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Vol. II. NO. 29

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MELBOURNE, FRIDAY, JULY 17, 1936.

Every Friday 3d

Who is Driving Australia into War? YOU ARE!

"The Prime Minister placed before the representatives of the graziers reasons for the firm stand the Government has taken throughout the trade dispute with Japan. Questioned afterward Mr. Lyons declined to indicate the tenor of the discussions. Neither would he indicate the progress made in the conversations between Sir Henry Gullett and the Japanese Consul-General." (*Herald*, July 8.)

"The Prime Minister said today there had been definite progress towards the conclusion of trade treaty negotiations with several countries. The trade treaties occupied much of the attention of Federal Cabinet today. Mr. Lyons would not indicate the names of the countries with which Australia was carrying on satisfactory conversations." (*Sun*, July 11.)

These two extracts from the daily press are typical of the attitude adopted by Australia's Prime Minister ever since he turned his political coat and attained his present office. In the cases mentioned the people of Australia as a whole, whose first servant ("prime minister") Mr. Lyons is supposed to be, are expected to acquiesce without reasons and without progress reports in a trade-destroying policy which was not initiated by them nor even referred to them. And in the matter of an alleged trade-fostering policy they are not allowed to know so much (or so little) as the bare names of the countries with which conversations are being carried on. That this is the very denial of democracy is patent beyond argument.

It may be said, however, that the Prime Minister's lack of candour does not necessarily indicate any dictatorship by the Ministry—or, rather, by those who are pulling strings behind the Ministry. When one calls to mind how often our people have been asked to be silent, to suspend judgment, to keep out of the ring in the sacred names of confidence, high policy and international D.T.'s; and when one recollects how these pleas have been followed by inaction rather than by action, one can easily understand that much which may have seemed to be strength, however dictatorial, has been no more than the noise on the outside of an empty drum. The Prime Minister was going to restore our finances—and in the last four years of his "surpluses" the public debt has increased by about £70 millions. The Ministry was going to make trade treaties; if we remember aright it is almost exactly three years since a Ministerial statement promised immediate action in this respect. And what has been done, except to lose us our best foreign customer and our most likely market for rapid expansion?

These certainly are not on the surface the actions of dictators; rather are they the symptoms of do-nothings. But look a little below the surface. *Somebody* gains every time our national debt is increased. Who? *Somebody* gains by any economic blow aimed at Japan. Who?

TWO ADMISSIONS FROM J. A. LYONS

During the past week Mr. Lyons has added two significant admissions to the jumble of statements he has already made on the anti-Japanese tariff. One of these was given to Mr. D. Boyd, president of the Graziers'

Federal Council of Australia, who has publicly stated that Mr. Lyons told him the duties were not brought in at the request of the British Government, and that they were not part of any agreed policy between the British Government and the Commonwealth Government for Empire trade expansion (*Sun*, July 10). The other was this: "I need only say that if Japanese exporters had increased their prices they could still have enjoyed a great share of this market and have received more money than they have received in the last two or three years" (*Argus*, July 9).

So the purpose of the First Servant is now definitely stated to be one, which would result—with or without duties—in making his masters pay more money for less goods. That is, the servant deliberately lays himself out to impoverish his masters. And this is not being done at the request of the representatives of the English people at all. On this point it may be noted that such a conservative English organ as the *Economist* said, editorially in its issue of May 30, "Australia's new fiscal venture can only be regretted. . . . It is, indeed, precisely the kind of exclusive protectionism that gives some substance to the economic grievances of the so-called 'dissatisfied Powers.'"

Australia, then, is deliberately to be impoverished—first, in the wealth it receives in exchange for its exports; second, in the saleability of those exports. And, in so doing, substance is to be given to the grievances of dissatisfied Powers abroad. It is hard to believe that a Ministry hitherto

notorious for its supineness should suddenly have displayed the strength and determination to adopt and carry out such a policy; it is still harder to believe that the driving force behind it should have been the mere delegation of Lancashire traders who were here recently. One is therefore driven to look further afield. *Who is Japan's deadliest enemy? Who is so bitter an enemy as to be will-*

SLUMS A MATTER OF INCOME, SAYS ARCHBISHOP MANNIX.

Hundreds of people in Melbourne had to live under conditions that were unfit for human beings and scarcely fit for animals. If the right steps had been taken long ago slums would never have existed. The real difficulty was that many people were trying to live on very insufficient income. Until people received incomes that would enable them to live decently he was afraid it was hopeless and useless to be talking about the abolition of slums. It was incumbent that this condition of plenty on the one hand and poverty on the other should be remedied. To talk about slum abolition and ignore the root of the difficulty was simply plastering the question.

—Archbishop Mannix, July 12.

ing to provoke the military war which will logically follow this trade war? Here, surely, one must look for some force more ruthless, more sinister by far than a bunch of Lancashire factory owners?

THE WIRE PULLERS

Did you notice, on Wednesday of last week, how the Melbourne *Herald* gave a five-column streamer heading to an item of so-called

news that was not really news at all—to a mere re-hash of the months-old story that Japan is extending her influence in China and that she is behind the present wholesale smuggling campaign to deprive China of its customs revenue? Did you notice the wording of the cable? It began:

"Britain is just as much exasperated by Japan's machinations and subterfuges in North China as by Germany's maneuverings in Europe." Britain, mind you! What does it matter to Britain—that is, to the *British people*—what Japan does in North China? Nothing. But it does matter to certain *people in Britain*, as these words later in the same cable explain: "Whitehall fears that China will be unable to meet the interest on British loans because of the loss of revenue suffered through smuggling." Here again there is no reason why Britain or the British Foreign Office should be unduly concerned. But we do know that Mr. Montagu Norman, Governor of the privately owned Bank of England, is greatly concerned. In our issue of May 8 last we drew attention to the publication in the *London News-Chronicle* on November 2, 1935, of this item: "The Governor of the Bank of England has decided—arising out of the visit of Sir Frederick Leith Ross to China, as the official statement puts it—to set up a Chinese Bondholders' Committee." We suggest that that committee—described by the *News-Chronicle* as a very strong one—is now showing its strength. We suggest that that committee, at the instigation of the same Montagu Norman and his fellow swindlers, is now pushing

Britain into war against Japan, with Australia as a helpless pawn in the game.

THE STAKES.

There is more at stake in this present struggle than the mere payment of interest on some tens of millions of bank-created money. Such defaults do not greatly matter to those who can create or destroy a million pounds by a mere entry in a bank ledger, by a mere drop of ink. At least they do not matter so long as they are made within the accepted rules of bankers' finance. Hence—in spite of all the talk about widows, orphans and retired clergymen—there has been no great outcry over the numerous defaults to date, whether to Britain or by Britain, with one exception. That was in the case of Mr. Lang, who did not, like the others, plead poverty. *Mr. Lang issued a challenge to the bankers.* His challenge was taken up, and you know the sequel. Not only was he dismissed from office by the gentleman who now, as chief policeman in London, *openly* includes in his duties the protection of the Bank of England, but every lie that could be invented was issued through press, platform—aye, and pulpit—to discredit him and to terrify the people from voting him back into office. (We are not here concerned with whether Mr. Lang was right or wrong, but only with this particular aspect of his history.)

Japan is doing more than Mr. Lang did. Japan is not merely challenging individual financiers. She is openly challenging Bank of England—i.e., "orthodox"—finance, and she is winning all along the line. The Chinese smuggling is only a skirmishing episode. The worldwide success of Japanese trade is the main battlefield. And Japan is winning, not by her industrial efficiency (though she is highly efficient) but by her monetary manipulation. Japan can buy Indian raw materials in India, ship them to Japan, manufacture them there, ship them back to India, and undersell the Indians in their own market. And in India labour costs are about the lowest in the world. In effect, what Japan is doing is this: She is issuing monetary subsidies in such a way that her factories can export their goods at a price below financial accounting cost. She is utilising Social Credit principles in such a way that she is distributing a national dividend as it were, not to her own people but to her foreign customers. Japan, on a worldwide scale, is demonstrating how money can be made a servant instead of a master. And the world is beginning to realise this. Manufacturers in every country are commencing to understand that neither Japan's cheap labour nor her industrial efficiency will bridge the gap between their prices and Japanese prices—especially when they find Japan outbidding them in the purchase of raw materials (at our wool sales, for example).

It comes to this, then, that Japan, while *benefiting* people like ourselves, is threatening the very existence—the power as well as the profit—of the money kings. She is threatening those who, in spite of what R. G. Menzies the other night inadvertently but very truly referred to as "the noise and tumult and exhibitionism and chicanery of

The Hon. H. V. C. Thorby, M.H.R.,
Assistant Minister for Commerce,
Canberra.

Dear Sir,

Now that the Prime Minister and Sir H. Gullett seem to have more or less exhausted their powers of imagination in explaining away the Government's vicious attack upon our woolgrowers, it appears to have devolved upon you, as an alleged representative of country interests, to take up the refrain. You are reported to have said in Adelaide on Friday: "I am satisfied that there is no danger of serious loss to wheat and wool exporting industries. There is not a wool sale until August 31, and by that date I am confident the trade dispute will be settled satisfactorily." And, at a civic reception in Perth on Monday: "I personally assure you that all is well, and that nothing will react against our wheat and wool trade or anything else. The present position is being approached with the utmost friendliness by Japan and Australia."

Do you really think the Australian farmers and the Australian people generally are going to believe such absurdities? Surely you under-rate even the low standard of intelligence we have displayed in trusting the conduct of our national affairs to such men as yourself and your fellow Ministers. And, besides, the cables are daily giving the lie to your reassuring statements. On Wednesday, for instance, the press contained the following from Mr. Amau, given on behalf of the Japanese Foreign Office: "Japan was unable to consider as friendly Australia's imposition of high duties on Japanese goods

when Japan declined to reduce her exports by two-thirds. Moreover, the new tariffs certainly were aimed at Japanese goods, although Australia declared that they were not discriminatory. Japan could not suspend the Trade Protection Law unless Australia abandoned her new tariff policy." In face of that, how can you have the hardihood to talk of "the utmost friendliness" and a satisfactory settlement before the end of next month? There is only one satisfactory way of settling our trade disputes with Japan, Britain, or anyone else. You indicated that you know that way in an address you gave to a dairying conference in Sydney just before you left for the West, when you said: "Great Britain is prepared to take all Dominion products, but Australia must be prepared to buy British goods to create the credit for Britain to purchase Australian produce." 'This is very true, and it applies equally in the case of Japan, Germany, France, Italy, Belgium and others, all of whom are prepared to take our products provided we make this feasible by taking theirs in exchange. Only one thing stops us from doing that (and thereby enriching ourselves) in all these instances. You know perfectly well what the obstacle is—a lack of MONEY manufactured in Australia—the manufacturing process consisting for the most part of making entries in ledgers. And the Ministry of which you are a member could overcome this lack tomorrow, and so restore internal prosperity and external harmony. Instead of which it cries, *Hands Off The Banks*, and then proceeds to deal an uppercut to the community.

THE NEW TIMES

THE PEOPLE'S MOVEMENT TO ABOLISH POVERTY

(BY NON-PARTY POLITICAL ACTION.)

How to End Poverty and Insecurity

We have to obtain from every elector an agreement with a definite policy which embodies his immediate desires, and a signed pledge from him that he will not vote for any candidate who does not undertake to see that that policy is carried out.

We do not say to the elector that if he will elect us we will give him what he wants; in fact, we do not care who is elected. What we are offering is to put forward to whoever the elected may be, the electorate's demand that he shall arrange to give them what they want. We repudiate the qualifications of elected representatives of the people to act as experts—to tell existing experts how to do their jobs—but we demand under penalty of political extinction that they shall tell those experts to do what the people want them to do. This differentiates our campaign from any other form of political action, since we are not asking to be put into power in order to give people what we think is good for them. We simply ask people for their agreement on what they themselves think is good for them, and that they will elect only those members who will see that this is done.

It is not necessary, therefore, and it is in fact undesirable, when talking to the electors, to discuss any technical matter, but simply to stress the facts of physical abundance in order to show them that it is possible for people to have what they want without calling for sacrifices from anybody else, and to ask them to demand a higher personal income with complete security by means of the National Dividend.

It will be seen that this transcends the idea of party politics, which is a subtle perversion of democracy.

If everyone concerned to end the present situation of misery and insecurity will throw himself wholeheartedly behind the campaign to demand results he can rest assured that poverty will be abolished and real democracy established more quickly and more easily than in any other way. In fact this way is the only way. So bend your shoulders to the task. Begin today by signing the Parliamentary form appearing below. Get others of your household to sign it also. Bring it

under the notice of your friends and in every other way get other signatures to strengthen your own. Remember—WHAT YOU DEMAND TODAY PARLIAMENT WILL GRANT TOMORROW.

Official weekly bulletin of People's Movement to Abolish Poverty (by non-party political action), Room 8, The Block, Elizabeth Street, Melbourne, Box 621, G.P.O., Melbourne.

Address all communications to Box 621, G.P.O., Melbourne.

Pledge forms available from above address, 10/- per 1000; 1/- per 100. Postage extra.

Campaign Notes

BOX HILL.

The Electoral Campaign was inaugurated in Box Hill at a meeting held at Moye's Cafe on Thursday, July 9.

In spite of the severity of the weather the attendance was a good one, and all present were obviously enthusiastic about the Campaign. Following upon a cultured address from Mr. Glover, of Central Headquarters, the meeting appointed a District Supervisor, who was deputed to organise the systematic canvass of the electorate at once.

The Supervisor, Mr. Miles, took the names of several volunteers for active service, and he hopes to have completed the necessary organising before the next meeting on Thursday, July 23, so that workers may be allotted their specific duties. In the meantime several members have undertaken to make an immediate start, and an account of their work should prove helpful. All concerned are very sanguine of the final result.

PORT MELBOURNE.

That indefatigable worker, Mrs. Barty, has started the ball rolling in this district, which has been so heavily hit by present circumstances. Playing the part of a lone wolf this tireless lady has achieved in only a week splendid results. Already she has taken out her second batch of Pledge Forms and bids fair to set a standard for canvassing desirable to emulate but difficult to attain.

ELECTORAL CAMPAIGN

BELOW is the form Parliamentary electors are being asked to sign. Please read it carefully, sign (if you have not done so already), and send it (1d. stamp) to: THE PEOPLE'S MOVEMENT TO ABOLISH POVERTY, Room 8, The Block, ELIZABETH STREET, MELBOURNE, C.1.

WE WILL ABOLISH POVERTY

Elector's Demand and Undertaking

- I know that there are goods in plenty, so that poverty is quite unnecessary.
- I want, before anything else, poverty abolished.
- I want, too, national dividends distributed to me and every Australian so that we can buy all we want of the goods that are now destroyed and the production that is restricted.
- These dividends must not increase prices or taxes or deprive owners of their property or decrease its relative value.
- In a democracy like Australia, Parliament exists to make the will of the people prevail.
- So I pledge myself to vote for any candidate who will undertake to support the abolition of poverty and the issue of national dividends and to vote consistently against any party trying to put any other law-making before this.
- If the present M.P. here won't undertake this I will vote for some other party, and keep on changing until my policy has been achieved.

Signed.....

Signed.....

Address.....

Note.—In answer to requests the space for signatures has been increased to enable two residents at the same address (such as husband and wife) to sign the one form. Further forms may be had on application to The People's Movement to Abolish Poverty, Box 621, Melbourne.

(Signatures will be treated confidentially.)

KEEP THE NUMBERS DOWN!

Populations Are So Expensive

By "YAFFLE," in "Reynolds News."

In these progressive days, when weapons have far outstripped defence, it is difficult to believe that at one time defence caught up with weapons.

By the 13th century plate armour had become so efficient that it was practically impossible to kill a man inside it. This was known to historians as the period of the Great Deadlock, and to scientists as the Dark Ages.

Educated as we are in the principles of Efficiency, or Getting Things Done, we can see how dreadfully stagnant the Middle Ages were.

Bolted and riveted into his service kit, a knight presented an impenetrable front to the world, and an equally impervious coat and trousers. He was the only sardine in the tin, but he could not be extracted.

An absent-minded knight could walk right through a battle thinking of something else. If you came up behind him and gave him a sock with an axe, as like as not he would put his hand up to his ear and say, "Did anybody knock?"

There were no rubber-spliced handles or other shock absorbers, so the usual result of swotting a man was that you only stung your hand.

Killing being difficult, all knights could do was to push each other about, and tactics were confined mainly to those of a Rugby scrum. The contestants chose a flat field, suitable for straight shoving, and the fight ended by one side being pushed into the nearest ditch, river, or swamp.

The only casualties were the lower orders who couldn't afford tin suits.

DISGRACEFULLY LOW CASUALTIES

The disgracefully low level of casualties was exemplified by the battle of Brenville, as early as the 12th century, between Henry I. and the Duke of Normandy's son. Only 12 were killed.

With the low death rate of battles the glory of war grew dim. If it hadn't been for plagues, bad drains and the rise of the medical profession, the population would have increased beyond control.

It is true that if your enemy fell down his armour was so heavy that he could not get up again. In that case you had to find a horse and cart and take him to the nearest blacksmith before you could get the meat out of the can. But by the time the means of transport was ready, his esquire had erected a crane and set him back on his feet, and the fight had to begin all over again.

The only advantage was commercial. As a knight couldn't kill his opponent, he took him prisoner and sold him to his family for cash. Enterprising merchants sometimes effected the transaction on a commission basis.

The fortunes of the great Gresham family, whose trade mark, the grasshopper, now surmounts the Royal Exchange, are said to have been founded by a man who got the idea of buying up captured knights wholesale and selling them retail to their families.

One notable attempt to end the deadlock was the invention of the halberd. This was evolved in sheer desperation by a knight who had broken 10 new swords on the head of an opponent. As each trusty blade snapped, the prostrate foe raised his visor and gave the smiter what was subsequently known as the raspberry.

So at the next battle, the knight, who was of an inventive turn of mind, turned up with the new gadget. The halberd, as you see by its shape, was in fact a large tin opener. Instead of wasting cutlery by swiping vainly at an unyielding surface, the holder applied the point under one of the plates of his opponents armour and began to cut round. The other, feeling a draught,

realised that an entrance was being made to his domain, and yielded.

But the success of the halberd was short-lived. Knights took to carrying handsaws, with which they would begin to saw through the handle of the halberd as soon as the point was applied. So once again defence caught up with attack and the deadlock continued.

This might have gone on indefinitely but for three things: Imperialism, National Greatness and Progress.

THE FAR-FLUNG EMPIRE

About that time, England began to get great and start an Empire. Empire making means getting about and covering a lot of ground and generally being far-flung. You cannot far-fling yourself in heavy armour.

So in order to become great we began discarding our armour piece by piece to allow for what history calls "the extended military operations of the period." Casualty lists appeared again, and once more weapons got ahead of defence. This was as it should be, as an Empire is something anybody is glad to die for. Ask any corpse.

Fortunately the population began to increase rapidly, so there was a never-failing supply of weapon-stoppers. Then, as Science developed, and inventive genius began to flower with the starward lift of human thought, we entered upon the great period of the Mass Production of Corpses.

Thus does the aspiring soul of man struggle ever upwards to the Light, impelled from beneath by TNTS4N3PhX.

Looking back from our lofty pinnacle of Enlightenment, it is hard to believe that only a few centuries back a man not only had to see his enemy before he could hit him, but couldn't kill him even when he did.

THE LANGUAGE OF THE PAST

With the achievement of aerial warfare, man finally abandoned all ideas of defence. Politicians still talk of defence, of course, but politicians always do talk in the language of a previous period. When swords are obsolete they talk of not sheathing the sword, in the same way, now that science has announced the futility of gas-masks, they order everyone to have gas-mask drill.

This is all as it should be. How else could we keep down a growing number of unemployed?

I did submit a design for covering England with a bombproof roof, in the form of a huge tank filled with water to catch all falling missiles. I pointed out that with the invention of artificial sunlight and air-conditioning, we don't really need a sky. But the idea was turned down, doubtless because it threatened us with the preservation of the proletariat and increased taxation. I see my mistake now.

The last and most deadly weapon is the motorcar. This happy invention was most opportune, as it enables us in peacetime to maintain a casualty list far exceeding that of war.

By the straightening of roads and the improvement of surfaces, every effort is made to increase the efficiency of this lethal weapon.

I once presented a plan for anti-motor defence, by making all roads zig-zagged, with sharp bends every 50 yards, so that cars could not get up speed. But it was pointed out to me that if that was done, someone would invent cars with highly sprung legs so that they could jump over the hedges and land on pedestrians from above.

Besides, as a friend observed, in a pitying tone, if cars were not to go as fast as they could, there would be no casualties.

"Do you want to go back to the Middle Ages?" he said.

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SECTION 2

(Continued from page 2.)

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FRIDAY, JULY 17, 1936.

The Finances of the "Argus"

Not often has there been published a document more damning to banker finance or more heartening to monetary reformers than that put out by the Melbourne *Argus* last week in connection with its conversion into a limited liability company. As a newspaper the *Argus* has long observed a very high standard from the technical aspect of journalism. Its reports as a rule are fuller and more reliable than those of most other daily papers in Australia, and particularly in Victoria. It has avoided, till very recently, at all events, the yellow journalism of the *Herald* and the tabloid scurrillousness of the *Sun*. Its literary qualities have been far superior to those of the *Age*. And it can still give them all many points in technical make-up and the presentation of news. Most important of all, the *Argus*, as far back as one can remember, has had a definite and positive policy; it has never been a rail-sitter. According to the reader's own viewpoint, he has known whether to accept *Argus* editorials as gospel or exactly how many degrees to allow for cross winds when calculating his bearings. Of what other Australian newspaper except the *Sydney Morning Herald* can the same be said?

And now the *Argus* is to become a million pound company, with a present paid-up capital of £655,000. As a consequence, the public is let into some of the secrets of its finances. And what secrets! In 1925 the *Argus* made a profit of £203,000. By 1928 this had progressively dropped to £103,000. By 1932 a continuation of the process resulted in a loss for the year of £426. Still the same paper, remember, still the same technical excellence — and still the same

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policy! For the nine months ended March 31 last the audited statement shows a net profit of £19,260, subject to certain adjustments. Three of these adjustments are: (1) income taxes; (2) interest on a mortgage of £100,000; (3) interest on a bank overdraft, which at that date stood at £242,000. Make those adjustments for yourself, and what would be the resultant trading position of the *Argus*?

As to the new company's capital position, the vendors show, in their statement of March 31 last, a surplus of assets over liabilities of £280,000. This again is subject to two important conditions. One is the realisable value of land, buildings, plant, stocks, cable services, etc., at £519,000; the other is a valuation for goodwill of £100,000. Would you care to give £100,000 for the goodwill of an enterprise with the trading results just disclosed? And if the *Argus* had been shut down with the *Star*, by the time the bank and the mortgagee had been satisfied would any assets at all have remained from a forced sale? What a position for a paper which ten years ago was making a net £203,000 a year! What a position, even at its own valuation, that the net capital assets of the *Argus* proprietary should now be less than the equivalent of eighteen months' trading profit a decade ago! What a commentary on the wisdom of the financial policy to which it so ardently subscribes!

And the new company—what of its prospects? After all liabilities have been met, of the new cash put up—£330,000—there will remain as working capital only £35,000. Given another financial squeeze, how long before the company again gets into the bank's hands?

Who will conduct the policy? The original vendors will hold £325,000, the new shareholders £300,000. And Sir George Fairbairn, holding £30,000, will be in a position to throw his weight very effectively on either side of any argument that may develop. In what direction, should any such difference arise, is Sir George's influence likely to be thrown? We cannot say, but we do know that (1) Sir George is a bright young fellow of 81, and that (2) the company boards he has decorated include Dalgety and Co., the Union Trustee Co., and the A.M.P. Society, while his clubs are the Melbourne and the Australian. Sir George is therefore what is popularly termed a bankers' man. Is there likely to be any change in the policy of the new *Argus*?

Actually the abridged prospectus published by the *Argus* itself tells us that we may expect no change. "The directors," it says, "are conscious of the importance of maintaining the established policy of the *Argus*...No radical alterations in policy of in features will be made with-

out careful deliberation..." Ample proof of this was given as recently as last Monday, when the *Argus* said editorially: "The Government should cease to treat the large residue of chronic work-shys and unemployables as innocent victims of a scarcity of work." There is the same old *Argus* for you.

We said that the *Argus* statement of affairs is heartening to monetary reformers. And is it not? We know well that other newspapers have shown little practical sympathy for the reform movement which has grown so rapidly of recent years, and particularly for removing the causes of our needless suffering, of which the chief is the monopoly's stranglehold over our money supplies. But at least none of them has shown the same bitter hostility to the mere discussion of the necessary and inevitable changes. What other paper in Australia would pen so callous and so obviously untrue a statement as that about "the large residue of chronic work-shys"? The *Argus* has had to drink to the dregs the bitter gall of public humiliation—and no one is sympathetic. The *Argus*, on its own financial statement, is now revealed as the last in the world who should venture to pose as any sort of an authority or adviser on finance—and can "monetary cranks" be blamed if they snigger a little?

Company Makes a Profit, But Bank Won't Allow Dividend

An excellent example of how thoroughly industry is now at the mercy of our banking monopolists was provided in Sydney last week. Speaking at the annual meeting of Greater J. D. Williams Amusement Co., Mr. K. W. Asprey explained that profits had been made, but that the company's bank had refused the directors' application to distribute them to shareholders, although the bank overdraft was £46,000 less than the stipulated limit.

This only bears out once more the Social Credit statement that, while industry can make a profit in goods, it is unable to distribute that profit effectively without the permission of the money monopolists. As Major Douglas said a good many years ago, you can grow potatoes, but you cannot grow the money to sell them. That prerogative today rests with the private bankers, who themselves produce nothing but ledger entries called overdrafts. This mystic power, however, confers upon them an effective claim over all production, together with the "right" to say who shall and who shall not produce, and who shall and who shall not receive a return for their efforts—with, in every case, a handsome hand-out to the banker for his complaisance.

Two choices would now seem to offer themselves to the amusement company's shareholders. One is to go gay and cut out their profit in theater tickets; the other is to insist that the hobbles be taken off industry by restoring the control of financial credit to those whose real credit is its base, namely, the community.

WAR IN THE PROMISED LAND

British Battalions Fighting to Make Good the Promise to Jews Who Financed the Last War

While the Australian daily press, which a few months ago could spare whole pages for minor operations in Abyssinia, can now find only an obscure inch or two for what is taking place in Palestine, the war there grows daily more bitter.

An exception to the campaign of suppression was made by the Melbourne *Sun* last Saturday, which devoted the whole of its front page to an air mail scoop in the form of "exclusive pictures of reprisals against Arabs in Palestine." The first picture of these "reprisals" shows an immense conflagration of several-storied brick or stone buildings, which might easily pass for a typical photograph of the Western Front. The *Sun's* title was, "An entire street going up in smoke." Other pictures gave us the inspiring sight of "British Royal Engineers setting fuses to hundreds of pounds of blasting explosives in the danger area." So when in the future you read of "Arab snipers' nests" being blown up, you will understand that these nests are somewhat more substantial than straw.

"WHY THEY'RE RIOTING IN PALESTINE."

In a recent issue we referred to the cause of British troops now playing in Palestine a part identical with that of Mussolini's men in Abyssinia. It may be worth quoting in full the surprisingly candid editorial in the Perth *Daily News* to which we then referred. In its issue of May 19, under the heading, "Why They're Rioting in Palestine," that paper said:—

"Today, as you read this, grave rioting is taking place in Palestine. There is a general strike of Arab workers. Outrages are being committed on Jews. The strikers are trying to cut off food supplies in the towns, and are reviling Great Britain, which governs the country under a mandate from the League of Nations.

"What are the causes of the trouble?

"To understand them it is necessary to go back to the Great War. Britain desperately needed money for arms. And so, to induce wealthy Jews in the United States and elsewhere to subscribe to war loans (our italics), Britain endorsed the programme of the Zionist organisation, which sought to establish in Palestine a national home for the Jews.

"In 1919, therefore, Palestine (with Syria and Iraq) was set up as an 'A' class mandate—that is, a country which was sufficiently advanced politically to encourage a hope that it would some day stand on its own feet and become a member of the League. Until such time, it was placed under the care of Britain, who undertook the tasks of fostering the development of autonomous organisation and the country's national resources, and (in accordance with her pledge) the establishing of a national home for Jews.

"Then the trouble began. The Arab, nomadic and with primitive methods of agriculture, could not compete with the civilised Jew. Lazy, temperamental and often corrupt, he saw Jews being preferred for lucrative posts in the administration. Much of the best land was bought by Jews, and the influx of Jewish immigrants increasingly reduced the Arab's share in the government of the country.

"Against this stigma of inferiority the proud Arabs rebelled. Blood has been spilled sporadically ever since 1920; and recent developments—a check in boom conditions, and the proposed new Constitution with which the British Government hopes to make a beginning of democratic rule—have intensified the racial feud."

Need we add anything to this story of the inexplicable opposition to "democratic rule" of a "nomadic,

primitive, lazy, temperamental and often corrupt" people—unless perhaps to remark that if Britain had issued during the war the money she borrowed from the Jewish financiers she would now be able to mind her own business, instead of being called upon to redeem her promise of giving away a land to which she has not the least vestige of a title?

AN "UNPLEASANT AND INVIDIOUS" COURSE

The position in which Britain (still subject to the same financiers as during the last war) now finds herself was frankly discussed in an editorial in the *Economist* of May 30, which said:—

"Up to the last few days, the situation in Palestine had taken a serious turn for the worse." (Note.—It has since taken a still more serious turn for the worse.) "The rural Arab population had taken up arms against the present regime—Jewish national home and British mandate alike—and had started to wage guerilla warfare not only against the police, but also against the British troops who have been rushed to Palestine from Egypt. These troops can ill be spared at a moment when General Graziani has announced that the huge Italian army in East Africa is to be maintained there intact. Happily, the tension has eased; but the problem remains. No doubt this Sinn Fein movement of the Palestinian Arabs can be put down by sheer force if that is the policy, which his Majesty's Government mean to follow. Palestine is a tiny coun-

DID NOT DIE IN VAIN

"The five lives lost in the Woolwich Arsenal explosion were not wasted; those carrying on research are bound to take risks from which the industry profits," said Lieut.-Col. Thomas, inspector of explosives, at the inquest to-day into the deaths at the Arsenal on Tuesday.

"Herald," cable, July 11. Who suggested these men's lives were wasted? Have they not proved by blowing themselves to smithereens that, handled a little more gingerly on the right side, this new explosive will achieve splendid results upon men, women and children on the wrong side? And, anyway, they have reduced Britain's unemployment problem by five.

try, no larger than Wales; and the Arab majority of the population is only 760,000 strong all told. But the Palestinian Arabs have an immensely strong incentive to rebel against our British yoke. We have packed Palestine with Jews in much the same way in which we have 'grouted' with cement the rubble filling of the columns of St. Paul's. The simile is apt, for such 'grouting' is unquestionably good for rickety structures—whether of cathedrals or of countries. Yet, if the rubble has a voice, it may protest; and if it has life it may bite and kick. When we pledged ourselves to enable the Jews, under our aegis, to establish a Jewish national home in Palestine, we took the line that the Arabs (whose national feelings we were fanning into flame all round, in Arabia and Syria and Iraq) were in Palestine no more than a kind of human rubble, with little national coherence or tradition that deserved, or needed"—needed is a much better word—"to be respected. So we guaranteed these Palestinian Arabs their civil and religious rights, but nothing more. We have now reached the point at which, under our aegis, the Jewish national home, which is being established in Palestine by the wonderful energy and idealism of the Zionists, is overshadowing the Palestinian Arabs in their own house. But now that this point has been reached, the Palestinian Arabs have made it clear that they do not mean to

accept the position of under dog without a fierce struggle. What are we going to do about it? Are we going to crush the Palestinian Arabs in the ruthless fashion in which Mussolini has crushed the Amharas? Or are we going to betray our Zionist protégés (that is, in concrete terms, to leave them to suffer the fate of the Assyrians of Iraq)? Either course will be so unpleasant and so invidious that no doubt we shall take whichever turns out to be the line of lesser resistance."

* * *

As we go to press the latest files of English newspapers to hand bear the date of June 12. The *Manchester Guardian* of that date says that "more British troops have been sent there" (to the "promised" land), "bringing the number of battalions in the country to eight. A company of tanks, besides the Royal Air Force and Engineers, are stationed in Jerusalem." And *Reynolds News* relates that "British troops are being assembled in this country in readiness for despatch to Palestine should unrest there assume graver proportions. They will include mechanised units as well as infantry, but, it is stated, 'in no circumstances will poison gas be used against the rebellious Arabs.'" That last sentence is strongly reminiscent of what Mus-

Government "by the people" through their elected representatives already has been contracted to a much greater extent than the community realises.

—"Age" editorial, July 13.

solini stated when his troops were in readiness for despatch to Abyssinia.

What the forces in Palestine now number we cannot say. News from the Promised Land is well censored by the Australian press. It is too busy recounting how Britain is *exasperated* by Japan's machinations in China and Hitler's plots in Eastern Europe!

COUNCIL FOR CIVIL LIBERTIES

"Freedom and the Slums" is the title chosen by the Council for Civil Liberties for its second educational meeting, which is to be held at the Kelvin Hall on Wednesday, August 5.

Dr. John Dale, Melbourne City's Health Officer, will discuss "Health, Housing and Liberty," and Mr. Eugene Gorman, K.C., will ask, "Are Rich and Poor Equal Before the Law?"

A charge of 1/- will be made for admission. The hon. secretary is Miss T. Lucas, 13 a'Beckett Street, Armadale, S.1.

Despair That Lurks Amid Plenty

Under the above heading the Melbourne *Herald* of last Saturday published the following:

ADELAIDE, Saturday. — Half a dozen men gathered in the Bankruptcy Court had a glimpse for a moment or two yesterday of one of those tragedies, which lurk beneath the surface of everyday life.

The court had just concluded the hearing of a case in which hundreds of pounds were mentioned, as the average man would talk of shillings.

Then into the witness box stepped a stocky little man to be examined on his means to pay bankruptcy fees. His navy's boots were spattered with mud. His trousers, too, had seen better days—much better days.

His tale was a tale of despair—of hopeless weeks, months, and years on relief work, working 121 hours a month for a wage of £6/17/1.

On that amount he had had to clothe and feed five children and a wife, he said.

Sympathetically, Acting Judge Haslam drew from the man his story.

As the bankrupt turned to leave the box the Official Receiver (Mr. Richardson) asked if he had incurred any expense in coming from Kangarilla—about 50 miles away—for his examination.

There was a deep silence in the court as, in a voice that trembled on the verge of tears, the man told how he had walked to the courthouse.

"I left there at 4 o'clock this morning," he said. "I have had nothing to eat since last night. Had there been anything the children would have got it."

"My eldest boy is out at Northfield Hospital now. We nearly lost him." He could not go on.

No order was made and as the man left the court the Registrar (Mr. Howland) took him into his charge and saw him sit down to a good meal.

Then he began his long walk again—back to Kangarilla.

And everybody (including the *Herald*, which made no further comment) was satisfied to leave it at that—to give this poor man a feed and let him walk back the 50 miles to a house with five children and no food; to go on for further "weeks, months and years on relief work, working 121 hours a month for a wage of £6/17/1."

Would you like to keep a wife and five children on £6/17/1 a month? Do you realise that this unhappy man and his wife and children are your fellow-citizens, your own brothers and sisters? Do you realise that while you are starving them, you are bitterly complaining that *foreign markets* for the very things they need are shrinking?

What would happen if the Federal Government gave them their share of the National Dividend—not money derived from further taxation, not money borrowed from the financial gangsters whose policy keeps these people in starvation and misery, but money *issued* by the nation to enable the sale of goods which today are restricted, destroyed, or sold abroad at a loss?

If you have a conscience, you cannot evade YOUR OWN responsibility in this matter. Parliament is your servant. DEMAND that Parliament carry out your instructions, and wipe out this needless destitution.

Statistics.

May 1937 has been fixed for the Coronation.

As a further sign of the continued increase of national prosperity, the "Daily Mail" of May, 1937, will report 100 per cent, increase of employment among coronation programme sellers, compared with the corresponding period of the previous year.

—"Reynolds."

MELBOURNE FORUM AND LITERARY CIRCLE

We have received a copy of the second syllabus of the Melbourne Forum, covering the period July to November of the present year. Educational, social, economic and ethical problems will be discussed, and the list of speakers comprises Mr. Eugene Gorman, K.C.; Dr. Ramsay Mailer, Mrs. Joan Rosanove, LL.B.; Mr. E. R. Pitt, B.A. (Public Librarian); Rabbi Israel Brodie, M.A.; Professor G. S. Browne, M.A.; Mr. Ambrose Pratt, Hon. F. W. Eggleston, Professor K. H. Bailey, M.A., B.C.L. (Oxon.), and Chancellor Sir James Barrett, F.R.C.S. As an added attraction, musical programmes are being arranged by local artists and choirs. These meetings are held fortnightly in the Unitarian Church, East Melbourne, on Sunday afternoons at 3.30.

The Literary Circle, conducted by the Rev. W. Bottomley, meets in the Church Hall on alternate Sundays to the Forum, when modern literature dealing with life and life's problems is discussed.

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WHAT WAS THE CRIME OF J. H. THOMAS AND HIS FRIENDS?

The Peculiar Morals of "The City"

The English newspapers to hand by this week's mail give prominence to the result of the Budget leakage inquiry, which resulted in the resignations of J. H. Thomas and Sir Alfred Butt. Foremost among them in indignation is the *Economist*, which says of the verdict that, "startling though it is, no one who followed the evidence or heard the unmistakable perjury of some of the witnesses can doubt its justice." The *Economist* then goes on to indicate pretty clearly the details of the unmissable perjures and by whom they were committed.

A far deeper article, however, appears in *Reynolds News*, which remarks that, while the legal and political consequences of the inquiry are in hot debate, "certain other aspects of the evidence and

speculators have been caught out and exposed. True. But the reason is not that these men had violated by their actions the purity of British finance capitalism; it is that they were gambling in vital commodities, but that in so doing they were interfering with the economic power of the Bank of England.

"The crime of Howeson and Hatry, in capitalist eyes, was not that they were gambling in vital commodities, but that in so doing they were interfering with the economic power of the Bank of England.

"The charge against Bates and Butt is not that they were robbing the poor—the Government had done that already by putting on the tea tax in the first place—but that they were pulling a fast one on Lloyd's, committee of big insurers.

THE PROOF.

"Proof of this assertion lies in the fact that when tin-king Howeson goes, it is Montagu Norman who appoints E. J. Banbury as new chairman of the Anglo-Oriental Mining Corporation, main operator of the tin pool.

"When Hatry went, W. B. Jones, of the Westminster Bank, took his place as chairman of United Steel Companies Limited, which Hatry created.

"Lord Kysant got sent to jail but the assets of the Royal Mail Steam Packet group, of which he was head, passed to two new companies, all the directors of which were nominated by Montagu Norman.

"It is not the small scale gambling of the Bateses and Butts that is important; it is the far more vital gambles and

findings—perhaps the most striking—have received no mention in the press. Why this is so you can guess. They smell!"

The point which *Reynolds* makes is that all the hubbub arose over personalities and circumstances, while there was no real protest against the nature of practices whereby "stockbrokers, stock jobbers, bankers, dealers, and what not who operate in the City" gamble in commodities which are the basis of life for the common people—and go further than gambling, "to bet on certainties by rigging the market."

HOWESON, HATRY, KYLSANT—AND MONTAGU NORMAN.

"Sometimes," proceeds the article, "this is done by 'cornering' the commodity concerned—that is, by buying up available stocks, thereby creating an artificial scarcity as a result of which prices rise and they are able to sell at a profit.

"Such a trick was tried by Howeson early last year when he bought up all the pepper available, and held on while its price rocketed from 9d a lb. in July, 1934, to 1/6 in January, 1935. He did the same with tin.

"A similar tactic, but on a far bigger scale, was tried by Hatry, who attempted to corner the steel industry. This he did by buying up as much steel plant as he could, restricting output so that steel prices could rise, then selling out his holdings on a rising market.

"Readers may comment here that Howeson and Hatry and similar

Mr. Dunstan, Country party Premier of Victoria, representative of those men who first established order in the wilderness and whose cardinal quality was self-reliance is of the opinion that no one can now be found in all Australia capable of re-organising (if it needs re-organising) the Victorian police force. And so he applies for help to the London organisation presided over by Sir Philip Game. This gentleman, to be sure, knows something of a policeman's job in Australia, having effectively acted in that capacity on behalf of the Bank of England and the overseas bondholders.

corners put across by the big shots that matter.

"Similarly the fact that these small fry get occasional tips from their political friends is not so important as the close personal and organic contact that exists between the big finance-capitalists and many of the leading politicians,

"If a Committee of Inquiry was necessary to investigate " Mr. Thomas's pre-Budget activities, no less strong a case can be put forward for a similar inquiry into all the relations between politics and Big Business."

"CAN GIFT MONEY BE CANCELLED?"

Few people can any longer pretend that, except by such devices as increasing the national debt, any community is able to buy the whole of what it produces.

Hence those whose interest it is to oppose monetary reform are now contending that, if new money be issued by governments to make up the shortage, this must continue mounting up until it causes extreme inflation.

"Can Gift Money Be Cancelled?" deals with this assertion. It explains why, where and how new money must be issued, and how it may also be withdrawn as goods are sold, so that the money supply will always be kept in proper relation with the supply of goods for sale.

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VICTORIA IS GETTING UNDER WAY

DOUGLAS CREDIT MOVEMENT OF VICTORIA, ROOM 8, BLOCK ARCADE, MELBOURNE

SLUMS

By BRUCE H BROWN

(Concluded from our last issue.)

Instead of facing the clear issue that wars, poverty, slums, and all the other things that distress the community arise from our insane financial arrangements, practically the whole of our public men and women confine their attention to other topics. For example, in December 1934, the Victorian Council of Churches issued a manifesto containing the following:—

"We believe that war has its source in human greed, suspicion, and distrust . . .

"We call upon ministers, preachers, and teachers and all in places of leadership, to strive with a new earnestness to subdue the spirit which creates war and to strengthen the spirit which makes war impossible . . .

"We call upon our Christian people . . . to make willingly the sacrifices that are necessary if the root cause of national rivalry and class divisions are to be removed . . ."

This manifesto was signed by the following church officials:—

JOHN MCKENZIE, Moderator, Presbyterian Church of Victoria;

JOHN E. WARREN, President, Methodist Church of Australasia (Victoria and Tasmania);

J. C. MARTIN, President, Baptist Union of Victoria;

J. D. NORTHEY, Chairman, Congregational Union of Victoria;

HAROLD B. ROBBINS, President, Churches of Christ in Victoria;

WILLIAM MAXWELL, Commissioner of the Salvation Army;

MARGARET PIERCE, Clerk to Melbourne Society of Friends;

W. J. HARRIS, President, Council of Churches in Victoria.

Was there ever a more glaring case of the blind trying to lead the blind? Take the three extracts quoted. We are assured from all quarters that the *people* of the world hate war and that the diplomats of all countries are striving to avoid it. If this is *so*—and we believe it is—then *who* are the greedy, the suspicious, and the distrustful who have such controlling power in world affairs that they can disregard the desires of the people and thwart the efforts of the diplomatic service? Who, we repeat—*who* are they? We challenge these church leaders to name them.

THE "SPIRIT" WHICH CREATES WAR.

What is meant by the words, "the spirit which creates war"? War does not arise from a "spirit." It arises from unsatisfactory economic conditions which are the direct and inevitable result of unsatisfactory financial conditions; and as financial conditions are not controlled by governments, we must look outside government circles for the culprits—i.e., the scoundrels whose activities create and foster the so-called "war spirit." Although it may shock the persons named to be told so, representatives of the self-same scoundrels frequently oc-

cupy high offices in the several churches.

Is it conceivable that any nation whose citizens are adequately fed, clothed and sheltered would participate in a war unless they were actually attacked by an invader? It is not conceivable, and the only effective way to prevent war is to make the people contented and happy. They are denied contentment and happiness because they are deliberately kept short of *money*, and are obliged to struggle incessantly for the little they do get. War is the direct result of the operation of the existing monetary system under private control, which forces the nations to fight for markets in other countries for the sale of supposedly "surplus" goods allegedly to get *money*, whereas if their own people were supplied with their own money there would be no such thing as a surplus of goods side by side with underfed and starving people. In any case the money obtained by sale in other countries never comes to Australia and could not be used here if it did come. Instead of increasing the supply of Australian money, however, our people are deliberately and callously kept short of purchasing power. This talk of subduing the spirit, which creates war, is therefore so much nonsense. It is entirely a question of *finance*, and it is within the power of the churches to insist upon having money so regulated that it will always be available for community requirements. Every proposal for the improvement of society is either abandoned or modified because of financial limitations, whereas the only limitations should be dictated by our physical resources. Unfortunately our churches have been under the control of "leaders" without knowledge, vision or courage.

NO NECESSITY FOR "SACRIFICES."

And how utterly absurd it is for these people to talk of the necessity for willing "sacrifices" when God has been so lavish in providing and regularly renewing the things we all need for the maintenance and enjoyment of life! What sort of sacrifices do they mean? Would anyone benefit from our sacrificing even more food and increasing the army of the half-starved? If there *would* be any benefit in sacrifice of that kind, who would get it? And if we sacrificed clothes, accommodation, and all kinds of materials, who would get the benefit of the "sacrifice"? For whom are the people sacrificing these things *now*? All that is necessary to remove class divisions is to give all citizens economic security, and that can be done only through the agency of *money*. The reason people are without that security is to be found in the fact that the supply and cancellation of money is controlled by a private monopoly, whereas it should be the absolute prerogative of the Crown. Is it any wonder that the Communists refer to religion as the opium of the people?

MR. CLAPP'S MESSAGE

Harold W. Clapp, the much-advertised Commissioner of Railways, who is also chairman of the State Relief Committee, recently published the following message relating to the Blanket Appeal:—

"I can imagine nothing more pitiful than the thought of unfortunate Victorians shivering through midwinter because of inadequate bed-covering. Those who give to this worthy fund would experience great happiness if they could see the comfort and warmth which their gifts bring to the homes of the poor."

What a pity that a man of such standing and humane tendencies should talk like this and yet say nothing about the disgraceful fact that these people are poor and cold only because they have been denied the money tickets which would entitle them to obtain what they need from the shops without having to depend on the gifts of charity-dispensers! "Give and be glad,"

he says, but how much more sensible it would be to demand that the Commonwealth Government immediately resume control of financial policy so that it can give the community the full benefits of the machine and power age, thus rendering unnecessary this professional charity and prostitution of poverty on the part of social limelight-seekers.

LORD HUNTINGFIELD'S "HAPPY SPEECH."

Lord Huntingfield is equally guilty of failure to face the facts, and even his position, as Governor does not entitle him to exemption from criticism. On June 24 he visited the Unemployed Department of the Y.M.C.A., and, if correctly reported by the Melbourne

THE JUMBLED JARGON OF JUBILEE JOE

We are informed by Wednesday's Melbourne "Sun" that, in replying to a deputation of Sydney old-age pensioners, Mr. Lyons emphasised that to pay the present amount and make other payments the Government was compelled to collect many millions from taxpayers in excess of what was collected previously.

We would like to ask this arch-apologist:

(a) Do the "other payments" refer to the interest and service charges on the ever-growing national debt?

(b) Why is the Government COMPELLED TO COLLECT any thing at all while it possesses a sovereign right, however dormant, to ISSUE the money necessary to keep our old and invalid people in a state of comfort during a time of plenty?

(c) Rather than exercise this sovereign right, does Mr. Lyons intend to add to the "other payments" and, therefore, to the many millions he will be "compelled to collect" during what remains of his political life?

(Note.—Now that Joe has at last done something active, even if it does ruin our woolgrowers, we feel we can use the word "life.")

—F.P.C.

Herald, talked a lot of inanities. We are told that he made "a happy speech with his hands deep in his trousers pockets" and assured the boys that "things were improving"; that they "would soon have jobs"; but that they "must spend their leisure trying to fit themselves for work." He went on with this: "There is no doubt the Empire trade position is getting better. The Empire stands pre-eminently higher than it has for many years. It must be a great disappointment that you can't find jobs at present. It is not possible for me to rectify that. But I do ask you not to be too downhearted. Keep your peckers up." And that was all our Governor could say to young fellows of the best type whose outlook is hopeless because of financial manipulation of a criminal character. Because "no one hath hired them" they are treated as human scrap and refused an income, even though without their "work" we are producing more than enough for everybody. Should we not agitate for the recall of a Governor who can visualise *work* as the only claim to income for the great bulk of us in a machine and power age, when able-bodied men between the ages of 25 and 45 could do all that is necessary in 16 hours a week? He shows either that he knows nothing, or that he will say nothing, about the function, creation, control and cancellation of *money*, the one thing that is responsible for the hopelessness of the boys to whom he made the "happy speech" and for the horrible conditions, which obtain in the slum areas. The immorality of it! A man with access to practically everything because he is assured of a large income trying to soft-soap young fellows who have access to nothing because they are denied even small incomes! How would he feel in their place when told by a man living in luxury "not to be too downhearted and to keep his pecker up"? It is adding insult to injury, and not even a Governor should be allowed to do it. If he cannot attack the *cause* of the community's dilemma, then it were better for him to refrain from commenting. "Sympathy without relief is like mustard

without beef," and proper relief in this case can come only from monetary reform.

THE REAL POSITION

While the Governor tells us that the Empire stands pre-eminent we may hear Mr. Marcus Barlow, a Melbourne architect connected with the Slum Abolition Movement, saying: "If the more privileged knew how the unprivileged lived, they would rise and put a stop to it. Go into the little streets and you will find mile on mile of slum tenements, totally unfit for human habitation. I have seen a whole street down with typhoid. I have seen children with rickets staggering grotesquely towards me. I have seen young men and women, old before their time, in these surroundings. I have seen children almost starving, fed at their schools for 1d a day." What these people should do is to keep their peckers up and not get too downhearted. Presumably, if they maintain that demeanour the shopkeepers will supply their needs without regard to payment for them. Tall stories about the Empire will not fill the stomachs of the hungry or pay the rent for the unemployed father. It is all so shameful, and we agree with Mr. Barlow in the following: "Many people imagine the slums are inhabited by a vicious population that have sunk to these conditions through drink and crime. It is not so. Most of them are decent and honest people." But here, again, like all the others, Mr. Barlow is silent about the *cause*, even though he admits that "in England, where rents higher than usually paid in the slums were fixed, . . . the death rate rose alarmingly. The people were starving themselves to death to pay the rent." Food and rent both depend on the possession of *money*, and it is *money* the people need. Without monetary reform the efforts of the slum-abolitionists must be abortive, and they should have the courage to say so.

"WITH THE FINANCE AT OUR DISPOSAL."

Sir Stanley Argyle has made repeated references to the slum question and charged the Victorian Government that they are only "playing with a very big subject." He would make it compulsory for local authorities to survey their districts in order to ascertain the extent of "overcrowding" and unhygienic conditions . . . "then we

could see what should be done, and how far we could go with the finance at our disposal!" Here is a fellow, held up to us as a statesman, openly and shamelessly declaring that a sovereign government must go no further than the finance at its disposal, without any suggestion at all that there should be an alteration of the almost unbelievable practice which permits the private money monopoly to dictate what finance shall be at the government's disposal, and thus how far any government may go. It is an admission that all governments *are* controlled by finance, and that, *ipso facto*, those who control finance automatically control governments. How any man can be conscious of this and yet say not a word about the nature, function, origin and control of finance, on which everything is made to depend, is more than we can understand. We say it is dishonest to tackle this slum question without first seeing that the control of *financial policy* is exercised by the Commonwealth Parliament. Britain has already spent £850 millions on the provision of what are called "better houses," but slum conditions are as bad as ever, simply because no one in authority has cared whether the people have sufficient *incomes* to secure adequate food and clothes.

MR. CAIN'S ATTITUDE

Mr. Cain, Deputy Leader of the Labor Party in Victoria, is no better, for he is the man who declared that "no matter what proposal for the solution of housing problems was adopted, the community would have to put its hand in its pocket. It is no use talking of reduced taxation. If necessary, taxation will have to be increased." If anything, Mr. Cain's attitude is even worse than Sir Stanley's, because he tells the world that he still holds the foolish view that there is only a limited quantity of money in existence and that this quantity cannot be increased. When we know that this precious stuff consists only of figures in books and symbols to represent those figures, and that hitherto no attempt has been made to reconcile those figures and symbols with the community's production, what hope can there be for slum abolition or for any other social progress while men of this type have a controlling voice in political affairs?

"LEGION OF THE LOST."

Then in the *Herald* of June 6 Mr. G. R. Giles, B.Sc., Dip.Ed.

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who is secretary of the Boys' Employment Movement, supplied an article entitled, "Legion of the Lost." This graduate of the University wrote: "Business and industry are fast recovering from the depression, wage restorations are the order of the day, increased employment is reported from all sources, and yet these thousands of well-educated young men are not wanted anywhere." Did not the Governor tell them that they would soon have jobs and that they should keep their pecker up? This Legion of the Lost is an army of "10,000 young men who have never had a chance, and the improvement in conditions has had little beneficial effect on the members of this group. Rather has it made their position worse." Without going into the truth or otherwise of the statement that business and industry are "fast recovering," we would ask Mr. Giles what is the sense of his moaning about the Legion of the Lost when he says nothing at all about the swindling financial system which alone is responsible for it? His legion is simply the handout of another slum quota by the money monopolists. These human slums are in the same position as the residential slums, and both are the result of the dictation by a private monopoly of the amount of money that shall be permitted to circulate. If Mr. Giles would only organise his legion and show them how they have been robbed and imposed on by a murderous financial system they would soon have the swindle ended. But the only idea he puts forward is that the solution will be found in the introduction of "a suitable training scheme." That's another version of what Lord Huntingfield said to the Y.M.C.A. boys. Use your "leisure" to fit yourself! And the well-educated Mr. Giles goes on to say that "this will cost money." He is another who unintentionally tells the world of his ignorance about the nature and origin of money. Nothing costs money, because money costs nothing. As money is only a ticket or token representing financial figures, and the financial figures are mere pen and ink entries in bank ledgers, people who speak of things costing "money" should really be sent for medical examination. The cost of a thing is what is consumed in producing it, and money is not consumed in producing anything. Money is merely an accounting process.

THE BETTER HOUSING LEAGUE

This "Better Housing League" is talking in much the same strain. They say that the abolition of the slums "would save money," but actually it is this saving of money craze that has caused the slums. Money does not exist to be saved. The only purpose of its existence is to be spent. If it is not spent it is useless and business becomes insolvent. It is only by *spending money* that lives can be saved and poverty abolished. Press reports of the league's meeting on June 9 give details of the "objectives" and "fundamental principles" which have been adopted, but they make no mention of the food and clothes

aspect or the question of *incomes*. No slum abolition schemes can possibly succeed unless effective measures are first taken to place the slum inhabitants in the position to meet their financial obligations. "Ugly facts will not be obscured by suave words." (*Argus* editorial, June 10.) The same editorial admits that *finance* is the important feature of any plan, and this is endorsed by the Methodist *Spectator* for June, which says, "Difficult questions of *finance* . . . have still to be solved." This latter paper goes on to say that "the slum-mind must be replaced by a Christian self-dependence and a Christian self-respect," but not a word against the bankers' swindle which creates, fosters and perpetuates the slum mind and the slum conditions. Its pious hope that "the vision of a slum less Melbourne will not be allowed to go by default" is so much humbug so long as it withholds its support from the movement for monetary reform and community control of credit. Fancy a church paper talking like this when we have the disgusting knowledge that "of many slum hovels some are owned by public men, some by leading churchmen, and some by health officers" (Mr. W. A. Burt to the National Council of Women on June 25), and that unless their *incomes* are increased the poor people must continue to live in the hovels and set aside a large portion of their all too inadequate money supply to be paid as "rent." The Lord Mayor of Melbourne was right in reminding representatives of the Victorian Labor Party Slum Abolition Committee "under the Local Government Act, councils were prohibited from engaging in building operations which were not strictly reproductive. Another difficulty was that councils controlling areas in which were the worst slums were often the poorest." First, you see, the hands of the councils are tied by the finance jugglers and then the people's pockets are emptied and kept empty by the same manipulators. For reasons best known to themselves, however, these Labor representatives not only refrain from attacking the swindlers, but actually play into their hands by advocating the use of further debt-money to alleviate conditions brought about by the same method.

How many of you have read Dr. Stanley Jones's "Christ and Communism"? He tells us at page eighty-nine that, "Upon the basis of how a man's material needs are met is erected the sum total of the life of the man—the social, the cultural, the political, and even the religious life"; and again at page 92 that, "You cannot free the social and political captives *unless and until you free the poor from their poverty*." Dr. Jones has hit the nail right on the head, and the poor can be freed from their poverty only through the assurance of regular and adequate *incomes*. What is more, they can be assured of incomes only when the financial policy of the country is controlled by its National Parliament, and we sincerely commend this *fact* to the members of the Slum Abolition and Better Housing League.

THE DEAN OF CANTERBURY Proposed Visit to Australia

The State executives of the Douglas Credit Movement in Australia propose to invite the Dean of Canterbury (Dr. Hewlett Johnson) to visit Australia in September next to conduct a nation-wide lecturing tour.

To cover any possible unliquidated expenses, a guarantee of £500 will be required. Victoria's share will be £120. Interested persons willing to guarantee a portion of this amount, should it be required, are asked to fill in the form below and to forward it to the State Secretary, Douglas Credit Movement of Victoria, Room 8, Block Arcade, Elizabeth-street, Melbourne.

No money should be sent with the form.

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I the undersigned, will, if called upon subscribe £..... to the above fund.

Signed.....
Address.....

WATER AND DEBT

By "AQUARIUS."

It would appear in Victoria, at any rate, that whereas no debt charges have yet been written up against us for the use of the air we breathe, the chemical composition of water has changed under the operation of sound financial laws to one part of hydrogen, two parts of oxygen and several parts of debt. The formula may be expressed as follows:—H² OWE.

The State Rivers and Water Supply Commission has been in existence for thirty-two years, and was founded with the express intention of ending the then yearly loss of £70,000.

Since its inception some £26 millions of debt money have been laid out on capital works by the Commission in the provision of water services.

The Commission's receipts from water rates, sale of water, etc., have failed to meet interest on this capital outlay, maintenance costs, and costs of management by a sum exceeding £10 millions (with no provision for redemption of debt or depreciation). The yearly loss has been as high as £900,000.

This accumulated deficit has been met by the Treasury out of revenue and further borrowing, and

of goods and services, thus increasing costs without increasing the supply of money, and finally, with particular reference to the problem confronting the Commission, that the present financial system *makes no provision for interest or profits*. Interest can be paid and profits made only at the expense of at least equal and counterbalancing losses elsewhere, or by the creation of further debt money by the bankers. The whole procedure renders inevitable a colossal piling up of debt charges against the community.

If in the general scramble for the lion's share of an inadequate supply of money, the State Rivers and Water Supply Commission had succeeded in squeezing the users of water sufficiently to balance its budget, other concerns, such as the fertiliser combine and so on, would have had to go shorter even than if they had been able to procure a fair proportion of the inadequate supply.

Balanced budgets either mean that other sections of the community are bankrupted, or they mean an enormous increase of debt. A system, which can offer no better alternatives than these, should be scrapped in favour of a self-liquidating system of cost accountancy such as that proposed by Major Douglas.

A further consideration relative to the waterworks of this State is that the loan moneys expended on their construction were at the time used in the purchase of existing goods and services, and accordingly went to cancellation in the repayment of bank loans or the replacement of manufacturers' capital. The money simply does not now exist as purchasing power in the pockets of the community. The bankers have made it appear and disappear. The debt remains, and the people, who have already had the money retired from them, are expected to keep on paying.

The whole thing is crazy, and even if there should now be a "writing off of non-existent capital," the creeping error of the financial system will give rise to precisely the same trouble within a very few years.

The trouble is always with the figures. There is never any question as to whether we can build good dams or reticulation systems, and it is only on the rarest occasions that the Almighty overlooks the little matter of sending sufficient water to keep the head-works full.

Man's best efforts are stultified by a faulty system of numerals.

FREEDOM OF THE PRESS IN BRITAIN

When he reads of Ministers of Propaganda, and mass cheering, and mass saluting, and "controlled" press, and all the other paraphernalia of power, he is apt to smile—a subversive habit, smiling—and say, "Thank God, I'm an Englishman."

—R. G. Menzies in the Melbourne "Herald," July 9.

Questions are to be asked in the House of Commons about the allegation of an American paper that Cabinet secrets leaked in 1933, when the decision to appoint the Newfoundland Commission saved the holders of the loans on which the Dominion defaulted. Some people must have made fortunes in the period immediately before the Commission's appointment was announced. One security alone rose from 69 to 99 in three months; and this American paper not on alleges leakage—it mentions the name of a Minister of the Crown (not Mr. Thomas, who was then Dominion Secretary), in connection with Stock Market operations.

WHITEHALL LAST WEEK HURRIEDLY SENT MESSENGERS ROUND LONDON BOOKSTALLS, CUTTING OUT THE REFERENCE.

—"Reynolds News," June 7.

the question now before a Royal Commission of Inquiry is whether the charges for interest, etc., on this capital outlay will remain charged to the accounts of the Water Commission, and so offend the aesthetic tastes and Celtic temperament of Mr. Commissioner William Trevean (accountant of the Water Commission since its inception and now generally spoken of as "the financial member of the Commission"), or are to be boldly and avowedly placed on the Treasury doorstep to the utter discomfiture of the State Auditor (Mr. J. A. Norris, C.M.G.).

The argument, however, is somewhat academic, since the community, as a user of water, or alternatively as a taxpayer, will be slugged anyway.

Throughout the sittings of the Royal Commission of Inquiry there seems to have been no realisation of the true reasons underlying the muddle, beyond a confused notion that somehow the waterworks of the State are no longer fully represented by money in the community's hands.

We have not yet seen either Mr. Trevean or Mr. Norris expounding the facts that the creation of money is a closely guarded monopoly of the banking system, that all money created is issued to the community as an interest bearing debt, that much of the money so issued is prematurely recalled and cancelled in repayment of bank overdrafts, that some of it is immobilised in reserves, and some is used twice or more running in the production

John Hogan's Programme

On Sunday evening John was heard over 3YB, Warrnambool, and to such effect that on Monday a crowd of 500 people assembled in the Warrnambool Town Hall to meet the Young Crusader in person. Nor were they disappointed. Tuesday saw another splendid meeting at Koroit, followed by Hamilton on Wednesday and Ararat on Thursday.

The following are John's next engagements:—

- July—
- Friday, 17. —Stawell and district, organising.
- Saturday, 18. —Return to Melbourne.
- Sunday, 19—3 p.m.. P.S.A. at Soldiers' Memorial Hall, Hampton.
- Monday, 20. —8 p.m.: Pakenham.
- Tuesday, 21. —8 p.m.: Warragul, Main Hall.
- Wednesday, 22. —8 p.m.: Rosedale Hall.
- Thursday, 23. —6.15 p.m.: Rotary Club Dinner, Sale. 8.30 p.m.: Yallourn, St. John's Hall.
- Friday, 24. —8.30 p.m.: Traralgon, Mechanics' Hall.
- Saturday, 25. —8 p.m.: Debating Club, Sale.
- Sunday, 26. —11.30 a.m.: Bairnsdale, House Meeting. 2.30 p.m.: Pleasant Sunday Afternoon, Mechanics' Institute. 8.30 p.m.: Orbost Hall.
- Monday, 27. —Morning: Lakes Entrance. Sale, 8 p.m.: Public Meeting; Mayor to preside.
- Tuesday, 28. —8 p.m.: Maffra, Mechanics' Hall.
- Wednesday, 29. —8 p.m.: Moe, Mechanics' Hall.
- Thursday, 30. —8 p.m.: Morwell, Ramsay Hall.
- August:—
- Sunday, 2. —2.45 p.m.: Pleasant Sunday Afternoon, Williams-town.
- Monday, 3. —8 p.m., Bacchus Marsh.
- Tuesday, 4. —City Lunch Hour Meeting.
- Wednesday, 5. —City Lunch Hour Meeting.
- Thursday, 6. —Bendigo Rotary and Apex.
- Friday, 7. —8.30 p.m., Prahara Town Hall.
- Saturday, 8. —State Conference.
- Sunday, 9. —3 p.m., P.S.A. at Ivanhoe Hall.

Senator Dickinson, representing the State of Iowa at Washington, says that distress in America has reached such a pitch that 20 per cent, of the food canned for dogs is eaten by humans.

"Argus," June 27.

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Douglas Credit Movement of Victoria

WEEKLY NOTES

As John Hogan goes through the State sowing the seeds of Social Credit, members of the Movement are massing behind him to gather in the crop. New members are being enrolled and old ones encouraged working harder than they ever did before. Our president has not appealed in vain. Branches are recruiting up to full war strength and rallying to the call. The Electoral Campaign, the Expansion Fund, the Guarantee Fund for the Dean of Canterbury's visit, are all getting the support they need and deserve. Each activity aids the other and action begets action. Our Movement is going forward and gathering strength as it goes.

Recently the Box Hill Branch arranged a public meeting at Warrandyte at the request of several residents. Mr. L. H. Hollins delivered a clear and explicit address on Social Credit to an appreciative audience. As a result of his meeting a branch is being formed at Warrandyte, which is starting the Electoral Campaign immediately.

On Thursday last Mr. H. Glover addressed members of the Box Hill Branch on the Electoral Campaign. The branch is actively supporting the Campaign and canvassing will start without delay.

Coburg also answered the call on the same evening. A meeting of active workers met in the Library Room, Coburg Town Hall, and decided to put their weight into the Campaign. Jobs will be allotted at the next meeting, on Thursday, 23rd inst. (at the same place). Anyone who is willing to work will be welcomed.

On Friday evening a dinner was held to enable members to meet Mr. Carruthers, M.H.A. (Tasmania). As his visit was very brief, the notice given was of necessity short. A very enjoyable and instructive evening was spent. In addition to the guest of honour, Dr. Hollow, Dr. Dale, Mr. Moore, Mr. Millsom and John Hogan spoke. It is rather unfortunate that we only see Mr. Carruthers when he is on his way through Melbourne to somewhere else. Members generally would welcome an opportunity of hearing our pioneer member, and it is to be hoped that this can be arranged.

WOMEN'S MOVEMENT

On the afternoon of Wednesday, July 8, members of the Women's Movement were addressed by Mrs. Wooding, a representative of the Victorian Federation of Mothers' Clubs, who outlined the policy of the clubs, and gave an interesting account of the work accomplished by them.

The Mothers' Clubs demand that education be free from the kindergarten to the University, that dental attention be given free to all children, including the pre-school child; that a film bureau for children be established to deal with both educational and entertainment films; and that children be taught to use their leisure wisely, per medium of handcrafts. They also believe in the educational value of travel and hope that it may be possible to establish a system whereby all children, whether able to pay their way or not, may share such benefits. They advocate the care and special education of the feeble-minded child, the raising of the school leaving age the encouragement of an international viewpoint and peace sentiments, the teaching of an international language in schools, and the inculcation of safety first principles in children.

So far, they have only been able to accomplish a little of the great task they have set themselves. They have been instrumental in abolishing the iniquitous school fees imposed upon E and F form high school scholars at the beginning of the depression, they have procured dental attention for some of the State school children, and medical inspections within certain limits in the State schools. Short travel tours have been arranged for a privileged few, and "Travencore," the special school for defective children, has been established.

Mrs. Wooding confessed that the Mothers' Clubs were unable to carry out their comprehensive programme for *lack of money*. Whenever they asked the Government to do anything for them it immediately cried poverty, and she said that a great deal of the expense in connection with the work already done was met by the mothers themselves. Until they got money from somewhere, they would continue to be restricted in their work, for it was impossible for the Mothers' Clubs to shoulder all the burden.

The thanks of the Women's Movement are due to Mrs. Wooding for her interesting address, and they suggest that as the lack of money is the root of all their difficulties, it would be wise for the Mothers' Clubs to unite with us in demanding that the Government *give the people money*.

Mr. Eric Brown's Address

Mr. Eric Brown addressed a gathering of members and friends at the rooms on the evening of July 13. He dealt with the results of frustration in the human being, and showed the evils of the present sustenance system. Mr. Brown spoke feelingly of the sufferings of the people on the dole, of those unable to obtain Government relief, of slum dwellers, and of some to whom a slum house would seem like a palace. No one could resist his most poignant appeal, and his audience was profoundly and visibly moved.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

"SWISS SCIENTIST HERE TO STUDY PARASITES."

A news item under the above heading in the "Age" of July 13 is decidedly interesting, as there is no doubt whatever that Australia should prove a fruitful field for the professor's researches. I hope that on his arrival in Victoria his attention will be directed to the species of parasite domiciled in Collins House and other strongholds of the beneficiaries of debt finance. His mission is said especially to be to study nematodes (otherwise worms). Here again he should have a most interesting study of the worms who, without turning, have so long tolerated being the victims of the parasites above mentioned. But surely there was little reason for him to come from Switzerland to look for parasites when the most devastating parasite of all—the Bank for International Settlements—is to be found right in his homeland at Basle.

F. FOGARTY.

EXPENDITURE ON RELIEF

Mr. Brown in his article, "Slums," referred to the National Bank's circular of May, 1932, viz.: "This (reduced Government expenditure) would involve addi-

Queensland Douglas Credit Party Notes

The change of social consciousness in regard to money is further evidenced by the formation, each week of new branches of the Party. Jinghi Gully and Conway are the latest to form up. In the former place there are numerous well-informed supporters, and in the latter—which is in the Bowen electorate—a very good vote was recorded for the Douglas candidate.

On Wednesday, July 8, the matters of importance were discussed and the delegates present assembled at Headquarters. Many Metropolitan Divisional Council are going to make a decided effort to establish many more branches in the suburbs. A dance and social has been arranged, the details of which will be made known through this paper.

On Monday night last, a very interesting discussion took place. A Model Parliament was held in the Constitutional Club, the bill before the house being for the introduction of Social Credit in Australia. Prominent Douglas Credit speakers sat on the Government benches (Dr. Streeter as Prime Minister), in support of the Bill, and many prominent debating societies were in the Opposition benches. The evening was most interesting and enjoyed by all those present.

The bungling of the Federal Government in connection with the tariffs has turned the eyes of the graziers and the wheat farmers towards Social Credit and the realisation that, if the production of wool and wheat and all other goods in Australia were accompanied by an equivalent production of money, there would be no necessity for restrictive tariffs; for the community would be always able to buy imports up to the value of its exports and still have enough money to buy all the production of our factories.

The special fund, which is being run for the purpose of raising twenty pounds so as to enable Headquarters to take advantage of the offer of ten pounds from Mr. Ford, is still moving slowly. The Kidman Brothers, of Roma, have contributed two guineas. Supporters are urged to contribute to this fund.

On July 9 Mr. Geo H. Gray addressed a gathering at Kallunga. This meeting resulted in the formation of a new branch, consisting of many very enthusiastic supporters.

tions to unemployment, but the problem of resultant unemployment is secondary."

The same bank in its latest summary states: "There is little, if any community benefit arising out of the expenditure of loan money on unemployment relief."

As an elementary economist, it appears to me that one section of the community—the bankers and their friends—benefits by the interest received from the said loans. Others to benefit are the retailers, wholesalers, manufacturers and primary producers. There only remain the recipients of the relief, who certainly benefit.

A bank has no soul, so the moral side of the question is ignored; but the bank should at least realise that the meagre relief given is an insurance policy restraining thousands of unfortunates from becoming a very real menace.

"P. McW."

"THE ONLY SOLUTION TO THE PROBLEM OF SUFFERING."

In a recent issue of the "Age" it is reported that Canon Langley, speaking in St. Paul's Cathedral, stated as his opinion that "the only solution to the problem of suffering was that it was permitted by God that men might be brought nearer to Him." If this be true then are you not wasting valuable time and talent in urging monetary reform? Perhaps the credit monopoly is our friend in disguise; for the logical conclusion based upon the Canon's hypothesis must be, the greater the suffering the more desirable godliness is acquired. Slavery is lightened by an indulgent master, but becomes intolerable when a master ill-treats his slaves. At least, I thought so; but now I begin to see why so many clergymen backed up slavery in America, always quoting the Bible to justify it. The cruel masters evidently whipped godly principles into the black souls! More and more of our citizens are being forced to evade the Pure Foods Act by fossicking in garbage tins for food, and to offend with B.O. because they have to wear filthy, cast-off rags with no pleasant bathrooms and hygienic conditions such as the clergy enjoy. Needless to say, such people do not attend worship at St. Paul's, so they missed the compensating news. And what of the babies who are starving to death? The girls who are selling their sacred rights of womanhood for food and shelter? The boys who are being driven into criminality and getting themselves hanged? They are being brought nearer to God? What excessive spiritual exaltation must it be for them!

But here I pause and consider. Why do we employ anesthetics

in surgical operations? Why are educationists, aided by science, endeavouring to eliminate from childhood's environment the causes of physical and mental defects? They say that these things are wasteful, like war and all other diseases or disharmonies. They say that what is termed "necessary" suffering is largely the result of nature's effort to bring us into harmony with natural laws, which, if consciously used for our betterment, can lessen very greatly our suffering and assist us in directing our lives on more purposeful, happy principles. Henri Bergsson, the French philosopher, called it "Creative Evolution," or we may say the art of living. The clergy as a class have been too long concerned with the idea of regenerating simple people to fit them for a future heaven. They have missed the truth that right mental attitudes overcome much sin, by overcoming the causes. The world is fast awakening to the futility and utter wastefulness of war, poverty and disease. The God Who permitted suffering has been left behind with the Age of Scarcity. I am one of an ever-increasing number of people who dare to challenge authority to try the "good" to see if indeed it be good. The old tribal god of punishment is passing away, and the Good Shepherd is being ushered in. In these days of adjustment the bulk of mankind resemble a flock of sheep, which is being persuaded to leave the sterile, wolf-ridden hills where danger and death lurked. Before them lie rich pastures fed by springs of promise for a fuller and more tranquil life. But the sheep have so long believed in starvation and fear, they cannot quite understand that it is all behind them if they will only take a step forward; so, some doubtfully pause and try to rush in other ways, while others are just plain stupid.

We have at last arrived at the age of plenty. If we stupidly refuse to grasp the key to the gate of this new land where spiritual life, freed from incessant toil for material needs, will take on a newer meaning, we shall be scrapped as failures, and our civilisation will become like past ones—something for future generations to speculate about.

LILLIAN LENNIE.

THE—

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