet fictitious claims for interest amounting to about £9 per head of the population. If Mr. Casey will not accept that interpretation of his remarks then perhaps he will tell us just how and on what basis that enormous amount of money was raised, where it was raised, and who made it?

And if he cannot understand what "public credit" means, how can he conscientiously retain his position in the Cabinet, even in Parliament, when he is admittedly so ignorant of the terms of the very Constitution under which he is supposed to be serving and to which he has sworn his fealty? Public Credit is obviously the opposite to Public Debt, and it is high time we demanded that the credit side of our national ledger be taken properly into account. As a responsible Australian I am deeply incensed at the fraud and the sham of the existing national conditions, and say to Mr. Casey that, in view of his public utterances, honour and the fitness things call for his resignation.

Stumbling Towards the Winning Post

That the London "Economist," organ of "sane" finance though it be, is gradually being forced forward by the pitiless logic of circumstances, becomes apparent to anyone who reads the following summing-up of its consideration of the British Ministry of Health's report. The "Economist," in its issue of September 7, says (the emphasis is ours):—

"Taken as a whole, the Report prompts the conclusion that the foundations of our health services have been well laid—but only the foundations. A mere reading of the Report shows how much has been accomplished in 25 years. A glance at the actual world around us, however, shows how much there still remains to do. And comparing the conditions now existing with the record of 25 years' advance, one cannot help wondering what conditions must have been like 30 years ago, when there were no old-age pensions, no health or unemployment insurance, and no housing subsidies. Even in the Report itself—which in places inclines to complacency—there is much material for concern. It is, no doubt, good to read that the misguided municipal economy campaign of 1931-33 has now been abandoned, and that the loans to local authorities sanctioned by the Minister for purposes other than housing rose from £20,344,465 in 1933-34 to £26,026,397 in 1934-35. But there is a regrettable lack of sympathy or even interest in the Report in the possibility of combating malnutrition by the extension of direct or indirect grants to especially necessitous consumers. Moreover, the obstinate increase in maternal mortality continued this year; while a further growth in the number of persons receiving poor relief suggests that the ravages of the depression in exhausted savings and diminished employability are being felt more keenly by the Ministry of Health if less keenly by the Ministry of Labour. And it may perhaps be remarked that if the total sums spent on health since 1910 were compared with the total spent on armaments, the figures would not look quite so edifying. While we congratulate ourselves, therefore, on the achievement of the last 25 years, we must conclude that the need is still for an acceleration, and not a slackening, in the development of our national health services."

The "Economist," as you will observe, approves of pensions, of subsidies for housing, of grants to necessitous consumers. It sees the absurdity of spending more money on means to destroy life than on means to preserve it. And it is very definitely campaigning for the spending of more money by national and local government authorities.

It has one big hurdle still to jump. It has to recognise that the finance, necessary to do these things should not come from bankers' loans, but from the national issue of money. Perhaps, if it would give a little consideration to Britain's taxation today, as compared with twenty years ago, and to Britain's national debt, which in the last twenty years has grown to a total ten times greater than the figure at which it had arrived after the previous 225 years, the "Economist" might take the bit in its teeth and leap the last obstacle that stands between Britain and real prosperity

It is said that religion has nothing to do with politics, but it must be replied that a man cannot be a Christian at home and a heathen in the street.

—Pastoral Letter of the German Bishops, read in all German Catholic Churches on September 1.

ON THE EVE OF BATTLE

A Striking Call for United Action

By L. D. BYRNE,
Director of Organisation, Social Credit Secretariat

During the past year the Social Credit Movement has been engaged in a process of readjustment from the stage of propaganda to the requirements of the stage of action upon which we have entered. It was inevitable that this period should be fraught with great difficulties, serious differences and much misunderstanding. During the fifteen years in which Social Credit spread from the mind of one man to secure the support of a vast worldwide Movement, propaganda was all-important. We were a propaganda-minded Movement — in fact, the propaganda-minded Movement of the world. But we knew that the establishment of Social Credit would involve action, for there can be no justification for the existence of the Movement if it is not that it shall make Social Credit an established fact.

Though we knew that propaganda must give way to action, at the time of the Buxton Conference the Movement was adjusted both mentally and structurally to the requirements of propaganda. The readjustment demanded for action was greater than perhaps any other Movement has been asked to make — for not only was a structural readjustment necessary, but also a complete mental re-adjustment.

TIME IS SHORT.

Re-adjustment is taking shape. The difficulties and misunderstandings which rent the Movement during these months are being rapidly overcome. However, if we mean to get Social Credit established we must get down to the job with greater determination and a higher sense of responsibility than has been displayed so far. To anyone who is not blind it must be plain from the rapid deterioration of the plight of the world that the time available for effective action to be taken is short. We are swiftly moving from a situation in which persons may be said to be in control, to one in which events will take charge. In other words, the situation is rapidly getting beyond the control of persons.

If we are to gain our objective of Social Credit we must exert ourselves to secure control over the situation before we reach the point at which the cumulative effect of the results of the present system render disaster inevitable. Some people talk glibly of the possibilities of the present system being continued indefinitely, but every Social Creditor knows that this is pragmatically impossible.

THE CRITICAL HOUR

If we do not attempt to apply balm to our minds or shirk our responsibility in the matter, we must recognise that the break up of civilisation has begun. We have arrived at that point to which Major Douglas refers in the last chapter of "Social Credit": —

"The position will be tremendous in its importance. A comparatively short period will probably serve to decide whether we are to master the mighty economic and social machine that we have created, or whether it is to master us; and during that period a small impetus from a body of men who know what to do and how to do it may make the difference between yet one more retreat into the Dark Ages, or the

emergence into the full light of a day of such splendour as we can at present only envisage dimly.

"It is this necessity for the recognition of the psychological moment, and the fitting to that moment of appropriate action, which should be present in the minds of that small minority which is seized of the gravity of the present times."

The stark fact is that we know there is nothing—absolutely nothing—that stands between humanity and certain disaster except Social Credit. This throws a responsibility upon every Social Creditor personally such as a grouping of individuals has seldom been called upon to vindicate. The important words in the quotation from Major Douglas are "who know what to do and how to do it." Just as no Social Creditor can escape his personal responsibility in the present situation without annihilating his self-respect, so no Social Creditor is equipped to face up to that responsibility without knowing just what he has to do and how he will do it. If he has not this knowledge, he may act in perfect good faith, and yet his action may be more disastrous than helpful in gaining our objective.

To view the task in perspective it is necessary to have a clear mental picture of the structure of society under the present system. This can be pictured as a vast pyramid. At the apex of the pyramid we have finance in a position of complete control over the entire pyramidal structure. The methods by which it has gained this position and retains it by its control of the monetary system are familiar to us all. Whether finance has gained this domination of society by accident or design is quite immaterial. The fact is that finance is the supreme effective sovereign power, and the individuals in whom this power is vested have gained their positions under the impulse of the will-to-power.

DIVIDE AND RULE.

The feature of this structure of society deserving the most careful attention is its almost perfect adjustment to the retention of tyrannical powers by finance. Imagine the vast pyramid representing our social structure to be divided horizontally in several divisions. Those represent the various strata or classes of society. Economic conditions render it easy to accentuate these social divisions, and to create and foster class segregation and class antagonism.

EVE OF BATTLE

It is an old game, as old as civilisation, to divide and rule. By having the community divided against itself in this manner, the tyranny of finance can ensure retaining its sovereignty at the apex of the pyramid. The social groupings nearest the apex enjoy the greatest measure of economic security, and the lower down in the structure the individual finds himself, the less security and freedom he will enjoy. Thus there is always a pressure from the top by individuals to keep those below them in the pyramidal structure from jeopardising their position—and a pressure from below of those individuals striving to gain a more secure position, which, in turn, accentuates the pressure from the higher social strata.

Not only is society divided against itself in this manner, but the entire social structure is divided vertically into various political camps — each in conflict with the other. And the entire community is divided

further by a process of grouping in small pyramidal structures within the great pyramid of society. These small pyramids are, for the most part, the various industrial and commercial organisations concerned with the economic life of the nation. The individual is dependent upon his position in one of these minor pyramids for his purchasing power—his licence to live within the social structure. In the last resort control over the conditions under which purchasing power is granted emanates from the apex of the greater social pyramid through the apex of each minor pyramid. Consideration along these lines of the structure of society under which we live should reveal the almost impregnable position, which is occupied by finance.

NATURE OF OUR TASK

Let us compare with this pyramidal or tyrannical social structure, which exists, the social structure, which will be created by the adoption of Social Credit. This might be represented by a circle, the circumference of the circle being the democracy and the centre of the circle the administration. Now individuals who are economically secure and free, as recipients of a National Dividend, will submit only to that administration which gives effect to their will. In other words, only persons who can command the voluntary respect of their fellow men will attract service — workers, and so forth — and it is only such men who will administer. By the actions of the economically-secure democracy at the circumference of the circle, the members of the administration will be automatically voted into their positions at the centre of the circle, and they will retain their administrative position individually only so long as, individually, they give the democracy what it wants.

This democratic order of society is the opposite of the tyrannical structure represented by the pyramid. The task of the Social Credit Movement is to change the rigid pyramidal structure to this democratic structure. Before this can be done the sovereign power of finance must be defeated. Finance will not be defeated and the social structure will not be changed by merely talking about it—that is, by propaganda. It can be done only by action.

MAIN CONSIDERATIONS.

The main considerations in reviewing this question of action are:

(1) No sovereign power, which has gained its sovereignty under the urge of the will-to-power ever has, or ever will voluntarily abdicate its sovereignty in any circumstances. It is as certain as anything can be certain that such a power can only be forced to abdicate. This involves challenge to its sovereignty, then conflict, and finally its defeat.

(2) Finance retains its sovereign powers by its control of the financial system (and through it the entire economic life of communities), and by its policy of dividing the people against each other. So long as the latter can be maintained, so long does finance remain in security—for no effective protest against the tyranny of finance is possible from any section of a community divided against itself. Any challenge to the power of finance by a section of the community will be opposed by the rest of the community and, because of the threat to civil peace thus created, opposed by all the sanctions of the State, which exist to maintain law and order.

Therefore the policy governing any action to compass the defeat of finance must counter the "divide and rule" policy of finance with a policy of "unite." It will be perceived later that only by the application of such tactics will it be possible for the people to range the sanctions of the State on their side and in opposition to finance.

(3) It is useless to expect effective action against finance to be

initiated from "key persons." Such persons have attained their positions on account of their adjustment to the requirements of the present system, and can retain their positions and influence only by defending the status quo. Effective control resides in the apex of the pyramid, and can be used at any time to bring pressure upon individuals by threatening their positions in the social structure.

(4) Time is the essential factor in regard to what action is likely to be effective, and the point at which action can be taken. No fundamental change such as Social Credit demands — changing, as it does, the social structure — is likely to be achieved except at the point of acute crisis when the position is wobbling in the balance. It is at this point that such change is possible—and therefore any action likely to be successful must be directed to prove effective at this point.

At such a point of acute crisis a coup d'etat by force could be engineered by finance — and therefore any effective action must be assured of success even against such a move by finance.

INEFFECTIVE METHODS.

The foregoing considerations narrow the field in which action can be taken, and the nature of that action. Several of the methods, which were advocated prior to Buxton—and, for that matter, still claim some support, probably through misunderstanding—are entirely ruled out.

It would be ridiculous to attempt to gain our objective by creating a Social Credit political party. Apart from the fact that there is no time, this would be causing a further division within the community; it would automatically result in the united hostility of existing parties and their supporting organisations, and would be playing right into the hands of finance.

Any attempt to attain a mass demand for Social Credit would be equally useless and highly dangerous. Any such mass demand would, of necessity, be vague. It could not be backed up with any technical knowledge of Social Credit, and it would be the easiest thing in the world for finance to engineer the adoption of some scheme having a vague resemblance to Social Credit but inherently unsound in its technique, to label this scheme Social Credit and, when it failed, to say to the people: "Here you are, we told you this hair-brained scheme of Social Credit was unsound. Look at the disastrous consequences of your demand. You are responsible for this mess. Now, don't you think you had better leave it to us to pursue a sound financial policy?" This should convince the most ardent propagandist that, beyond a certain point, Social Credit propaganda by itself can be dangerous.

ESSENTIALS OF ACTION

Many organisations have pressed for enquiries into the financial system, with particular reference to Social Credit. All these have proved useless. But let us suppose that the entire electorate could be successfully mobilised to press for a public enquiry into Social Credit as a means of dealing with the present situation. The effective control of the conditions under which such enquiry would be held would be controlled by finance. The personnel of any commission of enquiry, the evidence that was taken, the time expended over the enquiry, would, in the last resort, be decided by finance, and the investigation engineered to defeat the purpose for which it was established.

In the light of the foregoing analysis it should be plain that the essential factors governing action to gain the establishment of Social Credit are: —

(1) The action must be timed correctly.

(2) The political and social environment at the time action is

taken must determine the nature of that action.

(3) No action against the existing credit monopoly can be effective so long as the community remains divided against itself and an easy prey for finance. To be effective it must cut right across the existing divisions created by class barriers and party political divisions, countering the technique of "divide and rule," employed by finance, by uniting the community.

(4) Effective control of Parliament to the end in view is essential if the actions of the State are to be mobilised against finance—and this situation must be achieved before the power of finance can be overthrown.

PREPARATION FOR ACTION.

These facts, so plain to us now were not even dimly comprehended by our propaganda-minded Movement prior to Buxton. Throughout the years of the propaganda stage requests for action were made to Major Douglas, and suggestions were put to him to centralise the Movement so as to organise in readiness for action. All these well-meant suggestions were discouraged by him. "Wait", he said in effect, "it is useless to organise until you know what you are organising to do. When the time for action comes, we shall know what action we have to take and organise accordingly."

Before he went on his tour to Australia, New Zealand, and Canada, Major Douglas agreed to the establishment of a Social Credit Secretariat, and he became the Chairman of its Advisory Council on the understanding that this departure from the established principle of avoiding any form of central organisation was the first step towards the action stage. The Secretariat, which was established at that time, was not an executive organisation but merely an advisory body and a central clearing house. In this capacity it was gathering up the threads of the Movement in readiness for the requirements of the approaching action stage, for Major Douglas had laid it down in "Economic Democracy", and it was generally accepted within the Movement, that "centralisation is the way to do it, but it is neither the correct method of deciding what to do, nor the question of who is to do it." It was plain that, once the nature of the action was decided and the Social Credit Movement had to set about organising to carry out this action, centralisation would be necessary.

On his return Major Douglas called together representatives of the Social Credit Movement to a conference at Buxton, where on June 9, 1934, he delivered his historic address. With the genius of dissecting and analysing, which he had employed in laying bare the working of the financial system, he exposed the core of the social and political structure. He told the Movement that at last, in his opinion, the time for action had arrived; he told us the nature of the action, which must be taken, and the reasons for it.

With acclamation the representatives of the Movement accepted this welcome news—and they had reason to do so, for though the tremendous importance of the Buxton address was not grasped at the time, and the reaction to it was mainly instinctive, a cold consideration of it message reveals that the same fundamental rightness, which is the hall-mark of Social Credit, stamped every sentence. Every Social Creditor should not have merely read the Buxton address but re-read it over and over again, for its importance to the world and to us in particular can not be exaggerated.

—"Social Credit."



"ST. VITUS DANCE"

The Late Huey Long on Roosevelt's Antics

The late Huey Long (says "Why," N.Z.) was a man who was in earnest about his fight for the welfare of the American people. He was so much in earnest that he was assassinated. The following is from the "Golden Age" magazine. It gives us some idea of the line Long was following:—

Senator Long claims that when the Government put able investigators to work to prove that it is not possible to produce enough so that every family in the United States may have an income of 5000 dollars, the investigators, so it chanced, were honest men, and brought in adverse report, whereat the administration was so peeved that fired every last one of them. Just why the administration really desires only a bread line and soup-kitchen America is unknown.

The "Congressional Record" reports him as saying:—

"Congress is going to adjourn, they say. I guess it will. It would have been better if it never had met. Congress is going to adjourn with nothing whatever done to increase the purchasing power of the masses. The only reform that is urged is to destroy a little more cotton, and a little more pork, and a little more sugar, and a little more molasses, and teach the hens not to lay eggs, and give lessons of birth control to the swine and to the cattle, so that they will not raise too much of those products to flood the market for a public that has not the money with which to buy!"

It seems that nobody can be quite sure what Huey Long will say and therefore he disturbs very much the slumbers of other statesmen who, if they wake up and say anything, merely repeat what they said twenty years ago. Referring to Mr. Roosevelt's fishing trip on Vincent Astor's 5,000,000 dollar yacht, the Nourmahal, Mr. Long was mean enough to say:—

"Our president of the United States, the knight of the Nourmahal, says we are confused because we cannot see just how this thing is going to look when he gets through making it. Why, to be sure! All those millions of hogs they killed; all those cattle they shot down; the milk they poured into the rivers, with the people starving for if all of the cotton they ploughed under and wool that they burned up, with the people naked because they could not get it; none of us can just see how that is working - out. But the president says it is going to look pretty. It may not look exactly like a song, but it will be something like a dance, the St. Vitus' Dance.

Now the president said this: 'They know that the process of the constructive rebuilding of America cannot be done in a day or a year.' No, and if he is a fair sample of it, they know it cannot be done in a hundred years. His process of construction, if you call it construction, is to start out repairing the automobile by first tearing off the top and then, when the rain begins to beat in, to hammer the engine to pieces, tear down the chassis, and then wind up by taking off the wheels. That leaves only one thing to do—he sends the bill for the work. That bill has now reached the size of over thirty billions of dollars, six times more than all of the money in circulation in the United States."

ALBERTA NOTES

The final returns from 1939 out of a total of 2176 polling booths in the Alberta State elections showed the following disposition of votes:—

Aberhart Social Credit	118,526
United Farmers (the outgoing government which called in Major Douglas)	28,038
Liberal	44,072
All others	18,715

The Attorney General in the Aberhart Ministry, Mr. John W. Hugill, is a King's Counsel.

Discussing the result of the Alberta elections, the "Weekly Province," Vancouver, paid the following tribute to Mr. Aberhart's organisation and judgment:

"How correctly Aberhart had gauged the temper of the electors was demonstrated when he took a week's holiday in Vancouver a bare three weeks before election. He was quietly confident then, guessing that he would carry forty seats. Nothing ruffled him. He said he did not have to stay to boss his organisation, because it was built to function without him.

"One of the upsets of the election was the total eclipse of Mr. Fred. White, a veteran Labor politician of Calgary, who has held a legislative seat for years. While Aberhart was in Vancouver, White attacked him and alleged that he (Aberhart) had tried to pull the Labor Party into the Social Credit organisation.

"Aberhart said one significant thing about 'outside interference' when he was in Vancouver. Liberal big shots from other provinces were at that time bombarding Alberta electors. Mayor McGeer's great invasion was scheduled. Talking about Mayor McGeer, Aberhart said: 'If he makes a sensible, logical argument he will get good hearings, but if he gets nasty there will be trouble.' Aberhart was quite unconcerned about the effect of these guest speakers."

THE FEDERAL ELECTIONS

The representation of the various provinces in the Canadian House of Commons, election results for which disclose how solidly Alberta has confirmed Federally its recent State decisions, is as follows:—

	No. of Federal Members.
Prince Edward Island . . .	4
New Brunswick	10
Nova Scotia	12
Quebec	65
Ontario	82
Manitoba	17
Saskatchewan	21
Alberta	17
British Columbia	16
Yukon	1

Total 245
As compared with the last (1930) elections, British Columbia has gained two additional seats in the Federal Parliament, and Alberta one, while Nova Scotia loses two and New Brunswick one.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

TRADUCING OUR PUBLIC MEN.

It is with regret I feel compelled to protest against certain statements made by your paper last week, under the heading "Australia must keep out."

In this series you make several references to the broken promises made to our boys by our bankers and politicians during the First World War. In fairness to our public men, I consider it my duty to remind you that the promise, which was repeated more often than any other, from every recruiting platform, by every public man of note, was honoured to the letter. This promise, as you may remember, was to the effect that nothing was too good for our returned boys; and any observer today who is not completely warped by prejudice must admit that nothing was exactly what they got.

M. ALICK.

BISHOP GALLAGHER AND FR. COUGHLIN.

When reading your account of Bishop Gallagher's defence of Father Coughlin, I could not help saying to myself that Father Coughlin is lucky in having such an ecclesiastical Superior to stand behind him in his fight on behalf of the suffering masses in America.

I would also like to say that in this country there are hundreds of clerics of all denominations who would readily identify themselves with this movement to defeat the International Financial Ring. But what are these clerics able to do when their ecclesiastical Superiors who hold the whip handle fail to give a lead?

"CLERIC-US" (N.S.W.).

BE FAIR TO THE JUSTICES.

I notice with regret in the "Argus" of 16th inst. that Mr. C. H. Eager, M.L.C., stated in the Legislative Council on the previous day that there were some scandalous instances of aged justices of the peace who were so deaf as to be unable to hear what was said in the proceedings before them. I consider it very cruel of Mr. Eager to taunt the justices with this physical disability, because a man of Mr. Eager's vast experience must be well aware that, even had the justices heard what was said to them, their mentality would probably have been such as to prevent them from understanding it. In these circumstances it would seem that the deafness of a justice of the peace in no way interferes with such ability, as he possesses to perform the functions of his office.

WILLIAM HOGGE WASH.

The Business Man and the Price Level

By L.S.D.

If the average business man applied himself to the constant investigation of the sources of credit issue, keeping a watchful eye on the degree to which capital expenditure is taking place or is about to take place, he could shape his course a good deal more safely than he does at present.

Just as the people in social life say "Keeping well?" or "Lovely day," so business men ask each other, "How is business?" or "Keeping busy?" and frequently there follows a discussion on how things are improving or are about to improve or the reverse. The cause of the improvement, actual or anticipated, does not appear to come within the compass of ordinary business people. They seem to allow so involved a problem to remain with nature or the financier or some obscure custodian of our welfare, preferring to believe, in a vague sort of way, that a bountiful season in agriculture or a large volume of exports will assure a general improvement in trade.

Actual experience over the past five years illustrates very clearly that heavy exporting from Australia, combined with an abnormally large credit balance in London, can and does exist at one and the same time as languishing, unprofitable trade with record unemployment and distress in Australia. Looking back prior to five years ago we see that Australia's exports (in volume) were smaller than during the past five years and the credit balance in London was sometimes non-existent. Yet we appeared to be prosperous and business was very active.

If the businessman wants to gauge the strength of the market, he must keep his eye on the National debt position, and as the control of the National debt does not reside in Parliament, it is difficult to make plans reaching very far into the future. The aim of business people, no matter what they deal in, is to buy in the lowest and sell in the highest market.

Price is governed by demand in most commodities, and demand is governed by the strength of the market, or the financial ability of buyers to take up the goods offered for sale. This brings us to the question of where the people obtain their incomes, to which the reply is that incomes reach the people through industry.

Industry may be divided into two sections. One produces goods, which the people require to eat and wear and use up in their daily lives. The other section produces the plant and equipment to enable the people's goods to come into existence. A loaf of bread and a suit of clothes would be in the former category, while a flour mill and a woollen mill would represent the latter. In the processes of producing bread and building a flourmill, incomes are distributed to those engaged in both industries. Assume the production of bread to be 100 units and the incomes to be 200 units. Then one unit of bread would fetch two

units of money. When the building of the flour mill is completed, it becomes necessary to re-employ the builders in another similar job, otherwise the market will be short by 100 units of money, and the unit of bread can fetch only one unit of money.

From this simple illustration it will be seen that the price level is linked to the building of factories and when that process, called capital expansion, slows down, prices of daily necessities become lower as a result of the reduction in, or disappearance of, the incomes of those engaged in building factories.

The building of factories, whether privately or publicly owned, is financed by bank credit, either directly or indirectly (as in the case of thrift savings). Private enterprise obtains the advance of bank credit against security lodged with the bank. Governments use the more cumbersome method of floating public loans, which are financed by the banks. The security is the capacity of the people to pay interest by way of increased taxation on incomes.

It will be seen, therefore, that if the Government of Victoria were to spend, say £20 millions extra next year in developing State electricity and sewerage undertakings, the prices of food and clothing would rise. If, on the other hand, £20 millions less were spent, prices of our daily needs would fall, and apart from the unemployment aspect, business people would all suffer a loss in revenue. Private industry would automatically contract with the reduced national income, thus aggravating the problem of the weak market.

So, until our crazy financial system is set in order, it is vital for business people to watch closely the Government loan programme. If the Government is borrowing heavily, the game is to buy up at today's prices, making contracts for short dated forward delivery. Conversely, if the loan market is "tight," which means that the banks are not prepared to come up to the requests of the Loan Council, the wise business man commences to unload at a rate and in a quantity indicated by the margin between the financial requirements of the government and the limit of financial assistance obtainable by the Loan Council.

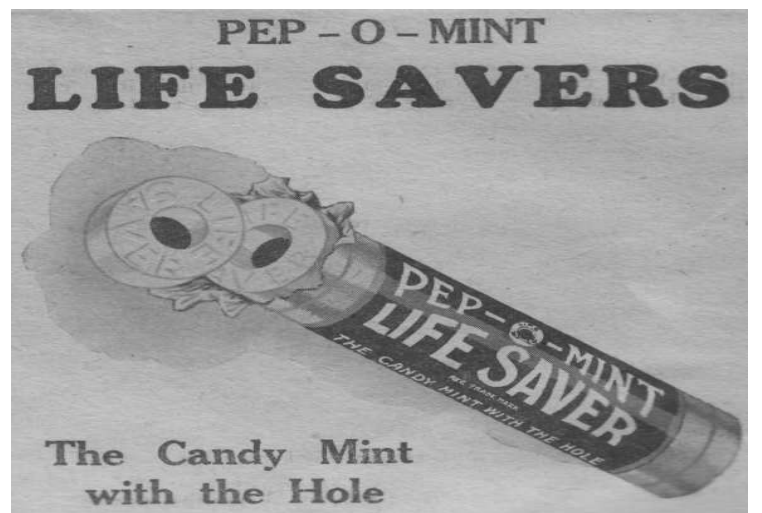
We have reached the woeful position of being at the mercy of the National debt. If we do not keep on expanding it, our business falls to pieces.

MEMBERS OF THE DOUGLAS CREDIT MOVEMENT

A SOCIAL EVENING
Will Be Held at Headquarters,
The Block, on Monday, October
21, at 8 o'clock

Your Company Will Help to Ensure
a Successful Evening.

READ:
"SOCIAL CREDIT"
The official organ of the Social Credit Secretariat.
Published Weekly at 163a, Strand, London, W.C.2, England.
Subscription: 10 Shillings per annum (English currency). Single copies, 4d, post free, may be obtained from the Douglas Credit Movement, Block Arcade, Elizabeth Street, Melbourne.



OIL — AND WAR

IV. —Draining the United States Dry

(Editor's Note. —In this series of articles is being unfolded the grim battle for world supremacy in oil, a battle ranging through nearly every country in the world, and in which the chief actors are British interests, represented mainly by Royal Dutch-Shell under Deterding, and the American forces led by Rockefeller's Standard Oil. The earlier articles appeared in our last three issues).

It has been estimated that, out of the total known oil supplies of the world, roughly one ninth lies under United States' soil, and is owned mainly by American interests. Two of the remaining eight parts are in Russia, and belong to the Soviet. By far the greater part of the balance distributed through the world is now under British control.

As has been pointed out already, Deterding's plan of campaign in the monopoly fight against Rockefeller followed two main lines. One was to seize and to sit upon as many concessions as he could. The other was to force his enemy to use up supplies at the quickest possible rate. In this latter process Deterding displayed great skill—ably assisted by the laws of the United States.

Under American law the owner of the title to land owns everything under it. But in the case of oil a man's underground wealth, being liquid, will certainly flow away from him if tapped by a neighbour unless he gets busy and does his own tapping. This was the point, which helped the Royal Dutch-Shell leader.

Deterding Enters the U.S.

The first step was to get a footing in the United States' oil areas. About 1914 Deterding established California Oil Fields Ltd., to be followed by the Roxana Petroleum Co., the Shell Corporation of California, and numerous other subsidiaries. As he progressed he financed his American operations with American capital, until by 1921 he was using local money to pump America dry at a rate unprecedented in oil history. And he was helped by the private ownership of sub-soil rights.

With every man on oil-bearing territory having the right to tap reserves whenever it suited him, Deterding had only to buy out or come to terms with one owner in a district. He had only to sink the first hole, and every other owner had to follow suit or to run the risk of the first man draining off all the oil in the subterranean pool. The inevitable result was a feverish activity in oil production wherever Shell's derricks appeared.

The United States' Government was brought to a realisation of

what was taking place. American geologists began to declare that within comparatively few years the United States, instead of producing two-thirds of the world's supply of petroleum products, would be importing oil for home use. As a British banker put it, "to the sum of many millions of pounds a year, America before long will have to purchase from British companies and to pay for in dollar currency in progressively increasing proportion the oil she cannot do without and is no longer able to furnish from her own store. The United States' experts have been well aware of this situation for more than a year. But Congress and public opinion were not on their guard." Possibly the United States' Government was on its guard, but there was little it could do. American public opinion, having had one experience of exploitation at the hands of Standard Oil, would not take kindly to the idea of any further combines either for controlled production or for raising prices to the public. As long as oil was cheap and plentiful, the average citizen thought little of the future. And so the feverish competition continued, with the interests of the British monopoly always at work to boost American figures higher and higher. For you cannot grow a fresh crop of oil.

The United States government, however, did go so far as to set up an Oil Conservation Board with the object of securing voluntary co-operation amongst producers. Had there been no Shell in America, this might have met with some measure of success. But Deterding beat them. A gentlemen's agreement was come to in California for the "pinching in" of wells between several producing companies to restrict their production. Amongst the companies involved was Shell of California. Deterding's subsidiary agreed to the project with the others, but only for a few months. Then it notified its competitors that it was short of supplies for the market, and so must reluctantly open out again. One in, all in—and production was forthwith back to the fullest capacity.

AMERICAN OIL FOR JAPANESE NAVY

Perhaps the most sardonically humorous of all Deterding's ex-

ploits in the United States' field concerned the naval oil reserves in California. One of these reserves, leased to the Honolulu Oil Company, had been sub-let to Standard Oil. When the latter's lease expired and it applied for a renewal it found that Shell had anticipated it with a better offer. And Deterding's company proceeded to draw oil from a United States' naval reserve, and to ship it thence to its Japanese subsidiary, which in turn poured it into Japan's battleships!

So the battle goes on to drain the United States dry. Having about one-ninth of the world's oil reserves, figures as late as 1933 show the United States to be producing over 60 per cent, of the world's total crude petroleum.

(To be continued.)

Senator Brennan on the People's Safeguard

Speaking at a U.A.P. meeting in Horsham on Tuesday, Senator T. C. Brennan delivered himself of a speech that should stand for all time as a classic example of the idiotic rubbish with which some politicians believe they can fool the people.

We reprint the report of the Senator's pearls of wisdom as given by the Melbourne "Age" of 16th inst.:

"Senator Brennan said in reply to criticism levelled against the Senate, he would like to stress the fact that the Senate was a great safeguard for the people, it was not a check on the people, but their safeguard. When electors expressed their opinion on any subject they were entitled to have those views given force of law. It was easy to say that the people had expressed themselves, and their views must be given effect to. The trouble about an election was that it did not enable the people to speak on all subjects. In the 1929 election the Scullin Government was returned to power by a large majority. It was fought almost entirely on the curtailment of the Arbitration Court, which had caused the Bruce Government to be voted out of office. Could it be said that the people gave a mandate to Labor to put that into execution? It might have been the very fact that there was a Senate in existence, which did not go to the poll that swayed the people to vote the way they did. He believed many had said, 'If we do vote Mr. Scullin into power we still have the Senate, so that he will not be able to run away with his ideas.' He believed the people slept soundly during that period of depression for two reasons. One was because they had the Senate, and the other because they had the head of the Commonwealth Savings Bank, Sir Robert Gibson. It was easy to declare that the Senate was a block to the wheels of progress, but often laws curtailed industry, and were not beneficial to the country. The Senate was a wise and salutary institution, entirely in the interests of the people themselves."

When one recalls that the Senate has thirty-six members, of whom only three represent the great Labor vote of the Commonwealth, one finds it quite easy to understand in whose interests the Senate functions.

THE ODD SPOT

Anomaly: North African Algeria has plenty of money in its banks Capital is abundant. Harvests grow year by year. Wine crop last year was exceptionally heavy.

But—Algeria is in a sorry plight. The administration is in debt. Its revenue dwindles. Smaller wheat and wine growers are overburdened with debt. Many farms are being sold up to pay bills.

DOCTORS TURN CONJURORS

Magic Meals from Their Hats of Dietary

It is an ironical comment on modern civilisation, said Sir Richard Gregory on the opening of the British Association Conference, now sitting at Norwich, that the social reaction to the gifts of plenty made possible by science, which is "continually pouring riches into the lap of man," is not an increase of human welfare, but distress and unemployment.

The British Medical Association, a scientific body, has given point to Sir Richard's strictures by adding to the distress of the unemployed (says "Reynolds's" correspondent).

As a sequel to the notorious diet report of its "Nutrition Committee," which sought to prove that a man could be maintained in health and strength on 5/10²d a week, it has published a booklet, "Family Meals and Catering," showing the dole housewife how to perform the culinary sleight of hand.

Specimen weekly dietaries have been prepared by the National Training College of Domestic Science, and the results are attractively displayed in colour prints. Obviously the booklet is propaganda.

Science has been used, not to produce plenty, but to disguise hunger in the midst of it.

"Care was taken to compile diets from the foodstuffs which are available in the cheapest markets," we are told, though the food actually used by the National Training College was bought at their own doorstep in Mayfair—the best English meat and vegetables, with none of the waste involved through buying fly-blown cuts and dirt-rag cabbages from the street stalls.

A SHOPPERS' LIST

Assuming that the purchases of the poor housewife involve no waste, the new B.M.A. diet does not square with the prices allowed in the old. Meals were cooked for a family of five, the three children being between six and 14 years old.

The original allowance was 22/6 ½ d. Yesterday I priced one of the new week's "shopping lists," as they are called in one of London's cheapest markets. It would have cost me 24/8½ d., buying the very poorest quality.

Roast beef is made to serve for six meals — Sunday's dinner, Monday's dinner cold, Tuesday's dinner as Shepherd's Pie, and on Wednesday as Cornish pie. Meanwhile the roast beef bones have made stock for lentil soup, Tuesday's teatime meal, the "remains" of the soup appearing again as Wednesday's "high tea." On Thursday there is 1 ½ lb. of tripe, and on Friday 1 lb. of "minced meat roly." Saturday's groaning board is weighed down by a "savory pudding," the recipe for which is "12oz. crusts of bread or stale bread," 1 lb. onions, 1 egg, 4oz. suet, 3 tablespoonfuls oatmeal, and ½ pint milk. There is no meat, but lots of seasoning.

NO BREAKFAST HINTS.

Breakfast recipes are omitted from the new diet sheets. No wonder, for only 1 lb. bacon is allowed for the seven days, ¾ lb. corned beef, and

1 ¼ lb. kippers. One half-pound of butter and the same of margarine must serve for the week, and one pound of jam. The shopping list includes three eggs, which are all used for cooking. What is supposed to be done with the eggshells is not stated.

All the dishes made by the experts were cooked in big mode ovens. No count has been taken either of the inadequacy of cooking facilities in one and two-roomed houses or of the cost of gas for a medium stove.

The cost, in fact, would amount to about 4d a day, in gas, bringing the total outlay to about 27/—and the family are paid 28/6, with a deduction of 7/6 for rent.

Darwin Up to

Followers of Darwin have described how in the days when the world was young life consisted in battles of swallowing between rival amoebae, the bigger ones absorbing the smaller ones and becoming more gigantic with each successful assimilation.

This delightful picture shows us exactly where to place modern business in the evolutionary scale, for the very same process is now taking place between rival commercial organizations. Big businesses swallow little businesses. For example, an American enquiry covering the years 1925 to 1930 shows that in the State of Illinois, out of 1000 new shops, 314 had disappeared by the end of the first year, 474 by the end of the second, and 587 at the end of the third. These were small independent businesses.

Also a recent issue of "The Times" says, "The smaller quarries are gradually being eliminated, the work being concentrated at a small number of large quarries . . . with the result that the number of persons employed is dropping."

Finance is self-centralising. — "Social Credit."

SHADOW SPARRING BY THE YOUNG NATIONALISTS (Continued from page 4.)

But the party so brightly ornamented by Mr. Kent Hughes, M.L.A., Mr. Holt, M.H.R., and all those other brilliant specimens of earnest and enlightened democracy, proposes to throw this responsibility back upon the unfortunates themselves. The Young Nationalist benefits are to be distributed out of an insurance fund, out of the contributions extracted by force from the already hopelessly insufficient pittance of the small wage earners. In this way they intend to "provide a standard of living superior to that now possessed by great masses of mankind."

Coming to things that matter, the Young Nationalist platform is remarkable for one feature — a feature that is entirely missing. Nowhere is there any hint (at least in the daily press reports), nowhere is there any reference the burning question of finance. To the Young Nationalists, it seems, money grows on trees with the fruit, springs up from the ground with the crops, can be dug out with the potatoes. There is no insufficiency of money anywhere. All that is necessary to tax the thriftless wage earner, to force him to save against the rainy day. May God save great the masses—and save them especially from Young Nationalist experimenters.

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