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Vol. II. No. 31.

MELBOURNE, FRIDAY, JULY 31, 1936.

Every Friday, 3d

Conscription? What For?

The Old Men and The Brass Hats Are At It Again

On Tuesday of last week the Melbourne *Argus* published a leading article (which it repeated in substance last Monday) demanding that conscription be immediately reimposed in Australia, and stressing that no new legislation is required for this purpose. "The Scullin Ministry 'suspended' compulsory training by administrative act; the Lyons Ministry could restore it by administrative act."

The *Argus* article was as puerile (or senile) in its logic as would be expected from that quarter. Tracing the recent history of the voluntary system of training and discussing the latest effort in that direction, it pointed out that the attempt to get even 35,000 recruits has for some time fallen down by about 25 per cent. —"Thus the plan now announced must be regarded as the latest link in a chain of endeavours to accomplish a dispiriting task . . . Voluntarism has had more than a fair trial, and it has failed." That only something under 30,000 youths and young men out of our population of 6¾ millions have been attracted to military training, whether by their own choice, their parents' choice or persuasion, the cajoleries of Archie Parkhill and his merry men, or the daily newspapers' exhortations, would seem to indicate to us ordinary folk that the people of Australia are not nowadays over-enthusiastic towards the idea of military training, so-called. The *Argus*, however, drew a different conclusion, and said "there is no evidence that the people as a whole who supported the system" (of compulsory training) "a quarter of a century ago have changed their minds." What models of consistency we are! But the *Argus* may have forgotten that a war has taken place in the meantime in which 60,000 young Australians who were induced to enlist were murdered to make the world safe for the financiers. It may also have overlooked what happened when the question of conscription was twice raised by referendum.

The views of the *Argus*, as views, you may say, do not matter much. This is quite true, and it has been borne out amply within the last few weeks by the inglorious figures of its own position, which added to the history of the recently defunct *Star*, show pretty conclusively how worthy of support the community thinks it. Still, the *Argus* has often been used in the past as the channel for communicating to us the views (or commands) of those who really rule Australia, and there are solid grounds for thinking that this is so at the present time rather than that it is advocating conscription in accordance with the instructions of its own new directorate. We can hardly imagine, for instance, Sir George Fairbairn, in his eighty-second year, thinking much about anybody's death but his own; nor, again, if *Who's Who* has Mr. George Dalziel Kelly's record correctly, should he be a conscriptionist, since that publication makes no mention of his war service, but relates that 1920 he was a station manager in Victoria (in 1915 Mr. Kelly was 24 years of age.)

LORD HUNTINGFIELD GOES OUTSIDE HIS OFFICE

That the *Argus* was conforming with high policy seemed to be

borne out further by an extraordinary speech made by the Governor of Victoria on the following day. Lord Huntingfield, who was opening the annual conference of the Returned Soldiers' League, appealed to the delegates to throw themselves unreservedly behind the movement to "close up the ranks" and build up the defence forces. Lord Huntingfield, as reported, did not exactly threaten conscription in so many words. "It is up to the younger generation," he said—the same generation, which he advised a few weeks ago to "keep their pecker up," although the best Australia could offer them was unemployment and destitution. "You, their fathers," he proceeded, "have done your part, and it is for them to uphold the voluntary system under which you fought." You may or may not draw further conclusions. The best that can be said of Lord Huntingfield's speech is that it was in exceedingly bad taste. In this going on a Federal party's recruiting platform this State Governor himself admitted that he was "going somewhat outside the functions of my office." And what a place he took to do it! An assembly of men who have seen, not military training merely, but military service. Men who were promised, when they left for the war, that nothing would be too good for them on their return. And men whose annual conferences for years past have had to deal with agenda almost entirely concerned with poverty resolutions. Farmers whose "extravagant" claims (as was seen the previous day) would be satisfied with the opportunity to

earn £150 a year for themselves and their families. City workers who are lucky if they have security even in the basic wage. Fathers who cannot find jobs for their sons. The heroes of defence! These, of all men, are the ones whom this gentleman from Government House invites to push the youth of Australia into joining "a force for the defence of their homes and their country." What homes! And whose country?

JOIN THE ARMY

YOUR CHANCE TO
SEE THE WORLD

—If Not This
One, the Next

This space has been donated by
The New Times to assist the
recruiting campaign.)

To be sure, the Returned Soldiers' Conference did proceed to pass a resolution, on a show of delegates' hands, in favour of conscription. But it has to be remembered, first, that a show of hands in that assembly did not necessarily indicate a majority of the League's members; as was pointed out in conference, 11 of the delegates present represented 6400 members,

while 171 others represented only 5380. Again, the League itself contains only a minority of Victoria's returned soldiers, and it is a fair assumption that the majority who are not members are so either because they are completely disillusioned about everything pertaining to war or because they are too poverty-stricken to pay their membership fees. In either case would they be likely to vote for conscription? And even if they did, as the overwhelming majority of them would be the first to admit, their votes in the matter are entitled to no precedence whatever over those of any other citizens.

THE OLD WAR HORSE SNORTS AGAIN.

Last week also old William Morris Hughes—who likewise is almost two years beyond the allotted three score and ten—once again discovered that "we must do something to justify our occupation of this country." As far as Mr. Hughes himself is personally concerned, we fully agree with him! He has had all the years since 1884 to do so, and he cannot reasonably expect many more.

"No country in the world needs defence more than Australia," continued this ancient fire-eater. And he proceeded to prove it by saying that "about the Polish Corridor were gathered all the elements of the potential starting point of a European war. If Germany were permitted to 'gobble up' Austria she would assuredly not rest content with that. If Germany moved against Austria, Czecho-Slovakia, or the Corridor, there would be war, and war on a grand scale, which

would envelop the whole world in its burning mantle. The Empire would once again be fighting desperately for its existence, and common prudence suggested that Australia ought to be prepared to play its part in that titanic struggle, which it could not avoid. If it came, no country had so much to lose as had Australia."

We quote old Mr. Hughes at more length than his words deserve simply because his language is typical of those *non-combatants* who are crying out most loudly for "conscription" and "defence" today. "No country had so much to lose as had Australia"—is it not time the dotard was retired on a second pension? What about his litany of countries round the Polish Corridor where, presumably, his war on a "grand" scale would be waged—would they have less to lose than we should? And how much, anyway, as things are, would the great majority of Australians stand to lose if the worst happened? Besides, Mr. Hughes is flagrantly dishonest in trying to persuade us that "the Empire would be fighting desperately for its existence." What does "Empire" mean in his mouth? Does he mean that the four hundred or so races who inhabit the Empire, or British Commonwealth of Nations, would be threatened with physical extinction? Or even that the 40 million people of Britain, of whom half today are so poor as to have insufficient food, would be worse off? Or does he merely mean that the little gang of financiers who rule "the City" and "the Empire" would be in danger of losing some of their unjust power and their ill-gotten profits? If the latter, should we be rushing to defend them again, as in 1914, or should we not rather rejoice for ourselves and for humanity?

JAPAN.

The most significant, and the most alarming part of all this latest furore of "preparedness" talk is the sudden silence that has descended upon a topic, which used to be in the forefront.

Which of our public men in Australia, who for a generation have been obsessed by the Yellow Peril, is saying anything these days about Japan as the enemy in the coming war?

Do you remember how friendly "we" became to Germany just before the last war? Do you remember the four stages: first, exasperation and vituperation at her successful trade competition; second, the Dreadnought programme; third, a seemingly clear sky; fourth, war? History repeats itself.

The Melbourne *Herald* of 23rd inst. had a four-column heading on its front page (not that that means anything much), entitled: "Hopes For Trade Treaty." "Japan's Stand Easier." The article, which followed, said, "There are clear indications that the trade dispute will be amicably settled . . . The relations between the two countries are more friendly than at any time since the trade reprisals began." In spite of this preliminary palaver, what actually emerged was that (i) whereas Japan intended to ask for a suspension of the licensing regulations in so far as they affected her supply to us of Christmas goods, "no such concession, however, will be made by the Government"; (ii) in

*The President and Members,
Returned Soldiers' League,
Victoria.*

Dear Sirs,

Has it occurred to any of you to analyse the contents of the business agenda, which came up for discussion at your annual conference last week? In all, there were 175 items listed, and they divided themselves into two classes:—

1. There were matters dealing with the formalities of conference, with technical amendments to your rules, and with the three questions of defence, the Shrine of Remembrance arrangements, and Anzac Day observance. These comprised over 100 items.

2. The remaining items, about 70, concerned what may be called the every day or individual affairs of the returned soldier, and on a count we estimate that 68 of these agenda items dealt with monetary matters, and that almost every one of them was what might be called a poverty resolution!

Here are some of the subjects:—Pension cuts; pensions for disabled soldiers and for their widows and children; deductions from sustenance pay while in hospital, provision of headstones for the graves of ex-soldiers who have died in indigence; payments in connection with ex-soldiers who have committed suicide; payments to those suffering from diseases incurred as the result of irregular living "CONCOMITANT TO WAR SERVICE" (hardly a wise choice of words in view of all this patriotic talk of conscription?); reduced fares for ex-soldiers' demonstrations; payment for Anzac Day; a home for aged and destitute ex-service men; the writing off of arrears on War Services Homes; reduction in the price of Poppy Day tokens on account of falling receipts. And there were other similar topics.

All these things, if you look into them, indicate quite clearly that the major problem confronting returned

soldiers at present is FINANCIAL poverty. And that this poverty is only financial and not real or physical is also evident, since your resolutions concerned themselves, not with THINGS, but with FIGURES. Your only, references to jobs, for instance, were demands that your members should get them in preference to other people—that is to say, your viewpoint was not the getting of things done, but the obtaining of a money income.

Yet, when three motions were submitted to your conference dealing with the general question of money incomes—the tuning fork that regulated the pitch of all these proceedings—what did you do? When Burwood and Box Hill sub-branches stressed that interest charges and loss of equity, through reduction of capital values were the great obstacles to payment for War Service Homes—bringing to your notice also the displacement of men (and therefore incomes) by machinery; and when these two sub-branches and Coburg sub-branch tabled resolutions for monetary reform, what did your members do? THEY REFERRED THE MOTIONS BACK TO SUB-BRANCHES FOR FURTHER CONSIDERATION AND RE-SUBMISSION NEXT YEAR! Next year, without doubt, there will again be the annual crop of poverty resolutions—more suicides, more candidates for the old men's home, more destitute men, women and children tossed into the discard, while your country, simply, because the people cannot buy their own produce, is fighting more keenly than ever for foreign markets. During the war of twenty years ago you men showed great endurance, great courage in attack, and great initiative. Would you be offended if we suggest that, in view of your attitude towards poverty (the result) and the private money monopoly (the cause), you seem to have retained only the first of these qualities?

THE NEW TIMES

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DOUGLAS SOCIAL CREDIT BOOKSHOP. 166 Lt. Collins St.

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GINGER JAR CAFE, 238 Flinders Lane (4 doors from Swanston St.). Best 3-course meal in city.

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QUICK SERVICE TOBACCO KIOSK, Equitable Place. Buy your Smokes here!

TAILOR, Dependable Suit for 130/-. P. Whitcroft, next Newspaper House.

TAILOR, High Class; H. Stackpoole, Lang Arc. Off 333 Lonsdale St.

(Continued on page 3)

framing any trade treaty, the Commonwealth will make no departure from its policy of trade diversion; and (iii) the treaty discussions will chiefly centre on artificial silk and cotton piece goods, but if any modification is made by the Commonwealth "it will only be slight."

That the Herald should prefix these hostile items with the friendly declarations above would seem to argue either that its news editors were inebriated or that they were working to instructions, and that those instructions were to keep up the pretence of friendship with Japan until the last minute—as was done with Germany in 1914.

Let this view may sound unduly alarmist, let us quote from an extremely conservative journal, the London Economist.

WHAT THE ECONOMIST SAID.

In its issue of June 13 the Economist made two editorial utterances on the Japanese question that are remarkable for their candour. The first was in an article headed, "Alarums in the Far East." After dealing with the internal strife in China and Japan's probable intervention the Economist said: "A recrudescence of armed conflict, at this stage, between South and Central China might thus greatly hasten the establishment of a Japanese domination over China as a whole. This would probably be followed by a collision between Japanese political and British commercial interests in China, south of the Yangtze. Week by week the instability of the Far Eastern situation increases. It is becoming difficult to see how we ourselves can avoid a violent conflict of interests—in which once more British power and prestige will be searchingly tested."

The Economist's second reference was in an article, "China and the Investor," which began: "The Rising Sun is throwing a lengthening shadow over the Chinese bond market." Going on to relate how Japanese-assisted smuggling had "depressed" all Chinese loans secured by liens over the Customs revenue, the Economist noted a new railway loan "issued in Shanghai entirely on its own merits, without collateral security . . . If," it said, "economic factors alone were relevant, investors might well accept the invitation . . . But in view of this week's news"—i.e., the matters we have referred to in the previous paragraph—"can the b..... view ultimate prospects with complete confidence? Time and again, China has assimilated her invaders. But treaty ports and railway loans are a sufficiently modern innovation in her centuries-old civilisation still to require the backing, in the last resort, of guns. And will the guns be British?"

While it is surprising to find the Economist so outspoken, one must bear in mind that its columns are not for popular consumption. It is purely a financial organ for financially minded people, and it usually discusses matters, not from the popular viewpoint, but from a realistic stand—that is, realistic in so far as they concern bondholder

"WILL THE GUNS BE—?"

The Economist is now openly confirming what the New Times has been trying to make the Australian people realise. "It is becoming difficult to see how we ourselves can avoid a violent conflict of interests"—"we" here meaning the British-domiciled bankers—Montagu Norman and his bondholders—since obviously the underfed British people have no more real concern in China than they had in Abyssinia. But Chinese railway loans, and the rest of the financiers' ramp, still require the backing, in the last resort, of guns. And will the guns be British? Will the guns be Australian? Are the next Australian Imperial Forces destined to go north? And thus encourage Japanese aeroplane carriers and bombers to come south?

The Argus demands immediate conscription for defence? The Commonwealth Constitution merely says that

"the Parliament shall, subject to this Constitution, have power to make laws for the peace, order and good government of the Commonwealth with respect to— . . . (vi) the naval and military defence of the Commonwealth and of the several States, and the control of the forces to execute and maintain the laws of the Commonwealth." Some say this excludes power to conscript men for service abroad. Some deny it, and say that the best method of defence may be attack. (In this connection, as illustrating the Prime Minister's mind, he threw upon Japan the entire responsibility for his attack upon Japanese imports—a "defensive" measure!) If we remember aright Attorney-General Menzies, when asked recently in London whether the Federal Parliament could constitutionally conscript men for overseas service without a referendum, was reported to be noncommittal. The same gentleman also said in London last month that the power and security of Great Britain were, in the

DOUGLAS CREDIT MOVEMENT OF VICTORIA

Quarterly Conference

Branch delegates and all interested are reminded of the Quarterly Conference to be held on August 8, at the Club Rooms, Block Arcade, Melbourne.

The morning session (for delegates only) will begin at 11.30 sharp.

In the afternoon a Convention will be held in Nicholas Hall, Nicholas Buildings, Swanston Street, at 2 o'clock.

All members of the Movement and supporters are cordially invited to attend this important Convention.

Stirring addresses will be delivered by leading members of the Movement and the People's Movement to Abolish Poverty. At the evening session (for delegates only) recommendations from the afternoon convention and agenda items will be dealt with.

Branch secretaries who have not already done so are urged to forward the names of their delegates and agenda items without delay.

S. Newman, State Secretary.
G. R. Trenoweth, State Organising Secretary

strictest sense, vital to the existence and security of all the Dominions.

THE BEST DEFENCE PROGRAMME

So there you have the hell's cauldron brewing with a strong fire under it. Every recent move—and not least the new tariff—has meant an adding to the fuel. When the pseudo-British financiers come into what the Economist calls "violent conflict" with Japan, when the last resort of guns is called for, it seems inevitable, although it is against our every interest, that Australia will again be there.

Unless—YOU show determined opposition NOW. And the best way to display it is to impress upon your member of Parliament—your servant—that you demand the immediate resumption of friendly relations with our good customers and former allies, the people of Japan. Such a course is not only in our immediate interests—it is the cheapest and most efficient of all imaginable defence policies. Do this, and you can leave old Mr. Hughes to chase himself up and down Polish Corridors without any loss of sleep.

HERE IS YOUR CHANCE TO HEAR HIM JOHN HOGAN At the PRAHRAN TOWN HALL FRIDAY AUGUST 7 At 8.30 p.m

THE PEOPLE'S MOVEMENT TO ABOLISH POVERTY (BY NON-PARTY POLITICAL ACTION.)

Victorian Campaign Notes

Box Hill.

Workers have been initiated in the technique of the Campaign and the first batch of pledge forms has been issued. The next meeting will be held on Thursday, August 6, and it is confidently expected that good results will be reported on that date.

The Electoral Campaign is the biggest and most vital task that Social Crediters have yet undertaken, and it is not merely desirable but imperative that complete success be achieved quickly; in fact, it is not too much to say that the future of civilisation depends on our present efforts. Social Crediters, more than other people, perhaps, should realise this.

More workers are urgently needed at Box Hill. Will those members of the Box Hill branch who have not yet volunteered for canvassing service, please regard this notice as a personal call to attend the next meeting and actively assist in the great fight for freedom?

Fairfield.

The Campaign in this district is under the supervision of Mr. Hicks, who is engaged in an endeavour to secure a large number of workers in order to expedite the collection of signatures in his district.

Hawthorn.

This district reports the appointment of Mr. Dawe as District Supervisor, and has commenced operations by a distribution of leaflets showing the absurdity and criminal folly of allowing poverty to exist in the midst of plenty.

Essendon.

Mr. A. C. Brown has been appointed district supervisor for Essendon and operations in this district are to be undertaken shortly.

Bentleigh.

Mr. George, District Supervisor, reports satisfactory progress in recruiting canvassers for the great work ahead. These workers are immediately commencing their self-imposed task.

Thorpdale.

Mr. Hotchkin, District Supervisor, has already obtained a goodly number of signatures and reports that prospects in his district are very promising. Mr. Hotchkin's efforts should be considerably aided since the recent formation of an

enthusiastic Douglas Credit branch at Trafalgar.

Port Melbourne.

Due mainly to the work of Mrs. Barty, returns in this locality continue to show most satisfactory progress.

Middle Park.

Canvassing commenced last week and electors here, as elsewhere, show a readiness in signing the Parliamentary form.

Batman.

A test canvass in Batman was made during the week. Mr. Wilson selected for the experiment a street in which most of the electors were paying rent, obtaining 96 per cent success from the houses canvassed. Mr. Knott chose a short street containing 17 houses, the occupiers for the most part being owners, and collected 40 signatures from 16 houses, drawing a complete blank from the seventeenth. Similar successful tests are reported from other parts of the electorate, the details of which are not yet to hand. The opinion expressed in many quarters that the people are waiting to

"Not once in the course of its Imperial history has Great Britain been attacked. Every one of our 150 wars has been a war of intervention—intervention on behalf of private capitalist interests. Intervention is another word for aggression; and re-armament for aggression is the simple policy of the British Government." —"Reynolds News." June 21, 1936.

sign the pledge is amply confirmed in Batman.

The results in Batman are the best obtained so far.

It cannot be over-emphasised that the more workers that can be induced to join in the Campaign the easier becomes our task, and the sooner we shall reach our objective—the abolition of poverty and distribution of the National Dividend. This is not the time to sit back. Everyone not afflicted with dumbness should shoulder their responsibilities and volunteer immediately for active service in this greatest of all campaigns.

It is requested, to save inconvenience to all concerned, that all communications concerning the campaign be addressed to People's Movement to Abolish Poverty, Box 621, G.P.O., Melbourne.

ELECTORAL CAMPAIGN

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

WE WILL ABOLISH POVERTY

Elector's Demand and Undertaking

1. I know that there are goods in plenty, so that poverty is quite unnecessary.
2. I want, before anything else, poverty abolished.
3. I want, too, national dividends distributed to me and every Australian so that we can buy all we want of the goods that are now destroyed and the production that is restricted.
4. These dividends must not increase prices or taxes or deprive owners of their property or decrease its relative value.
5. In a democracy like Australia, Parliament exists to make the will of the people prevail.
6. 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.
7. If the present M.P. here won't undertake this I will vote for some other party, and keep on changing until my policy has been achieved.

Signed

Signed

Address

Note.—In answer to requests the space for signatures has been increased to enable two residents at the same address (such as husband and wife) to sign the one form. Further forms may be had on application to The People's Movement to Abolish Poverty, Box 621, Melbourne, C.1.

(Signatures will be treated confidentially.)

STOP ALL THIS EATING!

By YAFFLE, in Reynolds News

*Old Mother Hubbard went to the cupboard
To get her poor dog a bone,
But when she got there the cupboard was so full of food
That she threw it all into the fire to save prices from falling.
I don't know what happened to the dog.*

—OLD ENGLISH BALLAD.

A ninety-years-old man has been eating live frogs every day for 70 years. He says an Indian doctor told him it would keep him free from all diseases.

A woman of 68 has lived for the last 56 years on nothing but salt and water, and has never had a day's illness during that time. She says it is the result of studying Yogi philosophy.

A woman who has just died at 104 was once despaired of by doctors for eating the wrong food. Recently she said the secret of her longevity was plenty of meat, beer and wine.

A London society woman who has just celebrated her seventy-fifth birthday attributes her remarkable strength and vigour to vegetarian diet and abstinence from intoxicants.

* * *

That being so—and I saw it all in the papers, so it must be—ought we to make such a fuss simply because someone writes a book saying that 20,000,000 people in Britain are underfed? Obviously, it is all a matter of the state of the soul.

Universal astonishment has been caused by the information that the insufficiency of food is mainly a

HOW SOCIAL CREDIT GROWS.

The Social Credit Press, 166 Little Collins Street, Melbourne, has just received the following letter from Pretoria:—

"Re 'The People's Rights' by Rev. Stuart Roach.

"As there is very little known of Social Credit amongst the Dutch section of the population of South Africa, I wish to inquire whether you are prepared to grant the writer permission to translate the above booklet into Afrikaans with a view to publication in serial form in this or any other Church paper, and the further dissemination in reprint form . . .

"The writer is also editor of 'The South African Farmer,' the official organ of the Transvaal Agricultural Union, and has featured Social Credit articles during the last three years; these, however, appeared in English . . .

*"K. BAKKERUS,
"Manager,*

"Die Kerblad" (Official Organ of the Reformed Church of South Africa)."

matter of insufficient income.

Few scientific discoveries have created such a profound stir as the startling assertion that if people haven't any money to spend, they don't spend it.

I hear that a prominent professor is now engaged in investigations by which he hopes to prove statistically that working-class women never buy food without money.

It is true that for years other, non-scientific people, such as the Labor party, have been saying that the workers haven't enough money. But that wasn't a scientific opinion. We had only the workers' word for it.

In these scientific days no one will believe that a worker is poor until he has been analysed by experts and turned into part of a percentage.

THRIFT.

To the ordinary citizen it may seem a simple matter to give the masses more money to spend. He will say, in his ignorance, "If we can produce meat and veg, why can't we produce the money to buy them?"

But if everybody had enough money there would be no

Thrifty, and thrift has always been recognised as one of the greatest national virtues.

Now, thrift means saving money. As any Chancellor of the Exchequer will tell you, it is a Government's first duty to save money. This Government has done it very well. In fact, what is rudely called "malnutrition" is really a perfect example of national thrift.

Again, people ask why, in these days, when we know how to produce as much as we want, we should choose this very time to limit the diet of the workers to something that looks like a convalescent earwig's breakfast.

It should be clear to the meanest intelligence that in these days of abundance we cannot afford to eat much. And if you haven't a mean intelligence, borrow one from the nearest economist.

Any increase in the fruits of the Earth upsets the price levels, thereby proving that Mother Earth is no lady. And one of the first things for working-class children to learn is that the reason why they cannot have enough to eat is that there is too much.

The main discussion today is how to feed people in the cheapest way. We don't ask a man what he would like; we give him what is cheapest.

And in the event of not being able to produce a worker without a stomach, we shall try and invent one without a palate.

THE CARNAL AGE

Before the age of Progress our fathers ate what they liked because they liked it. It was all very carnal. What you have to realise is that we now live in a more refined age. Today, we do not eat to live; we eat to balance the Budget.

In days when food was not so easy to produce, men ate more. Our fathers regarded a meal as something to get outside of, and they didn't think they had had enough until their back teeth were under.

But the modern study of dietetics has taught us that food is a dangerous substance. The educated classes, from which our rulers are drawn, approach every meal with a sense of foreboding. Instead of saying grace before meals, they offer up a prayer for a safe passage.

We read pamphlets giving lists of fatal diseases caused by eating meat and the evil effects of fried potatoes on the character. Jam roll is held up as one of the causes of the increase of juvenile crime.

Instead of happily discussing what is nice to eat, women spend whole afternoons telling each other what they have knocked off.

Bread, once regarded as the staff of life, now rears its menacing head as the demon Starch; the general idea being that a couple of slices over the eight turns the walls of the stomach into a dress shirt front, and surrounds the pyloric vestibule with a stiff pair of cuffs.

Small wonder, then, that the British ruling class regards with equanimity the meantime abstinence of the masses. They think it tends to guard the workers' bodies from disease and their souls from sin.

From all dangers, which beset modern man, none is so great as food. In fact, I hear there is some talk of altering the Litany: "From sudden death and pestilence, starch and protein, good Lord deliver us!"

DID YOU KNOW WE'VE HAD A BOOM?

"There are the clearest indications that the present boom has reached maturity, and prudent persons will prepare for a change, which may come soon."

--The London "Economist," quoted in Melbourne "Herald" of July 27.

WOMEN AND POPULATION

By LEONORA POLKINGHORNE.

A deputation of women teachers in Victoria recently approached the Minister with the modest request that for the future promotions in the service might be made on the basis of efficiency only, and not of sex. The reply of the Minister was, "A bachelor woman may go as far as she likes, but she will not have babies, and population is what we need, so promotion will be considered from that point of view."

The secretary of the group asked if she might have leave to speak, and, that being graciously accorded, she said, "When a man has a wife and children, they are assets, but when a single woman has dependents they are usually aged, infirm or otherwise helpless, therefore they are not assets, but liabilities." Silence followed that remark.

We see at once by this incident how fortunate Victoria is in possessing a Minister who can rise above the mere ordinary and accepted method of promotion by deservicing, and take a flight into those

lofty regions occupied by the house-painter of Germany and the miner's son of Italy. What is mere abstract justice compared with the noble concepts of race-preservation? But while humbly agreeing with the undesirability of bachelor women having babies, one might venture to point out to our Fuhrer or Duce that there is just a modicum of doubt as to what we want these babies for.

THE EXPERTS.

"The banks' position is less liquid compared with a year ago, and reflects THE TENDENCY TOWARD FINANCIAL STRINGENCY AS INDICATED BY HARDENING OF INTEREST RATES GENERALLY."

—"Argus" financial editor, July 18.

* * *

Evidence before Monetary Commission, July 23:—

Professor Hytten (economic adviser to Bank of New South Wales).—"The trend of interest rates in the near future is likely to continue upwards."

Mr. J. P. Abbott.—"Why do you expect interest rates to rise?"

Professor Hytten.—"It is almost a natural thing to expect IN A PERIOD OF RECOVERY."

lofty regions occupied by the house-painter of Germany and the miner's son of Italy. What is mere abstract justice compared with the noble concepts of race-preservation? But while humbly agreeing with the undesirability of bachelor women having babies, one might venture to point out to our Fuhrer or Duce that there is just a modicum of doubt as to what we want these babies for.

WHY HAVE BABIES?

Of course, in the countries of his emulation, it is perfectly clear. The hungry cannon disposes of them, but it is to be doubted whether it is really necessary to have more people on the dole liable to form processions to Parliament House. It has such a depressing effect on emigrants for one thing, and they are another source of population, we must remember. We must have emigrants, you know. All the Tory Premiers say so.

Why, do you ask?

Well, if Britain can't feed these people, someone must. It is a fair exchange, too—we give her our trade, and she gives us her unemployed. Reciprocity, you see. In 1914-18 we gave her the lives of 60,000 men, and she gave us a nice big war debt in return. Quite a crop of other troubles came out of that as well, to be sure. There was the repatriation mess. We placed those who came back on wheat areas and fruit blocks, and now see what has happened. After making a beautiful marketing scheme, whereby we got rid of large quantities of dried fruit—at

tarred and feathered, and ducked in the river. Beware, Mr. James! So do we want population? While the loaf shrinks in size, must we have more to share it? What do you think, Mr. William Morris Hughes? You are so keen on the idea of more babies, what constructive suggestion have you offered for feeding them when they come? So hang on to your jobs, ladies, and stop considering whether you will after all have to take Mr. Smith with the buck-teeth, or Mr. Jones who unfortunately has a squint, for after you have decided to overlook these drawbacks, and taken either, you may find after all that you cannot afford to have any babies, for it is no use populations increasing when markets are shrinking, so Il Duce Harris may be wrong after all.

WHEN THE BABIES GROW UP.

With humble respect, will Herr, Signor, no, I mean Dr. Harris tell us what we are going to do with them when they grow up? Shall we put them on more fruit-blocks, or get them to raise more wheat? Though the financial condition of the wheat farmer has not been so rosy, he can always pray for a New Deal or a drought or cyclone in America. Why not? A lecturer told us recently that all the little Californians are brought up to hate the wicked Australians who ruin the Californian market for dried fruits. Because of the way the foolish Australians ignored the sound economic rule" of scarcity, and produced so much fruit, the Californians were forced to do as we did, and make a levy on the home consumer. In this district, the people were told that they must pay a fixed price for their dried fruit, to help cover export losses, and to buy to the limit of their purchasing power. They all agreed, but, as with James, one (driven by hard necessity, for they were all very poor) sold in one instance at a lower figure than the agreed one. He was stripped, soundly beaten.

THE STORY OF THE PALESTINE MANDATE

The Balfour Declaration had been made at one of the darkest periods of the war. The French Army had mutinied, the Italian Army was on the verge of collapse, the United States had hardly started preparing in earnest, the Russians were just walking out. They came to the conclusion that it was vital that they should have the sympathies of the Jewish community. It was vital to secure the sympathy and co-operation of that remarkable people. The Jews were helpful both in the United States and in Russia.

—Lloyd George, in the British House of Commons, June 19.

* * *

What did "that remarkable people" have that was so vital? Munitions? Manpower? Food supplies?

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SECTION 2

(Continued from page 2.)

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Things You Should Know About the Near East

While our daily press and a certain section of our politicians consistently remind us that our fate is bound up in world happenings, it is remarkable how little insight they attempt to give us into such of those happenings as may involve the British Commonwealth—or, if you will, the pseudo-British financiers, and therefore, as things are, the people of Australia. As we emphasised recently, the present hostilities in Palestine are a case in point. That country, promised to the Jews in return for their financial (i.e., book-keeping) support in the World War, is daily becoming the scene of worse atrocities carried out in the name of a League of Nations mandate—drawn up by London Jews and under which the Arabs were entirely ignored—as more and more Jews are officially and unofficially brought in to displace the Arabs.

At a meeting of the Near and Middle East Association in London last month, under the chairmanship of Sir Ernest Bennett, M.P., it was pointed out that in 1918 Palestine had 53,000 Jews. By 1931, through open immigration, these had increased to 175,000, and in 1933 the High Commissioner himself announced that the figures of illicit immigration were about equal to those of the legal influx. Not unnaturally the Arabs, seeing themselves destined to become shortly a powerless minority, and finding their peaceful protests unheeded, have adopted the last measures they know. As an Arab speaker told the meeting—Arab speakers in London, unlike Abyssinian spokesmen, are not reported by our local press—"even under the rule of the Turks we enjoyed self-government. We had our local councils and members in the Chamber of Deputies in Constantinople. Today we shall be lucky

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to get municipal franchise only. We have been appealing to the Western World and to Britain in particular for the last eighteen years, but nothing has been done." The Arabs also complain that the Jews are deliberately boycotting Arab labour, that the figures of unemployed given by the Secretary of State for the Colonies are false, that the roads connecting the Arab villages are neglected, that their schools are insufficient, that the Departments of Immigration and Agriculture are monopolised by Jews, and that the Jews are bringing in their Communistic doctrines, which are alien to the Arab people. At this same meeting Lord Lamington candidly stated that the Palestine mandate was invalid, and General Sir George MacMunn stressed the danger of widespread trouble in the East through the present policy of creating a landless proletariat. "There are 95 million Muslims in the Empire," he said, "and we must show some consideration for their feelings. The Jews cannot be allowed to drive people out of their own country." That active sympathy for the Palestinian Arabs is extending in the East, outside the Empire as well as within it, is becoming evident, in spite of the suppression of any news of this kind by the Palestine correspondents of the leading newspapers in London (and therefore in Australia), the same correspondents being mostly either Jews or English people who get their information from Jewish sources.

An instance of this support comes from Iraq, a country in which, as in Iran, the Jewish-British oil monopoly is vitally interested. From various bodies in that country strong protests have been made to Britain through the British Ambassador at Baghdad, who returns the stereotyped answer that they will be "forwarded to the proper quarter." Public collections are at present being made in Baghdad for funds to relieve "Arab victims," and the committee in charge of the appeal includes the wives of present and past members of the Iraq Cabinet. Subcommittees are being established in all the principal towns of Iraq. This indication of where the sympathies of the peoples of the Near East lie is very significant—for Near Eastern sympathy has a habit of very easily expressing itself in a physical and bloody manner.

The hatred of Britain—which is regarded as the instigator, as well as the protector of the Jewish invasion—will be further deepened by a course of economic action similar to what we are now seeing in Australia. It was on May 22, as you may remember, that the anti-Japanese tariff was tabled in the House of Representatives at Canberra. Was it a coincidence that on May 23 the Iraq Government (a Jewish-British financiers puppet) issued an amendment to its Customs Tariff with a similar design?

For some years Iraq had been taking more and more Japanese rayon and piece goods in place of the Lancashire product, until Japan had acquired a virtual monopoly of the trade. As it happened, the balance of trade between Iraq and Japan was overwhelmingly in the latter's favour (it is only by establishing such "favourable" balances that Japan has been able, through the international clearing house, to acquire funds in London to redress her "unfavourable" balance through her purchases of Australian wool—the London funds in turn being used by Australia to pay interest to the British bondholder). The anti-Japanese tariff imposed by the Iraq Government is therefore designed nominally to restore a fairer balance of Iraq trade, but it also specifically debars Japan from purchasing Iraq oil, of which the Anglo-Iranian Co., through its subsidiary, the Iraq Petroleum Co., last year produced 1,000,000 tons. It is suggested that Japan, if she wants to sell rayon to Iraq, should purchase dates—a commodity practically unknown to the Japanese!

It will readily be seen how important this move is to Australia, and how it fits into the London financiers' plot to ruin the Japanese. Our Australian "Government" debars Japan from establishing Australian credits through the sale of her produce to us. The Iraq "Government" debars Japan from establishing London credits. Thus at the same time Japan is unable either to sell her finished goods or to buy raw products—unless she likes dates. Doubtless, if she were to evolve a competitive synthetic product out of dates, these also would be blacklisted.

All these moves, as we have constantly pointed out, can have only one logical outcome—war. The economic war is being savagely pursued today. That military war must follow soon seems inevitable. And the power-drunk financiers, largely alien to Britain, who are misruling Britain and dictating to Australia, are now by their greed and stupidity coalescing against themselves and against Britain, in addition to their old enemies, the whole of Asia from the Near East to the Far East.

Australians should understand this, and understanding it should definitely warn their parliamentary servants that they will have nothing to do with overseas entanglements, no matter how "loyal" or "Imperial" these entanglements may seem to be.

The Two R.G.'s in a Salvation Duet

If any confirmation were needed of what we have just said, it is to be found in the observations on Tuesday of two of the most prominent of our alleged national leaders—R. G. Menzies, Federal Attorney-General, and R. G. Casey, Federal Treasurer.

Mr. Menzies, after the usual politician's preamble about "the world" being in a "tortuous, unhappy and dangerous state," told us that the condition of inter-

national affairs was "rotten." The difficulties, however, he said, were largely psychological; nations were afraid and suspicious, and had got into a diseased state of mind—particularly those countries "where democracy had died."

Mr. Casey pointed the moral, which the Attorney General's pacific record in our military history might have made it inexpedient for Mr. Menzies to express. Mr. Casey declared it was not possible to be a good Australian without being a good Imperialist, and so we must all arm to the teeth, and at once.

Regarding the qualifications of these two gentlemen to speak for the *people*, it will be remembered that both are users of the Hands-off-the-banks slogan; that Mr. Casey has publicly professed himself unable to understand the meaning of public credit, "unless it means inflation," and that all his personal and family connections are with the banking-industrial monopolists; while Mr. Menzies' record is one of greater success in appearing as an advocate for the Jewish-Dutch-British oil combine than in his appearance as an advocate for the Commonwealth. Hence it is hardly surprising to find them both trying to lead the people away from real issues into militaristic and "world" avenues. "We in Australia," said R. G. Menzies, "will have to do some furious thinking if we are going to make our contribution to the saving of the sanity of the world, the saving of Western civilisation with all that that implies." Why this fury over "Western" civilisation, the saving of the world, and the countries where "democracy has died"? Democracy in Australia, if it ever lived, is a more fragile plant even than "confidence," and neither of these two gentlemen, in spite of their lip service, has ever been seen watering or protecting the tender growth—far from it, as any student of their political history knows.

If these two men would abandon their swashbuckling and their "world" abstractions and get down to tinctures in Australia, they could do a real service for democracy and for peace. For a beginning, they might turn their energies to seeing that everyone in this country has sufficient of the food and clothing that abounds and of the shelter that can easily be provided—without increasing our national debt in doing so. This would be practical democracy, as well as being a better lead to the world than joining the international gunmen. We don't anticipate for a moment that they will do any such thing, but we can at least point out what a pair of humbugs they are.

"CAN GIFT MONEY BE CANCELLED?"

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

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

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BOOK REVIEWS

By W. BROWNLEY.

The New Economics, by Marten Cumberland and Raymond Harrison. Stanley Nott Ltd. Price, 4/-; postage, 3d. (From Social Credit Press, 166 Little Collins Street, Melbourne.)—Messrs. Nott are again to be congratulated upon placing *The New Economics* once more upon the market. It speaks for itself that the book, though first brought out in 1922, needed no revision for its second issue.

The aim and scope of the book is best described in the words of the Editors. In their foreword they state: ". . . There are now numerous books on Social Credit, but not one, we think, which prepares the way for the student by guiding him through the intricate maze of the present financial system, so that he has a clear idea of what it is he is out to reform. It is written for those who have no previous knowledge of economics, as well as for those who wish to have in handy form a clear resume of the principles and minutiae on which it rests."

When I say that the authors more or less successfully fulfilled their ambition, I have said all there is to say.

Distribute or Destroy, by Brynjolf Bjorset. Stanley Nott Ltd. Price, 6/-; postage, 4d. (From Social Credit Press, 166 Little Collins Street, Melbourne.)—This is an interesting book by an interesting person. The author is a civil engineer and world traveller, Norwegian. He is also a world traveller in economic literature. As the editor of the Norwegian *Technical Weekly* says, "This book is the first of its kind in the world." In some ways it resembles Hattersley's masterly book, *This Age of Plenty*, in that it makes a survey of the different schools of thought coming within the cover of the term "New Economics" which are not yet Social Credit. A citation of the chapters will give an indication of the scope of the book:—The Age of Plenty. The Free Economists (Swiss Physiocrats). An Energy Theory of Wealth (Soddy's). Technocracy. Social Credit. Stable Money. Some Norwegian New Economists. Comparisons. Conclusion.

Mr. Bjorset has endeavoured to be impartial in his presentation of the views of these persons and schools of thought, and he has exercised dispassionateness in his criticism, which is laudable. But it is doubtful whether such a method does not compel one to put into one's book much that is irrelevant. I cannot help thinking that the author might have been more successful in his intentions had he frankly stated his preference for Social Credit and criticised other schools of thought from that angle instead of seeking some ideal, and necessarily arbitrary angle of criticism.

It is an interesting book, and shows how Social Credit is becoming a force in every country throughout the world.

WAR AND THE MAN IN THE STREET

By EDGAR PLUMPTON.

Much prominence has been given in the last few days to the deplorable state of Australia's defences. Prodigious efforts are to be made to increase the citizen volunteer army from 27,000 to 35,000. Placards will appear on hoardings in the streets and on railway stations. Martial songs are being played over the air, and alluring photographs of drill halls and officers' messes have been published. Our famous war-time Prime Minister speaks from time to time on the troubled state of affairs abroad, painting highly coloured word pictures of war and its imminence—pictures of *twenty-five thousand hues!* Briefly, the war atmosphere is being created as fast as possible.

It may be that the recent failure of the League of Nations over the Abyssinian argument has made our rulers realise that war is imminent and inevitable, or it may be that the people who turn wars on and off, like gas at the main, have passed the word round that war has been arranged for the near future—possibly in the Pacific as well as in Europe. Whichever explanation is correct does not greatly matter. War is the sport of kings—munition kings, finance kings, industrial kings, and their hangers-on and mouthpieces. For them, war is a pastime infinitely more thrilling than the races, roulette or the Stock Exchange. Not only are the stakes higher, but the atmosphere of blood and cordite has an aesthetic attraction lacking in other sports, blood or otherwise.

CORDITE AT CLOSE RANGE.

To the man in the street, war is a different matter. For him, too, the stakes are great, for he risks the life, health and limbs of himself and his dependents. If he derives small aesthetic pleasure from the smell of blood (his own or someone else's) it is not surprising—and the smell of cordite is painfully acrid at close range.

The principal catch in the whole business is that he risks everything (little as it is) and gains something like the half of nothing—either a grave (which he would get anyway), or a prolongation of the undignified scuffle for existence conferred upon the citizens of our glorious Empire on which the sun never sets and the debts never cease. Ask the veterans of the first Great War, who were cheered, thanked and kissed when they came back again (as advertised), but for whom economic security is still a dope dream.

When war is turned on (the expression, "breaks out," suggests a spontaneity that does not fit the facts) the man in the street is expected to take part, on the assumption that his country is in danger and he should fight to protect it. Unfortunately the man in the street belongs to the large group of people who, as Sir James Elder recently pointed out, own but a negligible portion of the wealth of the country. Let us therefore be logical and admit that each citizen should render services in defence commensurate with the interest, which he has to defend. We may then expect that the front-line trenches in the threatened invasion of Australia will be manned by Collins House, the banks and the insurance companies, while the men on the dole should be at G.H.Q. (presumably at or near Alice Springs).

RALLYING TO DEFEND THE NATIONAL DEBT.

When exhorted to rally to the defence of his country the man in the street should calmly and carefully consider what exactly that means. Theoretically, each citizen is a co-owner, with all other citizens, of the wealth of the country. In practice nothing could be further from the truth. Each citizen at birth becomes automatically a co-debtor with all

other citizens in an interest-bearing debt, dishonestly alleged to be due to the financial monopoly, and many times greater than the total amount of money which has ever existed in the country. To put it bluntly, each citizen, so long as the present financial swindle continues, is born with few and mostly barren rights, and an inescapable and undischageable obligation. Should he ever be permitted to acquire any appreciable portion of the country's wealth, he must hold it in the form of movable, immovables or legally recognised rights, and the financial monopoly, through its secret control of governments, can, by medium of taxation, inflation and deflation, lawfully deprive him of his property rights in whichever form they are held.

Briefly, when war occurs, the man in the street is asked to venture the only, inalienable thing he has—his life—to defend an obligation which he inherited but did not incur, and, maybe, certain unimportant property rights of which he is in permissive occupancy only, and of which he can be deprived almost overnight.

War, regarded as a business proposition, is for the man in the street a hazardous investment, the maximum possible return from which is considerably less than the capital he is asked to subscribe. If we divest the prospectus of the patriotic blah, which concedes the true facts, we can see that war is as snide a proposition as was ever put over in a Yankee "bucket-shop."

COMIC OPERA MILITARISM

For the Australian this war business is especially interesting. We are told that we must assume the burden of home defence. We have a population of 6¾ millions and a continent the size of Europe (excluding the U.S.S.R.) to defend. As a rough estimate, we could put in the field about half a million men—mostly untrained, and largely graded about C.3. With a force like that, we could resist any onslaught from Monaco or Nicaragua—or perhaps even Switzerland, as we have a more powerful navy. Mr. Hughes described our defences as a lath painted to look like iron. He should have said a twisted peashooter painted to look like a '75. If you tune in to Japan, you can still hear the laugh that went up in Tokio when they heard of our proposal to increase the militia to 35,000.

Again, considering the matter dispassionately, it would need a population of 60,000,000 to make even a start at defending Australia. To attempt it with 6¾ millions is simply a comic opera situation, which brings the laugh it deserves—and not so hearty a laugh either, since the humour diminishes when you penetrate too far into the ludicrous.

If the people who own Australia, and control its money supply, and all the sources of real wealth, want their preserve guarded from outside poachers, it is clearly up to them to do their own dirty work. They have property rights to defend, while 90 per cent, of Australians have nothing, or what little they have is perpetually insecure, and liable to confiscation as, when and where the financial buccaneers decide. If a powerful invader arrives in Australia and displaces our present dictators, it is difficult to see how we of the street could be much worse off than we are now. It is perhaps laudable to be prepared to die in defence of ideals and traditions. It is less laudable to face death in defence of property. It is simply weak-minded to die in order to preserve, for the Sir Henry Morgans of high finance, the heritage of wealth, leisure and economic security, which our ancestors left in trust for us, and of which we have been defrauded.

TASMANIAN NOTES

By J. C. F.

A public meeting was held in the Lord Mayor's Reception Room, Town Hall, Hobart, on July 22 by the Hobart and District Douglas Social Credit Association. The President, Mr. J. C. Foley, who occupied the chair, in his introductory remarks drew attention to the signs of returning prosperity, due to the expenditure of loan money by governments. There was a boom in the building trade at the present time and the increased expenditure was providing the community with an addition to its purchasing power. The Social Credit Movement wanted to see this distribution of additional purchasing power put on a properly ordered basis, as under the present system booms were invariably followed by depressions. Reference was made to a recent Sunday afternoon broadcast from Melbourne on the slum question, in which an economist stated his agreement with Archbishop Mannix that the problem was one of income and suggested an additional income of 10/- per week to slum dwellers. This

necessary to keep on with the work of showing political leaders and the more thoughtful of our fellow citizens what Social Credit really means, and how it can be applied to banish poverty and the threat of war. The Labor party has some hazy idea that community control of credit will enable it to abolish poverty. The Tasmanian Labor party appears to be far in advance of its confreres on the mainland in its ideas as to how community control may be used to the best advantage, but it is still hanging back on essential principles and does not appear to have any idea of what the just price involves. We have consistently pointed out in these notes that although great things are expected of New Zealand, success cannot be expected until the Government there gets down to basic principles. So far there have been vague hints but no public utterance, which lead us to believe that they appreciate the real nature of the problem before them. The Social Credit Movement in New Zealand stated early this year that the fight for Social Credit was only just beginning. We in Australia likewise have a tremendous amount of work to do, not only in demanding the abolition of poverty but in indicating to our politicians and economists how it can be done. Mr. Carruthers' success in the last State election undoubtedly was one of the vital factors in causing Tasmanian Labor to advance in its ideas. The attitude of the Labor party in some of the other States is proof of this. The good work must continue. The Social Credit Movement should realise that no type of politician can be more welcome to the money monopoly than the man who knows little or nothing of the use and misuse of money. Surely we want men of intelligence to represent us in Parliament. It might also be questioned whether there is any difference between an unintelligent demand for the abolition of poverty and a child's request for the moon.

"IF FINANCE HAD PERMITTED-----"

"If finance had permitted, the school leaving age in Victoria would have been raised years ago, officials of the Education Department said yesterday,"
—Melbourne "Sun," July 25.

Was there a scarcity of materials to build schools?
Was there a scarcity of carpenters or bricklayers?

Was there a scarcity of teachers or these willing to become teachers?
Was there a scarcity of pupils?

Was there a scarcity of goods from the farms or factories to support all these?
NO!

Then why not build the schools, provide the teachers, educate the children, and write that problem off as finally settled?

Because finance does not permit. Finance — book-entry credit — the most easily supplied of all components. But finance is controlled by a private monopoly, instead of being controlled by the people and made available for the community's good. WHAT IS PHYSICALLY POSSIBLE POSSIBLE.—J. K. L.

might be regarded as a step towards the advocacy of a national dividend.

Mr. Carruthers stressed the increasing attention, which the Social Credit Movement was receiving on the mainland, and stated that people in the other States were looking to Tasmania to give the lead in Social Credit matters. Social Credit was no longer something which was laughed at; people were taking it seriously. He had found that bodies which a couple of years ago would not have listened to Social Credit advocates were now welcoming speakers on the subject.

In Melbourne he had seen unemployed people living in terrible conditions on the West Melbourne Swamp. The days had gone by when they could go on regarding the existence of poverty as a temporary condition, which would correct itself in time. He referred to many of his experiences in the other States and to the large public meetings, which he had addressed in Sydney, Brisbane and Adelaide, and to the kindness with which he was received in these and the many country centres which he visited.

A letter was read from the secretary of the South Australian Movement expressing his appreciation of the very effective work of Mr. Carruthers in that State.

We are pleased that Mr. Carruthers has had the opportunity of travelling around and making contact with other branches and with Members of Parliament and other prominent Australians. We understand that some good work has been put in, in many cases in removing difficulties to the understanding of Social Credit principles.

Mr. Carruthers' experience confirms the opinion held by some of our members that it is

reflect favourably on the Secretariat's knowledge of our local conditions. It does not appear to appreciate that our electoral system is entirely different from that of the British Isles or any of the other Australian States. In particular, it speaks of the abolition of poverty being the final objective of the Labor party, and of that party refraining from opposing Mr. Carruthers in the next election. We have already commented on the Labor party's ideas of abolishing poverty, and to suggest that it should refrain from putting up a candidate in opposition to Mr. Carruthers is nonsense. The official report of the general election of June, 1934, shows that the number of candidates which stood for six seats in Denison was: Seven Labor, one Independent Labor, six Nationalist and four Independent. The greatest number of seats any party could hope to win was four, so that the question of standing a candidate to oppose another does not arise. Three of the seven Labor candidates were returned and two of the six Nationalists. It is open to Labor to conduct a campaign in opposition to Social Credit, but this is recognised as an unwise policy, which we do not for a moment believe likely. We are in complete accord with the principle that all monetary reformers should stand shoulder to shoulder in the fight against the money monopoly, but this does not mean that we are prepared to sacrifice what we believe to be the only programme that is likely to be effective. It is our duty to go on instructing other parties in the principles of reform as far as we are able.

The alternative is to give up Social Credit altogether, which is unthinkable. Already, as a result of our discussion readopting the Electoral Campaign, there is a considerable amount of talk about town that Douglas Social Credit is dead. We cannot allow this to continue and the most effective means of countering it is to launch aggressive Social Credit propaganda.

Broadcasts are being continued on Sundays at 8.30 p.m. and encouraging reports are being received. Funds are needed for this work and subscriptions may be left care of Mr. Kellett, newsagent, Murray Street, or Mr. Partington's store, North Hobart.

The statement issued by the Social Credit Secretariat regarding Mr. Carruthers' position in standing, as a Social Creditor does not

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 visits of the Earl of Tankerville and the Dean of Canterbury, so as to ensure their 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 EMERGENCY. £1 NOW IS WORTH £10 NEXT YEAR. COME ON; INTO THE FIGHT. NO MORE STANDING OUTSIDE AND WATCHING US DO IT.

HEARTS AND CHARACTERS

By BRUCE H BROWN

Four weeks ago, in one of the articles dealing with the slums, reference was made to the statement of Archbishop Head as part of an address to the Rationalist Association on May 10. The statement he made was as follows:—

"There are two ways in which the evils of the world could be overcome, by force or by love. The Church stands for the second method . . . and that is achieved by working through men's characters—not by improving their physical and mental conditions. The Church stands for the belief that human nature can be changed. It is doing its best to change men's hearts." Coming from the official leader of the Anglican Church in Victoria, this is too important to be passed lightly. At the outset, his

THE WORLD'S WEALTHIEST EMPIRE

The National Birthday Trust Fund asked the College of Obstetricians to work out the best possible diet for expectant mothers (in South Wales) living on 5/- a week. They sent a detailed diet for 10/- a week, and added:

"The council has decided not to include a dietary at 5/- a week. No pregnant woman can be adequately nourished upon this expenditure, and the council feels that it should use its influence towards the raising of the available income rather than allow the name of the College to be associated with a dietary below the minimum requirement."

—London "Daily Telegraph," June 15.

assertion that evil can be overcome by force is opposed to actual experience and to the very words of God Himself, and if human testimony is required we have only to refer to the admissions and denunciations of such men as Frederick the Great, George Washington, the Duke of Wellington, General von Moltke, Napoleon, General Pershing, Sir Ian Hamilton, President Wilson, Viscount Cecil, and hosts of others. All the persons mentioned have shown beyond question that, internationally, force is a washout, as, indeed, our forefathers right back to the earliest recorded periods warned us that it *would* be. "He that leadeth into captivity shall go into captivity"; and "all they that take the sword shall perish with the sword."

Nationally also we find that the exercise of force does *not* overcome evils. We have all sorts and degrees of punishments for wrongdoers, but the wrongdoing goes on. In fact, it is increasing, despite the intensification of the forces, which are designed to prevent it. Murder, robbery and crimes of other descriptions are still prevalent, and must continue to be prevalent while we acquiesce in the present wicked conditions under which people are required to starve or to eke out the barest existence, with plenty all around them. Force is *not* a means for overcoming evil, but is itself an evil.

EVIL AND LOVE

And is it true that evil can be overcome by love? The glaring evils of the world arise out of material considerations, not sentimental affections. People are not dying for the want of love—they are dying for the want of food. St. Paul, in writing to Timothy, pointed out that "the love of money is the root of all evil." From this we see that *all* evil is associated with money, which, because of the fact that it not only gives access to the material things of this life, but actually controls the "value" of things, has actually become an all-powerful god. Food, as food, is always of the same "value," but it has to take second place to money, a mere symbol, which is manipulated so as to serve the interests of the people who control it, and who are therefore responsible for *all* the evils to which the world is subjected. It is not altogether fantastic to suggest that this money god, called Mammon, might even be the great

adversary referred to so often in the Bible. And yet when some of the leading churchmen are asked to consider this, their reply is: What do the men engaged in the management of the financial system say about it—i.e., bank directors, stockbrokers, and the like? That is the same as asking Ananias what he thinks of lying, or Satan what he thinks of sin! (Evidently this attitude of referring to the interested parties is not confined to the Anglican Church, for we see that the President of the Bankers' Institute of Australasia "has been prominent in the work of the Methodist Church of Victoria as a representative layman, and is treasurer of Wesley College and the Box Hill Grammar School.")

In Romans 13, verses 9 and 10, we may read, "Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. Love worketh no ill to his neighbour; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law." But so far as community needs are concerned this means practically nothing, for love neither produces goods nor manufactures the money tickets, which are necessary to effect their distribution. No matter how deeply I may love my wife and family, and no matter how hard I may work, the degree of comfort I can provide for then depends entirely on the quantity of money I can get, and the quantity of money I can get is determined by considerations which have no relation whatever to love. The same applies, of course, to my neighbour. With the best possible disposition toward him, I cannot manufacture the money he needs in order to secure the things without which he cannot live decently. It is true, perhaps, that I could manufacture the stuff quite as well as those now engaged on the job, but the trouble is that if I attempted to do so I would be arrested as a counterfeiter. This is the one thing in the production of which competition is not welcomed. It is a close preserve for the private banking monopoly.

As the result of this inability to help financially, many of our neighbours have been forced to move into less comfortable homes and more squalid surroundings. They still have just as much love for their children, but through lack of money tickets, for which they themselves are in no way responsible, they have had to take their growing youngsters into an atmosphere of destitution and depression. They cannot eat love, and it would make a poor covering in the shape of clothes, to say nothing at all of its usefulness as shelter from the weather. But, despite this, we are asked to believe that "the Church" looks upon it as the cure-all. We may "fulfill the law" by loving our neighbour, but that does not absolve us from blame if, as a community, we leave our neighbour in distress when we have an abundance of the things actually necessary to relieve his distress. And this is where Archbishop Head and his church are failing lamentably.

THE PLACE OF CHARITY

It is true that the Bible speaks approvingly of love, but much more glowingly of charity. Why has this great virtue found no place in Dr. Head's remedy for the world's evils? Read 1 Corinthians, chapter 13. I am not thinking of the so-called charity, which is used merely as a respectable cloak for parading personal vanity. (One of the rewards actually sought for it was entree to the Governor's levee!) When Jesus told the rich young man to sell all he had and give to the poor He was advocating practical help rather than love, telling us definitely that "working through character" is not sufficient, for this particular man was of excellent character and a devout worshipper.

Another important aspect that receives far too little attention is the significance of the injunction to the young man to convert what he had into *money* and to *GIVE THE MONEY* to the poor.

He did not say to give old clothes, old blankets, and other "old" things, as so many of our charity experts concern themselves with in these days. Far too little notice is taken of the positive part of the Christian religion. How is it possible "to work through men's characters" if we neglect the physical and mental conditions which mould characters? What sort of a character have we the right to look for in a man who, through no fault of his own, is forced into a physical condition of malnutrition and a mental condition of strain, torture and apprehension? Is not the body of man the "temple of God"? And is the temple of God something to be defiled and neglected, particularly when God freely provides all that is necessary for the proper care and maintenance of the temple?

FAITH AND WORKS

Good grounds for charges of more than mere neglect could be found in an attempt to reconcile the public attitude of Dr. Head with the Scriptural injunctions regarding faith and works, and also with the deplorable conditions which exist round about us. "The earth is the footstool of God," and "Faith without works is dead" . . . "Jesus went about *doing* good, and *healing* all manner of sickness and

THE COUNTRY AND THE ANTI-JAPANESE TARIFF.

"Perth, Monday. —Primary producers in this State are alarmed at the new tariff and trade policy of the Commonwealth Government. . ."

"The following motions have been passed by the executive of the Centre Group of South Australia: "That this council deplores the action of the Federal Government in taking precipitate action in introducing the new tariff without due regard for the interests of our main exporting primary industries, and urges that the Federal Parliament be immediately called together to consider the position, and tariff schedule. "That this council congratulates the Central Council of the U.C.P. of Victoria in its efforts to secure the withdrawal of the Federal Country Party members from the Lyons Government, which has shown such lack of sympathy with the primary industries of the Commonwealth. . ."

"Murmurings of discontent, which were manifest at the announcement of the Federal Government's tariff proposals, have swollen in volume, and today are reverberating throughout the whole of the Victorian wheat belt. Wimmera farmers, conscious of the calamitous attack on their Eastern trade channels, threaten drastic action, consequent on meetings to be held this month." —From the "Countryman," July 24.

disease among the people." . . . "It is not agreeable to the Christian profession to regard the rich and to despise the poor, or to boast of faith where no *deeds* are." (Do we see the poor in the photographs of the garden parties at Bishops Court?) . . . "Ye have despised the poor." . . . "Do not rich men oppress you?" . . . "What doth it profit though a man say he hath faith and have not *works*?" . . . If a brother or sister be *naked and destitute of daily food*, and one of you say unto them: 'Depart in peace, be ye warmed and filled,' but *give them not those things which are needful to the body, what doth it profit?*' . . . "Even so, Faith, if it hath not *works, is dead.*" . . . "Ye see then how that by *works* a man is justified, and not by Faith only." Certainly there are individual church members, Dr. Head probably being one of them, who are performing laudable works in establishing, maintaining and subscribing to hospitals, missions, orphanages, etc., but the halo, which surrounds these activities, serves only to blind the members to the fact that their sacrifices are called for only because of the fraud of the community's money arrangements. We and they must work to ensure that the things needful to the body are being made available out of God's abundance to all sections of God's human creation. If Dr. Head's public utterances have been correctly

reported (and we have seen no denial), his attitude is rather calculated to thwart God's purpose. "Let your light so shine before men," said Jesus, "that they may see your good *works*." He did not say, "so that they may be lulled and deluded by your purring words."

How can we possibly separate character from the economic conditions, which govern environment? Is not the character of some of our best citizens being seriously undermined by the economic conditions in which they have been *forced* to live, and in which their spirit is warped by unnecessary stress and strain? And is it not true that the environment in which so many children are being reared makes the development of good character almost an impossibility?

LEANING ON THE "EXPERTS."

Now, if men who take their responsibilities seriously have studied the problems of their time and have readied the clear conviction that the economic conditions are out of harmony with the purposes of God, are they to suppress that conviction merely because so-called "experts," many of whom are actually paid to excuse those un-Christian conditions, have failed to speak the truth on the subject? The world is not in such a state of chaos because of any failure in our characters, or because of any particular economic scheme. The fact of the matter is that our characters and our schemes are themselves suffering as the result of a devilish manipulation of the money system. The only thing our people are short of is money, and money is the one thing that gives them access to the necessities of life.

Money is, therefore, nothing less than a licence to live, and yet our church leaders smugly talk about love and hearts and characters, but raise not so much as a finger against the crime of allowing this licence to life to be the plaything of a private monopoly, whose only consideration is the advancement of its own interests by keeping the licences in short supply. Consequently the wrongs of our living conditions are but the natural and inescapable reflection of the inadequacies and wrongs of our money conditions. In the face of these facts it is almost unbelievable that so many Ministers of religion talk the sentimentalism of a changed

heart and remain silent and inert while a private monopoly controls the money system so as to exploit humanity and hinder the establishment of the kingdom of God. This deadweight of church inertia is a tremendous obstacle to the salvation of the human race.

In a world full of overflowing with the material gifts of God, which are more than sufficient for *every person* to be adequately fed, properly clothed, and comfortably housed, we tolerate a distributive system which not only prevents millions of God's children from gaining access to these bounteous gifts, but actually operates to destroy both the gifts and the children. And it comes about solely because we allow our money supply to be controlled by a few individuals for their own purposes instead of by a national authority for community purposes. Is this outrageous thwarting of God's purpose to be no concern of the Church, which

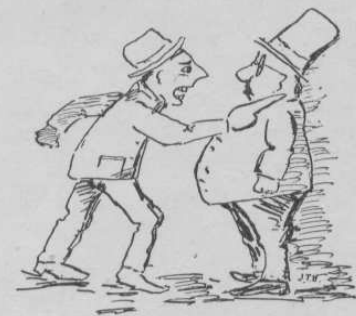
"RETURN TO SHARPER DEPRESSION."

"I feel we are in danger of a return to a sharper depression than exists at present. It seems that the Government is ready to balance the Budget at the cost of the relief workers. If this is the line, there must be an explosion."

"The hardening of interest rates and the tariff war with Japan are likely to have repercussions in increased unemployment. Some of our leaders fear we are recovering too rapidly, and it seems that their representations are having weight. It seems to me that the issues must be joined more decisively, and perhaps tragically, before our new World is built." Bishop Burgmann, of Goulburn, N.S.W., July 24.

is accepted as His earthly organisation? Is the Bible perpetrating a joke when it refers to our bodies as the "temples of God"? Jesus made it perfectly clear that the practical relief of the poor *was* His business, and we feel called upon to declare that any Church which refuses to *work* for the abolition of poverty, and which fails to denounce the true *cause* of poverty, is betraying its Creator. "The body without the spirit is dead," and a body without food cannot live. As the spirit is essential to the body, and as the body is dependent upon food, and as food can only be obtained with money, it is obvious that if the Church seeks to wash its hands of responsibility regarding living conditions (as Arch-

DO NOT ARGUE ABOUT SOCIAL CREDIT



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bishop Head is doing), then it is simply telling the world that it no longer stands for true Christianity.

WHAT IS THE CHURCH'S WORK?

As we have previously asked in these columns, what is the work of the Church? If, as we assume, part of the duty of the Church is to lead men to heaven, how can it ever perform that duty if it refuses to assail the monster (*money power*), which is driving men to hell? "What man is there of you whom if his son ask bread will give him a stone? Or, if he ask a fish

THE "FAILURE" THAT HAS NEVER BEEN TRIED.

"Social credit" has given a pathetic demonstration of futility in Alberta, Canada.
—Melbourne "Herald," July 28.

The Alberta Provincial Douglas Social Credit Association has sent a letter to the Premier calling his attention to the fact that he has not yet carried out his election promises. The supporters of Major Douglas are also calling for an immediate lowering of taxes, an immediate reduction in prices, and the definite establishment of the right of the province to create credit without recourse to the banks.
—London "Observer," June 14.

will give him a serpent?" Yet before our very eyes, when members of the human family cry, "Help us in our adversity," the Church answers: "It is no affair of ours. Go to the experts"—i.e., the very men who have led you into adversity. It also has to be said, to their everlasting disgrace, that the churches combined with the tyrants of finance in 1930 and 1931 to have the swindle extended and strengthened.

Our churches appear extremely reluctant to accept the statement of Jesus that "No man can serve two masters. He cannot serve God and Mammon." "Charge them that are rich in this world that they be not high-minded, nor trust in uncertain riches, but in the living God Who giveth us richly all things to enjoy; that they be rich in good works, ready to distribute . . ." God gives all things for all to enjoy, but when the Church says that the economic problems should be left to the experts it means that the world, "the footstool of God," should be left to the high priests of the god Mammon. It was not because Jesus expounded God and preached of a future life that He was betrayed and crucified. It was because He demanded: (i) a fuller godly life on this earth; (ii) the brotherhood of man; and (iii) the inalienable right of every man to have access to the fruits of the earth; and also because He vigorously attacked the money-mongers and lawmakers of His day. Indeed, it was a *money bribe* that secured His betrayal, and on the authority of Mr. Cameron, M.H.R., similar methods are still being employed today. Notwithstanding these shameful things, we have to suffer Church leaders whose first concern seems to be to afford protection and shelter for the people who have usurped control of the money system to the serious detriment of the Church itself and to the untold misery of the people in general.

WHOSE HEARTS SHOULD BE CHANGED?

What is the need or the authority for the Church to be seeking a change in human nature? Is human nature not the creation of God? If it is, then who are we to say it should be changed? No one has yet shown that human nature is in any way responsible for the troubles of the world, but many people have produced evidence to that human nature is being deliberately and callously crushed by a very small section which has been allowed by Churches and Parliaments to become the lords of creation. The same applies to the silly talk about a change of heart. It is not the fault of the hearts of the great mass of the people that their bodies are underfed and undernourished, but it is the result of the deliberate actions

of the small section referred to who control and manipulate the money supplies. A change of heart on the part of the masses would not change the money system or provide the necessities of life for the needy, but the removal of their ignorance about money and a realisation on their part of the power they could exercise through Parliament, *would* do it.

If there is any real need for a change of heart it will be found that the only hearts calling for that treatment are those which hover round Bishops Court at the tea parties and other official functions, for it is they who are mostly responsible for the continuance of the swindling money arrangements which so terribly oppress the people. Let Archbishop Head work on the characters and change the hearts of those what at present are looked upon as church pillars, and he will soon find that what we say is true.

After more than 1900 years the Church is surrounded by starving millions in the midst of an abundance of the things necessary to prevent starvation. Why is this? Because the Church has shirked half the duty imposed upon it by its Master. He spoke of hearts and characters certainly, but he also denounced the moneychangers. When our Church leaders go and do likewise they will provide greater inspiration for the mass of the people and much more tangible grounds for belief in their sincerity.

"A body without a soul is mad." The destruction and restriction of production is lunacy. A government, which permits this, has no soul, and must, therefore, be mad. A church, which says nothing against it, is also without a soul and must, therefore, be mad, too. In the midst of abundance, and the potentialities of even greater abundance, we actually allow destruction to be carried on simultaneously with the continued imposition of poverty. No words are too strong to condemn it. To remain silent and inactive in the face of the criminal destruction of wealth while children are forced to starve or go short of food and

ANOTHER SUCCESS FOR LYONS AND GULLETT.

Cabinet announces as a victory for its policy that "Japan is ready to negotiate."

The Japanese Minister for Commerce and Industry announces (July 28) that he does not intend to grant licences for the importation of ANY Australian wool, because Japan (i) has plenty of wool in stock, (ii) is getting supplies elsewhere, and (iii) is pushing ahead with her staple fibre substitutes.

To complete the picture we await only an announcement from Mr. Dalziel Kelly that portion of the wool levy funds will be used for publicity in Japan.

clothes is to consent to the crime, and we, therefore, charge all public men, and particularly the Church leaders, who remain silent on the subject, with aiding and abetting crime. No wonder that a bedridden student recently wrote, "Woe unto you hypocrites who pretend to preach God's gospel, while you destroy His gifts."

Freedom and the Slum Problem

Dr. John Dale, the City Health Officer, and Mr. Eugene Gorman, K.C., will attack the slum problem from a new angle at a meeting arranged by the Council for Civil Liberties at the Kelvin Hall, 55 Collins Place (Exhibition Street), C.I., for next Wednesday, August 5, at 8 p.m. Questions and discussion will follow the addresses. A charge of 1/- will be made for admission. Tickets are obtainable from the Honorary Treasurer, Miss M. Bayne, 100 Tooronga Road Hawthorn (telephone Hawthorn 107) or from Mr. H. F. Allsop 61 Parkhill Road Kew. A limited number will be available at the door.

WAR AND THE SEX WAR

By BOANERGES JUNIOR, in "Prosperity" (London).

"Upon my word," said the wife, darning viciously at my socks, "men make me sick. Now they're getting ready for another war as hard as ever they can. What good do they suppose that's going to do? I'd like to dump three pans of them in the middle of the Pacific!"

"I quite agree, darling," I ventured, meekly; "speaking as a mere male, I'm ashamed of my sex."

"And well you might be!" she flared. "And as for you—you sit there sprawling and smoking and—oh yes, I know what you said in 1918. I know you said this would happen, and I'm tired of hearing about it. It doesn't help. What are you *doing*—that's what I want to know!"

"Well, my dear," I answered meekly, "when a bloke has a go he can get so far and then he

WHEN THE GOVERNOR LAUGHED.

In opening the 21st annual conference of the Returned Soldiers' League this afternoon, the Governor (Lord Huntingfield) congratulated the League on its energetic president.

"When I compare what he does with what I do, I almost regard myself as one of the unemployed," he said, amid great laughter.

A voice: Well, you're not on the "susso" yet.

It was fully half a minute before the Governor could control his own laughter and proceed with his speech. —Melbourne "Herald," July 22.

bumps up against those old fellows who . . ."

"I'm sick to death of hearing you grumble about the old men," she snapped. "Poor old things! They haven't long to live, and YOU might let them die in peace. Blaming the old man gets you nowhere. It's the men of your age who ought to be doing something about it all. What have you done since the war was over? What have you *done*? There are over two millions of you—and what have you *done*?"

"Oh - - just had our noses rubbed in it sort of—" began I facetiously.

"And whose fault was that?" she interrupted. "You men are like spoiled babies. There's no need for war, there's no need for poverty, you know the remedy. All it wants is a little common sense—"

"And there isn't enough of that to go round," I remarked.

"More excuses! And you men who fought the Germans aren't say 'Boo!' to a handful of financiers. *Aren't* you brave!"

I made propitiatory noises.

"Pooh!" she continued. "Now listen. In three years Bob will be eighteen. If they get up a war then and come here for him they shan't have him—there! Do you think I brought him into the world for you men to kill? Three years—that's the time you've got. What are you going to do?"

"I suppose," said I, "that if there is another war I'll get the blame for it?"

"So far as I'm concerned," she snapped, "you'll get your share, I tell you!"

"The pen is mightier than the sword," I soliloquized, "but a woman's tongue is mightier than any pen that ever shed ink! The fact is, sister, this monetary reform bug has turned you into a shrew."

"I'm not a shrew," she snapped again. "And don't call me sister."

"Very well—darling," said I, soothingly.

"Darling!" she retorted. "You talk and talk—"

"Really!" I interrupted, "I quite thought I'd been listening!"

"But you don't do anything," she went on quite unabashed.

"Sweetheart," said I, "give a fellow a chance. I should like to lay hands on the man who started the

rumour that an Englishman's house is his castle. But let that pass.

"I quite agree, angel-face, that another war seems to be on the cards. I admit that men are no more fitted to have aeroplanes, bombs and poison gas than a homicidal maniac is fit to be turned loose with a machine gun in a girls' school. I admit that the time is short and that action is imperative."

"Well, what are you going to do about it?" she demanded.

"See here," said I, "it's a fight, a mental fight, isn't it?"

"Yes," she answered, "I suppose it is."

"Very well," I went on. "Now, the art of war is the art of surprise. You don't show your hand. You keep the other side guessing, wondering where the next one's coming from. You get on the other side's nerves and keep on fretting away until they snap."

"Well, what of it?" she demanded.

"Oh—merely that something like that is happening," I answered, lamely.

"I wish I could believe it!" she said.

"I tell you these things are happening. Whether they'll happen fast enough remains to be seen."

"But what are you doing?" she insisted.

"Merely sprawling and smoking," I answered.

"Madam," I went on, "as you say we know the remedy. Now the demand creates the supply. Ask and it shall be given you. All that is required is to persuade a number of people to ask and we shall get it. Simple, isn't it?"

"No it isn't," she said vigorously.

"You're like Martha—cumbered with much serving. It takes twenty years to get an idea over. The new ideas about money came into one or two men's heads and now they have spread all over the world. That shows you how much more powerful ideas are than men. Financial reform has got loose and is running through the world like Greek fire."

"But what are you doing?" she went on again.

"Telling every man I know. They probably tell their wives. Their wives nag them just as you do me. They've got to do something about it, so they tell somebody else and more wives' tongues are brought into action. That's how I spread it."

Letters to the Editor

POLICE COURT TAXATION

One point about taxation not included in the booklet you advertise is the *taxing power of the Police Courts*. One P.M., now retired, once said the Government sent him to the County Courts "to collect revenue for them." And, remember, it is the poor type, who are suffering most from the money and banking swindle, who are thus very heavily taxed. A fine of a fiver or a tenner is nothing to the P.M., but a veritable fortune to the poor victim. It is irony to punish people per medium of the bankers' produce—i.e., something the people cannot themselves make.

An active extension of this Taxing Department is now in operation. More laws have been made to increase the legal scope for extortion of fines. The active and vicious activity of the City Council's parking ferrets in Collins Street is now operating on the doctors' and their patients' cars. They have found a new field of citizens to be exploited. The *banking swindle* is the only thing severely left alone by all the orthodox and Church reformers—e.g., the Rev. Cain.

W. McINTYRE

THE BANKS AND GUNS.

I note in the daily press that bank clerks are now undergoing expert tuition in shooting with revolvers. Are not the banks enough menace as it is, between the forging of our credit and the slow starvation of our people to preserve this "right" to forging, without their staffs being called upon to hasten the shooting-up process?

"ANTI-DUM-DUM."

A CRISIS "WATCH TOWER."

In his evidence before the Banking Commission, Dr. Frederick Watson suggested that the Commonwealth should establish a "Watch Tower" to warn of any coming "crisis."

Is this Commonwealth historian just plain mad? Why the prefix "Doctor," which means "learned"? Does he think "crises" come from heaven? All he need do is to ask the banks when is a crisis coming—for banks cause them.

R. COWAN.

OUR "PARAMOUNT INTERESTS."

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—"Argus" editorial, July 27.

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MELBOURNE

JOHN HOGAN CONTINUES TO BREAK VICTORIAN RECORDS

On Tuesday, 21st inst., John Hogan began a record-breaking series of meetings on his Gippsland tour in the Masonic Hall, Warragul. The building was packed, there being standing room only for latecomers. The Shire President, Councillor W. J. Reid, took the chair, and the President of the local Social Credit group, Mr. W. Strachan, was also on the platform. The vote of thanks was moved and seconded by local councillors.

Preliminary organising was done at Yarragon, Trafalgar, Moe, Morwell, Traralgon and Rosedale en route to Sale next day, where a well-attended Rotary Club dinner listened attentively to John's business-like appeal to businessmen, and inaugurated the campaign in this key centre. Back to Rosedale immediately afterwards, and an excellent little first meeting of 80 in the hall, presided over by a deputy for the Shire Chairman, and enthusiastically prepared for by Schoolmaster F. Morter, with whom the local postmaster, garage-owner and many farmers and citizens will now be associated in the active committee that is being formed, and where the *Courier* has been generous with space for Social Credit since John's hurried visit some weeks ago.

450 AT YALLOURN.

After the wonderful meeting of his last visit to Yallourn, John's reception there on Thursday was remarkable, and the representative crowd in St. John's Hall at night was an absolute record for the town. The town band welcomed the young Crusader to a packed and applauding hall of 450, where the Rev. E. Franklin Cooper, who presided, greeted him on behalf of the C.E.M.S., under whose auspices the meeting was held. John's address was one of the finest he has ever delivered, and was illustrated throughout with examples that aroused the amusement or emotion of the audience. Gippsland is a district that exemplifies well our problems, and the plight of those producers who have just lost their all in floods which were no fault of their own brings in bold relief the means by which, under Social Credit, such natural disaster would be recognised as a national loss, and not as something with which the individual farmer should be hopelessly burdened. Then again, the ever-present possibility of new machinery or processes being introduced into the Yallourn power plant by the Commission, at the expense of dozens of jobs, whose present holders have no present right to a National Dividend, so that their families can still use electric current and the products of the surrounding district, is an ominous local threat. The district happens also to be represented in the Federal House by the originator of the Paterson Plan for overcoming a deficiency of purchasing power among those Australian

families whose wage-earners have been permanently displaced from industry by charging the rest of our people so that the butter we need can be sold at a loss overseas and the farmer, who possibly can't afford butter himself, may live at the expense of the country. And the farmer doesn't want to live at the country's expense. When he knows people want his product he demands a money system under which they can buy it and he can carry on because he deserves it. The tragic futility of the debt system is further exemplified by the terrific burden of interest on the plant and equipment of the Commission that is charged to the consumer for the use of bookkeeping facilities that enabled us to organise our existing resources of labour and raw material into a different form. The absurdity of a system under which the use of what we own results in our owing it appeals to Yallourn, quite naturally.

TRARALGON TURNS OUT.

The next day John pushed on to Traralgon, where Messrs. Fred. Rawlings and S. Butler had been energetically preparing for his visit. An entirely new centre for Social Credit, and noted for the poor attendances that generally turn out to anything of the kind, the organisers had not been over confident that for his first meeting in the town John would fill the small hall that had been engaged. Their most sanguine expectations were exceeded—about 150 packed the hall and vestibule, many being quite unable to get anywhere near, and a very enthusiastic and lengthy meeting, at which were a large number of business people and farmers from adjacent districts, lasted till midnight, with the Shire President, Cr. Canfield in the chair. It was the largest and longest meeting held in this town for years, but John is assured of at least double the crowd if he can manage a return later on.

JOHN HOGAN'S PROGRAMME

The following are John's next engagements:—
 August.—
 Sunday, 2.—2.45 p.m. Pleasant Sunday Afternoon, Williamstown Town Hall.
 Monday, 3.—8 p.m. Bacchus Marsh, Mechanics' Hall.
 Tuesday, 4.—Lunch Hour Meeting, Ordnance Factory, Maribyrnong. 8 p.m., Delphic Club, 2nd Floor, Sonora House, Little Collins Street, City.
 Wednesday, 5.—Lunch Hour Meeting.
 Thursday, 6.—Bendigo: 1 p.m., Rotary. 6.30 p.m., Apex Club.
 Friday, 7.—8.30 p.m., Prahran Town Hall.
 Saturday, 8.—State Conference.
 Sunday, 9.—3 p.m., P.S.A., Ivanhoe Hall.
 Monday, 10.—8 p.m., Kew, Recreation Hall.

Victorian Douglas Credit Movement Notes

Great activity is following John Hogan through the State. In addition to the groups already formed we hear of districts being in a state of ferment after John has passed through. These people are hearing our message for the first time and the true import of Social Credit is sinking in. From all directions we are receiving requests for membership and literature, John is sowing the seed and we are reaping the harvest. Our Organising Secretary, Mr. G. Trenoweth, is having a busy time, and the date is not far distant when he will need to have an assistant. A new branch has been formed at Essendon—the President is Mr. G. Dodds and the Secretary, Mr. D. O'Mahoney, Bournian Street, North Essendon. New groups have been formed at Trafalgar and Warrandyte, organised by Mr. S. Spehr and Mr. R. Berger respectively. These three active men would like to hear from sympathisers in their districts.

All these activities increase the pressure on Headquarters and it was in anticipation of this increase that Mr. Trenoweth was appointed Organising Secretary and the Expansion Fund Appeal launched.

VICTORIAN COUNTRY PARTY PRESIDENT SEES IT.

In an address at Red Cliffs, the Chief President of the United Country Party of Victoria, Mr. R. R. Skeat (as reported in the "Countryman" of July 24), said that in the overthrow of many democratic governments, whether by Fascism, Communism, Nazi or other regimes, all these had in common the subjection of personal, intellectual, or even religious freedom to political compulsion.

"It is thought by many deep thinkers," continued Mr. Skeat, "that the cause of the instability of democracy is to be found in the fact that a country's output of secondary and primary industries was in excess of its consumption ability. This disparity promotes excessive glut production, starvation and consequent depression, and it appears that the tendency will be accentuated as time goes on."

Loyalty certificates for this appeal are now available in denominations of 1/-, 2/-, 5/-, 10/- and £1. Buy them yourself and sell them to your friends. £150 worth have been issued already and butts are coming in. Our President has set the pace by selling the first book of £1 certificates in less than a week. Everyone can help in this and everyone must help if we are to get the full benefit of our work. Apply at once for books and get busy.

Victoria has decided to fall into line with the other States in the matter of bringing the Earl of Tankerville and the Dean of Canterbury to Australia. A guarantee fund has been opened and a personal appeal is to be made to each member. We want a guarantee of £300 as Victoria's share of the cost. We expect that these tours will pay for themselves financially and their propaganda value cannot be estimated. If the full sum is guaranteed, then the Movement will feel justified in asking both these well-known Social Credit advocates to Australia. Once again it is up to our members and friends. Write to the Secretary and promise to pay what you can if you are asked for it after the tour.

Another clergyman has joined that select band of Christian Ministers who believe that the present system is anti-Christian and who are not afraid to say so in public. The Rev. E. Ashby Swan, of the Caulfield Central Presbyterian Church, has opened fire on the money monopoly with a series of sermons each advertised by a leaflet.

The first was delivered on July 5, the title being, "Let Us Demand that Poverty be Abolished." The leaflet, which was circulated in the district, was a challenge to the Church, containing the

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following passages: "The economic and social system is anti-Christian and no longer tolerable. How much longer shall we allow it to create poverty and misery? What is the use of saving labour if saving labour means starving the labourer on a miserable dole?" The next sermon will be delivered on Sunday, August 9, at 7 p.m., in the Caulfield Presbyterian Church, corner of Bamba and Neerim Roads. The title is, "The Stranglehold of the Money Power on Our National Life." The leaflet distributed deserves quoting in full. It reads: "Mr. Justice Brennan said the other day, 'Crime in Australia is nation-wide and is a result of the infernal dole.' There will always be poverty in the midst of plenty until we make sweeping changes in our methods of finance. Democracy has no more persistent foe than the money power. In Australia this money power is in the hands of a small number of men. All our activities are subject to their power. They have succeeded in bringing it to pass that no work of man shall be begun and no finished product used without reference to them for money. Every human activity and every human need has, by their power, been enslaved to financial considerations. The present organisation of finance and rule of the people by money power stands utterly condemned by Christian principles. Let us change this evil system and without delay." We congratulate Mr. Swan for his courageous stand and enjoin all Social Crediters in his district to rally and support him. The Church is awakening. Christianity is becoming practical.

Queensland Douglas Credit Party Notes

Great progress is being made in all parts of the State, and it is very encouraging to see that the attitude of the people generally is steadily changing and that they are beginning to realise that their only hope lies in Social Credit. The action of the Government in Queensland in regard to matters of vital interest and also the injustices the relief workers have to bear are beginning to break down the wall of apathy of the general public and to make them realise that the continuance of the present system will undoubtedly lead to the downfall of the nation.

Several new branches were established last week. One was at Foxdale and another at Bouldercombe. Both these branches have many enthusiastic Douglasites as foundation members and much is to be expected from them in the future. Another was formed at

Yeronga with the assistance of the State Secretary, who delivered a very interesting address.

The party hopes to co-operate with the existing Electoral Campaign organisations. Branches wishing to take an active part in the campaign can get all the instructions they require, forms, etc., for the systematic conducting of the campaign from the State Headquarters of the Party, 39 Albert House, Brisbane.

Many of the Party's branches are making decided efforts to convert the people living around their respective districts. *New Era* leaflets are freely distributed and back numbers of the *New Era* and *New Times* are also handed out. By this method many people who will not attend meetings are getting to know something about the new economics. It is only by this hard work and co-ordinated effort that we are going to reach our objective.

On Saturday night the Metropolitan Divisional Council held a most successful and pleasant evening. A dance and euchre party was arranged, and all metropolitan branches helped to make it a success. It is hoped that members will make a point of supporting any functions held in aid of the Party and endeavour to give some assistance in building up a fund to enable the metropolitan area to be thoroughly organised.

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