

Tel.: Cent. 6693. Tel.: Cent. 6693

ARTHUR W. JONES
OPHTHALMIC OPTICIAN,

Same Address since 1908—

Greens Building, 4th Floor,

G2 SWANSTON STREET,

MELBOURNE, C.1.

(Nine Doors from St. Paul's.)

THE

NEW TIMES

BOOKS ----- BOOKS

CHEAP BOOKS CO.,

Will SIMPLIFY YOUR CHRISTMAS SHOPPING. See for yourself our large selection of Good, Light Novels, Novels for Men, Books for Children, Fascinating Cookery Books, Books on Gardening, Important Biographies, Illustrated Books of Adventure and Travel. Send for Special Christmas List, and Make Your Christmas Shopping Interesting: 4th Floor, Howey Court, 235 Collins Street, Melbourne. Cent. 9604.

VOL. 11. No. 11

MELBOURNE, FRIDAY, MARCH 13, 1936.

Every Friday, 3d

What Rights Have the Unemployed?

Two wealthy Jews—Benjamin Nathan and Howard Smith—recently died in Melbourne, leaving (salutary reminder!) estates, which, even for probate purposes, were valued at over a million pounds apiece. Their principal heirs may choose to carry on in various businesses or professions, or they may decide, as the saying goes, to "do nothing." In the latter event some few individuals may criticise them, but the community as a whole will offer no adverse comment, for it is generally accepted that anyone to whom large quantities of money or wealth have been bequeathed is under no obligation to continue "working." Only in the case of national emergency, such as war or fear of war, are their personal services liable to be conscripted. For we recognise inheritance as a just claim both to goods and to leisure; or at least we recognise it in the case of the Colonel's Lady, though not yet, unfortunately, in that of Judy O'Grady.

On the surface it seems a long cry from the wealthy homes of Toorak and Bellevue Hill to the poverty stricken hovels of the unemployed on Collingwood and Paddington. Yet there is one strong link binding them together—a link, which in the wealthy we envy as leisure, and in the destitute we pity (and some of us despise) as unemployment. This link is the inheritance common to both and responsible for the condition of both. The rich heir is dispensed from labour in industry because some ancestor accumulated more than enough goods, or claims to goods, for his own use; the unemployed factory hand is dispensed from labour because many, many men before him used their intelligence in such a way as to render his services unnecessary by lifting the burden off his back and putting it on to the machine.

A YEAR'S WORK IN TEN HOURS

In the unrecorded past—God alone knows how many thousands of years ago—some unknown genius conceived the idea of a wheel. The wheelbarrow followed, and the cart drawn by oxen. Then man began to get the notion of bringing under his dominion the forces of nature, and he started to use sun power in place of manpower by getting a flow of water to turn his wheel and so to grind his corn. In these inventions, and on the ceaseless stream of inventions, which have followed and are following them, untold millions of men have co-operated, each adding his little bit to the store. And the process goes on. Not only are so-called inventors, designers, engineers, chemists and analysts at work all over the world today, but in factories (everywhere, in railway departments, wherever industrial operations are being carried out, you will find the suggestion box or its equivalent. Sometimes the

HOME BUILDING.

If you contemplate building, our BOOK OF HOMES should be in your hands. Twenty-six illustrations printed on art paper, tell you everything you should know in an easily understood way. COLONIAL BUILDING CO. PTY. LTD. 465 Collins Street Melbourne. Phone: Cent. 9388.

Should They Get a Dole—Or a Dividend?

If unemployment is a release, then obviously it must not be accompanied by economic, or rather financial penalisation. If it is a misfortune, then clearly every effort should be directed to restraining the abilities of those engineers and organisers who are prepared to make not two, but two hundred blades of grass grow where one grew before.

—C. H. Douglas, "The Monopoly Of Credit."

new idea is born of the deliberate study of the technician or the experimenter; sometimes it flashes across the mind of the workman as he uses the tool. But everywhere the story is one of progress and enrichment, whether in big things or in small.

There is little need to cite instances. But here is one, a trivial one if you like, yet symptomatic of a progress, which is almost stupefying. We quote the *Australasian Manufacturer* of October 26 last: "In the Australian tobacco trade a cigarette machine recently installed is capable of turning out 12,000 cigarettes a minute, or over 700,000 an hour, equalling the output of 700 pairs of hands, and the machine needs but three operatives. We could go on multiplying examples of this kind without number."

Just think that over. Three persons attending this machine can turn out in an ordinary working day over five million cigarettes.

And the new machine enables each of the three workers to do in about TEN HOURS what, before the machine was invented, constituted A FULL YEAR'S WORK.

THE LAW OF PATENTS

The questions we have to decide concerning this machine, and concerning similar machines everywhere, are these: Who is entitled to reap the benefit? Does it all be-

long to the nominal owner? Or is it to be shared between the owner and the three persons who are operating the machine? And where do the 697 come in whose services are no longer required?

In one sense we have given ourselves the answer already, but without clearly realising it. This answer has been provided through the world's patent laws. If an inventor, whether by formula, process or mechanical device, can make so noticeable an improvement upon something already existing as to render it substantially different, he is entitled upon registration to obtain patent rights for marketing it. The thing patented may vary from a clothes peg to a cough mixture. But it is important to note that the purpose for which patents are granted is to give the inventor his just reward. It is not to enable him either to exploit his fellows or to hold up community progress. A man is not allowed to patent an improvement and then to sit upon it. After three years, provided the supply of the new article is not sufficient to satisfy the demand for it, a compulsory licence may be obtained for its manufacture by others than the patentee, and after sixteen years—and this is the most important point—the patent itself expires.

What does this mean?

It means that, in accordance with

the laws of all civilised countries, the right of access to the improvement becomes the possession of the whole human race without exception.

Haile Selassie and Benito Mussolini share alike in the title to use the clothes peg, and Mrs. Bill Smith and Lady Cholmondeley both have access to the secret of the bronchitis cure—just as all four participate in the claim to use the alphabet or to recite Shakespeare in public. This is what we mean when we speak of humanity's cultural inheritance—the dowry bequeathed to us of expired patents and copyrights.

RECOGNISING OUR INHERITED RIGHTS.

But, though we all acknowledge this in theory, we are only on the fringe of beginning to put it into practice. Here in Australia our literary inheritance is now generally accepted, and our laws have not only made education free; they have gone further by insisting that it be compulsory, thus ensuring that no one be denied the exercise of this right.

Having conceded the mental rights, we are trembling on the verge of admitting similar physical ones. We have the old age pension, for instance, and similar social legislation. But the reactionaries amongst us are still unwilling to admit that these instalments of

justice are justice, and not charity. You will find this attitude frequently expressed by such out-of-date press organs as the Melbourne *Argus*, which even last week referred to "charity through Government grants" to hospitals and to "the cost of maintaining neglected children and pensioners of various classes."

Just cast your thoughts back to the three workers turning out their five million cigarettes a day, and doing a year's work in ten hours. Just remember that sentence from the *Australasian Manufacturer*: "We could go on multiplying examples of this kind without number." And then think how absurd it is to complain about the cost of maintaining neglected children and pensioners.

THE MONEY PATENTEES ARE THE OBSTACLE

Our difficulty in getting our thoughts clear on this matter of access to our universal inheritance arises, like most of our other difficulties, through our confusion of ideas about money—as witness the reference of the *Argus* to "cost." What actually happens when machinery is being exploited? In practice, as we all know, it is rather unusual for the inventor to get much of the reward. He generally has to sell his idea pretty cheaply to the financier, who, holding an illegal and perpetual patent over the issue of new money, can alone exploit the new invention (and who can equally, by the use of this master patent, block, up nearly all other avenues against the inventor).

The financier or his nominee markets the invention, with a two-fold result. First, the process of production is so cheapened or so improved that similar productive organisations are forced out of competition; and second, hands are put off all round. Our existing practice makes no provision for compensation in either case, so that the operators of the latest improvement are made a virtual present of all the expired patents which really belong to the community—and these expired patents, in the case of our complicated modern machinery, may be numbered by the ten thousand. Thus the inventor (or the exploiter) of the ten-thousandth part of the latest model of machine efficiency not only gets all the reward; but the result of his using the machine is automatically to deprive numerous co-owners of their very right to an existence.

The latter effect is not, of course, the intention either of the inventor or of the exploiter. Nevertheless it happens. And, like all other forms of injustice, sooner or later it rebounds upon the perpetrator. A few days ago we were informed that 24 million people in the United States are absolutely without any income whatever other than various forms

WATCH REPAIRS.

Mark Chapman
Chronometer, Clock and Watch-maker.

7th FLOOR CAPITOL HOUSE,
Swanston Street Melbourne
Telephone: Central 7077.

The Board of Directors,
The Commonwealth Bank of Australia.

Dear Sirs,

The substance of the general criticism levelled against you for selling Treasury bills in your possession to the public—or to such members of the public as have a minimum of £10,000 available—is that your action is deflationary, or, to use a nicer phrase, a "slowing-up of recovery."

With that criticism, so far as it goes, we are quite in agreement. The effect of your action will be to withdraw a million pounds from circulation, substituting for it securities which are not money. Since this is being done at a time when goods for sale are actually increasing enormously and when their potential rate of increase—provided consumers had money to buy them—would be still greater, it is quite clear that your policy must impose fresh and unnecessary hardship upon the whole community.

But, evil as this is, it is not the major crime committed against the Australian people. One must distinguish between robbery and high treason. Our laws now impose far heavier penalties upon a criminal who coins a spurious shilling or forges a spurious Commonwealth note than upon one who merely steals a lawful coin or note. It is right that this should be so, since an offence against the national well being is far graver in its nature than an offence against the well-being of a single citizen. But, once we leave the realm of token money and enter that of the bookkeeping or ledger money which forms the basis of nearly all our financial transactions, then, it seems, the law ceases to operate—otherwise numbers of our most honoured citizens would be having the novel experience of performing hard labour in his Majesty's goals.

The provision of money—whether against Treasury bills or otherwise—as lawfully required for the nation, should be a function of the nation's own bank. It should be a matter of bookkeeping entries, carrying no other charges than those physically attached to such a simple service. But you, Sirs, accept without protest both that this money should be privately manufactured and that an everlasting toll of interest would be charged against the nation by those who, however high sounding their titles, are no more than a gang of wholesale counterfeiters. Worse still, you have for years allowed the whole process of issuing Treasury bills, to be so manipulated in the interests of these counterfeiters as to strengthen their position and to lessen the risk of their crimes being exposed to the public. You have done this by allowing Treasury bills to pass into the hands of the private banks, and by then agreeing to issue to them, upon their request, Commonwealth Bank notes in exchange. Why should you not in the first instance if notes be required, issue these same Commonwealth bank notes, free of interest, to the people's elected Government? Actually, of course, the Government would not normally require notes; Commonwealth Bank credits would suffice. It is only the private banks, which require sufficient notes to keep the people from realising that the backing of legal tender money against private-bank-manufactured money is about eighteen pence in the pound.

We submit to you, Sirs that you have allowed yourselves, we trust through ignorance—though you are in a position where ignorance is inexcusable—to become involved in wicked activities against the nation whose trustees you are. We submit also that if you continue to be parties to such practices you are rendering yourselves liable to a charge of treasonable conspiracy.

THE NEW TIMES

of temporary Government relief. These people are mainly those dispensed with by machinery. And, having no income, they are unable to buy the product of the machine, with the inevitable result that output slackens off and hardly anybody benefits by the latest processes.

These years of depression have been the logical sequel to some years of great mechanical activity, and to the invention of more labour-saving machinery than we have seen in any similar period of the past. For a while the men dispensed with by the machines were kept at work in making new machines—to put other men out of their jobs. Then suddenly we discovered that one-third of the industrial employees of the world were unemployed. (The position was, of course, aggravated and somewhat exaggerated by the bankers' action.)

The so-called recovery, or re-absorbing of men, has been due mainly to three features: (1) Public works; (2) Arming for war; (3) Making good some of the wear and tear of the depression years. This last is only a temporary phase, and it is notable that it has not included the building of houses for the people. Here in Australia at the present moment this phase is just about ended. The other two phases of "recovery," public works and rearmament, as now carried out, mean increased national debt and an addition to our already staggering taxation.

What is the remedy?

SHARE THE MACHINES—OR SHARE THE GOODS?

The Socialist and the Communist say, Let the State own the machines, then everybody can have his just share. And, up to a point, there is a good deal to be said for this view; it would certainly be far fairer than our present monopolistic idea, which permits the tobacco company summarily to condemn 697 of its 700 hands to destitution. But socialistic reformers, though animated by immeasurably nobler ideals than capitalistic monopolists, are just as archaic in their outlook. For they also have as their motto: Work or starve. They fail entirely to recognise our inheritance from past ages. They refuse to see that there is such a thing as a community dividend, in which all should share equally as heirs, irrespective altogether of any personal contribution by way of labour or service.

Social Creditors (and to some extent the more progressive Socialists, such as G.D.H. Cole) take the realistic view. They are prepared to admit, where just, the inventor's claim, likewise that of what is called private enterprise. However faulty present day distribution, they do not therefore overlook the marvellous benefits conferred on humanity by private enterprise and individual initiative. And they hold very strongly the belief that the vast majority of the community are far more concerned in gaining access to the fruits of the machine than in having a nominal share in the ownership of the machine itself. (Nominal, because under socialistic enterprise the public have no more say in administration than under private management—witness our Government railways.) They consider that most people are interested in being able to afford railway journeys or telephones or shoes, and uninterested in railway or telephone or factory ownership—and that any attraction to the latter comes only from the prospect of thereby drawing dividends to purchase consumable goods. Hence they are not in the least disturbed at the thought of allowing private enterprise to continue producing goods as heretofore. Rather will they extend its scope and enable it to produce still more and better goods by removing the monopoly of finance from the hands of the little gang who control and who thereby strangle more than they develop—as most farmers, manufacturers and businessmen now realise. Social Creditors are realistic in concentrating upon the fruits of

"WHAT'S THE BIG IDEA?"

A BROADCAST TALK BY CHARLES NORTH, MEMBER OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY FOR CLAREMONT (WESTERN AUSTRALIA), OVER STATIONS 6ML AND 6IX.

(Editor's Note. — From this address, which was delivered just before the recent State elections in Western Australia, our readers will see that Mr. North, unlike some other politicians whom we could mention, was not afraid of the political consequences of defining very clearly where he stands on the subject which is the most important issue before us all today.)

As would be expected, though there was no Labor opponent (Mr. North belongs to the Nationalist party) he was not allowed to retain his seat unopposed. Although he is the Whip of the Nationalist party, and has represented Claremont continuously since 1924, another Nationalist was persuaded to stand against him, and the electorate was deluged with literature, canvassers, and cars on polling day, in the effort to unseat him. But the electors of Claremont gave their verdict in favour of a representative who says that *poverty can, and should be abolished immediately.*

Mr. North was educated at Hale School, Perth, at Rugby, and at Oxford University, where he gained the B.A. degree with honours in law. As a British Air Force captain he served for 200 hours over the German lines. He was a practising solicitor in Perth for several years, but sold his practice in 1929 to give full attention to Parliamentary duties. Since 1927 he has not been opposed by the Labor party. His career in Parliament has been notable for independence of thought and action.)

Good evening, listeners. Let me break in upon your musical entertainment for a few moments to excite your curiosity somewhat about a *new idea*. Is that possible? Perhaps you are too bored at the moment to get interested. Your mind may swiftly turn to such things as Television or Colour Photography. Such ideas, no doubt, will shortly emerge in flawless practice and later in mass production. But tonight's talk is about an idea which it is fervently hoped and believed will, when translated into fact, prevent countless horrors which loom ahead. First in Australia, the people of Claremont, Swanbourne and Cottesloe embraced this idea, and you, no doubt, will permit me to epitomise their thoughts in the following little manifesto:

THE "SLUMP" SIGNIFIES VICTORY.

"The world slump signifies the final victory of man's age-long struggle with nature. Scarcity has now been conquered by Science. Realising that goods of every description can now be produced in unlimited quantities either here or elsewhere, let us investigate what it is which prevents them both being produced and reaching the people. When once we have definitely located the obstacle, let us proceed to remove it."

That was the job set me by my constituents. And let me here add immediately that any person or persons who by open or devious methods seek to frustrate that plain, simple, humane objective of the people are worthless scoundrels.

Well, listeners, three years have passed and Australia has taken constitutional action under the Lyons Government to achieve the objective in view. A Royal Commission is now sitting in Melbourne. Our State Parliament

the machine, in seeking the end rather than the means. Give everyone, they say, an annual income—apart altogether from the wage he earns if he is actively taking part in production—which will represent to him a dividend on the commercial inheritance in which he is just as much entitled to share as are old Ben Nathan's heirs in his estate. In principle it is just, and in expediency it is urgent. Without it, unemployment—however momentarily deadened with periodic closes of debt narcotics—will ever become a greater and a graver problem. For you can't stop progress. Today three attendants watch the machine spill out 700,000 cigarettes an hour. Soon, probably, one attendant will watch them pile up at the rate of millions an hour, until the machine, finding its output unsaleable, comes to a standstill. Meantime the men who should be inhaling tobacco will be filling their lungs with phosgene instead—in the attempt to solve the "problem" of distribution by fighting for foreign markets!

played an honourable part in the matter by sending to the Federal authorities a request, unanimously agreed to on both sides of the Assembly, that Claremont's wishes and ideas should be investigated. Since then all sorts of significant things have been happening all over the world, which seem to confirm the people of the river and seaside suburb in their courageous foresight. There is only time to mention two of them. Canada and New Zealand have both returned fresh Governments, which, while of different political complexions, are united in their determination to remove the obstacles, which prevent decent conditions for the masses. Now, listeners, you may say that this is all very well, but where do you come in? Here is the answer in a nutshell. Prepare for a threat of good news: —

Unless the authorities here and elsewhere in the near future devise some method by which real hours of labour are definitely reduced, income is definitely increased, and the age at which folk retire from gainful employment is definitely lowered, civil war or a foreign invader is absolutely inevitable.

But the authorities surely will devise methods.

ADMISSIONS FROM AUTHORITIES OVERSEAS

Let me translate these categorical assertions into British bankers' "lingo." Mr. McKenna, the oft-quoted Chairman of the Midland Bank, speaking a few weeks ago, discussed monetary policy and observed that a framework of sound money had come into being. He said that the ultimate control rested with the *Government*, acting upon principles publicly declared or defined by *Parliament*. The immediate task was to . . . "assist the steady upward trend in the standard of living, which the immense advance in production had happily brought within grasp!"

These humane views of one of the world's leading bankers are very refreshing.

Again, let us measure this threat of good news by the views of Sir John Orr, British Nutrition Expert. Britain could spend, he stated, £200,000,000 more annually on food. Actually, 4¼ millions lived on 4/- a week each for food, and should have £1 a week each for the purpose, if modern standards of health were to be maintained. There was a great national need for increased production of foodstuffs, which must be made available at below existing prices, by means of a subsidy if necessary.

TARIFFS AND SUBSIDIES

The matter is indeed complicated in this country by reason of the divided controls between States and Commonwealth, whereas New Zealand has now got a clear start. But, lest the political serpent whisper in your ear tomorrow morning that Charlie North was talking Federal politics last night, let me remind you

that we Westerners have already by referendum demanded the right to set up our own Dominion, which would bring all these matters well within our province. And, further, when the ship is sinking, is not the command, "All hands to the pumps"?

Every country of importance, except Russia, is faced with the same dilemma—namely, astounding powers of production but complete inability to get the goods into the homes of the people. Cottesloe, which is at the moment completing a shark-proof fence, reminds me how necessary it is in politics that someone should devise a red-herring-proof fence. If that were done, many side issues, which obscure our troubles, could be definitely trapped. For instance, tariffs and subsidies. Economic purists wail about them. Yet they are but results, not causes—results of our failure to improve the living of the masses proportionately as Science makes production easier and more prolific. For years now few have been prepared to defend publicly the economics of Queen Victoria, sailing ships, and side-whiskers. Those who still persist in the belief that tariffs are the cause of world distress, and not the effects of outworn economics, are urged to consider the world for a moment as one country in which the oceans become lakes, and tariffs disappear. What, then, is the prospect? Simply this, that the terrific efficiency of the modern power plant would be revealed in its nakedness. Millions more would be sacked in a desperate effort to curtail what was apparently unwanted over-production.

Unwanted? What blasphemy! I pause, listeners, to reflect that politics is a tug-of-war in words and ideas. It may well take years of struggle and fight to gain but an inch.

THE NEW IDEA

Let me now attempt to develop the *new idea*. We are, in the West, prospecting already feverishly for gold. Without relaxing such efforts by so much as a hair's breadth, efforts which have done so much to help us lately, let me attempt to arouse your curiosity so far as to persuade you to pene-

trate into the regions of "unused capacity." If only "Big Business," the Punting Fraternity, Contract Bridge Players, Artists, Radio and Aeroplane Experts and all kinds of Sportsmen would bring to bear some of their ingenuity upon this subject! Here you have a society, which takes elaborate precautions to ensure that agriculture and industry shall work at less than half capacity. Thus, by destroying in embryo enormous quantities of food, clothes, houses and the comforts that might have been, we provide an arena for a desperate struggle for existence under rules which make it inevitable that a proportion of the participants go to the wall.

WHAT THE AMERICAN INVESTIGATION SHOWED.

The only possible way, in which these assertions may be countered, so far as I am aware, is to contend that there is no "unused capacity," or not very much. Then, in reply, why is it that our farms are being abandoned to the rabbits, and why, pray, are not the relief workers engaged at full-time rates, erecting more *factories*, instead of being engaged on Government works? But let a possible die-hard purist of the old school put this in his pipe and smoke it:

Roosevelt recently investigated officially what sort of a living standard was available for the whole of the families in the United States, without adding as much as a single spanner or fly-wheel to what already existed, and he got this result—that so soon as Uncle Sam quits monkeying with economics that belong to the ant macassar and harpsichord age and permits industry to function at normal speed there is a living standard available to each and every American family equivalent in our money to *eighteen pounds a week*.

So, listeners, I would urge you to view New Zealand's valiant efforts with the eye of neighbourly cousins. But may I counsel that you assume a responsible, stern, fatherly attitude in regard to the deliberations of the Royal Commission in Melbourne. Economic history is going to be made in 1936.

AUSTRALIAN WOMEN ARE GOOD COOKS SAY MANY VISITORS FROM OVERSEAS



—and some are better than others, of course. You will find that most of the best cooks give credit for their success to the ingredients they use. If you could take a peep into thousands of kitchens whilst cakes were being made or dinners being prepared, you would find PINK PACKETS on the majority of tables—the sign of good cooks.

In those PINK PACKETS is Australia's choicest Maize product—KREAM Brand CORNFLOUR. That is the open secret of success in making many soups, stews, sauces, cakes, puddings and blanc-manges so delicious.

MAIZE PRODUCTS PTY. LTD.
MacKinnon Street, Footscray, Victoria

KREAM BRAND CORNFLOUR

In the Pink Packet

Maize has arranged a Book of 93 Tested Recipes, covering a wonderful variety of dishes. Send 2d. in stamps and we will gladly post it to you. . . . Listen to the Leo Murray Players, 3AW, Sunday, 7.30 p.m.

PATON

THE A.N.A.

By BRUCE H BROWN

Every organisation has what is called its "Objects of Association," and in the case of the A.N.A. these objects, apart from the Friendly Society activities, are as follow:—

1. The fostering of a sincere love of country;
2. The encouragement of a high standard of life and living;
3. The stimulation of Australian art, literature and science;
4. The maintenance of the White Australia policy;
5. The extension of the Primary Industries;
6. The establishment and development of Manufactures to the fullest possible extent;
7. The scientific utilisation of Australia's natural resources;
8. The realisation of the highest ideals of Social Freedom.

No one who has reviewed the history of Australia's development could truthfully deny that the Australian Natives' Association has played an important and worthy part, but the surprising thing is that it has been most quiescent when it should have been most active. It stood solidly behind the movement for Federation, little expecting that, within a period of only 35 years, each new-born child would inherit a deadweight debt of £185 and that our burden of taxation would have increased from a few shillings per head to more than £14 per head. This is the direct and inescapable result of the treasonable and fraudulent practice of governments borrowing privately manufactured money for public purposes, treason and fraud which the A.N.A. has condoned by its silence's

FOUR STAGES OF THE SWINDLE

In recent years we have heard practically nothing of the Association, and yet during the period since 1929 the greatest crime on record has been committed against the Australian people Ever since Federation we have been the victims of a gigantic swindle in the matter of our national finances, but when this swindle was manipulated to precipitate a "financial crisis" of the first magnitude it became a crime of the first magnitude also. This crime was executed in four stages and was the work of the controllers to continue the arrangements. The first stage was the engineering of a fall in overseas prices, which caused our farmers to get less and less money for more and more goods. The second stage was the refusal of the money controllers to continue the arrangements by which, for many years, our financial commitments had been met abroad. The third stage which was carried out concurrently with the other two moves, was the calling in and cancellation of overdrafts from business houses by the banking institutions and the deliberate curtailment of advances to industry. Having thus beggared the Farmer, the Government, and Industry, the bankers then dictated the imposition of the so-called "Premiers'" Plan to make the crucifixion even more crucifying. There were no protests from the A.N.A. Rather was the reverse the case; for instead of hearing inquiries from that quarter as to why there should be an increasing shortage of money at a time when there was an increasing quantity of production, we saw the "leaders" accepting without question the directions of the bankers' agents and submitting without protest to sacrifices like sheep submit to the slaughter man. It never occurred to them that calls for "sacrifice" in a world overflowing with the bounty of God were too silly for words, and it never occurred to the rank and file that

any movement in the hands of such "leaders" must inevitably become stagnant. As a public force the A.N.A. is stagnant, and we suggest the explanation is largely to be found in the personnel of its controlling body.

A.N.A. OBJECTIVES ALL CONCERN MONEY

We have not the space to make more than passing reference to the objects of the A.N.A. as enumerated) but if you will kindly read them again you will realise that the achievement of every one of them is dependent absolutely on Finance -- i.e., money. Sincere love of country, for example, cannot be expected in circumstances of poverty, disease, distress and hopelessness; yet the A.N.A. has remained officially silent about the disgraceful fact that more than half the bread-winners of Australia receive £2 per week or less, and at least a million of our people are striving to exist on "dole" and "relief" payments. Not only so, but they allow Sir Claude Reading, who was formerly a beneficiary of the bank-controlled Tobacco Trust, to say in the name of the Commonwealth Bank Board that there must be even less spending! Surely this is not really art association composed wholly of Australians? If it is, what has become of the great spirit of the Australian Soldiers? If we have to love our country and to be expected to defend it then we must be given some reasonable interest in it, and the least we should do for our people is to guarantee them economic security by the assured receipts of regular incomes. That is a question of money.

A high standard of life and living is wholly impracticable unless the people are given access to production, and here again it is a question of money, for access to goods is attainable only through the medium of money. Australian Art, Literature and Science lack only the stimulus of money—vide the almost unbelievable spectacle of a recent deputation to the Government of Victoria asking for sufficient money to enable the Trustees of our Public Library and Art Gallery to continue the institution in stagnation. We have also seen the vice-chancellor of the University pleading for money, and even Sir David Rivett objecting to the misapplication of scientific discoveries through shortage of money.

One thing, and one thing only, makes the maintenance of the White Australia policy a problem, and that one thing is the lack of money on the part of the Government. With a sensible money system based on Australia's productive capacity, guaranteeing economic security to every citizen, our kinsmen from overseas would be glad to come; but unless we can guarantee that they will be able to get sufficient money to live decently they will naturally stay away, and it is better that they should.

What is the use of extending primary industries unless the primary producer can be paid for what he produces? The A.N.A. will find it difficult to live down the fact that from 1929 onwards it allowed the primary producers to be robbed without protest, and for that body to preach an extension of such industries now without regard to the deficiencies of the money system which control them is the rankest humbug.

In the same way it is sheer folly to advocate the extension of secondary industries without considering whether such industries will be able to recover their costs, and as this is a matter, which depends on the purchasing power of the people (money) it

is impossible for manufactures to be extended and developed unless sufficient money is in regular circulation.

It sounds well enough to say that the Association stands for "the scientific utilisation of Australia's natural resources, but to do that we must have the assistance of men, equipment and money. And the first two depend wholly on the third. Without money the resources must remain unused.

What is meant by "Social Freedom"? And which sections (if any) of the people are enjoying it now? Does it not mean liberty to do what one wishes, consistent with respect for similar liberty in the case of everyone else? And how is it possible for anyone to be socially free without an assured income of money free from the crushing attention of the tax-grabbers?

From the foregoing brief comments it will be seen that the objects of the A.N.A. must inevitably take second place to money, and that so long as the control of this vital thing remains in the hands of a private monopoly whose interests are served by keeping it in short supply, the consummation of their high and commendable ideals will continue to be something only to be hoped for.

WHAT WAS SAID BY MR. GORMAN.

In the Melbourne "Age" of March 2, there is a report of the speeches, which were made at the annual smoke social of the A.N.A. All of them were more or less interesting, but none of them touched upon the vital subject of money. Mr. Eugene Gorman, K.C., got the nearest to it, but even he seemed frightened to mention it. What is there about this bookkeeping business that has them all so cowed? He said there is no immediate danger of internal war in Australia, and in addition we have the happiness of being one race, speaking one language, and having a continent without a customs barrier. But he forgot to say that we have the unhappiness of being in pawn to the private banking system, and of being unable to do anything without the approval of the private bankers or without increasing our indebtedness to them. Why did he omit that? He surely must know it.

He spoke wisely, we think, when he said that the hope of the world lies in democracy, but democracy can rule only what it owns, and so long as it surrenders ownership of money to a private monopoly it simply cannot be effective. The system does leave men to fight their neighbours, as he says, but all the fight is for an insufficient share of a totally inadequate supply of money. It is true also that all good Australians desire to see the matter adjusted constitutionally instead of by revolutionary methods, but it is time all of us realised that unless we can knock some sense into the political leaders on this money question, revolution will be inevitable. Improvements come progressively by common sense or suddenly by revolution. Bankers and political leaders unfortunately are showing no commonsense, but seem to be working together to keep the country in pawn to the money creators and to cover up the swindle under which private minters misappropriate public property. Once he gets a clear understanding of the national financial arrangements every honest man immediately rebels against them.

Mr. Gorman made timely reference to the tinkering with our laws and uttered a warning against driving the inquiring spirit underground. We agree with him in that, but regret that he did not denounce the trickery under which a super government (the third, non-

lected chamber known as the Loan Council) was foisted on an unthinking community by virtue of the Financial Agreement. Nevertheless, he made an excellent contribution to the discussion and we offer our congratulations to him. We recall with disgust that when he submitted himself for the Legislative Council certain secret forces quickly jumped into great activity to keep him out. We hope the A.N.A. will be so rejuvenated as the result of its 1936 conference that this man, as well as others of similar type, will be afforded the opportunity to serve the public in a wider sphere.

MR. TOOHEY AND OVERSEAS INVESTORS

Mr. P. J. Toohey, the chief president, was the next speaker, but despite his University degrees he was a great disappointment. One sentence of his address is sufficient to show that he approaches the main subject from the wrong angle. He said this: "The A.N.A. insists that encouragement should be given to investors, including those from overseas, to invest their money in Australian industries which operate and give employment in this country." Apart altogether from the fact that the best possible encouragement is a public with money to spend, he thus admitted that he does not know what money is, that he supports the usury method of finance, and that, like so many politicians, he has the "employment complex" without understanding it. This "money" he speaks of is bank-created credit-money and consists of simple bookkeeping entries in bank ledgers. What hope is there for the A.N.A. to be a force in the land when its chief president openly regards money as some scarce and holy thing to which every other thing must be subservient?

It cannot be said too often that every bit of money used in Australia is made in Australia, and that so far as money is concerned we do not need the assistance of anyone outside Australia. It is because of the fallacious idea that money is a commodity like food, instead of a mere ticket, that Australia has no sovereign parliament. Only last week the Commonwealth Bank Board had the audacity to deliver another ultimatum in this wise: "The time has arrived when balanced Budgets and decreased loan works should be the immediate policy of Australian Governments." They did a similar thing in 1931, and what a lovely time we had! They are saying in effect, that governments must only spend up to the amount the private money controllers see fit to make available to them, and yet it is a demonstrable fact that the very solvency of industry depends on extensive spending by governments. We must be a race of serfs, for only they would tolerate such dictation.

MR. JOSEPH HAS THE WORK COMPLEX, TOO.

Mr. R. J. Joseph followed and urged "a sound Protective policy for the promotion of employment." How this work complex lingers in a machine age! By Protection he means shutting out or refusing to accept actual wealth, which other countries wish to give us. This is done so that our own people may be compelled to produce similar wealth, even though there is already plenty being offered to us. His references to "wage rates" also revealed that he still clings to the wage-slave idea. Work! Work at any price, but it is work we must have. The fact that work itself does not create money is completely forgotten.

MR. WHITE ON DEFENCE

Political leaders also had their turn at the social. Mr. White, the Minister for Customs, a high official in the United

'Phone: F 1996.

GOODWAY TYRE RETREADS

514b ELIZABETH ST.
(Opp. Victoria Market).
G U A R A N T E E D
5 0 0 0 MILES.

Quick Service.

Australia or Bankers' party, represented the Federal Government. His job was not a bed of roses, he said, and he found it difficult to please everyone; but it seems to us that so long as he continues to please the old ladies of the A.W.N.L. he need not worry much about displeasing a few others. He went on to say that "the greatest security to Australian industry was to be had through the Tariff Board, and the best defence of Australia was in the nation's man power." Australian industry does not prosper or decline according to tariff manipulations at all, but according to the quantity of money in the hands of the Australian people. Indeed, the tariff exists only to meet the work complex of the uninformed and the money shortage imposed by the bankers. And as to man power and defence, what is the use of Mr. White or anyone else talking in that fashion when birth control is being advocated everywhere as the remedy for the shortage of money? Finance and Finance alone, is the only problem in defence, as it is in industry and everything else.

MR. CURTIN ON "ECONOMIC LOSSES."

Mr. J. Curtin, leader of the A.L.P., said there is a great variety of opinion as to what Australia should do, but he might have added that with the exception of one group all of them dodge the real issue—money. We agree with his statement that "the many vulnerable parts of Australia must be occupied, not only by men, but by women and children too, and to get these places occupied in that way they must be made habitable for men and their families." Here again there is only one obstacle to this, and that obstacle is money. What is more, that obstacle will remain until we change the financial system from private ownership to public ownership.

Mr. Curtin unfortunately clouds the issue by referring to "economic losses," when, as a matter of fact there would be economic gains. It is true that under the existing arrangements there would be a deficiency of money, but as money is only a system of bookkeeping with corresponding tickets or tokens, that deficiency could be easily rectified and should occasion no worry whatever. Labor, as a political organisation, will get nowhere until it acquires a better understanding of finance, for this controls everything, and obviously no government can ever possess sovereign power while the nation's money is controlled by private interests. "Those who control the credit of a nation hold the destiny of the people in the hollow of their hand," and until the community regains control of its own credit it will continue to be thoroughly helpless and not even the hosts of Heaven could alter it.

MR. BUSSAU ON SLUMS

Mr. A. L. Bussau, the Victorian Attorney-General (and a former chief president of the A.N.A.), said that his Government had done its share in "trying" to remedy the position of unemployment, and that it was up to the municipalities to do their part in (Continued on page 7, col.1)



THE NEW TIMES

Published every Friday by New Times Pty. Ltd., Elizabeth House, Elizabeth and Little Collins Sts., Melbourne, C.I. Postal Address: Box 1226, G.P.O. Melbourne.

Telephone: M 5384.

Vol. 2.

No. 11.

FRIDAY, MARCH 13, 1936.

Helping the Overseas Mortgagee to Foreclose

This country may not yet have taken any active steps to shake off the unjust millstone of debt to overseas financiers, which hangs so heavily around its neck, but at least our people are rapidly gaining enlightenment. And enlightenment must precede reform.

The financial leader in one of our morning dailies on Wednesday began thus: "With the prospect of a substantial trade balance deficit in London for the second year in succession, the necessity for making every facility available for the investment of British capital in Australia has assumed greater importance." The article then went on to plead for further concessions in taxation to overseas investors in Australian enterprises.

Put into simpler terms, the position thus disclosed is this. In order to pay interest to London bondholders, whose claims against Australia's governments, local governments, semi-public boards and private industries are now rapidly approaching £1000 millions, we are required to find each year certain sums in English sterling in London. The normal way of providing these funds is to sell Australian produce in Britain to an extent sufficient to pay for our imports and to provide the required margin for the interest payments.

At no time have we refused to do this. Our farmers, even in the face of ruinous prices, have heroically continued to increase the pile of goods available for this purpose. Our Australian people have uncomplainingly accepted the second grade produce of the

farms in order that the first grade quality might be exported. They have gone further, and have taxed themselves on the portion of farm products locally consumed (butter, sugar, wheat, etc.) in order to give the farmers some compensation for personal losses involved in the attempt to establish London credits. Our Australian governments have approved all these things. Finding, in spite of all these efforts, that London funds were not accumulating fast enough—because it has been impossible to dispose of our goods in Britain, even at a financial loss—our governments have gone further in the misguided effort to protect us from "repudiation." They have adopted a policy of endeavouring to sell as much to, and to buy as little as possible from, other countries, thus further building up credit balances in London. When these countries protested that it was becoming increasingly difficult for them to carry on trade in this manner—since trade is of its nature reciprocal—and that, if they could not sell to us, they would have to cease buying from us, trade treaties were promised. The only steps taken to implement these trade treaties have been a series of leg-pulling expeditions abroad, led by Bruce, Latham and Gullett, and a series of inane "conversations" led by Lyons and Menzies. As a result we have lost a good deal of our trade with foreign countries, we stand to lose a great deal more in the very near future, and the name of Australia is beginning to stink abroad as a byword for insincerity.

These things are matters of fact. And where has the whole business led us? There is "the prospect of a substantial trade balance deficit in London for the second year in succession," and so we are asked to make "every facility available for the investment of British capital in Australia." In other words, as all our efforts have been unavailing, the proposal is that Australians shall bear still heavier taxation in order to induce those bondholders who cannot be paid in London to accept payment in Australia and to "invest" it here. And in order that they may do so we must make Australian investments attractive to them by asking the local tenant to bear the burden for the sake of the absentee landlord.

For that is what the proposal amounts to. Already, as we have constantly pointed out in these columns, a huge slice of Australia has been handed over to the usurer abroad. A fair idea of who that usurer is may be easily gleaned by examining the lists of foreign companies trading in Australia, and by noting the prominence of bankers on their boards. And now, because we cannot pay the mortgagee his pound of flesh in full it is suggested that we invite him to take his pick of our assets and

THE "NEW TIMES"
IS OBTAINABLE
AT ALL AUTHORISED
NEWSAGENTS.

to enter into possession of some more of them. The result of this, naturally, will be to add still further to our annual interest bill, to increase each year our deficiencies and our handing over of capital assets, until finally we reach the stage where the bondholder has the lot.

The swindle is shown up in all its stark fraud when one comes to inquire the reason for our inability to establish sufficient London credits. Is it that the English people do not want, or will not buy more Australian butter or eggs or fruit or wheat or wool? Far from it. With millions of their unfortunate population trying to keep body and soul together on an income for food of four shillings a week, all they lack is money. Given this, they would probably absorb right away at least two or three times as much of our produce as they now do, and at prices, which would show our farmers a fair return. But they are prevented from having this income by the policy of the same financial monopolists who are exploiting our own people.

The Scullin Ministry, in an honest if misguided attempt to put things right, attempted to deal with the problem by restricting British imports into Australia—and thereby naturally incurring the hostility of all the merchants of Britain. Momentarily, Mr. Scullin's policy appeared to meet with success. But how could it provide a permanent solution? All the cutting down of trade will not solve the problem of how the British people are to absorb the *extra* goods, which we must continue to send, whether the figures of our mutual trade be high or low. In essence it is purely a *financial* problem, and a problem to be solved only by those who control the quantity of *British* money available in *Britain*. We commend this to Mr. Curtin, who in his speech in the Federal House on Wednesday appeared to be following the line of thought set him by Mr. Scullin.

Meantime, unless we are prepared to pyramid interest until we have handed over our country, lock, stock and barrel to the financiers, the only sensible attitude for us to adopt is to say to the bondholders: "Here is an annual supply of goods sufficient to pay interest and sinking fund. It is for you to make your own arrangements about distribution. Will you take them here, or shall we send them?" There is no other alternative, except to do what Britain did to America.

DOUGLAS AND ALBERTA.

Through the courtesy of the Douglas Social Credit Association of Queensland, we have received the following:

The Association cabled the Social Credit Secretariat, London: "Advise truth press report of Douglas's resignation. Any likelihood of Alberta implementing Douglas's proposals with his advice?"

The Secretariat's reply, received on Tuesday of this week, reads: "Position still under negotiation."

THE BLATANT BUCCANEERS And the Blazoned Banner

By D OMINUS

"Mankind is not condemned for ever to endure its present evils; if there is a will to escape from them, its nobler spirits will certainly find a way. . . . If it is lawful to dream of a world in which the good of all would be much more nearly the good of each than it is at present, it is lawful to do whatever may help to make the dream reality."—Sir Percy Nunn, M.A., D.Sc. (Lond.), Prof. of Education in University of London.

SOME OF THE EVILS

Every child born in Australia immediately becomes subject to a debt of £185/17/10, and perpetual interest thereon to lenders of credit.

54 per cent, of men at present 25 years of age will (according to the A.M.P. Society) be dependent on relatives or charity in 40 years, while only 5 per cent, will be in comfortable circumstances. (The 54 per cent would probably be a greater percentage but that death will take another 36 per cent.)

The National Debt of £1400 millions (in Australian money) seems destined to an enormous inflation in the near future, adding to the commitments of innocent infancy at the same time as it adds to the purloined profits of the racketeers.

We are afflicted with so-called statesmen who persistently and conveniently ignore the facts and jauntily assure us that at last (owing, of course, to their wonderful statesmanship), Prosperity has poked her head round the corner, where she had remained in seclusion for so long.

Melbourne's population subsists, so far as milk is concerned, on an allowance of half a pint per day for all purposes. It need hardly be added that the average amount per day for the children of the vast majority must be much lower. Much of the allowance they do get is provided by such organisations as the State Schools Relief Society from funds contributed by families whose standard of living is far from luxurious.

Children are poorly fed, their clothing offers little protection from the cold, which is at hand, and many come from homes where the spectre of unemployment lurks or a sense of future security is lacking. There are many cases where their school progress is retarded by malnutrition.

Men walk the streets and haunt employment offices in the steadily vanishing hope of scoring permanent employment.

Youths approach manhood with no physical or mental equipment for the battle of life. They have not acquired a means of livelihood, and (such is the effect on their morale) are losing the *desire* for one. The habit of idleness of mind and body is becoming ingrained.

Producers of goods are discouraged by reason of low, prices and unsaleable produce, due to a lack of purchasing power in the masses.

Adults are lacking in the power of judgment in economic and political matters; they vote, largely, according to the card handed to them by the agents of the more active "party" who haunt the precincts of polling booths. As one who has presided at elections for 20 years, the writer has no hesitation in asserting a steady retrogression of interest and knowledge—yes, and of intelligence—among voters generally.

And, greatest evil of all, the clouds of "battle, murder, and sudden death" loom on the horizon. The war drums are beating in the distance and the distance is rapidly diminishing. What hope for a people whose vision is dimmed, who have not the ability to understand, who are drifting into that hopeless attitude of mind that would almost

welcome even war as an evil lesser than present ones?

THE NOBLER MINDS

Who are the nobler spirits that are seeking the way of escape from these evils, who dream of a better world and strive to make the dream reality?

Is it the banking racketeers who have hung the millstone of debt upon the necks of the populace?

Is it the munition money-grabbers whose manipulations are so patently forcing nations into mutual distrust?

Is it the slum landlord who draws the life-blood from the frames of children?

Is it the politicians who feed out the dope of a non-existent prosperity?

Is it Professor Giblin, member of the Commonwealth Bank Board, who, according to the *Herald* (19th Oct., 1935), teaches "persons must make sacrifices in wages and luxuries for the good of the whole, and that if, at any time, wages or prices are depressed, those directly affected must do their share by admitting correspondingly lower living conditions"?

Is it the Federal Treasurer, Hon. R. G. Casey, who not long since asserted "85 per cent, of Australians live reasonably comfortable lives"?

Is it the daily newspaper, which panders to the oligarchy that controls the destinies of men and of nations under the present financial system, and which seeks to bulldoze the populace with news that conceals the news?

And again, is it the man who sees the truth, however dimly, yet is too indolent or too indifferent to join the ranks of the "nobler spirits"?

OR—

Is it King Edward VIII, who spurns delights and lives laborious clays, seeking not the path of indolence that lies so alluringly before him but penetrating into the homes of direst poverty; who, as one of his first acts of kingship and *statesmanship*, makes a first-hand investigation of slum conditions, and does not hesitate to flay with words of stinging import those responsible for such degrading blots on his fair realm?

Is it Pope Pius XI, who condemns a state of affairs whereby "immense power and despotic economic domination is concentrated in the hands of a few . . . because they hold and control money, are able also to govern credit and determine its allotment, for that reason supplying, so to speak, the life-blood of the entire economic body, and grasping, as it were, in their hands the very soul of production, so that no one dares breathe against their will"?

Is it men like Fr. Coughlin, America's radio priest, who despite threats of death, ceaselessly strives to disseminate the truth and rescue the people from the thralldom of despair?

Is it the men of education and intellect who band themselves into societies having for their aim the abolition of poverty in the midst of abundance, who ceaselessly strive to restore to the sovereign people their lost inheritance, who suffer contumely at the hands of the ignorant and the self-interested?

* * *

Gentle reader, there lies your choice. Are you, through lack of knowledge or through indifference, going to tolerate a system, which enslaves a people in an unnatural, un-Christian, inhuman, retrogressive thralldom, or will you join the nobler spirits who seek the way of escape from mankind's present evils? Do *you* dream of a world "in which the good of all would be much more nearly the good of each than it is at present", and are you prepared to use your efforts "to make the dream a reality"?

The Blazoned Banner is unfurled. There are generals ready and eager to lead you on to victory. Their eyes are aglow with the illumination of an Ideal, which they would convert to the Real. Theirs is the "vision splendid" that sees the goal of the Attainable.

"Now is the acceptable time."

THE PRINTED WORD

in Pamphlets, Booklets, Leaflets, Weeklies, Monthlies, Annuals, Newspapers, Magazines, or Books

EXCELLENTLY AND ECONOMICALLY PRODUCED

By

THE ADVOCATE PRESS

309-319 LONSDALE

PLACE, MELBOURNE

Phone 6831 (3 lines)

THE BANKING SYSTEM IN AMERICA

By D. J. AMOS, F.A.I.S.

Early in the present century the international banking firm of Kuhn, Loeb and Co. loomed large in the financial world of the United States. Originally an enterprise of clothing manufacturers in Cincinnati, it became a firm of note brokers, and finally bankers, under the leadership of Jacob Schiff, a German-Jew who married one of old Solomon Loeb's daughters. Another daughter married Paul Warburg (the elder), of the German-Jewish banking house of Warburg and Co., a younger brother of which (Felix) married Jacob Schiff's daughter. Owing to the connection between the two houses, Mr. Schiff, as head of the firm of Kuhn, Loeb and Co., was able to draw a great deal of German capital into American investments, and he played an active and important part in bringing about those huge amalgamations of railway and other interests which were fought by the elder President Roosevelt in his anti-trust campaigns. He was a director of many Railways, Banks and Trust Companies, and his firm of Kuhn, Loeb and Co. subscribed to and floated the large Japanese War Loans of 1904 and 1905, for which Mr. Schiff was decorated by the Mikado and was granted a private audience with King Edward VII in England. Great, however, as were the interests he controlled, there was an inner group of financiers, of which Messrs. J. P. Morgan and Co. were the recognised leaders, who were more powerful still, and the man who was to alter this state of things had only just arrived in the United States from Germany to take up the position of junior partner in the firm of Kuhn, Loeb and Co. This young man's name was Paul Moritz Warburg, and he was the creator of the United States' Federal Reserve Banking System.

FINANCIAL PANIC OF 1907

In 1907, in the midst of a most prosperous season for the primary producers and with manufacturing running full time, a currency panic was suddenly created by a series of organised runs upon certain banks in New York, made almost entirely by millionaires and in which ordinary depositors at first took little part. The banks involved were left unsupported and failed; the panic spread, and Paul Warburg used it to provide ammunition in a great campaign he set afoot for a central banking system—which was to place the control of the entire resources of the United States in the hands of a small coterie of financiers. At his instigation, in 1911, Senator Aldrich brought forward a bill setting up such a system, with the banks in full control of all the nation's currency, but a change of Governments came just in time to defeat the measure.

THE MONEY TRUST

Soon after Woodrow Wilson became President in 1912, the

A Suit That Keeps New for a Year

Unique Service at No Extra Cost. This is what it means to you. After delivery of your new suit, you are entitled to have it Dry Cleaned, Pressed and Repaired Absolutely Free of Charge Every Eight Weeks for 12 Months.

The cut of Saville Clothes embodies the Traditions, Style and Finish of London.

The Fit We Guarantee Hand Made Suits and Costumes from £6/6/-

SAVILLE

Leonard House
44 ELIZABETH STREET
Take Lift in Arcade to 5th Floor.

Pujo Commission was appointed to inquire whether or not there was a money trust in the United States. It reported in March, 1913, that there was; that the five great banking houses of J. P. Morgan and Co.; the National City Bank of New York; Higginson and Co., of Boston and New York; Kidder Peabody and Co., and Kuhn, Loeb and Co., controlled between them no less than 112 banking, financial and industrial corporations with resources in capital and reserves totalling £4449 millions. Said the Commission, "The powerful grip of these gentlemen is on the throttle that controls the wheels of credit, and on their signal those wheels will turn or stop."

It will appear absolutely incredible, but there is nothing more certain than that, in the teeth of these facts, Paul Warburg persuaded President Wilson, Colonel House (the President's confidential adviser), and William Jennings Bryan, that if an act drawn up by himself and his fellow-bankers were passed, the Money Trust would be effectually controlled. The politicians were not corrupt, but merely potter's clay in the hands of these experienced financiers (Colonel House's "Memoirs" prove that). Thinking that they were freeing America from an octopus, they merely fastened its tentacles more firmly than ever upon the people of the United States, and created an organisation which enabled the Jewish section of the Money Trust to dominate not only America but the rest of the world as well.

On the 20th December 1913, an Act, known as the Federal Reserve Act, was passed by the Legislature, which grouped the banks of the United States into a number of regional systems, each under the control of a Central Bank known as a Federal Reserve Bank. Every bank in each region had to contribute its share of the capital of this Reserve Bank and take part in the election of six of its Directors; the remaining three directors being appointed by a Board known as the Federal Reserve Board which was composed of five financial magnates, of whom Paul Warburg was the dominating factor, with the Secretary of the Treasury and the Controller of the Currency as *ex officio* members. The Chairman of each Reserve Bank is the Agent of this Federal Reserve Board and the relation between the Board and the Reserve Banks is intimate and direct. The Board has the power of inspection and supervision of the affairs of the Reserve Banks, it can examine their books, remove or suspend their officers, and suspend, administer or reorganise the Reserve Banks themselves. The five financial magnates on the Federal Reserve Board need not be bankers, though two of them must have had banking experience; they must not be senators or representatives of the people, and no two must come from the same reserve region. It is these five men who elect the Governor and the Vice-Governor of the Board, and the functions of the Board include the regulation of the Federal Note Issue.

REGULATING THE NOTE ISSUE.

This is done in the following manner:—

Each Reserve Bank is authorised to issue to all member banks a paper currency, known as Reserve Notes, not against gold, but against securities lodged by the general public with the member banks and deposited by the member banks with the Reserve Bank; but note issues are only a fraction of the total currency issued by the Reserve Bank to the member banks, and

by them to the general public. By far the greater portion consists of bank credits granted upon general securities and operated upon by means of cheques. Against the fractional note issue—not against the mass of cheque currency—the Reserve Banks are supposed to hold 40 per cent, of gold, but "lawful money"—i.e., silver and gold certificates and United States Treasury Notes (known as "greenbacks" in America)—is regarded as gold in reserve. Now suppose that for any reason one of the member banks in any region finds itself short of notes. It applies to the Reserve Bank for them and deposits securities, and the Reserve Bank forwards the application for additional notes to the Federal Reserve Board. That Board, on which the five financial magnates form an overwhelming majority, issues the notes or withholds them at its absolute discretion. If it decides to withhold them, nothing can save that member bank, no matter in how satisfactory a state its affairs may be; it smashes for want of legal tender currency with which to discharge its obligations, and the public reads in the daily press that another "wild cat" bank has gone west.

OFF GOLD DURING THE WAR

During the war the artificial bonds, which confined the National Credit of the nation to gold, were burst asunder, and by the aid of this national credit the most astounding tasks were undertaken and accomplished. At a very heavy price in life and health and toil the masses of the people for a few years attained to a higher standard of living and to a greater extent of economic freedom than they had ever enjoyed before. This was judged to be a very dangerous state of things by the financial oligarchy; moreover, there were fortunes to be made by bringing prices down, just as fortunes had been made by pushing them up.

FIFTY-SIX MEN RUIN MILLIONS.

The Deflationary Campaign was begun in Washington on the 18th May 1920. Fifty-six men met in a room there and secretly changed the credit policy of the nation. Five of them were our financial magnates of the Federal Reserve Board, one was a lawyer of the Board, one was a Congressman, and the remaining 49 were bankers, most of them big bankers.

When the 56 men sat down in that room the people generally were prosperous—never more so. When the 56 men rose from the table the primary producers were bankrupt, many industries were ruined, and several millions of men thrust back into poverty and unemployment. It was a year or two before some of them found it out, but in 12 months' time it took over 100 per cent, more farm products to get a dollar—and no industry could survive such treatment.

The Governor of the Federal Reserve Board—a proprietary banker—said: "However desirable on general principles continued expansion of trade and industry may be, such developments must accommodate themselves to the supply of credit and capital available." This was an actual declaration of war upon wealth producers by the bankers, and the Federal Reserve Board pushed on the campaign vigorously.

PUTTING ON THE SCREW.

As a climax to its other efforts, the Board in 1921 called upon the Member Banks in the farm belt to repay their borrowings from the Reserve Banks in 30 days. The Member Banks accordingly put the screw upon the farmers who, in order to repay their loans, flooded the markets with their goods, and prices tumbled so rapidly that by the date they became due the loans were for the first time on

record greater than the value of the security.

The Federal Reserve Board, in the interests of the big bankers, made the small proprietary banks in farming districts bankrupt; scores of them were forced to close down, the farmers lost their deposits, and receivers called up unpaid loans and foreclosed upon the farms. These foreclosures grew to appalling numbers; in 1934 in the Middle West alone 750,000 foreclosures were reported in the local press.

It will now be seen that the American Reserve System of Banking is supply a banking aristocracy, created within an already existing aristocracy, by means of which it was made possible for speculative financiers to centralise great sums of money for their own purposes.

RUFUS ISAACS SELLS ENGLAND

During the European War, England sent Sir Rufus Isaacs (afterwards Lord Reading) as her representative to this Federal Reserve Board to arrange for large American credits with which to purchase American foodstuffs and war material. He entered into arrangements with them by which the £1000 millions, which the British Government borrowed, were specifically made repayable in gold upon demand or, at most, three days' notice. As the total stock of monetary gold in the world was only £2000 millions, Britain, under her bond to the United States, might be called upon to produce one-half of the world's total supply of gold within three days on penalty of being officially declared bankrupt. This, of course, was an absolute impossibility, and Sir Rufus Isaacs, by his action in signing such a contract, placed the British people entirely at the mercy of the United States, or rather of its Federal Reserve Board.

After the war, these German-Jew-American financiers had the great trading and financial rival of both Germany and America, to employ their own cheerful expression, "fairly by the throat." They used their power both to get their own nominee (Montagu Norman) appointed as Governor of the Bank of England, and to urge upon the British Government the appointment of the Cunliffe Currency Commission, with its carefully assorted members, to consider the financial situation.

BRITAIN FORCED BACK TO GOLD

Britain's currency consisted mainly of bank credits, but these were based, not upon gold, but upon Government Treasury Notes, which had succeeded where gold had failed, and which the British public had grown accustomed to and liked. Moreover, these notes admitted of expansion without disturbing international affairs and without the aid of international financiers; hence their destruction was a necessity to the plans of the Federal Reserve Board. Upon the recommendation of the Cunliffe Committee they were accordingly destroyed; England was forced back upon the gold standard, a hopelessly indebted nation, crippled with interest charges; and the organised sabotaging of her industrial and commercial supremacy was at once commenced. It still continues.

ESTABLISHING WORLD CONTROL.

By means of post-war loans to Germany and by the appointment of their nominee (Dr. Schacht) to the control of its Banking System, the Federal Reserve Board is today supreme in that country; its influence in Russia and in France constantly increases, and, either independently or by means of the British Banking System, it has established itself both in China and in India. It works in the interests of a handful of international financiers; predominantly Jewish in race, and its aim is world control by the creation

The Fable of the Waterman and the King

By MONTAGUE GROVER



Once upon a time there was a good King who loved his subjects and spent all his time working out schemes for their comfort and their prosperity. They all got their water supply from a small stream in the mountains, which served for a domestic and stock supply and for irrigation purposes.

The supply from house to house was carried out by a waterman.

This waterman seemed so efficient that the King eventually gave him what he called a charter; that charter did not merely concern deliveries of water, but gave the waterman power over all the water in the King's demesne.

For a time the water supply sufficed; but gradually through the beneficence of the King and the energy and intelligence of his subjects, more houses sprang up and more acres were brought under cultivation. The subjects asked for more water.

"You've got another guess coming," replied the waterman. "That is gross inflation. If you study economists who've been dead some years, you'll find that it's most unsound."

"But you gave us more water when you weren't so well paid for it," argued the subjects.

"I think we're in for a dry spell," replied the waterman.

"It's raining heavily in the hills," protested the subjects.

"I have no advices to that effect," observed the waterman.

"Come on, give us that water," said the subjects angrily.

"Nothing doing," observed the waterman.

"We'll report you to the King," cried the subjects, making their way to the palace and putting the whole thing before his Majesty.

"Hello," phoned the King to the waterman. "You just get busy and let my people have some water."

"Sez you," rudely sneered the waterman. "I've got a charter that gives me absolute power to turn on that water and turn it off when I like, and that happens to be only when you blokes come across with sufficient to satisfy me."

"Um, that's awkward," mused the good King. "What would you gentlemen suggest?"

"I would suggest that we cast him to the Royal hippopotamus, your Majesty," said the spokesman.

"Those in favour; those against. Carried unanimously," said the King.

Moral: It is sometimes easier to be democratic in an autocracy than in a democracy.

of debts which are inextinguishable, since they are redeemable only by a scanty supply of gold of which it has a monopoly and which it keeps locked up in subterranean vaults.

William Jennings Bryan, the great American statesman, just before he died, stated that his support of the Federal Reserve Act was the one political incident of his life which he regretted, and Sir Josiah Stamp, Director of the Bank of England, said: "Never in the history of the world has so much power been vested in the hands of a small body of men as in the Federal Reserve Board. These men have the welfare of the world in their hands and can upset the rest of us either deliberately or by some unconscious action."

THE QUESTION OF USURY OR INTEREST

And the Attitude of a Christian Thereto

By REV. E. HANKINSON.

Some years ago the Convocation of Canterbury published a statement entitled, "The Moral Witness of the Church on Economic Subjects." It insisted that we cannot discover the meaning of Christ's "Kingdom of Heaven" without first considering the social and economic teachings of the Law and the prophets to which He Himself was perpetually referring His hearers. "Christianity inherited from the Old Testament certain social principles, in part embodied in the Law and in part enforced by the prophets and moralists . . . We find a prohibition of usury between Israelite and Israelite . . . Christianity did not take over the formal legislation of the Old Testament, but it did inherit its moral principles, which Jesus Christ deepened and universalised."

In the same strain Dr. Gore writes: "Our Lord assumed all the Old Testament laid down. Do you see the meaning of that? The Law and the prophets had been struggling and striving for the establishment of a great social system on a great moral basis. The Old Testament is full of all sorts of social and moral doctrine, social and individual righteousness. The Law is full of that. The prophets are full of it. Now do you see that every word Our Lord said? He said to people who had got all that behind them? He could assume it all. It is the point at which He started. Till you have got there you have not started."

With that background I want you to examine Christ's teaching on Usury or Interest. There was no need for Him to go into detail, because His hearers knew the Old Testament teaching of the Law and prophets, and which He professed to fulfill. The classical text is that contained in Luke, vi, 35: "You must lend (not give) to them without expecting any return; then you will have a rich reward, You will be sons of the Most High" (Moffatt's version). Paraphrased, it would read thus: "You must allow a person the use of a thing for a certain time without expecting interest."

If you say this text has no application to interest but only to the thing lent, *i.e.*, "you are not to expect the return of the loan itself", then that makes the case against interest stronger. For if Christ condemns you for expecting the return of the loan, then how much more will He condemn you if you expect something else in addition?

The use of the word "lend" and not "give" shows that Christ approves of the return of the loan,

and it limits His prohibition to the reward or return (interest) for the loan. If the thing itself was not to be returned, then the word "give" would naturally be used, and the word "lend" would be out of place.

Then look at the context, verse 34: "If you only lend to those from whom you hope to get something, what credit is that to you? *Even sinful men lend to one another so as to get a fair return.*"

You could not ask for a clearer statement of Christ's opinion of the practice of charging interest on loans, and you could not have a context, which explains the meaning of verse 35 better. Then there is the larger context of the Gospel itself, which proves the same thing; and this larger context is summed up in Christ's commandment, "Thou shall love thy neighbour as thyself." The prohibition of usury or interest is just as definite a command, and is simply a particular application of it.

MODERN EXPERIENCE SUPPORTS MORAL TEACHING.

It is interesting to note that what Christ condemns in His moral teaching and what forms part of that great Sermon on the Mount, has been proved from modern experience to be a practical impossibility; that is to say, that the practice of usury cannot but ultimately end in disaster. The personnel of the London Chamber of Commerce comprises business leaders in all classes of society, and who have made their weight felt in every part of the world. The Chamber is one of the wealthiest and most influential, and such a responsible body as this has emphatically condemned interest or usury, not because it is immoral, but because it is impracticable. This it explains in a pamphlet entitled "Goodwill or Usury", a pamphlet everyone should read. It shows that under the present monetary system, which it declares has broken down, one man's gain can only be at another's loss. Remember, all money is loan money, and that it all comes from the banks with a charge for interest attached; every single penny. But the banks do not supply the money with which to pay the interest. If you and I comprise the community and the bank advances us £100 each at 5 per cent, interest, then those £200 have to be returned with £10 added. But you cannot make £210 out of £200, seeing that people in business are only allowed to make goods, not money. If I get £100 plus £5 for interest, this must be subtracted from your £100,

so that you can only get £95, which leaves you £5 short on your principal and £5 in arrears for your interest, and you are at the mercy of the bank, which can now do what it pleases with your security. The natural consequence of the present system is, that directly loan monies are advanced by the banks someone must automatically come within their power. It is a neat little swindling trick.

THE GROWTH OF DEBT

The result of the automatic operation of usury is shown in the present state of world finances. But let us confine ourselves to Australian affairs. Take Australia's National Debt and see how it has grown, and this in spite of good seasons, plenty of raw material, machinery and human labour.

In 1914 it was £339 millions

.. 1919 £705

.. 1930 £1100

.. .. 1934 £1222

... 1935 £1255 ..

This latter amount represents £1400 millions in Australian money, and an interest bill of £50 millions per annum, or roughly £1 million per week. The debt never decreases, for you cannot pay both principal and interest without borrowing more money. The above figures are a practical illustration. No matter how really wealthy the country is in goods and services, and it could be far more wealthy in these things if the available man and machinery power were combined in operation, this debt could not be overtaken. It never has been overtaken in any nation under the present system; and surely if it could have been it would have. And note this well that 14/- out of every £1 raised through taxation by the Commonwealth and States is absorbed by debt charges; and still our debt is always increasing. This means that in spite of very heavy exactions, which are a terrific drain upon industry, only 6/- out of every £1 raised by taxation is available for public purposes. It is not impossible to foresee a time when, under the present scale of imposts, the whole of taxation will be needed to pay our debt charges. To obviate this, taxation will have to be increased considerably, and what will our businessmen say to that?

Ruskin in 1876 wrote in terms very much akin to those of the London Chamber of Commerce. He said: "The moment our capital is 'increased' by having lent it, be it but in the estimation of a hair, that hair's breadth of increase is usury, just as much as stealing a farthing is theft, no less than stealing a million. But usury is worse than theft, insofar as it is obtained either by deceiving people or distressing them; generally both: and finally by deceiving the usurer himself, who comes to think that usury is a real increase, and that money can grow money; whereas all usury is increase to one person only by decrease to another; and every gain of calculated increment to the rich is balanced by its mathematical equivalent of decrement to the poor."

May I point out that the Church has not been unmindful of the evils of usury, and that the usury condemned was exactly the same as that called interest today. Those who charged usury were forbidden Holy Communion and Christian burial.

Perhaps Bishop Jewel, of the sixteenth century, quoted by Ruskin, is not too overwhelming in his choice of words:—" . . . if I lend £100 and covenant to receive £105, or any sum greater than was the sum which I did lend, this is what we call usury; such a kind of bargaining as all men that ever feared God's judgment have always abhorred and condemned. It is filthy gains and a work of darkness: it is a monster in nature; the overthrow of mighty kingdoms; the destruction of flourishing States; the decay of wealthy cities; the plagues of the world, and the misery of the people. It is theft; it is the murdering of our brethren; it is the curse of God, and the curse of the people."

The South Australian Centenary

An Adelaide correspondent writes:

It is interesting to note how different sections of the public react to great public occasions. If we were to believe our daily press we would be of the opinion that, like a big happy family, we were all equally keen on celebrating the fact that it is 100 years since we took this country from the blacks. But is it so? During the visit of the Duke of Gloucester the writer heard a shabby, depressed-looking woman on a tram-car say to her neighbour: "Why don't they take 'im down our way, and let 'im 'ave a look at the slums?" This woman showed a regrettable lack of that public spirit which should sustain every citizen at such moments. She should have realised that, whatever the state of the kitchen and scullery, the front parlour and garden should make a brave show. Slums are not for royal visitors, nor need they come to Australia to see them.

It is curious how wrong thinking these uneducated people are. Take, for instance, the difficulty the South Australian members of Parliament have had in persuading the poor, the hungry and the overtaxed how necessary it was to expand and beautify Parliament House! These people persisted in thinking that questions such as housing and more adequate rations were matters of greater importance. You can't argue with people like that. How different it is in Germany, where (as we read recently in the daily paper) the citizens gladly, hilariously even, go without butter and bacon and make jokes about cooking without fat, just because they are so proud to think that by these sacrifices they are able to procure more implements for killing other people than any other nation. There is national pride for you! What we need is a good spellbinder like Hitler to make these poor people see straight. Mr. Lyons does his best, but he has not the technique.

AUSTRALIAN WOMEN'S MOVEMENT WARNS POLITICIANS

The Australian Women's Movement for Social and Economic Research, of Scot Chambers, 86 Pitt-street, Sydney, has set out on a campaign of research among politicians. We have received a copy of a very timely letter sent by the Movement to all members of both Federal Houses, and it will be interesting to see how these gentlemen react to it. It is also interesting and encouraging to find the women of Australia coming to grips with realities—and letting their servants in Parliament know about it.

In the course of the letter the Secretary to the Australian Women's Movement says: "My association directs your attention to a statement published in the *Sydney Morning Herald* on 4th inst. by Mr. Davidson, of the Bank of New South Wales, as follows:—"The Commonwealth Bank for some time has indicated by successive steps that it has the belief that recovery is proceeding at too fast a rate, and therefore ought to be slowed down."

"At present a similar relationship exists between the available cash to deposits in the trading banks "as existed in 1929 which caused the trading banks to sell securities, reduce overdrafts and cease to advance credit towards new projects, which resulted in the depression. If the present banking policy is continued another depression is inevitable at a very early date. Has the Australian banking system been made for the Australian people, or have the Australian people been made for the profit of the private trading banks?"

What Roman tribune was it who said, "When the people ask for bread, give them circuses"? If we are so poor that we must pinch and scrape (and Sir Otto Niemeyer says we are, all on account of producing too much wool and wheat), why, then, let us bravely cover our nakedness with flags and flowers and handsome Parliament Houses. Also, let us get ahead with the latest suggestion, *i.e.*, to have an electrically-lighted fountain in memory of King George, even if we do forget his advice to us to try to get our consumption to equate with our production. And let us train our boys and girls to sing the song of Australia with all their lungs. It is told of one misguided child that, when asked by a suspicious teacher what place it was they were singing about in this song, he replied, in all good faith, "Heaven, Miss." The poor child actually didn't know that he was living in a country that was so rhapsodically described, but then, to be sure, he was living in a very poor quarter, and had nothing but bread and dripping for his lunch.

Of course there is a group among us who persist in saying that if we only knew how to set our affairs in order, and how to distribute the wealth we undoubtedly possess, we could banish poverty and the slum, and still have our Parliament House. They say that great national rejoicings should come from the hearts of all the people, and should not be merely a shop-window display arranged for the benefit of visitors. They say that, so far from our present policy being economical, it is wasteful and extravagant, as men, machines and factories are allowed to rust when they should be utilised in making more of the goods, which are needed. They even say that the prosperity of a people is not to be judged by what they produce, but by what they consume. They say that, after 2000 years of civilisation and 150 years of mechanised industry, the living has been earned, and all that is needed is for the human family to sit down to the feast. But there, why go on? Such talk tends to shake "confidence." And where would we be without that? Ask any confidence man.

TO OUR READERS—

You may obtain your copy of "THE NEW TIMES" from any authorised newsagent. Should your agent not have supplies, please ask him to communicate direct with New Times Pty. Ltd., Box 1226, G.P.O., Melbourne, C.1. (Phone M5384).

If you wish to have your copy posted direct from this office, please complete the form below and mail it, accompanied by remittance payable to New Times Pty. Ltd.

SUBSCRIPTION FORM.

To New Times Pty. Ltd.,
Box 1226, G.P.O., Melbourne, C.

Please forward me "The New Times" for

months, beginning with issue dated, 193....
cheque

I enclose postal note for the sum of, 193....
money order

Name

Date.....

The subscription rate to THE NEW TIMES is 15/- for 12 months;
7/6 for 6 months; 3/9 for 3 months, post-free.

THE A.N.A.

(Continued from page 3.)
abolishing slums. Does he not realise that there is a great volume of work waiting to be done, in fact crying out to be done, but which cannot be put in hand because governments and municipalities alike have not, and cannot get money? If our money system were socially owned we could provide full occupation for every able-bodied Australian for the next 50 years in the development of this great country and at the same time give economic security for all who have the misfortune not to be able-bodied, as well as for every woman and child. And the strange thing about it is that we could do every bit of it without financial debt to anyone. Money alone is the key with which the door to employment and shorter working hours can be opened, and therefore money is the subject with which the A.N.A., the politicians, and all genuine Australian organisations should immediately concern themselves. While that issue remains unsettled their communal difficulties and distresses must inevitably increase.

SIR S. ARGYLE ON
PLATITUDES

Sir Stanley Argyle gave utterance to his usual platitudinous expressions, which get us nowhere, and finished with the statement that "at the present time we are faced with a world in a state of chaos." It has not yet dawned on him that when he speaks like that he condemns himself, for he is one of the advocates of "Sound Finance"—the very thing that is responsible for the chaos he so deeply deplors. The reason the world is in such a state is because it is under the control of a financial oligarchy seated at the centre of its activities, like a worm in the core of an apple. This financial oligarchy is the perpetrator and manipulator of the worldwide money swindle, any knowledge of which the A.N.A. has not yet admitted.

A few years ago many A.N.A. members were interested in the fact that money should be socially-owned, but their interest in this paramount question seems to have, done what the Chinese mandarin did when he drank from the cyanide cup—passed away quietly and unobtrusively in silence! Money and its function in the community is the most important but the most neglected aspect of our national organisation, and there is a duty on the A.N.A. to revive the study of it. We submit that money in its relation to prices and costs is the essential point, and that the A.N.A. should boldly define the function of money, who should manufacture it, and who should own it at the moment of manufacture. The A.N.A. should strongly object to the present usurpation of money and credit manufacture by banks and private corporations, and should use its power to put an end to the treasonable actions of the Federal Government in borrowing privately - manufactured entry money for national purposes.

PUT THEM IN
THE MUSEUM

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

[The average earnings of British coal miners, except in one or two districts, ranged from 40/- to 45/- weekly until the increase granted to them some weeks ago (just after this article was written) of 1/- per shift—an increase to be paid, not from the mine-owners' royalties, but from the public.]

Charity, gents. I want to make an appeal on behalf of the mining Royalty-owners.

It is time someone put in a word for that much-abused section of society who are condemned to eke out a hazardous living by charging so much a ton for coal that other people dig, because it happened to be found a mile or so under the land they inherited.

I gather that if the miners get what they demand in wages, it would abolish royalties. Do you realise what that would mean? It would mean that the Royalty-owner, that rare and interesting beast of prey, one of the largest parasites known to the insect world, would become extinct. As a naturalist, I should deeply regret this.

UPLIFT AND INSPIRATION

There is some talk of capturing a brace and housing them at Whipsnade Zoo, where they can live unmolested in their natural surroundings, with five houses apiece and 95 servants. Others say it would be better to have a Royalty-owner stuffed, or a plaster cast made of him and placed in the Extinct Animals' Room at South Kensington Museum, along with the Dodo and the skeleton of the Megalosaurus (who lived when the earth was all paurus. When they gave him his name, he fainted with shame and died many ages befaurus).

But why should they be removed from our midst? Why put them away in places where the miners can never see them? The miners, I'm told, find a Royalty-owner a most inspiring sight. They are uplifted by the spectacle of a man who gets more than anyone else for doing less. They can gaze on him and think of paradise, where steak puddings grow on golden trees and no one does any work. It makes them feel religious, and they go back to the pits better and happier men.

Moreover, Royalty-owners are exemplary men. They set an example to society. Socialists complain that they don't earn their wealth. On the contrary, they earn it by their intelligence and foresight. It takes a very clever and far-seeing man to get himself born to a father whose great-grandfather put himself to the trouble of listening while someone told him there was coal under the land his ancestors pinched. Could you get yourself born into a Royalty-owning family? No. You have not the brains or the enterprise.

The final argument I want to put before you is this: How much actually would the miners and the nation gain by abolishing mining royalties? I gather that if the industry were reorganised on the lines demanded by the miners, it would give them an average wage of about 56/- a week.

In the face of this colossal sum, one can only ask: "What would they do with it all?"

I shrink from the vision of insensate debauchery into which the miners, accustomed to a life of innocent simplicity on a wage about the size of a beetle's bonus, would be tempted to indulge on receipt of an income so vast. It is a terrific sum.

A Royalty-owner seldom spends more than that on a lunch. No wonder the mine-owners hesitate before agreeing to a scheme, which would plunge the miners into licentious luxury and expose society to the perils of a profligate and plutocratic proletariat.

SORROW AND
CHAMPAGNE

At least, I suppose that's why they hesitate. If that isn't the reason, let's try another. They may hesitate because they think the increase isn't worth troubling about. If all the bother of reorganising and rationalising, and bringing the Royalty-owners' grey hairs with sorrow to the champagne and oysters, will result only in exchanging a wage you can't live on for a wage you can hardly exist on, why fret one's fat? It only proves that the mines can't pay a man's-size wage, however they're run, and we might as well wait till someone tells the Government how to provide the miners with money some other way. Money-reformers, forward! Stand back, you boys, and remove those banana-skins.

I haven't heard any mine-owner say all that, but I haven't been listening very carefully. However, I have provided you with two opposite arguments, both very convincing, I think, and you can choose which you like best. Pay at the desk.

"Trade is essential to the Commonwealth . . . If there were no markets abroad . . . the people of Australia would live under almost primitive conditions."—Leading article, *Argus*, March 6.

How awful to contemplate. If the rest of the rest of the world were to sink under the ocean we would be left sitting on our heaps of wheat, fruits, butter, etc., watching our factories decay, and dying for want of something to eat.

—R.L.

To New Readers
of the
"New Times"

At a moment when the world is gorged with unsaleable goods and human bodies are crying out for food; at a moment when most of the press is gorged with items of undigested news and human minds are crying out for information, the "New Times" is endeavouring to put before you, without regard to whom it may offend, the truth of what is happening.

At the same time the policy of this paper is not mere destructive criticism; that, in view of what is happening on all sides, requires no effort at all—the facts alone provide it. The policy of the "New Times" is one of hope in the midst of despair. It is one that would lay the foundations of a happier civilisation without disturbing anything that is good in what we have. It spells prosperity alike for the producer and the consumer without upsetting private enterprise and with a minimum of government interference or control.

If the "New Times" meets with your approval you can best help its campaign by making it known to your friends and by yourself placing an order with your newsagent for regular weekly delivery or by sending your direct subscription to New Times Pty. Ltd. Box 1226, G.P.O. Melbourne.

NEW ZEALAND NOTES

By LUX

The press announces this morning that Parliament will meet on March 25, and everybody is agog with excitement about it, for it is widely recognised that of all the Parliamentary sessions ever held in New Zealand this one will be the most momentous and fateful.

In the first place, it will clearly disclose the Government's policy with respect to finance, and upon that policy hangs our future happiness and well being. If the "borrowing" principle is adhered to, even though the rate per cent, be fractional, we shall be undelivered from the hands of our enemies, the money magnates, and our future will be little different from our past—a vain and foolish attempt to borrow ourselves out of debt into prosperity. Mr. Savage, and not a few of his Cabinet, know quite well that such a thing is impossible, but do the rank and file know? We have our doubts. And if they don't know, will the Prime Minister be able to pull them into line with him? This is what we are itching to learn, for, in spite of Mr. Savage's assurances to the contrary, many people are under the impression that the prolonged meetings of the Caucus for a week or more past have not been wholly free from difficulty on this matter. Some go further and say there has been dissension. But of that we who are outside the Caucus group know nought, and we are prepared to accept the Prime Minister's assurance that there is complete agreement amongst their party's Parliamentary representatives on the question of monetary reform.

But there is more than this to it. One views with a growing concern the gathering of the war clouds all round. No part of the world seems free from them, and a ghastly fear is seizing the public mind. It is not wild talk to say that hostilities may break out any day, precipitating the whole world into an orgy of blood and tears. Now, since wars do not arise from racial hatreds, jealousies, or any such thing, but from economic causes, we feel we shall be rendering no small contribution to world peace if we can lay low in this country that causal factor, for, where we tread today, others will follow tomorrow. In this respect also do we feel the meeting of our Parliament will be fateful.

In the meantime, one hears all kinds of things. It is freely rumoured that certain gentlemen, two in number, from the Bank of England, travelling *incog.*, are revisiting this country, and have waited on the Government, offering them a loan of considerable magnitude at a mere fractional rate of interest as a "gesture of goodwill" to the new regime! How generous most of us can become when our privileges are threatened. I hear on very good authority that these overtures have been quietly, firmly and politely turned down. 'Tis well they have been, for let the Government be caught in this way and its days are numbered—the people of New Zealand want monetary reform and will have it, and if this party won't do it they will turn it out at the next election. Mr. Savage, however, assures us that we need have no fear on the subject; the Government will redeem and implement to the full its pre-election pledges. "We were returned to do a job", he says, "and we are going to do it." To this sentiment the Hon. "Bob" Semple adds: "And let opposers beware!"

Such forthrightness of speech does us good, there is nothing milk and watery about it, it has a ring of resolution that we like and we say to Mr. Savage and his team: "Go ahead. We're with you to the last ditch."

"We are with you, too in your policy of 'hush' as to what you intend to do as to money matters next month, for though we would

give a great deal to know what your proposals are, we realise how advantageous it is that the enemy should not know your plans until the day of battle. It would be wrong tactics to do otherwise. Your policy of keeping them guessing as to your intentions is surely a wise one in the circumstances."

We are much interested in another little matter over here. There is no small flutter in the dovecots of the daily press just now. We notice much agitation, much coming and going, and, most marked of all, a definitely new attitude being adopted to the Government and its proposals. Of course they still "advise" the Government to "exercise care", and not to yield to the temptation, a temptation born of its great majority in the House, to act extremely and "without due regard to the interests and well-being of all", etc., etc., but the caustic and bitter note is entirely absent. There is an attitude of "we wish you well, you know, and it's due to you now to have a turn on the Treasury Benches; but do be careful, won't you?"

Now, to the unsophisticated this may be construed as the generous gesture of an opponent who has nothing but goodwill in his heart, and no doubt many will accept it as such—as they are meant to do! But the real reason is not quite so benevolent as all that. The fact of the matters is, the Labor Party, inspired by the widespread support it is receiving, is about to bring out a daily paper. Hitherto a weekly one is all that could be managed, but now a Labor daily is coming out, and the money-controlled press is in a frizzle over it. And well it may be, for there is a widespread and deep feeling that the present dailies are definitely on the side of the privileged few, and care not for the needs of the mass of the people.

The new paper will be published in Christchurch for the South Island, and in Palmerston North for the North Island, and will be out in about three months' time. This is a move for which the financiers' press did not bargain, but which is most welcome to thousands of New Zealanders.

Joy in Wall Street

By CHARLES A. LINDBERG, SEN.

(Late father of the famous flyer, fighter against war in 1914-18.)

This is the war stock soaring high That brings all the joy to Wall Street,

This is the gambler, wild of eye, Who shares with his broker, brisk and spry,

The profit in war stocks, soaring high,

That brings all the joy to Wall Street.

So this is the list of what they buy: An orphaned infant's feeble cry,

A widowed woman's sob and sigh, A field of graves where the dead may lie,

A shamble where thousands daily die,

A billion shells that in battle fly.

Gladness glows in the gamblers eye,

As he shares with the broker, brisk and spry,

The profits in war stock, soaring high,

That brings all the joy to Wall Street.

—The Hoosier Farmer.

"Trade is essentially a friendly matter." Leading article, *Argus* March 6.

Quite so, Britain is expending £300,000,000 on armaments as a "friendly" gesture to other countries, to persuade them to buy her manufactures. --K.C.D.

READ

"SOCIAL
CREDIT"

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE
SOCIAL CREDIT SECRETARIAT.
163a Strand, London Chairman,
Major C. H. Douglas).

Authoritative News and Views of the
World Movement for Social Credit.
Subscription Rate 11/- (sterling) for
One Year. Single Copies 4d post free,
may be obtained for the Douglas
Credit Movement, Block Arcade,
Elizabeth Street, Melbourne.

DRY ROT

Under the romantic title of "A Wife's Value" (says "Social Credit") a news item in the daily press announces that a husband has received £4000 damages in the Divorce Court because of the misconduct of his wife. The jury assessed the lady's worth at this figure. Other juries at different times have assessed the values of other ladies, some higher, some lower. So far as I know, none of them have felt insulted. The translation of feminine charms and consolations into pounds sterling is too common now to provoke comment.

After all, most of us have got used to this process of alchemy. Enterprising newspaper men have worked out how much popular novelists are worth a word, how much football stars earn per kick, and the value in pounds of each working minute of business magnates and famous operating surgeons.

In America, where religion is on a business basis, even devotion is costed and audited, so that it is possible to measure such things as a church's power of conversion in dollars and centimes.

This setting up of a false standard of values is part of a general process of dry rot, which is changing the entire character of the world.

When something material, like a piece of wood, begins to rot, what happens is that its higher elements are gradually replaced by lower ones. Human ideals are rotting. Higher standards are being replaced by lower standards. The coinage of our thought is being debased. A rapid stepping-down process is taking place all along the line. While the names of things remain unchanged, the spirit of things is altering for the worse. For instance, democracy has become veiled dictatorship by sectional interests. Patriotism has degenerated into jingoism, and the arts into a species of trade.

Dry rot, dry rot! We ask for bread and we are given stones. We cry out for fish and we receive serpents. Those whose business it is to give us the things we really want shout loudly that the stones they hand us are the finest wholemeal, and that the snakes are straight from Grimsby.

It is the same with those who debase the coinage of our ideas. Up and up and up! On and on and on! All is progress, evolu-

tion, betterment. The new democracy is better than the old because it is more powerful. Spiritual values transmuted into pounds, shillings and pence are superior because more business-like. Vocational training is an advance on a liberal education because it pays better.

The whole hideous business of turning silk purses into sows' ears is an illusionist process! We are tricked, bothered and bewitched by our Maskelynes and Devants, who fool us by setting up a series of mirrors between ourselves and the things we want.

Ends are being degraded into means, and means elevated into ends.

Collective liberty they say is to be preferred to individual liberty because it is more powerful and effective. Yes, but what is the aim and object in view? Liberty is an end in itself. It is not a means towards something else.

Art, they say, must be commercial or it is no good. It is unpractical. Yes, but what are we going to buy with the money which commercial art secures?

Employment is the objective of all Governments, and men are taught to seek work when they want food. Yet work is but a means to an end.

We are asked to vote upon methods of administration instead of demanding results. Yet it is results, which matter, and it is still true that where there is a will there is a way.

Decay means death. There is something, which is moribund within the community. What is this, which is moribund? It is the quality of awareness, alertness, the sizing up of the situation in its true aspect; and arising out of this, the determination to act effectively in the general interests.

How are we to escape from the dry rot? Only by realising our extremely dangerous position so that we spring up in righteous wrath and smash the illusionists' mirrors.

While we are under the spell, each of us sees things distorted and wants to act separately and differently. But once we smash the mirrors and look beyond them to the things we really want, we shall all begin to agree and act concertedly to get them.

If you think the NEW TIMES is worth supporting, your best way of doing so is to make it known to your friends.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

A REPROACH.

It beats me why your regular contributors waste their time trying to educate people about the money racket. Who is it they are trying to benefit? Only the mob and rabble, who can't think above pictures and gee-gees. Even when they have voted their so-called leaders into positions of affluence, these latter can betray them and step over to the U.A.P. Money Party without a qualm or kickback.

All these so-called popular-benefit parties, the A.N.A., and the Labor Party are riddled with bankers' drag-anchors. Your contributors would be better advised to run with the money swindle and the bluff of modern life, to look after their own well-being and leave the helpless rabble to rot from their own inertia.

If the mob had any guts at all, the looms of the Bankers' Press would not distort facts to suit the interests of the money crowd at the expense of the debasement of the rank and file.

"THE MORGUE."

POLITICIANS AND THE ELECTORAL CAMPAIGN

I have just read the letter under this heading by F.L.G. ("New Times," 6/3/36), and my attention was immediately riveted to the sentence, "Why should we bother our heads about this sort of thing? Have we not men in Parliament to watch the interests of the people?" Now I cannot lay too much emphasis on the fact that the people are responsible for the men we have in Parliament.

If the people are ignorant, naturally the men in Parliament will be ignorant. It may be ignorance of a special kind or ignorance in general, but the fact remains. If the people are ignorant of the monetary swindle it is perfectly hopeless to expect them to realise that the men whose election expenses are provided from the enemy's funds are not going into Parliament to protect anyone's interests but their own. And their interest is self-preservation, which means perpetuating the money swindling interests.

The only real cure, if it is possible, and it can only be done through the printed word, which of course costs money, is the enlightenment of the people, who I know, through my own unpleasant experiences, are abysmally ignorant of the very first elements of the whole question. "The New Times" is doing a splendid job, but we do not usually send missionaries out to the people who are saved. The gospel of "The New Times" reaches the people who are already wise as to the cause of our present disgraceful economic position. Very few of the remainder ever see it, and when they do they so far fail to realise the value of its articles as to make either insulting remarks or ignorant jibes. This, however, should not deter us from a whole sale form of education of the people—again, if possible. Bendigo. JAY ESSELL.

THE TREASURY BILL RACKET

I do not agree with Mr. Hugh Adam, of the Melbourne Herald, that "Someone Has Blundered" about this Treasury bill business. The Money Monopoly is not in the habit of blundering, and the racket didn't just happen. Is it not a good gesture to the fickle minded public that the Commonwealth Bank, the trading banks, the Treasury, the Prime Minister, etc., are all so disconnected in financial matters? How many members of "the public" could possibly take up a minimum of £10,000 in £5000 units? But we do agree with Hugh when he says: "The story of the Treasury bill has still to be told." EXACTLY, but the Bankers won't tell! The action of the Commonwealth Bank Board (whose members were mostly recruited from private financial interests) has given the trading

banks the excuse to raise interest rates, and, in view of the war talk and the almost certain necessity for more war "loans", ANY reason for higher interest will obviously suit them.

AL CAPONE.

LINCOLN ELLSWORTH ON OUR APPETITES

Mr. Lincoln Ellsworth, as he passed through Australia, commented on our huge appetites for food. He expressed the opinion that the quantity of food eaten during one meal by the Australians he had observed would more than equal the full day's rations of the Americans.

Of course, Mr. Ellsworth was staying at our leading hotels that are patronised by a very small percentage of Australians, and as one who, like Mr. Ellsworth, has had the good fortune to be entertained (but only in a minor way) at such hotels, I must confirm his opinion. The

people who eat at these establishments do themselves very well - -but I have always thought the majority were English and American tourists.

A lunchtime tour through the offices and factories of Melbourne would alter Mr. Ellsworth's opinions, perhaps not so greatly as to how much could be eaten as to how much actually is eaten. His remarks recall those of a distinguished prelate who visited Australia somewhat over a year ago, and who as he left our shores marvelled at the high standard of living we enjoy in this country. He also, during his stay in Australia, was banqueted and feted at the leading hotels and in the homes of the rich. The fact is that the average Australian is not getting half enough to eat because his income is too small to provide for himself and those dependent upon him. He can't get at the abundance, which is going to waste.

"FRANKFURT & ROLL."

"THAT THEY MIGHT HAVE LIFE"

By CLARENCE SECCOMBE.

The outstanding social evolution of the twentieth century is the growing realisation that industry has no other legitimate purpose than to serve humanity.

It is recognised with increasing clearness that the Power Age is bringing to the world such a flow of all things necessary to life that poverty is out of date.

We are realising, too, that the Power Age, which brings these things, is not the achievement of this generation or of this century only. It is the culmination of the research and invention of all the generations that have gone before.

Since this is so, the benefits of the Power Age are the rightful heritage of all who live today.

These benefits consist not only in material things, the things that serve the body; they consist also in spiritual opportunities, the things that serve the soul.

That we may live at all in this world, we need food, clothing, shelter.

That we may go forward unhampered to our yet unknown destiny, we need freedom, leisure, culture.

In this twentieth century, all these things are ours if we will but take them. They are the inalienable right of every soul in the community. They may not be denied nor conditioned.

At present, the only gift of the Power Age, which is distributed freely, is leisure; we call it unemployment. But leisure cannot be enjoyed without food, clothing and shelter; nor has it any spiritual value unaccompanied by freedom and opportunity for culture.

If the body dies for want of food and clothing, it becomes a nuisance, and must be removed. But the soul is an intangible thing; if it suffers for lack of spiritual nourishment, freedom and culture, we treat it by putting the body in prison, or into an asylum.

Looking at these things from the purely material aspect, we try by every possible means to put men to work, without considering whether the work is likely to benefit the individual forced to undertake it. Creative work, freely undertaken, develops the individual; compulsory work, which is slavery, degrades him. But we have inherited from the age of scarcity the idea that work is the only possible claim to share in the increasing production of the Power Age. We are slow to admit that work, as past ages knew it, is as out-dated in the Power Age as poverty is. We think that, if no natural and necessary work is available for all men we must "create" work for them that they may thus be enabled to "earn" food and clothing and shelter.

Work given and undertaken in this spirit is usually both distasteful and degrading. It

cannot be accepted nor carried out in that freedom of the spirit, which alone dignifies and ennobles human labour. So this doctrine of work for work's sake demands increasing regimentation, compulsion. It makes it possible for men to obtain the material benefits of the Power Age, food, clothing and shelter; but it denies to them its spiritual benefits, freedom, leisure and culture.

It is not sufficient that we abolish physical poverty; the greater evil that calls for removal is starvation of the soul. Work by compulsion may alleviate the first evil; only freedom will remove the second.

There is a mean and materialistic type of mind which claims that men will not give of their best to serve their fellows unless forced by the lash of economic compulsion. To such a mind the New Economist speaks a foreign tongue. But, to one who has eyes to see, real work is the achievement of something worth achieving. Any monetary return for such work is merely incidental, though necessary in our present society. But true work is an achievement of the spirit, and cannot be measured in money or any other material medium. Its true reward, like its impelling motive, lies in the spiritual, not in the physical realm.

But, though the mind may soar, our feet are still on the earth. We are fettered by our physical needs. The problem of life is to so adjust the provision of material things, food and clothing and shelter, that these shall no longer obsess the mind to the exclusion of more enduring values. We have now reached a stage in human evolution where this is possible. But ages of struggle and of scarcity have developed in us an idea of the necessity of work, which has become almost a primary instinct. We cannot realise that we are free. We will not see the prison doors are open and that we may walk out. Yet that is the meaning of the Power Age—the end of human drudgery, the beginning of a new era of spiritual progress.

The first step to this freedom is to recognise that access to food, clothing and shelter is the natural right of every citizen, that their provision may be limited only by the power of the community to supply them, and that each individual's share of them is a right which may not be made subject to the will of any other individual.

This recognition of the unconditional right of every member of the community to share in the material benefits of the Power Age, food and clothing and shelter, is the only basis on which we can secure the more important benefits of freedom, leisure and culture.

Here we reach the bedrock of the New Economic philosophy, the logical objective of Social Credit and the moral foundation of the claim for a National Dividend.

FIRST EDITION SOLD OUT—

SECOND EDITION NOW READY

The Story of Money And Its Management

How many times have you been asked for a short, simple explanation of Social Credit? How many times have you found your chief difficulty in your questioner's ignorance of the very elements of today's monetary system?

What is money? How many kinds are there? Who invented it, and why? How much of it is there, and how much should there be? Who makes money? How is it issued? Who destroys it? Why do banks pay interest? Why are we short of money? These and numerous other things you need to know about money are simply and fully explained.

Give "The Story of Money" to your friend and you will have no difficulty in making him understand Social Credit.

64 Pages 1/-; Posted 1/1

Obtainable from
NEW TIMES PTY. LTD.
Box 1226, G.P.O. Melbourne,
Or through your Newsagent