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NEW TIMES

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MELBOURNE, FRIDAY, JULY 24, 1936. Every Friday, 3d Vol. II. No. 30.

New Zealand Labor's Great

From time to time the *New Times* has published accounts of what has been done in the first session of New Zealand's first Labor Ministry. For some weeks the Dominion Parliament has been in recess, but as it will reassemble in a few days it may not be out of place now to summarise Mr. Savage's performances to date and to see how these square with the promises he made in his pre-elec- regulation of foreign exchange tion manifesto.

We shall quote the manifesto itself at some length:

THE PARTY'S OBJECTIVE

party," it said, "is to utilise to the above clauses. On the question of maximum degree the wonderful re- unemployment it said this: sources of the Dominion—

storing a decent living standard to who are out of work through no those who have been deprived of fault of their own. They are en-

dependents with everything necessary to make a 'home' and 'home dents." life' in the best sense of the mean
Discussing production and con
Converse policy ing of those terms."

MEANS TO BE ADOPTED. jective," the manifesto proceeded, of exporters and importers, pro-

mers for the supply of primary to go on expanding so long as any products sufficient to satisfy the important human wants remain un-

or experience of the worker.

with maintenance for themselves any country than the facts that and their dependents during ill- while the Government has been health. This covers the blind, victims of miners' disease, and those suffering from all accidents or diseases, which prevent or restrict any person from working. (2) A payment to widows to enable them to maintain themselves and their children until the children are able to earn their own living. (3) Superannuation to all persons at the age of 60 years.

'(d) The reorganisation of our school, college and university system to provide the maximum facilities for all children through kindergartens to the university.

"The attainment of these objectives is dependent only on the organisation of the Dominion's resources to provide the necessary goods and to organise the required

"The Labor party believes that in and out of our Public Service the men and women are available with the capacity and experience to carry out the organising and administrative work necessary to achieve these objectives.

'A planned economy will be of little use if the Government has not the power to carry its plans into Such power will require the control of credit, which if it remains in private hands, can be used to thwart the will of the Government. The central credit organisation must control the flow of credit, the general price level and the

Record What Mr. Savage Promised—and What He Has Done

operations.'

THE UNEMPLOYED.

The manifesto then went on to The objective of the Labor discuss various points raised in the

"The men and women today un-'First: For the purpose of re- employed are our fellow-citizens essentials for the past five years.
"Second: To organise an interliving wage. Productive developnal economy that will distribute the ment and useful work should be production and service in a way made available to all. Failing that will guarantee to every person such employment, the men and able and willing to work an income women should be paid sufficient to sufficient to provide him and his provide an adequate living standard

sumption, Mr. Savage's policy speech laid this down: "The essen-The quickest route to the obtain rules to safeguard the interests ducers and consumers, are: (1) "(a) Guaranteed prices to far- That production must be allowed internal and external requirements satisfied; (2) expansion of producof the Dominion.

"(b) A statutory minimum wage or salary based on the sum required to provide everything necessary to an adequate standard of living. This minimum will be graded upward according to the value of the extra skill, knowledge or experience of the worker.

"(b) A statutory minimum wage to must not, as in the past, threaten the producer with ruin;

(3) therefore, expansion of production must be related, through sound marketing machinery and incomes, to simultaneous expansion of demand; (4) cut-throat competition must be eliminated, and marketing machinery and incomes, to simultaneous expansion of duction must be related, through sound marketing machinery and incomes, to simultaneous expansion of duction must be related, through sound marketing machinery and incomes. "(c) A national health and kets explored to find new demands superannuation scheme to provide: "No more grave indictment has been pital attention for invalids, together with maintenance for the state of the st

have been certified to be suffering the laws of the Dominion: from malnutrition and avoidable in return for service sufficient to ensure that every man and every

THE DAILY PRESS AND DEPRESSION.

"Money is tighter." —"Herald" finance editor, July 18.

"The banks' position is less liquid Bank and by removing the present compared with a year ago, and reflects restrictions on deposits. the tendency toward financial "3. Mortgage Corporation and State stringency as indicated by hardening financial" The action of the of interest rates generally."

Government in setting up the Mortal Government in setting up the Mortal Covernment up the Mortal Cove

- "Argus" financial editor, July 18.

AGAINST COMBINE,

woman can purchase for themselves and their dependents all the things necessary for a decent living stan-

LEGISLATIVE POLICY.

The manifesto then set out in detail the measures proposed in order to apply the principles en-unciated. "On the formation of the first Labor Government," it said,
"every elected member of the

trying to find markets for party will assist in writing and adproduction, thousands of children ministering the following reforms into

"1. State Control of Currency physical defects... In addition and Credit: To ensure the maximum to malnutrition, thousands of our utilisation of the resources of the people are inadequately clothed, Dominion, the Labor Government will and housing accommodation is far make the Reserve Bank a completely below normal health requirements.

The remedy is to provide incomes

The remedy is to provide incomes to provide shares now held by private persons, and thus ensure that the credit of the

nation shall be used for the benefit of all the people. "2. Post Office Savings Bank: The Labor party will safeguard the

people's savings by extending the facilities of the Post Office Savings

GAINST THE BANKERS STATE Advances. The action of the gage Corporation with private shareholders has destroyed the State Advances Department—one of the finest State activities that has a concept of the finest State activities that has the concept of the shareholders has destroyed the state Advances Department—one of the finest State activities that has the concept of the shareholders has destroyed the state Advances Department—one of the shareholders has destroyed the shareholders have been shareholders has COMBINE, WHOSE MONE I
MONOPOLY IS ALONE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE SUFFERING
OF OUR PEOPLE.

More than any other known agency, department or organisation the State Advances Office, by its financing of land settlement, development and house building, has been responsible for a considerable portion of the progress of the Dominion. With the reorganisation of the Dominion's production, the State Advances Office could again provide facilities for land development and house building. The Labor Government will reorganise the Mortgage Corporation on lines similar to that

previously operated by the State Advances Department. "4. Guaranteed Prices: During the first year after taking office the Government will pay guaranteed prices for all primary production. These prices will be fixed after negotiation with the representatives of each primary industry, and will be based on the average return to farmers over a period of, say, the past eight or ten years. Simultaneously with this procedure the Labor party will negotiate trade agreements on a reciprocal basis with the nations of the British Commonwealth and other countries for markets for the maximum quantity of our primary products. "5. Statutory Minimum Wages and Salaries: (a) The immediate restoration of all wage and salary cuts; (b), the institution of a statutory minimum wage and salary payment to all workers of a sum sufficient to provide an adequate standard of living, such sum to be graded upward according to the value of the extra skill, knowledge and experience of each worker.

"6. National Health Insurance: The Labor Government will introduce a national health insurance scheme to provide a health service for every contingency that may face the ordinary citizen. After having made a thorough examination of the various reports from the British Medical Association, the Hospital Boards' Association and the special committee set up from the Public Service to investigate a national health service, the Labor party pledges itself to work in co-operation with the friendly societies, the medical, pharmaceutical, dental and nursing professions for the purpose of instituting a service that will: (a) Give every citizen the right during ill-health to call in his own medical practitioner, to consult and receive the services of specialists where required, and, by the reorganisation of our hospital system, to make available all other services that are necessary for the restoration and maintenance of health (b) extend the home nursing service so as to provide all the attention necessary for mothers or other members of families when it is not convenient for them to leave their own homes. The Labor Government will provide the necessary laboratory facilities to maintain the efficiency of the services, together with adequate payment to practitioners and others who carry out the work. The service will be available for every

"7. National Superannuation: The Labor Government will provide for the reorganisation of our pensions system so that pensions or superannuation will be payable to:
(a) All persons who through illhealth are unable to work; (b) all widows and their dependents until they reach working age; (c) all persons who through war injuries, war disability, accidents or other disabilities are unable to work full time at their ordinary occupation; (d) all persons over the age of sixty years.

"8. Education: The Labor party, after forming the first Government, will reorganise the education system for the purpose of introducing the most modern educational methods, to make the school life of the individual child more profitable, happier and healthier. This will entail an extension of teachers' training

Mr. Percy. F. G. Gordon, Chairman, Associated Banks of Victoria

It is really too bad that a gentleman in your position of exalted dignity should be so rattled as to feel it necessary to rush into print in reply to an anonymous newspaper correspondent, and one who did not even mention the word "bank" at that.

For the benefit of many of our readers who will be unfamiliar with the episode, may we give the details: 1. Last Saturday, night, in a broadcast debate between Mr. John Cain, Labor M.L.A., and Mr. Nelson, a Young Nationalist, the latter was incautious enough to admit that, while production could now be looked upon as practically illimitable, the supply of money was very definitely limited. He did not, of course, indicate how or why.

of course, indicate how or why.

2. The Melbourne' "Sun" of Tuesday, in its "Fifty-fifty" column, contained the following letter, signed "Consumer": "During his Heckle Hour speech over 3DB, Mr. Nelson said, in effect, that there was no limit to the production of goods, which represented real wealth, but that the supply of money was limited. I should like to ask Mr. Nelson and Mr. Cain, M.L.A., why money is so limited. Goods cost money to produce, but it costs almost nothing to produce money. Surely it would not be inflation to regulate the supply of money (credit) by the goods and services available in the country. Technical difficulties such as price regulating could be left to the experts and statisticians."

3. Without giving Mr. Nelson and Mr. Cain time to open their mouths, on the following day, under the heading, "Financial Delusion," you made this alleged answer: "Consumer repeats a delusion which is the basis of every so-called currency reform—that wealth can be created by creating money. It cannot, and the continual promulgation of the error menaces financial stability. Further, 'Consumer' is hopelessly at sea when he refers to 'supply of money (credit)'. Money and credit are not the same, nor is either of them synonymous with wealth."

We submit to you, Sir, that your so-called answer was dishonest, and that it begged the question—as is very evident when the two letters are set side by side. To appear to reply to an issue while merely perverting it is a very ancient dodge practised by a certain type of newspaper controversialist who relies upon readers

is a very ancient dodge practised by a certain type of newspaper controversialist who relies upon readers having forgotten just what was said the day before. Where, in 'Consumer's' letter, is there any suggestion that wealth can be created by creating money'? And when you suggest that the financial credit issued by the banks does not function in exactly the same way as any other kind of money, you are

trying to prove that black is white.

On the very same page of the "Sun" on which your letter appeared was an advertisement for the National Bank, headed, "Pay by, CHEQUE." Do you suggest that the National Bank or any other private bank in Australia could honour the cheques of all its depositors with national money? Do not all the official returns show that the banks' deposits (which proceed from their issues of credit) have only a trifling backing of national money? Does it not therefore follow from your argument that the people's bank deposits are not money at all? In which case the logical conclusion would seem to be that gentlemen like yourself should long since have been the guests of his Majesty's gaols for fraudulent practices. THE NEW TIMES

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(Continued on page 3)

facilities with larger staffs in our schools, smaller classes, the extension of kindergartens, reintroduction of the right of entry to the five-year-olds, better equipped schools and kindergartens, and a long-term plan for new school buildings

"9. Organised Employment: Pending the organisation of productive employment, the Labor Government will immediately in-crease the present relief pay. The Labor Government will organise productive development work, including railway construction, public works, construction of necessary roads and bridges in back-blocks, assistance to local authorities to advance works, fostering of secondary industries. One of the first steps of the Labor Government will be to ensure a full share of the national production to those who are willing to work. New Zealand's standard of living will be determined in New Zealand by New Zealanders in accordance with New Zealand's

"10. Secondary Industries: Taking into account the developments overseas in connection with agricultural and other primary products, the Labor party considers it imperative that the markets for all products within the Dominion must be extended. The maintenance and improvement of our standard of living, if imports do not expand in proportion to the population, can only be accomplished by fostering has any Australian Ministry done such secondary industries in the Dominion as can produce commodities economically. The Labor Government will therefore give every encouragement to the reorganisation of existing industries and extension of manufactures within the Dominion.

'The policy will be conditioned by: (a) Maximum utilisation of research, knowledge and mechanical inventions; (b) reduction of hours of labour; (c) guaranteed minimum wages and salaries.'

A REALISTIC POLICY

The outstanding impression which this programme must make upon any fair-minded person is its realism and its commonsense. "The attainment of these objectives is dependent only on the organisation of the Dominion's resources." . . . "Production must be allowed to go on expanding so long as any important human wants remain unsatisfied," but "must not, as in the past, threaten the producer with ruin." . . . "New Zealand's stan-dard of living will be determined in New Zealand by New Zealanders
. . . . " The thought is in terms of The thought is in terms of humanity and of physical and mental resources; nowhere is there a hint of any limitation through lack of financial resources, though there is the full realisation that finance has been used as a weapon by enemies of the people in the past. Hence, "such power will require the control of credit which, if it remains in private hands, can be used to thwart the will of the Government."

On November 27 last the people of New Zealand by their votes instructed Mr. Savage to put his programme into effect. How has he tackled the job? What has New Zealand Labor, never previously in mistakes. More than once he has office, done in the few months since?

ACTION.

It began by attending to an administrative matter of urgencythe distribution amongst the destitute unemployed of New Zealand of a sum of money which gave them the first happy Christ- the ideal State, has yet obstacles mas they had known for years.

Then it got to work upon its policy. Naturally, the first major act was that designed to make possible financially what the Ministry certain technical steps are yet necesknew was easily possible physically. And so, by the Reserve Bank safety that money has become the Amendment Act, the power to servant instead of the master. But thwart the will of the people was in view of the sound common taken out of private hands, and control over financial credit and monetary policy was restored to believing that these steps will be the representatives of the people taken. Meantime it can truly be upon whose real credit all said that New Zealand in 1936 is financial credit is based, and the most interesting region in the without which finance has no meaning.

After this came legislation

(the Primary Products Marketing Act) to guarantee a fair price to the primary producer—for New Zealand Labor is not merely the party of the industrial employee; it recognises that the producer of the nation's essential foods comes first in order of importance to the community. And it legislated accordingly. The first guaranteed price Act comes into operation on Saturday of next week (August 1) and covers dairy produce. Mr. Savage has announced that similar price guarantees will be given for forms of primary other production.

The State Advances Corporation Act followed, designed to provide the necessary finance for farmers to carry on and to improve their properties, and to enable the people to build homes. As Mr. Nash, Minister of Finance, said when explaining the Bill: "It is only houses that make homes possible. We are going to make it possible for people to build for themselves one house, the door of which every person can shut, and we are hoping that it will be of such a size that there will be one room in which every individual can be alone to realise himself or herself to the full."

Consider the meaning of these three Acts, and ask yourself when as much in its whole lifetime? But the "gentle Savage" Ministry has already done a great deal more. An extensive programme of badly needed public works has already been put in hand, and meantime the unemployment relief scales have been considerably increased, with additions to the income exempted from reckoning for relief purposes, as part of the "ready-to-hand" measures of the Government. A Conciliation and Arbitration Act has been passed which, amongst other matters, makes provision for a forty-hour week. A Fair Rents Act has been enacted to give protection to those who need it, pending the building of new homes. Time has not yet permitted actual legislation for the restoration of wage and salary cuts, but these have been generally restored as from July 1, in accordance with the Prime Minister's request to that effect, and his announcement that in the coming session a Bill will be introduced making the restoration retrospective to that date. Other Bills are in preparation to give effect to the balance of Mr. Savage's policy speech.

THE FUTURE?

Throughout these fruitful months the Government has kept in the closest touch with the people. Parliamentary debates have been broadcast, and Mr. Savage (unlike Mr. Lyons) has taken every op-portunity of keeping the people's confidence by giving them his. As he said last month, "the people should know exactly what Parliament is doing and what the Government proposes to do." Another point of pleasing dissimilarity between the two men is Mr. Savage's ready admission that both he and his Government are liable to make said publicly that he not only believes this possible, but he looks on it as highly probable—adding that he hopes neither he nor his Ministers will be so foolish as not to admit and learn from their own errors.

New Zealand, before it becomes to remove and hurdles to get over. From the physical side there is little doubt of its success. From the accounting or monetary side sary before it can be said with sense thus far displayed by the Ministry there is every ground for world, and certainly the one holding out the greatest hope for humanity.

THE PEOPLE'S MOVEMENT TO ABOLISH POVERTY

(BY NON-PARTY POLITICAL ACTION.)

The campaign to abolish also, needless to say, more finanpoverty by demanding results cial assistance. rather than methods from Parliament is rapidly developing throughout the Commonwealth. Reports from Queensland this week indicate that and Undertaking, which appears after months of preparatory work below, is that issued by the headin organising for co-operation and quarters of the Electoral Camfunds the successful launching of the campaign proper is now assured, the other States for in victoria. In some of the other States for in wording Wynnum, always an enthusiastic show a slight variation in wording. centre, has actually begun its As space forbids the printing of canvass of the electors with highly each form in full, readers of the encouraging results. To those who *New Times* in States outside question the efficacy of the Victoria who wish to avail campaign Queensland says: "If themselves of the form appearing in you find it difficult to believe that our columns are advised to do so, Parliament can really be made to and to forward it to headquarters get you what you want beyond any possible doubt, remember that a few months ago a thousand women of Morthur Tydril and all states will probably be announced at an early date of Merthyr Tydvil and about the early date. same number of Sheffield men brought about the almost complete reversal of the British Unemployment Assistance Bill in eight days. This is what happens when even a few thousand people Box Hill Reports Successful express their will with sufficient clearness and determination.

"The action of the Baldwin Government in Britain when the wrath of a nation was aroused by the Hoare-Laval peace proposals further demonstrates quite definitely how politicians react to concerted public opinion. President Roosevelt's statement that 'a politician's business is to yield to pressure' provides an effective answer to the oft-asked question, 'How is a member of Parliament to be kept to his promise?' and is an admission that politicians are ready to obey the voice of their masters, the electors, when that voice speaks with sufficient force and clarity.'

The Queensland Abolition of Poverty Campaign has its headquarters at Room 14, Second Floor, 142 Adelaide Street, Brisbane, and Queensland inquiries should be forwarded to the Campaign Director, Mr. A. B. Smith, at that address, for the plan of organisation, instructions to supervisors, and general information. Pledge forms may be obtained from the same address at £1 per 1000, post free, and pro rata for smaller quantities. Slogan labels, to be affixed to parcels, letters, etc., are also available in attractive colours at 4d per dozen. More district supervisors and rank and file workers will be welcomed—as

UNIFIED "ELECTOR'S

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The form of Elector's Demand

Victorian Campaign Notes

Effort

Although organised canvassing for electors' signatures to the Parliamentary form appearing below will not commence for a week or so, successful efforts have already been made by two workers in this district last week. The District Supervisor, Mr. Miles, reports a 70 per cent, success from these two go-getters. Here is proof that signatures are obtainable in sufficient numbers to be effective, provided we have the workers. Will other districts emulate Box Hill? Middle Park.

Canvassing commenced in this district during the week. No figures are yet available, but if the enthusiasm of those responsible is a measure of success, encouraging returns may be confidently expected.

DELICACY!

"It is apparent, from the explanation given by Mr. Lyons, that negotiations between the two Governments" (Australia and Japan) "have not yet ended. The delicacy of these negotiations makes it necessary that they shall be conducted under diplomatic cover."

—"Argus" editorial, July 20.
"Cover" is the word, since it denotes that there is something to hide. Meantime, the poor, undiplomatic Japanese are telling their people quite candidly all that is happening. But Japan has not yet learned the Western arts of democracy.

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 MOVE-MENT TO ABOLISH POVERTY, Room 8, The Block, ELIZA-BETH STREET, MELBOURNE, C.1.

WE WILL ABOLISH POVERTY

Elector's Demand and Undertaking

- 1. I know that there are goods in plenty, so that poverty is quite
- 2. I want, before anything else, poverty abolished.
- 1 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

Signed
Signed
Address
Note. –Further forms may be had on application to the Peoples Mover

nent to Abolish Poverty Box 621, Melbourne.

(Signatures will be treated confidentially.)

THE NATIONAL DIVIDEND—AN **ECONOMIC NECESSITY**

By MAURICE COLBURNE, in "New Democracy," New York.

Any discussion of the national dividend falls under three headings: its economic necessity: its financial possibility; and its moral justification, or the philosophy behind it.

Now while it is only with the first and last of these three aspects that we are concerned at present, it would clearly be folly to discuss them if there were not some assurance, in a more or less overwhelming degree, that a national dividend was financially possible. This assurance can be found by anyone who takes the trouble to read the growing literature on the subject. But even so, in view of the fact that the red herrings on this subject are now in full spate, it is probably expedient to make here the following assertion, quite categorically, for the benefit of those still unacquainted with what are called the New Economics. A national dividend is financially possible, because in every modern industrialised community there exists a communal wealth whose capital appreciation has never yet been monetised or even (officially) computed, but which can, the moment we say the word, be computed and monetised and distributed; and that, moreover, without resort to either inflation or taxation, without any form of confiscation or expropriation or nationalisation, and without bowing either to fascism on the one hand or to Sovietism on the other. In short, without any -ation or -ism, a national dividend could be declared today, because "whatever is physically possible is financially possible." For details—vide the textbooks.

Of the other two aspects of the subject let us begin with the first, and see whether a national dividend is necessary before we bother to find out whether it is morally de-

THE ALTERNATIVES.

The economic necessity for anything depends, of course, on how much or how little we like the alternatives to it. To the national dividend there are only two alternatives, and I do not think we shall like either of them at all.

One alternative is to smash the machine, making a thorough job of it, and return to the hand plough and spinning-wheel; in short, to scarcity; and simultaneously to electrocute or in some way effectively discourage all our best engineers, inventors, scientists, technologists and the rest, and prevent them from ever, ever doing it again. This seems a rather foolish and wasteful, not to say blasphemous way out. It should surely be kept as the very last resort of all, for it admits black defeat. Besides, it is hardly practicable and would be messy in the extreme. Moreyet, except Thibet's only newspaper, which, weighted with either the accumulated wisdom of the East or the troubles of Western civilisation as being clue, quite simply, to "wheels." Nor have any people in history ever pursued this course outside the imaginary inhabitants of Samuel Butler's Erewhon, Personally, I want to live neither in Thibetan fashion nor in Erewhonian. On the contrary, I enjoy the conveniences and comforts, the products and services, the wonders and possibilities, which the machine brings me. I want the billion and more horses which mankind has created in the last hundred and fifty years to be tamed and harnessed, not to be shot down in cold blood because at the moment they appear to be in danger of throwing us.

The second alternative is to and pursue it to the end, hoping it will take us out to the wood; and take us out, moreover by a find ourselves back again in "sound finance," the "good old days," the "status quo," and in

fact among precisely those forces and circumstances which led first to the Great War and then to the Great Depression. Yesterday it was the fashion to pile international upon international conference conference. Quite a number of them were necessary before it was found that the primary problem of the age could not be escaped, much less solved, by sending on halfwayround-the-world trips just those very "experts" who are responsible for the world's mess, and whose only interest lies in returning the world to the state which produced that mess: in other words, to making the world Safe for Foreign Investment, with all the latter's germs of Debt and War. The conferences having happily failed, however, the nations withdrew into themselves. and today are busy piling national palliative upon national palliative. The N.R.A. the C.W.A., and the C.C.C. are samples, and are paralleled in other countries by similar legislation; the German labour camps, the British dole, and so on.

Now, while we can all endorse the moral courage, rectitude, fervour and whatnot of the instigators of these schemes, it seems to an impartial onlooker that they cannot possibly succeed until their authors have faced what is probably the major phenomenon of our time. I refer to the gulf between the volume of production and the volume of employment. Wide now, there are two paramount points to notice about this gulf. The first is that the gulf is ever widening, every new invention, every fresh technological improvement, every further labour-saving device widening it. And the second thing to notice is that the gulf widens not only in bad times but in good, in prosperity as well as in depression. Now, then, is it possible to solve the problem upon the completely false assumption that it is a temporary one, and that the gulf will disappear tomorrow when the clouds have rolled by?

It is absolutely essential to be clear about this widening process before proceeding.

THE SATURATION POINT OF LABOUR

For some hundred and fifty years the machine threw men out of work, but always it managed to evolve some other machine or invention or industry (the automobile and the radio, for instance) which re-absorbed the discharged workers and took up the slack. In Stuart Chase's neat phrase, "The total firing rate did not exceed the total hiring rate over the whole period." But around 1920 something utterly strange began to happen, and by 1928 it appeared incontrovertible that industry over, none counsels this course, as had reached saturation point as far as human labour was concerned. It is important to stick to these years, and not to impinge on 1929 else sour grapes, recently diagnosed and subsequent years, because then we shall have under our lens only the most prosperous period of the most prosperous and highly-developed nation on earth, and will not be able to blame the depression for such facts as the following: -

1. The drop in the number of factory workers in the U.S. between 1923 and 1928 was approximately 1,250,000 persons. Department of Labor.)

2.	Factor	
۷.	Factory	D 1
	Employees	Production
1914	100	100
1919	129	147
1924	116	158
1927	115	170
	ans Clark i	n the <i>New</i>
ork Times	s.)	

continue on our present course 3. Between 1900 and 11920 the output of agriculture, mines, railroads and factories combined increased 70%, and the number of workers 40%. Between circular track so that we may 1920 and 1929, however while the output of these same four industries increased 25%, there was a decrease in the number of workers of more than

7%. (U.S. Committee on Recent Economic Changes.)

It is such facts and considerations such as these that move the Pope to liken the world's present plight to a second Flood, the Archbishop of York to declare that it is "a turning point in history," and the President of the British Institution of Mining and Metallurgy to state in his presidential capacity that "we are face to face with something entirely new in human experience." Thus, the prelates and industrialists—but the statesmen of the world are silent. Not one sign has any Government yet given, either by word or deed, to show nature of the new phenomenon in its midst. On the contrary, every piece of legislation in every country on the subject of unemployment treats it, to date, as though it were a temporary boil on the body economic and, like a boil, to be poulticed with pallia-

THE ERRORS OF THE DOLE

It would not be inaccurate to describe the various palliatives now in operation through the world as "doles" in one form or another doles, for instance, for which work is extracted in return, doles for which no work is extracted, doles which come out of private purses and doles which come out of the public purse. Now a dole of this kind has nothing whatever to do with a national dividend. It is important to realise this. The dole

"RIDDLED WITH SIN."

"The whole of this community is riddled with sin, and, speaking as a doctor, I say it is undermining the health and the morale of people in all directions."

Thus Dr. F. G. N. Stephens, as chairman of the Crusader Union of N.S.W., at St. Andrew's Cathedral, Sydney, on July 18. He added that Australia had been so wealthy and so comfortable that as a community it had become slack.

If the doctor were to consult some of his co-doctors who are not pious humbugs, he might learn that the occasions of sin in Australia arise far more from grinding poverty and insecurity. Why does he not turn the lances of his crusaders against those who wickedly impose such conditions, and who operate the devil's machine guns which are riddling the people?

is no part of the New Economics. Rather it is part of the stiff price we are apparently prepared to pay to try and keep the Old Economics from breaking down altogether.

There are three things wrong with a dole. There is a stigma and a sense of shame attaching to it; it puts a premium on worklessness (since only the workless receive it); and, thirdly, and worst of all, it has to come out of our pockets, yours and mine, whether through charity or taxation. We are the Peters who are legally robbed to save the Pauls from starvation. Now precisely because of the widening of the aforementioned gulf between production and employment this programme cannot be carried beyond a certain point. Moreover, not only is the army of jobless Pauls steadily increasing, but neither the pockets nor the taxpaying F inexhaustible. There are, after all, such things as taxing a person out of existence, the law of diminishing returns, and killing the goose that lays the golden egg. On the other hand, if the increasing sums required are raised by loan instead of by taxation, and we cannot repay the loan, what is that but living today on tomorrow's income? Is that "sound finance"?

This, then, is the second alternative confronting every community operating today in this, the new power age: to continue to regard unemployment as a passing disease; to continue attempting to cure it by gradually impoverishing the Peters, through increasing taxation, in order to cope with the growing aggregate of the needs of the Pauls: and finally, to continue to insist that the only honourable claim to bread shall still be "work" even when not with omniscience, at least there is no useful work to be done. and even if there is work to be done, when the machine can do it

better, and even to the point of "making work." One imagines that only a short time is required for this alternative to break down; for, among other things, it is already standing on its head.

THE EFFECTS OF A NATIONAL DIVIDEND

There remains the alternative of the national dividend, which is quite a different story. According to the philosophy of Social Credit. unemployment is not temporary but permanent, and, it is to be hoped, gloriously increasing. It is happily "incurable" except by such a national disaster as war, for unthat it is even aware of the true employment is not a disease but a release, not a tragedy but a triumph. Henry Ford says: "The function of the machine is to liberate man from brute burdens and release his energies to the building of his intellectual and spiritual powers for conquests in the fields of thought and higher action." Rightly seen, unemployment is one of the measures of that release. We stand today as it were upon a bridge; behind us is the sweat of living, before us is the art of living; or, if you like, behind us Scarcity and before us Plenty. This new Promised Land that stretches at our feet flows with milk and honey, but it is neither a Biblical tale nor a mirage. It is solid ground, of our own discovery and making. Shall we not inherit it? If we do not, we shall remain what we are today. that joke of Olympus, a living paradox of poverty in the midst of plenty. And we shall have none but ourselves to blame. The national dividend, of course, is one of the practical means of passing over and inheriting the Promised

> Some of the immediate effects of a national dividend distributed, let us say, to every qualified voter can be summarised as follows:

- 1. Taxpayers would be completely relieved of all "relief" taxation, now becoming progressively burdensome.
- 2. Similarly, the accumulation of debt incurred through loans and grants, etc., for "relief" purposes, would cease.
- 3. Men would no longer have to burden themselves with having to judge between the "deserving poor" and the undeserving. Who in truth can tell which is which, all things considered?
- 4. There would be no premium on idleness, since all, working and workless alike, would receive the dividend.
- 5. No stigma, no shame would attach to it.
- 6. On the contrary, the mere declaration of a national dividend would tell the world the U.S.A., Inc., was a that solvent concern.
- 7. For the first time in history labour would encourage laboursaving devices, because the interest of labour, as of every citizen, would be to increase the dividend, and that could come about only through national capital appreciation, i.e., in creased industrial efficiency
- 8. The prostitution of industry to "making work" instead of to making goods would cease.
- 9. Perhaps most important of all immediate results, in view of President Roosevelt's declared aim and desperate effort to raise consumption to the level of production, would be the infusion of additional purchasing power into Consumption direct, instead of pumping it, as now through the channels of Production, where it defeats its own end by leaving behind it a trail of costs all of which have to be recovered, if industry is to re main solvent, in prices.

Economic necessity is a phrase, which, I suppose, in reality begs the question. The national dividend is not a question of necessity: it is a question of choice. Before we make our choice between the three alternatives, however, let us ask ourselves which of the three seems best able to face not only the present but also the future, if with some knowledge and assurance of which way the wind is going to blow.

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Bank Figures Show Further Deflation

The figures published by the trading banks in Australia showing their averages for the quarter ended June provide ample proof of the deflationary steps, which have been forecasted in the New Times since last year. Comparing the March with the June quarter, the average figures disclose that during the latter period current account deposits have fallen by £5 millions (from £114 millions to £109 millions), while fixed deposits have increased by £3 millions (from £178.8 millions to £182 millions). The effect of this is, of course, to take money out of circulation, the attracting of current into fixed deposits being a deflationary device on the part of the banks, and resulting in a temporary cancellation of all such sums.

During the same period the debts of the public to the banks have gone up by almost £4 millions (from £258.5 millions to £262.4 millions). Hence, if the banks tighten the screw by calling up overdrafts the public have now £5 millions less with which to pay £4 millions more than they owed three months ago.

Against this it may be said that the increase in bank advances proves that the banks are not calling up overdrafts. But it must be remembered that an accumulation of interest which debtors were unable to pay would go a long way to account for the increase in advances shown, and which over the last six months amounts only to £1½ millions. From June 1928, to June 1932, bank advances in Australia appeared to increase by £31/2 millions, but current account deposits decreased by £30 millions. and fixed deposits by £10 millions. We are now seeing in operation a similar process of lessening the community's means of payment concurrently with increasing their debts to the banks.

It does not necessarily follow from this that the banks in Austra-

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lia are deliberately setting out to inflict upon us again the frightful ruin and misery they caused a few years ago. Today's course is merely a mechanical part of the so-called trade cycle, whereby any little burst of financial prosperity—even to the limited and sectional extent of the last year or two-must be followed by financial depression. Above all things the banker must dread what he calls a boom. Such a condition implies that the community will tend to carry more legal or visible money (notes and coin) in their pockets and tills, and also that they will leave bigger deposits in their current accounts for potential spending. From this it follows that the banker's risk of being requested to carry out his contract to supply cash for deposits when asked increases at the same time as his very limited supply of such cash becomes still more limited. The banks' cash reserves today - - including both their legal tender money and their Commonwealth Bank deposits and Treasury bills, which are convertible into cash—amount to £55.8 millions, as against £58.6 millions in March and £62.6 millions a year ago. So the pointer is set for still further deflation, particularly in view of the shortage of London funds to pay toll to the bondholders and the absentee landlords.

It is technically true to say that the banks, however much they might wish us to be prosperous, are compelled by the limitations of their own business to inflict deflation upon us. But though this may absolve them from a formal charge of willful murder, it does not acquit them of the crime of being either accessories or criminally negligent, since they undertake the policy with a full knowledge of its results. When the banks create financial credit by giving overdrafts they contract to redeem the resulting deposits with legal tender. As they do not possess this legal tender, and have never done so, their main anxiety is to escape being found put. And so depressions are deliberately engineered for this purpose. Nor shall we ever be free from them as long as the banking usurpers are allowed to issue and cancel financial credit at their own sweet will and independently of the community's financial needs, based upon its production of real wealth.

The Privy Council Decision and Prices

Except in the case of Attorney-General Menzies, there appears to be a general upset and confusion following the Privy Council's upholding of Mr. James's appeal in connection with the Dried Fruits case. And even R. G. Menzies may feel the well advertised brilliance of his legal qualifications somewhat tarnished, though he has substantial consolations in the shape of his trip abroad, his advent into literary societyand his 2000 guinea brief. The

question exercising now governmental minds is, what to do next? On the one hand the Cabinets of the Commonwealth and at least the three most populous States consider it essential to legalise the powers, which have been declared unconstitutional. On the other, they appear to doubt whether the people, if appealed to by referendum, will hold the same views-which is rather a sardonic commentary on our supposed de-

While the politicians and the lawyers are furrowing their brows in search of what appears to them a satisfactory solution, it might not be amiss to point out that the whole scheme on which their formulae are based is not a solution at all. What governments are looking for is the legal right so to control marketing of the primary produce, which is largely exported that every producer will get a fair deal. This, according to them, presupposes that prices realised overseas will not show producers a fair return, and the object is to ration local marketing and local consumption in such a way and at such a price that what is lost on the roundabouts may be recovered on the swings-that every producer will get a fair share of the Australian market, meaning the Australian prices.

That every producer should get a fair return for his efforts needs no argument, but the methods hitherto adopted to ensure this are open to the gravest objection.

Take first the fixing of a home consumption price. Price is a matter of money: hence it should naturally follow that any investigation of unsatisfactory prices to producers would begin by an examination of the money available in the hands of consumers. But where has this been done in the past? If, say, it was found that the local price for wheat was too low to enable the farmer to carry on, did our Wheat Commission inquire how much money was disbursed to the public through the production of wheat, and was therefore available to be returned to the wheat grower to recoup his costs? By no means. All that has been done in this and similar instances is to try and ascertain producers' costs and then, without any consideration as to whether the costs were distributed as purchasing power or merely allocated, blithely to fix a home consumption price or to levy a tax to suit. In the case of the primary necessities, of course, the experiment was more or less successful. People who wished to continue living had to have bread, and so they bought it. But either the butter or the jam or something else had to be spread thinner, or done without altogether. So that one industry prospered only at the expense of another, or if all together appeared to be doing reasonably well at any time the reverse side was seen in a rapidly growing national debt.

Turning to the export market, why should it be necessary for our butter and our sugar and all sorts of other things to be sold at a loss? Surely this could only come about through one of two causes-either people overseas did not want our produce (in which case it was silly to be producing it at a loss), or they, too, were unable to pay a fair price for it. We know that the first cause has not been the correct one. We have proof daily that the second cause is the real crux-in the case of Japan, for instance. Our farmers expect to be paid for their produce in Australian money. Our customers overseas can get our money only by selling us

AFTER FOUR YEARS

The "Economist" (June 6, 1936) Describes a Meeting of Statesmen in 1940.

"A slowing down of the rate of building might in the ordinary way lead to considerable unemployment in the building trade, but do not let us forget the enormous defence programme which the Government are going to launch, which will occupy all the available labour in the building trade."-Mr. Neville Chamberlain in the House of Commons, May 20, 1936.

"Well," said the British Foreign Minister, "the purposes of this meeting are clear enough. As you all know, the armaments programmes have done the trick as far as the economic problem is concerned. None of us, I think, can report unemployment greater than two per cent. But with the disappearance of economic grievances most of the political trouble has vanished as well; and the pacifists are already agitating for sweeping reductions in military expenditure, which will let the whole thing down. We must keep the pot boiling and that means a fresh process of exacerbation. I suggest for a start that our esteemed German colleague should compose a few bellicose speeches and '. .

"Now, why in heaven!" burst out the German Chancellor. "I beg your pardons, but why should I get the sore throat every time?'

"Come, come, my dear Adolf," said the British chairman, "you know you do that sort of thing so much better than the rest of us.

"Well, without false modesty, I'll admit that. But a man's entitled to some relief.'

"My clear Chancellor," said the French Premier, "I suggest that you make a demonstration on the Austrian border.'

"How you would like to land us with that place!" retorted the Chan-

'Well, bother it, you don't expect our banks to finance them up to the day of judgment. The place is German all right and naturally in your sphere. You used to howl enough about that in the old days.

'Good!" cried the chairman, delightedly, "that's the right spirit of recrimination. Now that's precisely the sort of row we ought to have in public.'

"Look here!" said someone, can't we all switch over to roads? To me a battleship is a floating platform on which a number of men spend their time saluting a lot of other men. A road is a fixed platform on which the same men, dressed as automobile scouts, could salute the other lot as they go by in cars.

"Now, for heaven's sake, don't let's go into that," said the chairman. "I posed the same problem myself a few years ago and fool-

their own produce. And if we do not buy what they have to sell we cannot expect them to do the impossible and give us a fair price for our exports.

So that both the home price problem and the prices realised on our exports come back to roost, not on the little restaurant on the lake and marketing perch, but on the addled eggs of a rotten monetary system. Put into the hands of the Australian people sufficient money to buy at fair prices both our primary and our secondary production, and you automatically enable the realisation of a fair home price, as well as greatly extending the home market. At the same time, by removing the main hindrance to foreign trade, you make it easy to negotiate overseas treaties at satisfactory prices.

There is no other solution—unless you regard as such the present concern for farmers of a Federal Cabinet, which has just dealt our most valuable exporting industry the greatest blow, it has ever received.

ishly passed it on to the Economic Advisory Board. I got fourteen different reports. And the diagrams! They looked like the blueprints of a new pocket battleship. One fellow proved that if you dropped sixpence down a drain and failed to report the matter to the Central Bank, you set up a cumulative process of deflation, which ended with everybody out of work. I was so intrigued that I sneaked out one night and threw half a crown into the Thames, just to see what would happen.'

'Well! what did happen?"

"We had the best year on record. No, let's stick to armaments. They're the only public works that go over. Everyone agrees that building roads and houses is extravagant, but building battleships stimulates business. I can't understand why. But there it is. Life's good all round at the moment, and particularly so for us leaders. Why, even rear-admirals purr like cats

"Yes," said the German Chancellor, "and they like to take all the credit. Von Schlacht of the Staff tried that with me the other day. 'Look here,' I said, 'I can easily put out a sequel to "Mein Kampf" and call it "A Recantation." Where would you be then? Out on the back of your ears.' That

"Well, then, Chancellor," said the chairman, "can't we have a real contribution from you?"

"What can I do?" expostulated the Chancellor. "I can't tell the people they're starving. They're fairly oozing with butter.

"That's precisely the point," said the chairman. "They will be starving unless we keep the munitions going.

"All right, then," said the Chancellor. "I don't mind doing the heavy stuff while you English put out the cant, which is your particular *forte*. But you ought to work at it. You're such a lazy crowd. Look at Baldwin. He cleared out at the first opportunity, and sends me a postcard every spring, blethering about apple blossom in the Evesham Valley. Don't forget that Benito and I had to do the whole thing off our own bat in '36.'

"I think we are in fundamental agreement," said the chairman. What about you, Duce? You haven't said anything.'

"I don't talk," said the Duce, "I act. And whenever I act, more has to be spent on armaments. Malta, Cyprus, Egypt, Sudan, Palestine, Somaliland, Aden, Kenya! They've all had their fortifications doubled in the last four

"Splendid!" said the chairman. "Well, that's all settled. We'd better go out separately and put on a grave face before the reporters. By Jove! I can see our Sunday papers. You talk about cant, Herr Kollege. Wait till you see the leader, which starts off 'Let us clear our minds of cant,' and then empties out three columns of it on the public. Well, then, till tonight. We can all slip up to the celebrate.'

FREEDOM AND THESLUM **PROBLEM**

Mr. J. F. Hill, the principal of the Melbourne Boys' High School, will take the chair at the meeting arranged by the Council for Civil Liberties at the Kelvin Hall on August 5. The speakers will be two of the other vicepresidents of the Council, Dr. Dale and Mr. Eugene Gorman, K.C.

A charge of 1/- will be made for admission. Tickets are obtainable from the Hon. Treasurer, Miss M. Bayne, 100 Tooronga Road, Upper Hawthorn. A limited number will be available at the door.

Unemployed Should Not Have Large Families!

VICTORIAN LABOUR DEPARTMENT AS A MATERNAL ADVISER WHAT ARE THE GOVERNMENTS VIEWS?

For years past, and particularly since the depression, there has been growing a noticeable undercurrent of hostility between the general public and their own Public Service. The position of members of the Service as tax gatherers in a time of ever growing taxation is probably largely the cause, and it may have been added to by their sectional claims for restorations of salary cuts at a time when so many of the community have either no salary at all or no measure of economic security. It is unfortunate that this cleavage should arise, and for two reasons. One is that it is unfair to the Service, and that it blinds the public to the very high degree of efficiency and courtesy generally displayed by a body of men and women who for the most part are grossly underpaid. The other is that this antagonism tends to create a bureaucratic body hostile, or at least indifferent to the people, and therefore ready to serve the Fascist ends to which our destinies are being shaped by our hidden masters.

It is therefore the more regrettable that certain individuals within the Public Service who occupy responsible positions should speak or act in such a way as to promote this tendency. An example, and a very unpleasant one, was provided last week by an address given to the Essendon Rotary Club by Mr. F. Frawley, officer in charge of the sustenance branch of the Victorian Department of Labour, who took for the text of his discourse the subject of unemployment and sustenance.

Had Mr. Frawley been content to relate what his department has done, all might have been well. But he was more ambitious. He also set out to diagnose the cause of the depression and to disclose to his hearers his own attitude towards the unemployed. And in so doing we suggest that this official of the Department of Labour showed himself unfitted to hold any responsible post in any branch of the Public "EVERYBODY WAS LIVING BEYOND HIS MEANS.'

Here is how Mr. Frawley, as reported in the Essendon Free Press, diagnosed the cause of the depres-

"What was the cause of the depression? People in every sphere of life have an answer to that question, but I believe that the cause was that everyone had been living beyond their means. The Commonwealth had been feeding the White Elephant of Canberra; State Parliament had been spending six or seven million on public works; farmers bought extravagantly; city people built houses without regard for the future; land jobbers ran riot; everybody was living beyond his means. Suddenly we discovered that we had been living in a paradise that essentially belonged to fools. In 1928, 1929, and worse still in 1930, we found that we had thousands of unemployed who had saved no money and were unable to support or help themselves. The State then instituted compulsory unemployment tax," etc., etc.

Could you imagine a man in a position that would be supposed to require at least average intelligence putting forward such views in 1936? Admittedly a lot of us were parrots enough to echo this nonsense when we first heard it six or seven years ago, but even the Niemeyers would think twice before putting it out today. One wonders has it ever occurred to Mr. Rip Van Winkle Frawley that everyone cannot live beyond his means unless the nation as a whole is consuming more than it is producing? And when, in modern times—even during the war—has any nation done that, least of all Australia, whose problem before, during, and after the years he refers to has allegedly been one of surplus production? People built houses without regard for the future! Was ever a man more thoroughly mesmerised? What future has he in mind? Does he envisage a time approaching when we shall find ourselves without bricks or tiles or

concrete, that we must be sparing in the building of houses? What shortage does this diagnoser discern at the end of his period of alleged extravagance?

"We found we had thousands of unemployed who had saved no money." So the depression, after all, was a lack merely of moneyof money, which itself costs practically nothing at all to produce!

Now, if there is one elementary feature about money which Mr Frawley and others like him should try and understand before they begin to take the platform on finance, it is this: Money is no longer a concrete commodity. We have long passed out of the stage of cow money. We have almost passed out of the stage of token money, and we are already in the stage when it is recognised that money is a function, an accounting process relating to the production and consumption of goods. Money, as any rudimentary excursion into financial textbooks should reassure the archaic Mr. Frawley, mainly comes into existence as a banker's book entry denoting the production of tangible goods. And likewise it goes out of existence as a similar book entry in another column denoting that what was produced has been consumed. Or, to put it in a still more elementary way, bankers grant overdrafts to finance production, and when the goods are sold for consumption the overdrafts are repaid and the money disappearsthe books are ruled off, which is as it should be.

Keeping this in mind, and keeping in mind that our depression crisis has been one of unsaleable and not of scarce goods, Mr. Frawlev's plaintive outery against the thousands of unemployed who have saved no money" is shown up in all its childish absurdity. Since every additional shilling saved means a further shilling's worth of goods unsold somewhere, it is evident that had the Frawley cure-all been taken previous to 1928 we should merely have had the depression correspondingly earlier.

On top of all this, of course, as Mr. Frawley would find out if he undertook a little mental labour himself, even the spending of all our money would not suffice to keep away those modern depressions which spring from unsold or undistributed *plenty*, the reason being that the production of goods is not accompanied by an automatic production of the quantity of money required for their effective distribution. And in this connection the action of Federal and State governments in borrowing additional new money from the bankers to pay for public works or White Elephants (or even Mr. Frawley's own estimable services') at least postponed the depression and the problem of destitute unemployment. Had the Federal Government issued money instead of borrowing it we need have had no depression at all.

THE BUREAUCRAT.

So much for Mr. Frawley's display of financial erudition. On that score, however, he may have been so busy setting other people to work as not to have had time for any more severe mental labour himself than lecturing to Rotary. But the really objectionable aspect of the bureaucrat was displayed in his mental attitude towards those for whom his position should have bred sympathy and compassion, and on whose behalf one should have expected him to raise his voice in righteous indignation.

Mr. Frawley began to reveal himself when he inferred that those unemployed who had saved no money were fools. This is an easy pose coming form one in his sheltered position of economic

security—we understand that Mr. Frawley, in spite of cuts, still gets about £430 a year—even if many of the same "fools", previous to their unemployment, helped to provide the goods and to pay the taxes which kept him in that security. But has this Department of Labour official ever bothered to read his own departmental reports? If he has, he must know that the wage paid to most of those now unemployed never made any provision for saving, never provided for more than a bare subsistence. What hypocrisy, then, to blame his less fortunate fellowcitizens for not saving. Moreover, such as had positions which gave some margin for saving, and who found themselves put off during the depression, were compelled, as he also knows very well, literally to eat up their little capital before becoming eligible for sustenance.

"WHY DID SHE HAVE CHILDREN?"

But even this callousness was not sufficient. Mr. Frawley displayed sympathy. Sympathy! Listen to

"I sometimes feel sad when I see so many children being brought up under such undesirable circumstances. To illustrate what I mean, let me tell you this before I discuss more serious aspects of the matter. A woman of 40 with eleven children, the oldest of which was 14, came to see me one day. In conversation 1 told her that I could not understand why she had so many children when her husband was without work or money. 'Well,' she replied, 'if you were me you'd understand—I have my hubby at home all day.'

We apologise to our readers for Mr. Frawley's coarseness. We rather think we ought to apologise for his existence. But we do not apologise for reprinting what he uttered, since he began his address by saying: "Imagine me as a company secretary reporting to you, the shareholders, the results of your undertakings.'

One of those results is Mr. Frawley, with his views as above. Do the citizen shareholders of Victoria feel proud of this part of their undertaking? Do they feel proud to hear that one of their paid serinto and question the marital affairs servants, with their views.

BOARD OF WORKS A BANKERS' BAILIFF.

Estimates of the Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works for 1936-37 assess revenue at £1.867.605. and expenditure at £1,992,593, leaving a deficit of £124,988. Of the revenue, interest will absorb £1,288,000, or 13/9d in every £1. Management and maintenance charges are estimated at £278,000,

or 3/- in every £1.

So the Board of Works, like most others of its kind, is now acting principally as a tax gatherer for the private bankers who create and lend the money which the nation should

of a mother who has borne eleven little Australians-which of itself should entitle her to freedom from all economic worries? Do they feel proud to hear that a government departmental officer in a responsible position is apparently taking it upon himself to advise either abortion or birth control? And that, under the excuse of poverty in a country whose major problem is alleged to be the disposal of surplus goods, he should seek to abolish children rather than the undesirable and unnecessary circumstances which deny them a fair start in

If such citizens of Victoria as may read this are satisfied, we shall be greatly surprised. For our own part, and even leaving out any question of morals or human rights, we fail to see why, in a country, whose leaders are crying out for population, that which is hailed as a virtue in the wife of the Prime Minister, should be a matter for reproach to one of her sisters.

We propose to send a copy of this to each member of the Victorian Ministry with a covering letter inquiring whether the State Government supports Mr. Frawley's action in endeavouring to dispose of the unemployment problem by exterminating it, and if not whether it will take steps to restrain the sustenance department from such activities in the future. In due course we shall acquaint our readers with the results.

Meantime, such of our Victorian readers as think that the unemployed should still be left the right to have children without governmental interference might acquaint vants takes it upon himself to delve the members of Parliament, their

LIFE AMONG THE HOPELESS

VII. By E.C.B.

"The depression is over."—Public Service Advt.

It was not a very exclusive cafe. The principal attraction was the firm's specialty—a "hot pie and tea" for four pence. About a dozen customers were seated at the tables, eating a meagre breakfast and sheltering from the cold, biting wind and rain.

Two decent-looking youngsters came in, wet and shivering, their hands and faces blue with cold. Neither of them wore an overcoat, and their suits, perhaps, had once looked smart. They looked around the cafe, obviously searching for some more fortunate friend who would buy their breakfast for them. They caught the eye of someone they knew.

'Ah, there, Snowy!"

"Hello! Had your breakfast?"

'No such luck," the two chorused.

"Well, pinch a cup each—there's some tea in my pot," said Snowy. "Sorry I've finished my pie."

Soon the trio were chatting together. The warm tea stimulated their hopes, and they talked eagerly of jobs "when things get

Unnoticed by them, a young girl entered, and, after a moment's hesitation, stood smiling behind them.

'Hello, mugs! Had your breakfast?" she asked.

"Sure, Kitty. Just finishing," said one of the "mugs."
"Ooh! Don't tell stories!" Kitty's face dimpled as she smiled reprovingly at them. "Listen, kids, I've got two or three bob-let's all have breakfast."

There was silence for a moment. Then one of the lads stood "I'll be going along," he said.

"Don't be silly—I'll shout," said Kitty.

You're a good-hearted girl, Kitty, but I know-how you had to get that money. I couldn't----- -" his voice choked.

Kitty's hand went to his arm. She looked straight at him. "I know." She said. "I hate myself too. But gee! We must eat.

Sit down!"

'Good-bye," he answered. Into the rain and cold marched Sir Galahad In Rags.

The other lad stayed.

NO TURNING BACK

We in the Front Line have gone over the top. Will you sacrifice us and our willingness to serve the Cause of Humanity? There is no turning back for us. We have embarked upon a bold and ambitious Expansion Campaign, so that Victoria can make up the leeway, build on her foundations, leap ahead, and make Social Credit a live issue to every citizen, and in every corner of this State.

What have you done so far to help this Campaign? How have you, your friends, your branch, responded to the Loyalty Appeal?

What We Are Determined To Do

Make a success of the Conference on August 8, in the Nicholas Hall, Swanston Street. —You are wanted there.

Make a Monster Demonstration in Show Week. —You,

and everyone else, are wanted there. Extend John Hogan's great crusade into every corner of

Victoria, waking up the slumbering Power of the People, inspiring young and old alike to the action that is so urgently required—to Demand Results.

Capitalise his efforts with an efficient and serviceable Headquarters and staff; consolidating and linking up the organisation he leaves behind him.

Prepare adequately for the prospective visit of the Dean of Canterbury, so as to ensure its success.

Be prepared for anything.

What You Are Called On To Do

Provide the ammunition—raise the ammunition. Realise that Central activities are vastly more important than local efforts

now—that it is as a National Movement that we shall succeed.
Write in immediately to Mr. G. Trenoweth, State Organising Secretary, for books of Loyalty Receipts, from 1/- to £1 each (£1 conveys Life Membership of Movement if desired) and get out with them, getting in funds and ammunition, especially from those who have never yet contributed anything. Make the public pay—but be loyal yourself when the emergency call goes forth.

THIS IS AN EMEGENCY. £1 NOW IS WORTH £10 NEXT YEAR. COME ON; INTO THE FIGHT. NO MORE STANDING OUTSIDE AND WATCHING US DO IT.

WORK, ST. PAUL, AND THE LABOR **PARTY**

By BRUCE H BROWN

Twelve months ago a prominent Labor member of the House of Representatives addressed an important gathering of Melbourne businessmen, and actually argued against the giving of economic security to the masses. I was present as a visitor and took the matter up with him afterwards.

His opposition was based on the belief that men would refuse to undertake the dangerous and distasteful tasks of society unless they were compelled to do so; and that, consequently, if economic security were given as the monetary reformers propose, an ordered community life would be impracticable. He admitted that there would probably be little difficulty regarding work involving no personal danger or of a more agreeable type, but professed grave concern about the other kind of work. He also

EVEN IN ST. KILDA!

Dr. Blanche said she found that 52 children out of 89 had defective teeth; if they had been examined by a dentist it was probable that 60 or 70 would need attention. Tonsils required attention in 21 cases and 27 were under average

-Report to St. Kilda and Balaclava Free Kindergarten, July 14.
At the annual meeting of the Kindergarten it was stated that the main hindrance to its successful work was lack of money and interest on bank overdraft.

quoted St. Paul in support of the claim that work must in every case be the medium through which income is received—i.e., that no man should receive an income unless he works for it. Indeed, he went so far as to say that we must hold the threat of starvation over a man in order to force him to work

Subsequent events have shown that other prominent members of the Labor movement hold similar views and that they are likely to be aired at the Adelaide Conference commencing on July 27. In these circumstances it may be interesting for the delegates, and for Labor supporters in general, to know what took place between us.

In my first letter to him I pointed out that the dangerous and unpleasant tasks are becoming fewer and fewer; that, with the development of processes, the time will come when they will be almost eliminated; that the factor of danger has never proved a deterrent, but that on the contrary many have renounced comfortable livings to embrace what we would call dangerous occupations. Tasks termed "unpleasant" are invariably the most necessary, and this in itself is a good reason why they should be placed higher on the honour list and why those who perform them should be the most highly respected. History is full of evidence that honour and respect have always been impelling forces, and that the exhibition of bravery does not depend on the material rewards for it. Apart from this, however, any dearth in the supply of labour for the few remaining jobs of an unpleasant or dangerous

"I LIFT UP MY FINGER AND I SAY ---- '

"The Australian Woolgrowers' Council continued its deliberations on the Japanese question today, and this afternoon, in conjunction with the National Council of Wool selling Brokers of Australia, met the Prime

Minister.
"After a long discussion, and in view of the information disclosed to the meeting, we appeal to all wool-

the meeting, we appeal to all woolgrowers to refrain from any hasty
decisions or utterances."

—G. Dalziel Kelly, chairman of
the Woolgrowers' Council and director of the "Argus." July 17.

The Melbourne "Sun" adds:
"Neither the Prime Minister nor
these organisations would give any
information about the nature of
the deliberations, and all agreed to
continue the policy of silence."

WHY? Is Australia a
democracy or is it not?

WHY? Is Aus democracy, or is it not?

character could easily be overcome by making them the best paid instead of the poorest paid.

On the question of human nature, what was it that made him wish to be a Member of Parliament, in addition to being a successful business man? Was it the extra money, the esteem of the community, or the opportunity to exercise some power? Whatever the reason, thousands and thousands of others are similarly imbued, even though they may not achieve the same degree of success. It is quite certain, for example, that I would not retire from my present position if national dividends were introduced, but it is probable that in such a case I would not approve of my daughter continuing her employment, as I would feel that other families might have greater need for supplementing the dividend. To a large extent a system of national dividends would automatically take women out of industry. What a reflection it is on us men that our women and girls are forced into the slavery of factories when we are capable of producing sufficient for them to be absolutely free and independent. A fraudulent money system is the only obstacle. Was there any shortage of candidates for Parliament when membership was honorary? And is there any shortage of candidates for municipal honours today?

THE FUTURE OF "WORK."

Even if we assume that his view was right, how and where is "work" to be found for every man? Millions are already unemployed and we are told that millions will always remain unemployed. Is that because of the absence of compulsion? It is true, of course, so far as Australia is concerned, that if only our governments had the "finance," there "is work available for quite a number over quite a period, but when we get our water, sewerage and light systems extended throughout the country, and the railway gauges made uniform, even these avenues will contract. What then, especially with machinery developing so rapidly in the meantime? And if machines continue to displace labour as they must, and wages are thus cut off because the men are not "working," how is the production of the machines to be disposed of unless we find some new means of distributing money?

ST. PAUL'S DECLARATION

In regard to St. Paul, was it seriously contended that the conditions when he made his declaration were in any way comparable with the conditions today? That was an age of scarcity and work was an almost universal necessity, but the work available today is only sufficient to occupy the able- of the old 'pleasure-pain' incenbodied men of the world between tives. the ages of 25 and 45 years, and working for only 16 hours per week at that! St. Paul had not the faintest conception that one man in this State sitting at a switchboard would control power performing "work" equal to the labour of more than a million men. If machines are labour savers, as they are claimed to be, why should we not accept them as such and rearrange our ideas so that the human toilers can get their full share of the "saving"? If we do not rearrange our ideas then we shall have the disordered state of society about which he appeared to be so fearful. The position is really becoming so clear-cut that we must either admit the facts or "commit ourselves to a series of puerile absurdities.'

Replying to the foregoing, the gentleman concerned contended again "that there would be difficulty as to practically every class of work performed by the wage worker, and that while there may be a negligible number of wage workers who will continue, as employees, to exercise

handicrafts, the overwhelming mass will consist of men who for another's profit do dull and souldestroying work— spending their lives in making parts of a product or in tending a machine." He went on to say that he quoted St. Paul because he believed him to state the fundamental law upon which a community must organised. "Unless the obligation to labour is universal, some will avoid work and will live upon the community. Paul tells the community to exclude anyone who will not work. He says that he and his fellow visitors to Thessalonica toiled with their own hands, not because they had not the right to abstain from labour, but to be an example." He could not imagine worker A accepting the obligation to labour for an employer when B, C, D and E could stay at home doing the garden, building fowlhouses, or engaging in some other form of self-chosen, self-satisfying exercise. "Russia's struggle," he said, "has been a struggle with the

YOUR RIGHTS

(a) My right to life now depends upon the possession of money

(b) My right to money depends upon the sale of my bodily energy-mental or physical.

(c) But bodily energy is fast becoming "unsaleable," horsepower each unit of the energy of 10 equalling human bodies.

(d) The world is being enriched with a diminishing demand for the "labour" of human beings.

"unwanted." (e) The rights, become having no paupers or beggars, and unpurchased bounty of God is destroyed.

(f) Consequently human beings are regarded as redundant.

Marriages are increasing. Births are declining. A human soul is the dearest treasure of the Heart of Christ. Before He came, a man was a thing. Today he is valued (a) as a seller of personal energy, an obsolescent commodity; (b) as a soldier; (c) as a voter.

A man's right to his unearned increment of association is a Divine and human right. Voluntary poverty is a virtue. Compulsory poverty in the midst of plenty is a curse due to regarding man only as a worker and not as a child of God.

-P. J. Hands in the Catholic Times. London.

human nature of her workers. She has had to apply for the time being the crude incentives of reward and deprivation which they understand and to which they respond." He finished his letter with this: "A Socialist Society offers, as its incentive, the incentive of a common benefit resulting from a common effort. Even a Socialist Society finds that to men bred under capitalism that incentive is insufficient. It has to devise new forms

A CONTENTION NOT **BORNE OUT**

His reassertion that there would be difficulty as to practically every class of worker only further weakened his position. His own personal case (and mine) illustrated the fallacy of the contention. He was provided for by the proceeds of his business and I by my salary; yet both of us have voluntarily sought still more work, which, perhaps, the majority would categorise as dull and uninteresting. What is the universal complaint of the man who, while retaining his faculties, has been retired from service or business? Simply that he lacks useful employment. Did the former Deputy Director of Posts and Telegraphs at Sydney, who recently retired on a pension, do something against human nature when he sought and accepted a position on the Broadcasting Commission? And the retired policemen who become watchmen, or private detectives, or hotelkeepers? It is against human nature not to work, and it is only the

mentally or physically defective, or the morally deficient, who desire not to do something useful. Even the unpleasant tasks would be sought after by those whose capacity lies only in that direction.

WHAT OF THE YOUNGER GENERATION?

But, it may be argued, you mention only those who have a fixed habit of employment. What about those of the younger generation who have never formed such a habit? The only young people we know to whom employment is a merely voluntary undertaking are those termed the "idle" rich, and in their case we see that not only do they find employment, but seem to have a preference for employment involving bodily exertion as well as an element of danger, such as hunting, steeple chasing, yachting, rowing, boxing, speed-racing, mountaineering, aviation, and so on. These activities may seem to some of us more like useless pastimes, but to the people under discussion they are employment pure and simple. And how many of the rich men's sons voluntarily enter the clergy, the army, the navy, the diplomatic service, and the like? None of them are compelled to work for economic reasons, but they do, and they do it simply because-and notwithstanding the ideas we may cherish to the contrary-human nature demands that normal man shall do something. Idleness as a general rule comes from compulsion, not from desire.

In any case, are we not making a bogey of this human nature? Very few "leaders" are tackling the inhuman nature of the banking and financial class who forge the world's money and inflict so much needless suffering and poverty. Is it not presumptuous for one set of persons to worry themselves about how another set of persons would react to improved standards? For example, he would not thank me for being concerned about his reactions, or for trying to prevent his having the opportunity to react. His very life proves that his reactions would be healthy, and he does an injustice to the masses whom he is supposed to "represent" when he assumes that their reactions would not be healthy.

Human nature has two partsthe inborn and the reactions to environment. The former is the Creator's responsibility. The latter is probably the more important, and as far back as we can go we get

evidence that the environment has been constant limitations and repressions of the inborn. Man is not naturally wicked, and it is not for us to judge how humanity will react to individual freedom and security. It would seem that current ideas in this respect are erroneously based on observations of the reactions of men in an environment of thraldom and insecurity. How different a man must feel walking about a city with £10 in his pocket as compared with his feelings when his pocket is empty! He would be quite a different person, and yet this difference is only a mere fraction of the difference between what men are and what men could be.

THE RUSSIAN POSITION

To say that the difficulty of having no one to do the unpleasant tasks arose "even in Russia" is hardly convincing substantiation that similar difficulties "are bound

MORE PROSPERITY.

Shareholders in Francis Longmore and Co. have agreed that—

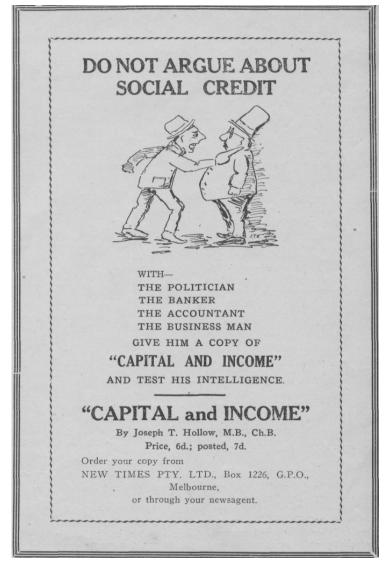
(1) Preference dividends will be reduced by one-third from July 1

of last year;
(2) Arrears of preference dividend to that date, amounting to 45 per cent. will be settled by taking the, equivalent of 25 per cent, in new preference shares and foregoing the balance;

(3) Ordinary shareholders will forfeit 50 per cent, of their capital—about one-third of this being represented by the new issue to preference by the believe and the believe in the believ ence shareholders, and the balance

to arise" here. Was Russia ever a paradise? Was it ever ahead of other countries in development? Have they a system of national dividends there, which makes that country suitable to quote as an example in the present discussion? Is it not true that Russia has not yet overcome the problem of scarcity, whereas we for some years have been faced with the problem of distributing the plenty? And is it flattering to the Australian workers' intelligence and standard of education to use Russia's struggle following the Czarist regime as an argument that our workers understand only the crude incentives of rewards and deprivations?

As to St. Paul again, his declaration is being overstrained, even to the extent of misrepresentation. If my correspondent would read the whole of the chapter he must



have no application whatever to the point at issue, and it would be appropriate to read also the Pope's authoritative references to this same passage in his Encyclicals. St. Paul did *not* enunciate a fundamental law, but even if he did his words were inspired by the conditions of his time. St. Paul never saw a dynamo or 500 looms needing only two attendants! As a matter of fact, on the basis of the conditions existing today even St. Paul would be thrown out as human scrap, as his "work" at tent making would not be required. No one would want to "hire" him.

Regarding the opinion that worker A would not accept the obligation to labour for an employer when B, C, D and E can stay at home and do the garden, it rather seems that that could happen only under the existing arrangements. It is actually going on today, and it is going on, because A is compelled to do it. Under the suggested system he would not be "compelled" as he is now, but he or someone else would be doing the labour, if it were necessary labour, of his own choice, being actuated by his work capacity or the desire for gain. With increasing mechanisation, the demand for human workers will never again be equal to the assistance offering.

SOCIAL CREDIT AND PRO-VISION FOR THE FUTURE.

It has been said that Social Credit makes no provision for the future, but that is not true. The national dividend would at once do away with cheap labour and restore women to their natural sphere as the managers of our homes and the mothers of our children. Parents would be enabled to give their children a full and complete education, so equipping them for either labour or leisure. The payment of the national dividend depends absolutely on the efficiency and adequacy of our production. In other words, it would be dependent on the annual appreciation of our assets. No appreciation, no dividend; and obviously there would be no premium on loafing. Until machinery renders it unnecessary, industry will of course have to depend upon manual labour for dull and uninteresting tasks of the nature he had in mind, but with women out of industry, and with the progressive shortening of hours made possible through a reformed money system, these tasks will become less and less burdensome to those who perform them.

No one in his right senses would suggest that there could be a national dividend unless there is national wealth to divide, or that we could have national wealth unless production continues. The fact is that we have national wealth in

longer any problem of production. It is not a question of rearranging the distribution of the existing money, for even if that were apportioned equally between us it would mean an income of only 30/per week (and that is the very best that taxation could do), whereas our present production is capable of giving us an income of £20 per week per family if the quantity of money were increased to equate with prices. Some human beings must do tasks incidental to production, but the number of these will become so comparatively few that they will eventually fall into a class to be envied.

And what is the proposed national dividend but "a common benefit"? Anything outside that common benefit will be common to the effort expended, and there is no need whatever to devise new forms of the old "pleasure-pain" incentives. That idea is barbaric. How many of his own personal acquaintances would regard a national dividend as sufficient for their own and their family's needs? What on earth is the use of having a universal obligation to work if work is not universally available? And how could anyone conscientiously believe that his efforts would not enrich himself when he knows that everyone participates in the appreciation of the national assets which result from the whole of the community's activities?

POINTS THAT WERE NOT REPLIED TO

While 1 was more than grateful for his letter, I wondered why he omitted to offer any comment on the following points which were mentioned in mine to him:-

1. Dangerous tasks are becoming

2. Unpleasant tasks should carry higher pay.

3. Why did he wish to be a member of Parliament when his ordinary work is fair enough contribution to community service?

4. National dividends would take women out of industry and place them in their proper sphere.

5. The thieving money system as we now have it is the only thing standing between the community and happiness.
6. Was there any shortage of

candidates for Parliament when membership was honorary?

7. How is work to be "found" for all and what sort of work would it be?

8. How is the product of mechanised industry to be mechanised industry to be disposed of in the future if the only means of acquiring ability to purchase is work?

9. The conditions of today are entirely different from the conditions in the days of St. Paul.

An answer to these is much

concede that the words referred to abundance and that there is no more necessary than an answer to those which he raised: The three fundamental questions are:-

(a) What is the objective of an economic system?

(b)) Is economic work the end of man?

(c) What is the purpose of a money system?

Much of the difficulty in grasping the true implications of Social Credit arises from a confusing of the technical and the moral aspects of the present and the proposed economic orders. Indeed, and I say this kindly, the attitude he adopted in this respect is more in keeping with the attitude of the age-long oppressors of the people. To confuse the issue by introducing irrelevancies, to say nothing of the stress laid upon them, will never assist the "working class" to get freedom and uplift, but will assist the class which seeks to keep them under orders, or, as he preferred to say, under "compulsion." The objective of any economic system is to produce goods and get them distributed to the members of the community, not to be a system of coercion.

WHY TODAY'S FINANCIAL SYSTEM IS WRONG.

My researches have satisfied me that the present financial-economic

CHALLENGE!

Will You Let Him Down? John Hogan is sweeping through Victoria like a human dynamo, waking up the people, telling them our message, making them feel the Demand Results, making Social Credit a live and vital issue to every citizen and politician.

Will You Let Them Drift Back Into Apathy?

We can't keep him. The Young National Crusader sees only an Australian horizon. He will do his job here, and it depends on us whether it is to be worthwhile or not. He is depending on us to capitalise the results, to consolidate the organisation whose foundation he is helping to lay. We must get onto the job ourselves. His energy and enthusiasm are a challenge to us. The Expansion Campaign is our job—the Loyalty Appeal is our responsibility. If his time here is to have been worthwhile, if his efforts here are not to be wasted, we must rally immediately to the call, and raise the fighting funds and energy necessary to enable the Movement to embrace the farthest-flung sup-

porter he inspires.

IT IS FOR YOU TO GET ON WITH THE JOB!

system is wrong, both technically and morally. Technically wrong because industry is not selfliquidating of its costs, and because this technical flaw is not only the cause of the dire troubles in which the people are engulfed, but also carries in it the seeds of the destruction of the whole system. Morally wrong because it regards economic work as the end and aim of men (bank controllers of course excepted), and because it is fitted with a fraudulent money mechanism, which has deprived most of us of access to the resources of the earth.

Money dividends without economic work, and the real leisure which results from them, do not demoralise those who now receive them, and even G. D. H. Cole, the Socialist author and economist, has at last admitted the necessity for a system of national dividends.

The great stumbling block to most of the "leaders" of the Labor movement, however, is the old, old question: "Where will the money come from?" The answer to this is simplicity itself. It will come from the same place as that from which it comes now-viz., the inkpot, but with this difference—it will come from inkpots of the the Commonwealth Treasury instead of from the inkpots of the private banks.

THEY DID AWAY WITH MEN

For the Female of the Species Was Less **Deadly than the Male**

By YAFFLE, in "Reynolds News."

Last weekend I fell asleep in the train, the natural result of reading newspapers.

When I awoke, the train was just entering Victoria Station. Approaching the barrier, I saw that the ticket collector was a woman and that all the other passengers were women. They were all very tall, and they all stared at me.

"Half a mo," said the ticket collector, "are you a man?"
"More or less," I replied.

"Lummy," said the ticket collector.

At this, the crowd of women pressed closer round me. I became embarrassed. "Haven't you seen a man before?" I said.

'No!" cried several of them. "I have," said one. "Once In Africa.'

"Isn't it sweet?" said a nice little thing about 6ft. 8in.

"Mummy, buy me that!" said a large female infant.

By this time a huge crowd had collected, all women. A police officer approached. "Move along there," she said. "What's all this?"

A babel of tongues explained that it was a man. "Gosh!" said the constable. "Who's it belong to?"

At this moment a tall, impressive lady approached. "What's the matter, officer?" she asked. The officer touched her hat. "It's a man, Ma'am," she explained.

The lady looked down at me with interest. She felt my chin, which I had not shaved that morning. "So it is," she said. "Don't crowd round it so," she said to the people, "you're frightening it." She took me by the hand. "Come with me," she said. "I'll take care of you. I'm the Home Secretary."

She took me home in a car, sat me down and scrutinised me carefully. "Where are all the other men?" I asked. "There were plenty of them when I went to

sleep."
"You've been asleep a long time," replied the lady. "We are now a matriarchy, a country ruled by women. We have practically

done away with men."
"Why?" I exclaimed. "To save the race from extinction," she replied, and began to explain.

"Psychologists," she said, "had for long asserted that the male principle in Nature was the destructive principle. This was finally proved during the early twentieth century. About 1936 the politicians and press were daily repeating two conflicting ideas:

One was that another war would destroy both sides equally, and the other was that a nation's first duty

was to prepare for that war.

"This proved that the male destructive instinct had reached the point of mania.

"It was further emphasised by a strange economic law: That the manufacture and sale of lethal weapons was the only way to increase prosperity.

'This convinced the women of the period that the male of the species had finally begun to run amok.

'At the same time, as if to ensure race-suicide, they tried to exclude women from industry.

"While admitting that they did not know how to provide women with safe homes, they still insisted that women should remain in the

"It was this that determined women to revolt.

"This was not difficult, for the invention of machinery had already paved the way for women's

"You see," she explained, "men had always relied on fighting and physical force generally for their one proof of superiority. But as soon as they got machines to do their work and their fighting, it was found that women made a s good workers and soldiers as men.

"The rapid decline of the male physique from that time onward has been attributed to discouragement, or lack of any purpose in life.

"But there was another way by which men played into the hands of women. Being an extinct male," continued the lady, "you are probably not aware that the male was the unpractical sex. It was man's habit to pursue theories and inventions irrespective of their practical utility.

"In this way, men had been making experiments with Sex-Determination and the reproduction of the species by bio-chemical processes. For a long time they had played with the idea that the laboratory might replace the man for breeding as well as other purposes. Women adopted both of these for the purpose of abolishing men.

The Parliament of 1986 had only one male member, and that Parliament finally abolished male suffrage, man being classified as a destructive animal.

'Such men as remained were confined for menial domestic tasks, such as cleaning and charring, and in commerce to the mechanical tasks, such as typing and telephone operating.

They appear, however, to have enjoyed their inferiority. We find male authors asserting that man's true happiness lay in staying at home and being cherished and protected by the stronger sex.

"There are old photographs showing small, soft-looking men crowding round tall women footballers, asking for autographs, and there was a current saying that men cannot resist a uniform.

"In fact, the time came when a few men were bred specifically because women wanted them as pets.

'Some of our romantics regret the passing of the male. They say that lovemaking, as it was called, provided some of the greatest poetry and drama. However, we had to choose between that and the survival of the race."

Here the lady paused and gazed speculatively at me. I grew uneasy. "Er-may I go now?" I asked

Yes," she said; "I'll take you."

"Where to?" I asked.
"To the Zoo," she replied. "We had a man there once, but he got too old, and had to be stuffed for the museum. You'll be a good specimen. We'll let your beard grow, and that touch of baldness adds to your biological interest."

The door was open, and I made dash for it-hopelessly, for I knew I could not outrun Sex-Determination. Sure enough, in a few seconds a strong hand fell on my shoulder.

'Wake up, sir," said the porter. "This is Victoria. All change."

I gathered up my papers and looked to see what it was that had started my train of thought. I found I had read two paragraphs consecutively. One was from the report of the Engineers' conference:

"If we cannot see our way to keep women in their proper place ---the home—I hope a more patriotic government will legislate that men only are employed in this industry."—Mr. O'Halloran, of Cork.
And this was the other: —

"Professor Balfour-Browne, of the Royal Microscopical Society, foretells a world of the future in which men have ceased to exist and women rule the world."

I appeared to have regarded the two paragraphs as being in some way connected.

In fact, I do still.

MORE NEWS FROM THE IN-NOCENTS ABROAD

The resumption of the investment of old-world capital in new-world development, for which there were opportunities in Australia, would re-vive world trade.

—B. S. Stevens, Premier of N.S.W., at the British Empire League, Lon-don. July 17.

The only tangible form in which old world capital appears to be entering Australia at present is that of such developmental instruments as bombers, tanks and warships. Are bombers the long sought explanation of "flight of capital"?

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WOMEN AND THE VOTE

By LEONORA POLKINGHORNE.

in previous articles to the extent you?' of the value of the franchise to women. It is proposed now to elaborate this theme a little. In all ages, very considerable value has been placed upon the vote for a variety of reasons, mainly perhaps because it is a sort of insignia of citizenship. It is, of course, supposed to allow one to express one's will in Parliament, but everyone knows that this is true to such a limited extent as to be almost nonexistent. Many factors exist

MAKING AUSTRALIA GROUND MINDED.

"Patria" writes: —
"In this age of crosswords, scorewords and other varieties of ingenious puzzles, I suggest that the "New Times" approach Sir Arthur Robinson, of Collins House, Melbourne (you seem to be well in with the Collins House brigade), who is a director of the De Havilland Co. in Australia, with a proposal that he offer a prize to anyone who can think of a new way of wrecking a De Havilland plane. The falling overboard from 4000 feet of the engine of a DH50 this week is about

"What is wrong with the D.H.'s that come to Australia? Surely it is time there was a thorough investigation into their apparently endless succession of disasters and tragedies—and also time that the persistent rumours as to preferment being extended to them in high quarters were either confirmed or denied. If the machines are only suffering from a temporary hoodoo, an open inquiry should be; beneficial to the company; if not "

"As things are, a few more D.H. crashes will make us more firmly than ever attached to our native LAND."

to nullify the power of the vote, notably the method of counting the votes, whereby only one State of the Commonwealth (Tasmania) enjoys a really representative system. All the others under the Senate system suffer by a method that not only fails to represent, but actually, through its compulsory clause—which insists on the voter recording a vote for all candidates, no matter how much he loathes some—misrepresents the unhappy elector. There is a history behind this, of course, but it need not be discussed here. Nevertheless, we still hear politicians talk as if we really had representation in Parliament, and even the Butler Government of South Australia, which went in on a 33 per cent, of first preferences, and on the strength of that voted themselves an extra two years, are wont to remark, when the people raise their voices in protest against the Betting Bill, the Licensing Bill, and the restoration of Parliamentary salary cuts,

Some reference has been made "Well, you put us here, didn't

Of course, the "Five Year Plan," as the defrauded electors bitterly call the two years' extension, had nothing to do with the King's Jubilee and the S.A. Centenary! With regard to the restoring of salary cuts, that was done because the depression is over, that is to say, over to the extent of justifying the said restoration, but not so much over as to give back superannuation cuts to civil servants or to increase the dole, which, unfortunately, such citizens fail to see.

"UNSEXED."

With regard to the extension of the franchise to women, it is interesting now to recall the dire prophecies that were made if this privilege (it was considered a privilege, not a right) were granted. It appeared that nobody would love us; we would become "unsexed," that mysterious process with which we have been threatened so often when we asked for things. No one quite knew how it would thus change us, but it was a sure consequence of high salaries or executive positions and other dreadful masculine things. We were frequently told that if we insisted on the vote and got it, men would henceforth fail to give up their seats in tramcars to us. It will be observed that the pre-franchise generation was not noted for its sense of humour, the weighing of a seat in a tram-car against all the advantages the vote was supposed to give savouring of the ludicrous. Of course, nothing of the sort happened. Men appeared to fall in love with the "enfranchised" woman just as readily as they did with her predecessor; the men who were in the habit of giving up their seats in tram-cars went on doing it, and those who had not cultivated the habit went on not doing it, and nothing was changed, except that women began to form clubs and organisations, study politics, and attend public speaking classes. Those men who had been most opposed to the reform were now most sedulous in attempting to capture the new votes.

Unfortunately, caught unprepared, many women allowed themselves to be swept into the party machine. A few, more wide-awake, led by the alert Miss Vida Goldstein, formed women's non-party organisations which kept the politicians guessing.

But when all is said and done, the much-coveted vote meant as much (or as little) to women as it has done to men. It did not usher in any sort of millenium. Politics, alas! were not cleaner, nor

were any noticeable reforms in result of some years of Douglas favour of women put on the educational work has not reached Statute Book. They are still sweated; still denied full parental rights, suffer unequal divorce laws and all those other abuses the vote the activities of the units of the was supposed by the optimistic to do away with.

THE ENGLISH **SUFFRAGETTES**

Just a word here about the fight for the vote in England. First, let it be clearly understood that violent methods are not agreeable to women, and to those who used them they were a species of martyrdom. They set their teeth and went on with them because all other methods had failed. The "Watchman," who gives us the "News Behind the News," said some time ago-in referring to the French women's presenting a bouquet of roses to M. Blum on his accession to power, with the persuasive words, "Please remember us!" attached—how much better French women understood men than their English sisters, and he went on to comment scathingly on the methods used by the English suffragettes. The "Watchman" overlooked the fact that the French suffragettes were dealing with Frenchmen and not Englishmen,

MIND YOUR STEP—MORE DELICACY!

Professor Hytten, economic adviser to the Bank of New South Wales, giving evidence before the Monetary Commission on July 20, said that general indications were that Australia was now approaching a delicate stage at which a misstep may lead to further Australia difficulties.

which made all the difference. Can anyone imagine a single English statesman who would be moved one iota by such an appeal? The Irish members had discovered that long before, when, despairing of the least attention to Irish affairs, Biggar introduced his famous obstruc-

HOW TO MAKE THE WOMEN'S VOTE EFFECTIVE

Is there any hope, then, of the vote ever becoming the instrument it ought to be? Yes; there is a way. When there is one thing on which all awakened and liberal minded people are agreed, one thing for which they can for the time drop their lesser differences, one thing so sane, so reasonable and so just that no self-respecting person can keep out of it-then, when a sufficient number of voters can present a united front, then and then only can the vote be a real power, a driving force that can and will accomplish its objective.

That method and that objective are before us in the Electoral Campaign to Abolish Poverty.

Let all women throw the force of their vote behind that, and the result will justify the franchise in a way yet undreamed of.

Queensland Douglas **Credit Party Notes**

The State Executive has carried a resolution asking each of the 158 branches of the Party to carry out the Electoral Campaign in its district, and a special meeting of the Executive will be held to get the Campaign under way without delay. The party's educational and organisational work will be carried on hand in hand with the Campaign. Apart from lectures and addresses, the educational work of late has been in the nature of talks to meetings of businessmen, to clubs, associations, and such like. Very good results have been secured, and contacts have been established with people who would not be likely to attend public lectures.

Owing to the mass of loan money floating about, the depression in this State is not so acute as it was, and the clamour that was starting to arise as a

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such formidable dimensions as it would otherwise have done. However, there is no lessening of Party, and new branches spring into existence each week. As a result of contesting the Bowen electorate new branches are being formed in that district. Cannon Valley affiliated this week, with sixteen foundation members; the Rev. Mr. Kernke spoke at the opening meeting and introduced Mr. H. I. Madden, who gave a forceful address to the new unit. Preston, in the same electorate, has also formed a branch, which promises to be another strong centre for the promulgation of Social

John Hogan's **Programme**

District tour one hundred per cent satisfactory, with excellent meetings at Terang, Warrnambool, Koroit and Ararat. Hamilton and Stawell were also visited, and a number of leading citizens, who had undertaken to organise bumper meetings on the occasion of John's return visit, were interviewed.

thusiastic audience filled the Memorial Hall at Soldiers' Hampton. The member for the district, Mr. Ian Macfarlan, was in the chair.

On Monday, 20th inst., the biggest crowd that has attended a public meeting at Pakenham in years was visibly impressed by our young crusader's eloquence. Mr. Reg. Battersby, the president of the local branch, was in

A return visit to Gippsland was commenced on Tuesday, with a of going to press, reached us.

Meetings at Rosedale on Wednesday and Yallourn on Thursday

will be reported in our next issue.

–8 p.m.: Maffra, Mechanics' Hall. Wednesday, 29. —8 p.m.: Moe, Me-

Thursday, 30. —8 p.m.: Morwell, Ramsay Hall.

Sunday, 2. – unday, 2. —2.45 p.m.: Pleasant Sunday. Afternoon, Williams-

John reports the recent Western On Sunday last another en-

the chair.

meeting at Warragul, the report of which has not, up to the time

The following are John's next engagements: -

July-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 pm.: Pleasant Sunday Afternoon, Mechanics' Institute. 8.30 p.m.: Orbost Hall.

Monday, 27. —Morning: Lakes Entrance. Sale, 8 p.m.: Public Monday, 27. Meeting; Mayor to preside. Tuesday, 28.—8 p.m.: M

chanics' Hall.

August: -

Monday, 3.—8 p.m., Bacchus Marsh.

-City Lunch Hour Tuesday, 4.-Meeting. 8 p.m., Delphic Club. Wednesday, 5.—City Lunch Hour Meeting.

Thursday, 6. —Bendigo Rotary and

Friday, 7.—8.30 p.m., Prahran Town Hall. Saturday, 8.—State Conference. Sunday, 9.—3 p.m., P.S.A. at Ivan-

hoe Hall. 10.—8 p.m., Monday, Branch, Recreation Hall, Kew.

PROTEST AGAINST THE PRESS BOYCOTT!

MEMBERS, READERS, BRANCHES—write to the City Press protesting against the publicity boycott. John Hogan is breaking records for public meetings and en-thusiasm throughout the State. His age and personal achievements alone demand recognition by the accepted organs of publicity. Yet not a line appears. Monster meetings in suburbs and country towns and no mention in the City Press, even though reporters send in their matter. Send in a storm of letters from every part of the State in protest, demanding reasonable recognition of the work of this young Australian, demanding that the determination of his audiences be conveyed to the general public. BREAK THE PRESS BOYCOTT BY MAK-ING THEM REALISE THE STRENGTH OF AWAK-ENED PUBLIC OPINION.

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