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# THE NEW TIMES

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Vol. II. No. 32

MELBOURNE, FRIDAY, AUGUST 7, 1936.

Every Friday, 3d

# Another Niemeyer Comes to Australia

## Sir W. Kinnear and His British Insurance Scheme

Some two months ago it was suggested by the *New Times* that the sudden outburst of popular indignation against the slums of Melbourne was, except in the case of a few individuals, little more than a passing wave of ineffective emotionalism. That impression was deepened when the anti-slum drive was enthusiastically sponsored by the Melbourne *Herald*. For the *Herald* is, above all things, a stunt newspaper, living on sensationalism and therefore needing constantly to change its ground. In due course the "anti-slum conscience," worked up to the right pitch by a series of *Herald* photographs, culminated in a meeting in the Melbourne Town Hall (not nearly up to expectations in its attendance).

Then came the decline. The most troublesome anti-slum consciences were banded into a committee of inquiry under Government patronage, with a lengthy survey and a report to keep them busy. Some time next year, probably, the press will tell us something about the report. The Government will receive it "sympathetically," and promptly pigeon-hole it along with all the other reports that have preceded it—the financial book entries, as usual, being an insuperable bar to action. Meantime the public will have been headed off on to various other matters of conscience.

During the past week or two the *Herald* has been vigorously working up another stunt. This time it was in preparation for the visit of the national insurance "expert" from England who has so kindly come out to provide a further red herring for the Government of the Commonwealth. By way of advance agent's work for this gentleman, Sir W. Kinnear, the *Herald* published one of its series of special articles. Upon their completion, Sir W. himself duly appeared this week.

### NATIONAL INSURANCE IN PRACTICE

The case against national insurance has already been stated at length in these columns, and anyone who has studied even the elements of money knows that it is a pernicious, deflationary scheme put forward under the guise of assisting the poor. Briefly summarised, what happens is this:—

1. Payments into the fund can come only from three sources—the employee, the employer and the Government. Payments by the employer, being treated as part of the costs of running his business, will (and must) almost universally be passed on in prices. Payments from the Government must come either from immediate taxation or from loans (future taxation in perpetuity). Taxation, in turn, being also a cost in business, is usually recovered from the ultimate consumer. So our old friend, the man in the street, pays all the premiums, which he is to draw later.

2. The money surrendered to form the insurance fund represents, in the first place, a lowering of present living standards to those who pay it. Moreover, since practically all money comes into existence as a debt to the private bankers by whom it is issued through overdrafts to finance production, it follows that money which is not spent by consumers must either leave goods unsold which are correspondingly priced or

else cause goods to be sold at a loss. In both cases the effect upon production will be harmful, leading to further slackness of trade with increased destitute unemployment.

3. But what happens to the money so saved, and which consti-

governments or semi-governmental bodies. Moneys spent by government on direct doles are to enable destitute consumers to buy existing goods; on subsidies they are to recompense producers for selling their goods at a loss; and on public short-circuiting process another trail of disaster has been started. Government loans mean perpetual interest; interest means taxation; taxation again is passed on to the consumer.

The effect of this is to make him more likely to lose his job. When he has lost his job and is eligible for a draw he gets back what he has paid (less administrative costs and sums deducted to build up a reserve fund) plus interest on his investment in Commonwealth bonds or something similar. But, having already had to meet the interest on these bonds through direct or indirect taxation, how much better off is he?

### THE VIEWS OF SIR W. KINNEAR

To suggest a cumbersome machinery to put this childishness into practice, Sir Walter Kinnear, lent to the Commonwealth Government by the British Government, has just arrived in Australia, accompanied by the chief insurance officer of the British Ministry for Labor, Mr. G. H. Ince.

The arrival of these two gentlemen on such a financial mission reminded us so strongly of the last financial twins, Niemeyer and Guggenheim Gregory, that we have endeavoured to find out something more about Sir Walter. You have probably seen his photo, in the daily press, and possibly may have been struck by the somewhat Hebraic cast of his features—possibly the result of his long association with finance. Beyond informing us that his second name is Samuel, *Who's Who* gives none of his family history, and tells us nothing of his birthplace, parentage or more remote ancestry. Apparently he spent his earlier years in Ireland, for he graduated in mental and moral science through the Royal (now National) University of Ireland. He is 64 years of age, received his K.B.E. in 1918, was deputy chairman of the Irish Insurance Commission (1911-19), chairman of the Navy and Army Fund (1917-20), and has been controller since 1919 of the Insurance Department of the British Ministry for Health, and deputy chairman of the National Health Joint Committee.

Sir Walter hardly waited for the Strathaird to tie up at Port Melbourne on Monday before he and his assistant got into harness with their propaganda. What they had to say came under two heads: first, a contradiction of reports of semi-starvation in Britain (such reports from a nationally insured country would naturally never do); second, a description of the British benefits.

### THE BENEFITS.

Under the unemployment insurance section, the insured adult male worker in England, it appears, is eligible to draw a maximum of 17/- a week, with an allowance of 9/- for a wife and 3/- for each dependent child. Thus a man with a wife and four children receives 38/- a week with which to meet all his living costs of every description and to bring up his children in the fear and love of God and loyalty to the Empire! Who would not be insured? But this can last only for 26 weeks in most cases, and in special circumstances up to 39 weeks—subject to safeguards to prevent abuses of the fund. After that he goes back on the dole, provided he succeeds in passing the Means Test—which should not be difficult.

And both Sir Walter Kinnear and Mr. Ince, the daily press told

### SALVATION THROUGH THE PAWNSHOP

"A slight tendency for rates of interest to ease, although there has been no quotable change, was noticeable in the money market in Melbourne in July. . . . the trend toward a tightening of credit, which has been increasing in intensity for some months, did not seem to be so evident. . . ."

"Overseas trade returns for the financial year ended June 30 disclose a surplus of exports over imports of £22,521,000 sterling. Because of the heavy flow of capital into Australia in recent months it probably will not be necessary to draw on London funds to bridge the difference between the export surplus for 1935-36 and £28,000,000 needed to service overseas debt charges. These factors suggest that there will be some relaxation in the tendency toward dearer money in Australia, which has been especially noticeable since March. . . ."

" . . . IT SUGGESTS THAT THERE WILL BE NO NEED TO TAKE ANY REMEDIAL MEASURES TO CURTAIL BUSINESS ACTIVITY, AND SO RECOVERY, IN AUSTRALIA."

—Financial editor of Melbourne "Argus," August 5.

\* \* \* \* \*

Put into plain English, what the above suggests is that the further depression threatened through our inability to sell (not to supply) sufficient goods in Britain to meet bondholders' claims has been postponed. But how? Through surrendering more of our capital assets to further overseas bondholders.

The net result of this will be still heavier annual commitments for interest and dividends overseas, to be met by still further depressions or still further pawning.

**BUT WHAT WILL HAPPEN WHEN THE OVERSEAS BONDHOLDER AND SHAREHOLDER HAVE GOBBLED UP THE WHOLE OF OUR CAPITAL ASSETS?**

tutes the insurance fund? Having been first withdrawn from the consuming market, it is then used for investments. Even in the case of our private insurance companies these investments mainly take the form of loans, and principally to

works, since the works are not put up for sale, they subsidise the sale of other consumable goods already available. In effect, in each case the money which, by saving, short-circuited its purpose, is restored to its rightful end of clearing goods

So, in a nutshell, this is what national insurance means: The wage earner, when in work, gives up a portion of his insufficient wage, partly by direct contribution, partly by dilution of his buying power through increased prices.

*The Hon. A. A. Dunstan, M.L.A.,  
Premier of Victoria  
Dear Mr. Dunstan,*

*So, in spite of all your hopes and efforts, and in spite of a concession here and there, Victorian State taxation for the coming year is to go up instead of down. Whereas the tax receipts for last year were £8,443,000, or £4/11/7 per head, your 1936-37 Budget provides for £8,724,000, or £4/14/5 per head. And this still makes hardly, any real provision for the multitude of urgent problems awaiting you. —provision for sickness, education, destitution, and all the rest. It's pretty hopeless, is it not, especially when the coming year is to see a net increase in Victoria's public debt of over £2½ millions, with its subsequent further taxation for interest?*

*Yet we are quite prepared to admit that, within the limits of your present powers, you and your party, have done your best. You have endeavoured to administer the State's affairs with fairness as between city, and country, and you have shown humanity and justice in attempting to lighten somewhat the burden of taxation on those least able to bear it; in effecting some improvement, at all events, in the condition of the destitute; in restoring the cuts unjustly made in the salaries of the State's own employees, and in at least making a gesture towards better social services. The difficulty is that the best you CAN do falls so far short of what SHOULD be done, since, outside your limited field of taxation, the control of finance is a Federal matter.*

*Unless you are prepared to adopt Communism outright, the only solution to our many stupid paradoxes must come through monetary reform. This alone will solve your problems of distribution, whether in providing for the unemployed, in attending to schools, hospitals and slums, or in permanently relieving wool and wheat growers of anxiety. (Today's price of wheat, as you well know, is only a passing fluke, caused by present drought and previous crop restrictions.) The Victorian Country Party is increasingly turning towards monetary reform. Its last annual conference passed some very good resolutions. Its weekly newspaper, the "Countryman", has been doing a lot of good work in this direction, both in its own utterances and in opening its columns to free discussion.*

*The members of your party, Mr. Dunstan, would be solidly behind you if you now came out openly in this direction. You have already shown courage, of a sort, in the Loan Council. We say "of a sort", because your efforts towards obtaining funds for badly needed work aimed only at having the Commonwealth BORROW what it should ISSUE. Still, we are prepared to believe you were sincere, if not well informed. Why not now seek, with a little study, the information you need? If you don't do so, if you continue along your present lines, your best efforts must inevitably end in frustration.*

*What if this is a Federal matter? Is not the Federation made up of States? And would not a lead from conservative Victoria give a tremendous fillip to a movement, which, with you or without you, WILL succeed? It is really a question of whether you yourself will share in the victory or whether you will fall by the wayside.*

THE NEW TIMES

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(Continued on page 3.)

us, were in agreement that national insurance had been brought to a higher standard in Great Britain than anywhere else in the world.

## THOSE MALNUTRITION REPORTS.

Sir Walter was emphatic that the reports we have been hearing of wholesale under-nourishment in England are "completely misleading."

"The tables drawn up to show malnutrition in England on a vast scale," he said, "are grossly exaggerated. The publicity given to them makes more regrettable the wrong conclusions, which have been drawn. Investigations at the Ministry of Health have shown us that the financial circumstances of the people, on the whole, are better today than during any other recent period. Inquiries under the insurance scheme have produced no evidence of widespread under-nourishment."

Now, isn't that thoroughly typical of the callous financial expert? There is only one question really pertinent to any inquiry on undernourishment, as we pointed out to our Commonwealth Advisory Committee on Nutrition when they were making their abortive attempt to procure housewives' shopping budgets a few weeks ago. That question is, what is your income available for food? And Sir Walter, on his own figures, is operating a system, which provides a maximum income of three shillings a week per child for all purposes! The report of Sir John Orr, the most recent, most weighty, and most damning of those which Sir Walter Kinnear is so anxious to discredit, was published in February of this year. It was prepared by a body of expert medical men and statisticians, and as far as we can ascertain not a single authority in England has questioned what are therein set down as facts. The most important of those, to us, are these estimates of the average weekly expenditure on food of half the people of Britain, as follows:—

4/-	.....	4,500,000
6/-	.....	9,000,000
8/-	.....	9,000,000

"It is estimated," says this report (page 21), "that half the persons in group 1 are children under 14 and that between 20 and 25 per cent, of the children in the country are in the lowest income group."

In view of Sir Walter Kinnear's own figures, which show that an insured unemployed family with four children has only 6/8 a head per week for all items of living costs, what is the value of his protest? Does he not convict himself out of his own mouth? Does he not show himself to be playing the same abominable game as Niemeyer, and persuading us to accept his false gospel of adjusting our goods to bankers' money rather than our own money to our goods?

## BEAT CONFERENCE!

YOU—whether you're a branch member, country organiser, contact, sympathiser, supporter, enthusiast, delegate or just plain Social Crediter; whether you've done anything, subscribed anything, helped in any way, converted anyone or just agreed with us in the past; whether you're an old timer or a fresh, new advocate; whether you're young or old—

WE WANT YOU THERE. NICHOLAS HALL, SWANSTON STREET, CITY, SATURDAY, AUGUST 8, at 2 p.m.

THIS IS YOUR CHANCE TO RALLY TO THE CAUSE WHEN IT NEEDS YOU.

We want to know whether we shall be justified in going ahead with our ambitious programme.

We want to know what help you'll give, what you think of it, what ideas you have on propaganda or general campaigning, on raising funds or bringing pressure to bear. Help us to pool the Movement's full resources and be sure of sound backing for a vigorous campaign.

# THE PEOPLE'S MOVEMENT TO ABOLISH POVERTY

(BY NON-PARTY POLITICAL ACTION.)

Nearly every member of nearly every Parliament wears the badge of servitude to some political party. Nearly every member expresses himself and casts his vote in accordance with the instructions of that party. The party in turn does not necessarily express the joint or average view of the individuals who openly compose it; it is often directed by less visible forces. These unseen forces will generally be found to be those who can stampede electors in various ways, of which the most obvious is the press.

From this it usually follows that the Member of Parliament, however good his intentions when he is first elected, soon ceases to have much individuality. Either he becomes a good party man or else he faces the loss of his pre-selection and his seat. It is a mistake to suppose that members relish this process, but what else can they do? Only in rare cases has the rebel against party domination survived.

Victorian electors know what is almost certain to be the fate of Mr. Maurice Blackburn, M.H.R., should he not be readmitted to the Labor party before the next election. Yet wherein lay the major gravity of the alleged offence for which he was expelled? Was his affiliation with the Victorian Council against War more heinous to the party as a "betrayal" of his constituents or as a defiance of "solidarity," of hide-bound party discipline which allows no latitude to the private member and precious little to the voter?

Whether Mr. Blackburn was objectively right or wrong does not matter here, any more than whether Mr. Ian Macfarlan was right or wrong when he was so bitterly opposed from within the U.A.P. machine at the last State elections in Victoria. Mr. Macfarlan, although narrowly, beat his fellow-U.A.P. opponent, and with this measure of personal support accorded him by the electors, he has shown himself still more independent of the machine during the present Parliament.

If only members could be assured of getting personal support and a personal mandate, the system whereby policies are dictated to the electors instead of by the electors would quickly disappear. There is no member of parliament who would not rather have a personal seat than a party seat. There is hardly a member who, if he were confident of the backing of his constituents, would not loyally press their demands.

## 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.....

Further forms may be had on application to The Peoples Movement to Abolish Poverty, Box 621, Melbourne.

(Signatures will be treated confidentially.)

# A Pirate Ballad

By WILLIAM BLACKSTONE.

Dear Editor,

I intended to send the enclosed poem to the editor (if any) of the official organ (if any) of the "United" Australia Party (if any). Can you give me the reason why the same would have been rejected? I intended at the same time to apologise to the late George Sterling for misusing his poem; however, off we go:—

Have you heard of Joey Lyons,  
Or of Gullett grave and grey?  
They're the lads to have about us  
While the old ship makes leeway.

Let the debt soar high to heaven,  
Let the banker take his toll;  
With contented look we'll view 'em  
While old Joe is in control.

Chorus.

Roaring wind and deep blue water,  
We're the jolly devils who,  
Back to back against the mainmast,  
Held at bay the entire crew.

Let the old ship hit the breakers,  
Let the graziers scream and roar;  
Archy Parkhill holds the helm down  
And he's sure to swim ashore.

Cast your eye on Robby Menzies,  
Bucko mate and sturdy troop,  
With his good two thousand goblins—  
Would you think he'd care a whoop?

Chorus.

Roaring wind and deep blue water,  
We're the jolly devils who,  
Back to back against the mainmast,  
Held at bay the entire crew.

Let the Japs, and Dagoes shun us;  
What care we for wool or wheat?  
While our screws are in the kitty  
We won't lack a bite to eat.

What care we for dud electors—  
Goats who have no brains to use?  
If they're wanting straight-out  
talking,  
We'll turn loose old Billy Hughes.

Chorus.

Roaring wind and deep blue water,  
We're the jolly devils who,  
Back to back against the mainmast,  
Held at bay the entire crew.

## VICTORIAN SOCIAL CREDIT CONFERENCE AGENDA

The General Conference will commence with addresses by:

Dr. J. T. Hollow, State President, D.C.M.  
Rev. E. Hankinson, State Vice-President, D.C.M., and chairman of the People's Movement to Abolish Poverty.  
In Hogan, National Crusader.  
G. R. Trenoweth, State Organising Secretary, D.C.M.  
T. J. Moore, Editor, "New Times."

The Agenda for discussion will include the following important sections and items:

### ACTIVITIES.

General Propaganda.  
Country Tours and John Hogan's Campaign.  
Electoral Campaign.  
Visitors from England.  
Town Hall Meeting.  
Broadcasting.

### INTERNAL ORGANISATION.

Membership.  
Branches and affiliation.  
Districts and prospective District Councils.  
Questionnaire to Branches.  
State Organising Secretary.  
State Headquarters.

### FINANCE

Review of Financial Position  
Membership, capitation and affiliation fees.  
Loyalty Certificates.

## WHAT TO DO WITH DISPLACED LABOUR

### Bank Officer on the Social Credit Solution

Through the columns of our contemporary, *Savings Weekly*, the journal of the Victorian State Savings Bank Officers' Association, articles for a prize competition were recently invited from members of the Association. Writers were asked to express their views on the solution of the problems created by the mechanisation of industry, the adjudicator being Mr. Edgar Holt, of the Melbourne *Herald*. The prize-winning entry, contributed by Mr. W. R. Browning (Bacchus Marsh), appeared in *Savings Weekly* on July 28, and is reprinted below by courtesy of its Editor. The quality of Mr. Browning's article speaks for itself, and his views typify those now rapidly gaining ground amongst bank officers generally, though employees of the private banks are perhaps less able to express them so publicly. *Savings Weekly*, however, has been notable for the breadth of view of its Editor and its contributors.

Mechanisation is the culmination of a process, which began with the invention of tools and machinery. By their means mankind has built up through the ages increasing quantities of wealth and capital. They have made possible a standard of life, which would have been inconceivable without their aid. But it is not so much the machines as the substitution of steam and electricity for muscular energy, which has made possible the enormous wealth production upon which the modern world is built. Increases in wealth are a measure of the increases of power used by mankind to drive his machinery and so great is the power now at his command that, allowing one unit of horse power as the equal of ten units of labour power, every one of the two thousand million persons now living in the world has at his or her disposal a supply of power equal to that of seven and a half human slaves.

#### SOMETHING NEW IN HUMAN EXPERIENCE

By machinery and an increase of power, increased wealth has been produced, with decreasing effort and in less time, and in 1920 one of the corner stones of history was reached when, for the first time, a greater aggregation of wealth was produced with a diminution of the number of workers. Up till then, every year had witnessed an increasing production with a relatively smaller increase in the number of operatives, but since then the number of workers has actually decreased, while the totality of production has increased.

During the period 1900 to 1920, output increased 70 per cent, while the number of workers increased only 40 per cent. During the period 1920 to 1929, output increased 25 per cent, but the number of workers decreased more than 7 per cent. (American figures).

No wonder Mr. G. W. Gray stated in his presidential address to the Institute of Mining and Metallurgy in 1933: "We are face to face with something entirely new in human experience."

Of course, it is not really a new thing. It is only the culmination of an old process, and could have been foreseen at the turn of the last century, or, for that matter, much earlier. Unfortunately, instead of facing the implications of the substitution of machinery for labour, we preferred to leave the subject alone and think along the old lines. Instead of realising that the logical culmination of the process is the complete substitution of machines for all labourers, we have continued our attack upon industrial problems from an angle, which assumed that there would always be sufficient work for all. Machinery has been continually paying us an increment of increased wealth and increased leisure, but we have not made any attempt to see that would be fairly distributed. While we have been keen on advocating the democratisation of most other things, we have failed to think out any scheme for the democratisation of the increment of association paid by machinery to mankind. At least, most of us have failed so to do. And now the problem has become urgent, and

we have no well-thought-out remedy at hand.

#### THE PYRAMIDS AS A PUBLIC WORKS PROGRAMME

In many ways, the problem is as old as civilisation. Ancient Egypt faced it, and, in a way, solved it. So fertile was the valley that sufficient wealth could be accumulated to provide sustenance and material for the population to be employed building pyramids and other structures during the long period of the year when the inundation made work in the fields impossible. In this way, the whole social increment was reaped in the interests of the governing class. A similar state of affairs prevailed in the Middle Ages, when much of the social increment was devoted to building for the ruling powers. But the point is that it was then used, even though it was not evenly or fairly divided. Now, as often as not, it is wasted, because we have no means of monetising it. With the rise of the modern wages system the problem of industrial increment has undergone a profound change. Most of the industrial upheavals have really been rooted in attempts to secure this increment for the workers, and their failures to do so have been because of the unfounded belief that it was usurped by the capitalists because of the private ownership of the means of production.

The farmer benefits in leisure and increased production from the application of labour-saving machinery, but the farm hand, as often as not, loses his job. But, whereas the farmer may reap an increment of leisure and production, there is no means by which the financial system can at present be made to register that increment in terms of £.s.d.

#### WAGE SAVING NOT COST SAVING.

The appeal of labour-saving machinery is that it is wages saving. Unfortunately, it is not also cost saving. Though the cost of wages may be saved, the cost of depreciation and running of the machine still continues. Whereas before the installation of the machinery the farmer paid away wages which could theoretically buy the farm or other production, since the introduction of the machinery the labourer does not receive any money with which to buy the output, though costs, often nearly as much as the wages, and for which no money is paid away to act as purchasing power, have to be accounted into the final prices. Generally speaking, the substitution of machinery for labour has meant the diminution of the amount of money paid away to persons who could use it to buy wealth when it appeared on the market, but no corresponding diminution of prices.

This would be bad in any case, but when it is remembered that as the money paid away as wages constitutes the preponderant proportion of the money available for buying wealth, it is easily seen how it is that the mechanisation of industry has been accompanied by an increasing difficulty to sell wealth, with the attendant stressing of salesmanship, advertisement and struggles for markets.

#### UNSATISFACTORY ATTEMPTS AT SOLUTION

Faced with the problem, most persons have been content to advocate a struggle for markets abroad and a "works" programme at home. By this means, unproductive works, or works which will not be immediately productive, are undertaken with the express idea of making work, and it is generally a condition of such enterprises, if such they may be called, that as much of the work as possible shall be manual, and as little as possible mechanical. The suggested remedy is by no means new. According to Plutarch, Pericles undertook the erection of the Acropolis as a means of providing work for all, and his "works" programme became a party issue in ancient Athens. The chief difference between Pericles' plan and a modern one is that, whereas the former was financed out of money subscribed by the Grecian States for their defence by Athens, the latter are financed out of taxation or loan money. There is nothing wrong with a works programme so long as the work is desirable and necessary, but to make men work just so that they may receive some of the benefits of their previous effort is to go against the first principles of sociology, and to oppose human nature. We try to satisfy our desires with the least effort and with the greatest pleasure. As soon as society begins to substitute any other basis for its economics, it is heading for disaster.

Now if there is anything certain, it is that no aspect of the industrial problem can be solved by making the enjoyment of past effort dependent upon present and future toil, and that the problem of mechanisation, however much its present ill-effects may temporarily be eased thereby, cannot be solved by works programmes financed by taxation and loans. Taxation means that those who have been sufficiently fortunate to find employment in industry are penalised, while loans mean that the nation flounders further and further into debt.

As in every other problem, there are two main avenues of approach—a restrictive and a creative approach. What is wanted is not a penalisation of those who have secured some meagre measure of economic security, but a monetisation and democratisation of the increment of association made possible by mechanisation, so that all sections of the community may move up to a higher standard of life. What is wanted is, not the Communist ideal of the transference of everyone to the working class, but the substitution for the working class of machinery; not the taxation of those who do enjoy the benefits of civilisation, but the general distribution of those benefits to all members of the community; not confiscation, but generalisation.

#### THE NATIONAL DIVIDEND AND ITS RESULTS.

As regards the present problem, the cure consists in distributing to the community a National Dividend equal to the increment of association generated by society as a going concern. It might be expressed, rather inadequately, as the payment of the "wages" of the machine to those who have been unemployed, first, and then later to everyone, employed and unemployed alike. Or, conversely, and again rather inadequately, it might be expressed as cutting out of

prices all costs for which money has not been distributed to individuals. The important thing is not the mechanism employed, but the purposes behind it. And the purposes are obvious:—1. To allow industry to fulfill its proper function: the production of the greatest quantity of goods with the least energy and in the quickest time. 2. To design a financial system which will allow their speediest and justest distribution. 3. To re-establish industry upon the primary assumption of economics.

Such a freeing of society from the necessity of getting a wage will have certain repercussions upon industrial organisation. Instead of everyone wanting to find a job, and society endeavouring to make work, only those qualified to serve in industry will be permitted employment. Industry will be organised much on the same basis as sport. Not desire, but competence, will admit to the industrial team. Industry will be organised by an Industrial Aristocracy serving a Democracy of Consumers, but, unlike present industrial aristocracies, like the Communist Party of Russia, this aristocracy will be limited to the carrying out of a programme of production determined for them by consumers. In matters of industrial policy, they will have, as producers, absolutely no say whatsoever, but as consumers they will be able to help determine industrial policy by the way in which they spend their money. This method of economic voting will make known to industry just what sort of goods to make, and in what quantities.

Certain consequences of such new industrial status are obvious. Trade unionism will wane. Bureaucracy as now known will disappear. Strikes for employment will be obsolete. We shall no longer hear that awful word, "scab," nor the necessity for "scabbing." We shall cease to hear the claim for "the right to work," and shall hear the idea of the "right to leisure."

#### THE NATIONAL CREDIT ACCOUNT

But just as the machine has rendered increasingly obsolete old methods of production, old industrial and social relations, and old standards of life, so it has rendered obsolete a credit system based fundamentally upon pre-machinery days. The financial system has no means, as yet, of monetising the social increment of association. This can be done by keeping a National Credit Account, just as a company keeps a credit account, and crediting it with every increase in the community's capital and ability to produce wealth. From this can be drawn from time to time such money as is necessary to pay the National Dividend and the cost of "works" programmes as they are needed. By so doing, many major problems not altogether industrial will be solved. Industry will generally be able to make profits and pay decent wages. The phenomenon, or rather, blasphemy of poverty amidst plenty will disappear. The combing of the world for markets, even by wars and armaments, will cease. National programmes will be undertaken without leaving a trail of debt. There will be no labour opposition to the greatest possible mechanisation of industry. Poverty will pass out. Crime, which undoubtedly has its roots well fitted into poverty and insecurity, will abate, and last, but by no means least, by securing the National Dividend the individual will be placed in a position where he will be able to defy any possible attempts which may be made to coerce him.

Mechanisation, which has loomed as such a shadow and destroyer of human freedom, will yet, given the appropriate financial mechanism, be seen for what it is—an angel of light, life, security and leisure. And the Industrial Revolution will be seen as, not the devastator of green fields and the blackener of the landscape and men's lives, but as one of the major spiritual conquests of man's soul.

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(Continued from page 2.)

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## THE NEW TIMES

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FRIDAY, AUGUST 7, 1936.

## War Ballyhoo From Aged Senate President

West Australian papers of last week reveal that another militant non-combatant has joined old W. M. Hughes in gory speeches. This time it is the Honourable Patrick Joseph Lynch, president of the Australian Senate. Mr. Lynch, though not quite so ancient as W. M. Hughes, is nevertheless only a few months short of the three score years and ten, so presumably he has no intention of being at the next war in person. For that matter the same P. J. Lynch, ex-Engine Drivers' secretary turned U.A.P. Senator, was not at the last war either. To be sure, he was 47 when it was begun, but in view of the sentiments he is now revealing one would have thought that a trifle like being a year or two over age would never have stopped him. However, Mr. Lynch apparently thought he could serve Imperial needs best in 1914 as vice-chairman of the Standing Committee on Public Works, and accordingly he proceeded to do so, regardless of all personal danger.

Mr. Lynch's latest effort for the Empire was an address to the Overseas League in Perth. Here is a sample of it: "There is a peculiar feeling developing in this country which, if universally accepted, may have untold and dangerous consequences. There is a fairly prevalent opinion, having responsible backing, that if resort to arms must be had in the future, then Australia's share in it must be strictly confined to Australia and nowhere else. We know this is largely a reaction to the colossal misery and ruin wrought by the Great War. But if, to mitigate the horrors of war, the jackal motto, 'Every man for himself and the devil take the hindmost,' must be adopted, then it had better be tried on someone else, as it will

never be accepted by men of British blood." To which, as would be expected, the *Overseas League* fervently cried: "Hear, hear."

Senator Lynch proceeded to show the results. "This novel doctrine," he continued, "gives rise to many difficulties. It rules out of account allied warfare, because in the first place, if the doctrine is to be accepted, there must be no allies at all." What a calamity—no more wars on the grand scale! Worse still, and a point which old Mr. Lynch quite overlooked, under the pernicious doctrine of everyone refusing to fight outside his own country we couldn't have an international war at all, and so his heart-rending picture of "Australia standing with stony indifference while the Motherland was fighting for her life, and her lusty favoured son leaving her to fight alone," would merely be an old man's dream. Even so, we do not feel it fair to deprive the Senator of his dramatic peroration: "I do not think that such an unnatural spectacle could ever come to pass. But, if it did, we would sink to the level of a spiritless, honourless people with no heed or care for the finer sentiments that make civilisation worth having, and no higher thought than the gratification of our own animal appetites. Why, the wild beasts would shriek derision at such a miserable, decadent race!" Dear, oh dear, what a bloody old man!

There is an ancient saying amongst the Irish: "Never trust a Lynch or a Kelly." In spite of this we would cheerfully trust P. J. Lynch, the warrior, to this extent—that, wherever he is in the next war, we'll be *behind* him.

Senator Lynch had also a few words to say about our population shortage. Having advised us of our duty to kill off our young men whenever and wherever this should seem desirable to "the Motherland," it naturally followed that, as a sound financier, he should seek to build up the reserves.

The unwillingness of the present generation to propagate its species, he declared, might well become the saddest blot in the nation's brief history, and the bogus plea of insufficient means was "pure balderdash."

In the Senator's own case this is doubtless true. He had sufficient means himself to become a bridegroom once again at 66. But not all the other "lusty favoured sons" in Australia have enjoyed a Senator's salary for thirty years without interruption. As a patriotic gesture to the Motherland how

would Mr. Lynch like to change places with one of his constituents on the dole? Or would he accept, in this case, "Every man for himself and the devil take the hindmost"?

## Did We Miss the Mark?

In our issue of July 10 we criticised certain proposals put forward in the July issue of the *Catholic Worker*. We are informed in the August issue of that paper that we "missed the mark."

Our criticism was directed mainly against two of their suggestions. One was the Communistic gospel that the community should set out to "soak the rich"; while its strange twin was the ultra-capitalistic idea that we should also soak the destitute aged.

The attitude of the *Catholic Worker* on the latter issue was expressed thus: "£12,770,000 is the estimated expenditure for 1935-36 on old-age pensions. Surely it would be better to spend some of this money, the amount of which is increasing year by year, on young people with their life before them than on the old—to give them a good start in life, and perhaps eliminate the need for pensions for them when they grow old." In spite of our criticism having missed the mark, there is now a hasty somersault, for the August issue, under a prominent heading, "Increase Old-Age Pensions!" begins: "As, through hurried proof-reading"—the *Catholic Worker* produces four pages a month—"a paragraph appeared in our last issue which seemed to imply that the 'C.W.' advocated the reduction of old-age pensions, we take the opportunity not only to correct this false impression, but to declare our policy on the whole question." The article then proceeded to advocate that the Commonwealth "surplus," or some two millions of it, should be devoted to restoring pensions to £1 a week.

It is good to hear that these are the views of the *Catholic Worker* (at least for *August*), but, through more hurried proof-reading, if not through haste in providing the raw material for proofs, it somewhat rashly allowed itself to set out a "permanent solution" in the form of national insurance. We hate to seem over critical towards these young men who appear to be sincerely desirous of helping the under dog, but we would now remind them that any scheme of national insurance which can be proposed under the existing financial control must be deflationary, and, at the best, any so-called provision for old age can be achieved only by lowering living standards during all the years preceding. Is the *Catholic Worker* advocating this?

On the taxation issue the *Catholic Worker* is unrepentant, though it does admit that "the necessity for putting credit under State control was pointed out by Pope Pius XL, as the *New Times* indicates," but, "it is going to take a long while to put the bankers under political control. Even if you will no longer be needed when that day arrives—what are we to do in the meantime?"

We suggest to our contemporary, first, that any measures taken "in the meantime

will be such only as the financial monopolists who control our Government may permit, and that, therefore, as we previously indicated, all these taxation schemes, even if put into nominal operation, will be passed on to the rank and file. History shows that this is not theory, but *fact*. Secondly, all arguments about the *redistribution* of existing money incomes are futile when, as the figures show, the confiscation of all so-called superfluous amounts would hardly make a perceptible difference in the standards of the masses. To talk about monetary solutions—of which taxation, which deals entirely with money, is one—without paying any attention to the source and supply of money is sheer waste of time. Moreover, as New Zealand has just shown, the obtaining of a national mandate to deal with the money question at its source need not necessarily "take a long while." Whether the nature of that mandate will be along the confiscatory lines advocated by the *Catholic Worker* and the Communists, or along lines which aim rather at making the poor richer than the rich poorer—and which are eminently practicable in this age of power production—will depend largely on the amount of intelligence devoted to studying the *nature* of our problems. In this the *Catholic Worker* could assist, if it would.

Finally we would remind the *Catholic Worker* of two things. One is that our criticism was not a "Douglas attack," and that the *New Times* is *not*, as it asserts, "the local Douglas Credit paper"—any more than the *Catholic Worker* is the local Catholic paper. The Melbourne Catholic weekly, the *Tribune*, has for several years been publishing articles openly advocating Social Credit. The *New Times* likewise advocates Social Credit as its financial policy, but it is entirely independent of the Social Credit Movement, as such.

The second reminder is that the lofty attitude adopted by the *Catholic Worker* in that section of its August rejoinder headed "Moral Problem," and in which it says, "We are concerned with the religious aspect of the social system, considered as a moral problem. Social reform implies a religious, a political and an economic solution"—is sheer arrogant cant. As the quotation and its context show, the inference is that the *New Times* is merely materialistic in its viewpoint. Such an inference is as uncalled for as it is untrue. The *New Times*, whose contributors include writers of nearly all Christian religious denominations—including Catholics—is a Christian paper, and it does not believe that monetary reform will solve *all* our problems, but it does believe that you will achieve no solution, spiritual or material, without it; hence its insistence upon the urgency of this step. In our previous issue we drew the attention of the *Catholic Worker* to the terrific denunciation by Pope Pius XI. of the financial monopolists. May we, in conclusion, invite it to ponder these words of the same Pope on the link between the material state we advocate and spirituality: "Then only will the economic and social order be soundly established and attain its ends, when it secures for *all and each*, all those goods which the wealth and resources of nature, technique, and the social organisation of economic affairs can give.

These goods should be sufficient both to supply all necessities and reasonable comforts, and to uplift men to that higher standard of life which, provided it be used with prudence, *is not only of no hindrance, but is of singular help to virtue.*"

## The Monetary Commission

Many correspondents have expressed surprise that we have recently made hardly any references at all to proceedings at the Monetary Royal Commission. Our answer is, what is the use? When the Commission was appointed we showed, by an examination of its personnel, that it was eminently unfitted to approach its task with an open mind, and that, at least in respect to the majority of its members, the predilections were all in the one general direction: Very little, if anything, which has since transpired inclines us to modify those views.

As far as the evidence is concerned, it early became apparent that the Commission had no mind to delve into fundamentals. Banker witnesses were allowed to say their pieces with hardly a question concerning the principles of a monetary policy, and the perfunctory and semi-apologetic questions asked them dealt almost entirely with trivialities of banking administration. At the tail end of the inquiry when, as in most proceedings of the sort, the public have wearied of the long-drawn-out farce, a few paragraphs in the daily press would seem to indicate that some sort of a pretence of impartiality is to be put up by the hearing of a number of witnesses who are critical of the financial monopoly. But we do not delude ourselves that such evidence as they may tender will carry any weight with men like Professor R. C. Mills. Therefore, why waste time on inquests and epitaphs?

What we *are* considering is the offering of two prizes—one to go to the person who can most accurately forecast the exact findings of the Commission; the other to whoever is most discerning in estimating, with the reasons, just how long before the next election campaign the report of this Commission, promised before the last election, will be published. But before doing so we should like to get into touch with the Melbourne *Herald*—an acknowledged authority on the legal aspect of "skill tests"—to make sure that we shall not be infringing the gambling or lottery laws.

## DELEGATES AND AFFILIATION

Official delegates to the morning meeting of the Social Credit Conference on Saturday will assemble at the Rooms, 8, The Block, Elizabeth Street, at 11.30 a.m.

Delegates and supporters are requested to be at the Nicholas Hall, Swanston St., at 2 p.m. sharp for the General Convention.

Branches or Groups not yet officially affiliated may do so with Mr. G. R. Trenoweth, State Organising Secretary, at the hall if desired, and obtain from him also all necessary information in regard to affiliation and official status.

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## THE LABOR PARTY'S WORK COMPLEX

By AQUARIUS

The Federal Labor Conference met in Adelaide during the whole of last week, and considered matters mainly economic and monetary. Before considering the conclusions of the conference, we shall epitomise some of the fundamental tenets of Social Credit as placed before the world in 1919 by Major Douglas. These tenets are as follows:—

(a) The object of an economic system is to give the individual control of the necessities of life on the cheapest terms possible. The individual possesses inalienable property of the one description only—potential effort over a definite period of time. The real unit of the world's currency is effort into time—what we may call the time-energy unit. The cheapest terms on which the individual can liquidate his debt to nature in respect of food, clothes and shelter (the essentials of life) depend clearly on process, and by getting free of this debt with the minimum expenditure of time-energy units he clearly is so much richer in the most real sense, in that he can control the use to be made of his remaining stock. Improvements of process and application of solar energy should pay a dividend of increased leisure and increased amenities for living. The object of an economic system is most emphatically *not* the provision of work.

(b) Real credit is a measure of the reserve of energy belonging to the community. It is the ability to produce goods and services as, where and when required.

(c) The object of production is consumption, and the object of a monetary system is to facilitate the distribution of goods and services. As the biggest factor in production is the cultural inheritance (or the knowledge how to do things which has been accumulated and handed down to us through the ages) and further, as the employment of a small proportion only of the population is required in industrial production the national dividend must progressively displace the wage. In other words, we must be paid to consume whether we work or not. Purchasing power must be distributed otherwise than through employment.

(d) In the modern world there is a continual appreciation of production over consumption. Credits issued to the community must only be retired in the proportion that total consumption bears to total production, and the price level must be regulated accordingly, thus leaving the net appreciation of production still represented by money in the community pocket, and preventing a filching of purchasing power through rising prices.

(e) A lasting order of society can be based only on the willing co-operation of economically secure and free citizens. Insecurity, regimentation and the necessity to devote the whole of life to the scramble for existence, prevent the proper growth of culture, personality and the human intellect. (The late Eimar O'Duffy in this connection points out that it is *after* he has had his fill of snails that the blackbird bursts into song.)

### SISYPHISM AND THE SILLY SYMPHONY OF CREDITS FOR WORKS

Let us now turn to the considered beliefs of Labor politicians and officials, as expressed by their leaders at conference in the year 1936. We may for purposes of comparison treat with these under headings similar to our epitome of principles set forth in "Economic Democracy." The Labor beliefs are as follows:—

(a) The proper object of an economic system is to provide citizens with work. This end should be achieved by the "distribution of existing work and by the provision of new work." "National control of credit," said

Federal Labor leader Curtin "is necessary to maintain and increase employment." Even rearmament and defence were looked on by the Conference with equanimity, if not with joyful anticipation, as providers of all-holy work. The Laborites have, it is true, advanced to a stage where they think that national investment must be planned—i.e., that the Government should decide whether we are to build machine guns or grow cabbages, and if so in what proportions. It is, however, still a fundamental belief of a majority of the Labor leaders that it is better for man to do something, however unnecessary or even dangerous, than to have leisure. It is a further belief that man's store of time-energy units should be applied to the business of grubbing for an existence and not set free for other purposes, such as the real business of living. A continuation of the Ant State is envisaged. Labor first chose its name years ago when it was really necessary for man to devote a large portion of his store of time-energy units to the provision of the essentials of existence. In the intervening years Labor has perhaps forgotten little, but unfortunately it appears to have learned little, and it seems imbued with the idea that the more labour there is, the more there will be for it to represent.

(b) Real credit. The views of the Labor Conference on this subject are somewhat hard to grasp. There seems to be some approach to the true conception, but an unwillingness to do anything substantial about it, as will appear from the following quotation from the Age: "Mr. Curtin said that the task of Labor was to set free and direct the great powers of production and distribution in general, which capitalism now held in shackles, and which caused vast suffering and want in an era in which Australia possessed machinery, workshops, transport and a distributors' organisation capable of producing and handling almost unlimited quantities of goods; men and women of unsurpassed skill and knowledge in everything pertaining to human needs; a mechanism of money and credit capable of directing and changing the directions of human activity by checking or extending the flow of capital; an organisation for the conduct of foreign trade by which Australia exported many of her products, and received in exchange the produce of other nations.

"The regulation or control of capital, Mr. Curtin said, meant the regulation and control of capitalism. At present the substantial control of capitalism was in the hands of the controllers of finance. Every farm and every factory was now subject to their domination. Private initiative and enterprise was handicapped by limitations imposed by the operators of credit and money. So that the economic order might henceforth be directed increasingly to the service of all the people; unemployment dealt with nationally; markets found for the output of industry and the menace of war averted, or capacity for defence increased, sovereignty over the source of currency and credit must be held by the community as a whole.

"The Commonwealth Bank was the logical instrument to function for the community in this fundamental feature of monetary readjustment and economic reconstruction, Mr. Curtin continued. Labor Government would legislate so that the Commonwealth Bank would be able to completely control (a) it for the nation, (b) money for industry, (c) direction of general investment, and (d) currency relations with external markets. Such a monetary policy, linked to a programme of industrial and economic expansion, improved conditions of working and living, and associated with a progressive scale of social services, repre-

### YES—NO.

The banker who lends £1000 to a customer by crediting him with that sum in a book does not create £1000. If he did he could create £1,000,000 just as easily. He takes advantage of the public confidence, or "credit," which he knows to exist at the moment to expand the volume of public spending power by a strictly limited and safe amount. —"Argus" editorial, August 3.

"Takes advantage" is the right phrase. In view of the contention that the "Argus" has for years been putting forward, that bankers merely lend their deposits, the admission above is astonishing.

The "Argus" now concedes that the private banks "expand the volume of public spending power"—that is, issue financial credit, which is money—by taking advantage of the public credit, or the real credit of the community, based on its supply of real wealth. The banks' limit is "a strictly limited and safe amount"—in other words, they must not create so much of their interest-bearing, ledger-entry money as to be caught short by the demands of the public for legal tender.

And the "Argus" is so ingenuous as to concede also that "in the last resort, that piece of real wealth would have to be sold to satisfy the borrower's debt at the bank"; and that "there may be some respects in which the monetary system in Australia could profitably be altered."

Can it be that its own recent unhappy experience of a £242,000 bank overdraft is at last teaching the "Argus" something about finance?

sented the essential requirements of reform."

It is difficult to guess whether Mr. Curtin is groping his way to the truth or merely wishes the unwary citizen to think that his objective is the full objective of Social Credit. We shall be the first to congratulate Mr. Curtin if the former guess should prove correct.

(c) The object of production is the provision of employment. Incomes can be paid only through the avenue of work, or through pensions raised from taxation or loans from the Commonwealth Bank.

It is significant to note here that there are signs of real progress within the Labor party on the point of income distribution. Mr. Brooker, seconded by Mr. Dwyer-Gray (Tasmanian Treasurer), moved that *purchasing power should be distributed to the people through such channels as are not covered by public and private works.* To its eternal shame the conference refused to endorse this motion. We congratulate Mr. Brooker and Mr. Dwyer-Gray for their recognition of the necessity for the issue of consumer credit. Their fellow-politicians, however, still boggle at the thought of anyone "getting something for nothing." They shut their eyes to the fact that the accumulated knowledge of the centuries is the biggest factor in production, and that it is definitely a communal inheritance, handed to us for nothing. They forget also that the Almighty attaches no price tickets to rain and sunshine, and that materials and natural forces and laws are at hand to be utilised.

(d) Price regulation. Beyond suggesting that interest rates should be controlled in order to keep to a minimum the monetary and capital charges (debt-money charges) of production and industry, the Labor Conference has made not the slightest progress on the vital subject of withdrawal of money from the community through prices. It has confined itself to the relatively unimportant matter of the issue of money. This issue is to be through works as increased debt, and will leave behind it an equivalent trail of cost to be met. Further, it will tend to true inflation—i.e., a rise of prices, so long as the bad old principle is allowed to rule that the price of an article is what it will fetch. Rising prices are the meanest form of taxation and filching of purchasing power, and they hit hardest the strata of society, which Labor professes to represent. Further, stimulated production without any provision being made for closing the gap between incomes and prices, must ultimately lead to an intensification of the struggle for markets.

A further aspect of Labor policy

is the shortening of hours of work. Without the national dividend and the price discount this must entail either higher prices or lower wages.

The essentials of monetary reform are threefold:—

(1) Community control of credit and the free issue of credit for production.

(2) The issue of the National Dividend.

(3) Regulation through the price discount of the withdrawal of money from the people.

The Labor Conference has not gone beyond the first essential, and it is not altogether clear that it does not desire to control finance merely to revenge itself on capitalism.

(e) As we have stated, under the Labor proposals as they now stand, it will still be true that a man must work or starve, and to that extent man may never achieve real freedom of choice as to whether he will or will not cooperate in any particular undertaking. This is not a sound basis for the erection of a lasting social construction.

### THE COMMONWEALTH BANK BOARD

Before leaving the decisions of the Conference it is welcome to note that it was recognised by a majority of delegates that the present Board of the Commonwealth Bank represents sectional interests, and mainly those of the private banking monopoly. It was proposed at the Conference to free the bank of such sectional control, but whether the alternative of rule-of-thumb issue of producer-credit proposed by the Conference will be better is doubtful, to say the least of it. What is wanted is a Commonwealth Bank or National Credit Authority administering the principles of Social Credit on the basis of correctly compiled statistics of production and consumption. This does not imply either sectional control or political control, but implies a monetary or ticket system, which accurately reflects the facts of the economic activities of the community.

### THE BANKERS AND LABOR

It is fair to say that the Conservative and National parties have for years avowedly represented banking interests, and of them it may be said, "Well, what would you expect of a pig but a grunt?" when they bring in a piece of legislation which handsomely assists the bankers. It is fair to say, on the other hand, that Labor politicians have fulminated against the iniquities of bankers for years. In spite of this undoubted attitude to bankers, Labor Governments have been guilty of placing on our Statute Books some of our most repressive and reactionary legislation. It was a Labor Government, which promised to the bankers Australia's last man and last shilling in 1914. Several Labor Governments ratified the notorious Financial Agreements whereby Australia went totally into pawn to the bankers in 1929. Labor Government was the first to reduce pensions in Australia. High and grinding taxation has been characteristic of Labor rule. In England the story has been the same. After a short term in office, and usually after the imposition of laws, which the bankers' avowed representatives would have hesitated to impose, Labor Governments have been unceremoniously bundled out. The normal procedure has been for several Labor politicians to turn neat somersaults and their performance has been so entertaining to financial interests that the clowns involved have had pennies thrown to them in sufficient quantities to enable them to live happily ever after. The net upshot of the whole business has been greater debt and higher taxation.

It is doubtful whether the bankers would even oppose a capital levy, as that would reduce to a common level of degradation all persons who had no access to the creation of financial credit.

The ease with which bankers

have twisted Labor politicians to their own purposes has been facilitated by the work complex of Labor, the revenge complex of Labor, and its unwillingness to go the whole hog in monetary reform.

Mere nationalisation of credit without change of policy would be another handsome handout to the bankers, as the swindle would then have the authority of the State behind it. The banking swindle is a swindle mainly in its treatment of consumers, and the consumer as such has been neglected in the Labor proposals we have considered.

It is difficult to understand what keeps Labor leaders from plumping solidly for the three essentials of monetary reform, as that alone will win them the willing support of the people. It is probable that they are afraid of the campaign of vilification, which financial interests will turn on. It is possible also that the matter of party funds has something to do with their unwillingness. However this may be, they display altogether too much willingness to heed warnings from the publicity agents of finance, such as that given in the leading article of the Age on July 30. In this article Labor was exhorted to keep off the grass with respect to monetary reform, to keep off the grass with reference to reconstitution of the Commonwealth Bank Board, and, above all things, to continue in the belief that the nation's credit means its supply of money and bonds. The bankers are always willing to supply guides to assist Labor in its climb to office, and each new guide is able to show them that further of their promises and obligations to the electors must be jettisoned. The record of Labor has been one of consistent expression of fine ambitions, coupled with a shockingly bad record of actual performance. What is required of Labor leaders is more guts, for we are in a position to state definitely that most of them know the principles of Social Credit but are too craven hearted to back them up. In the fight, which is going on inside Labor ranks, we wish the Brookers and Dwyer-Grays well. Adherence to the bankers has led the Labor party nowhere, except to a betrayal of the people it supposedly represents, and it is

### ONLY 1,693,000!

"Indicative of world recovery is the fact that only 1,693,000 bags of coffee were destroyed last year, against 8,266,000 in 1934. Since June, 1931, 35,801,000 bags have been destroyed."

—Byron Moore, Day and Journeaux's Monthly Review, July 1936.

astonishing that this fact has not been recognised. Of what possible use is it to the man with only his labour to exchange to be told in an era of mechanisation that he must either work or starve? Who wants to be forced into a forestry camp at the top of Mount Wellington, for instance, so that he and his family might be given access to food and clothing?

Shades of Sisyphus! This poor mug trod on the corns of some ancient deity and was condemned to roll a stone up a hill. When he got there the stone rolled back and he had to keep on with the hopeless task. Is this what Labor politicians wish on their constituents?

Labor should set about disabusing the minds of its constituents of the idea that it is work they want, and promising them financial access to the plenty, which surrounds them. This is the policy which will get votes, if it is votes the party wants, and the Social Credit technique is adequate to nullify any counter machinations of financial interests.

### BE THERE!

STATE CONFERENCE  
Douglas Credit Movement  
of Victoria  
Nicholas Hall, Swanston  
St. Melbourne  
This Saturday, August 8,  
at 2 p.m.

## A CRITICISM OF PROFESSOR COPLAND

By BRUCE H BROWN

At the Hotel Windsor on July 20, the Economic Society of Australia and New Zealand and the Melbourne University Old Commerce Students' Association gave a farewell dinner to Professor D. B. Copland on the eve of his departure for the United States and other parts of the world. Sir Herbert Gepp proposed the health of the professor and expressed the firm conviction that the guest of the evening would make "a real contribution to American economic knowledge." In the course of his address, Sir Herbert said this: —

"Professor Copland has done notable work for Australia and the Empire. He and Professor Giblin had been leaders in mapping out the details of the Premiers' Plan, and in persuading influential sections of the community to

Last Thursday a deputation representing the Victorian Wheat-growers' Association waited on the Prime Minister (Mr. Lyons) and entered a vigorous protest against the new tariff . . . The Prime Minister said in his reply that negotiations were now taking place between the Commonwealth and Japan, and he was hopeful that a satisfactory solution would be found.

—The "Countryman," July 31. Japan is still making no move to resume trade discussions. . . . It is felt at Canberra that Japan may be delaying the resumption of negotiations until it has an opportunity of gauging the feeling of the Federal Parliament, which resumes on September 10.

—Melbourne "Sun," August 4.

agree to its adoption. Professor Copland had also been an inspiring force in the University of Melbourne, and a leader of thought in the community."

Sir Herbert did not tell us how the professor proposed to remove the unrealities from American economics, how his work was "notable," in what way he had "inspired" the University, or what kind of "thought" he led. That, evidently, was all to be left to the imagination. One thing is certain, however, and that one thing is that the guest of honour always dodged any public discussion of the origin, function, and control of money.

### "MISUNDERSTOOD."

In replying to the toast, the Professor unburdened himself as follows:—

"The Premiers' Plan had been very much misunderstood. Both sides of the controversy had laid emphasis on the orthodox elements of the Plan, although its unorthodox principles were the really distinguishing features. The orthodox portions were only smoke screens for the things that were really done under the Plan. Those things included a depreciation of the currency the heavy and substantial reduction of interest, the Conversion Loan of August 1931, which had exceeded expectations, and the definite inflation, which took place in 1930 until the middle of 1932. It was a tragedy that wages and salaries had to be reduced."

Will you kindly read both utterances again? Do they not strongly suggest that Professor Copland could have smote the knight for his bungling reference to an episode he was so piously hoping would be forgotten?

We can leave Professor Giblin out of the discussion altogether for the time being, as we propose a little later on to review the part he played with special reference to that series of articles he wrote for the Melbourne Herald in 1931 in the form of "Letters to John Smith" apparently as part of the scheme of persuasion! We are concerned at the moment to find out whether Professor Copland did in fact do "notable work for Australia." If his work was notable, then we say it was notable only because it was against Australia. His actions in that memorable period benefited only the financial interests, which have always held us in

subjection, and which have their headquarters outside Australia. No benefit whatever accrued to the people of this country from what he did or what he advised us to do. Everything he recommended was a blow at the men, women and children of Australia who form Sir Robert Knox's "working class," and it is because more and more people are realising this that the professor is rapidly becoming discredited. He must not be allowed to escape his full share of the responsibility for having misled the Governments and betrayed the trust of a confiding people.

Having said that, we now ask you to join with us in reviewing what took place, always bearing in mind that the Chair of Economics at the Melbourne University, although proposed soon after Federation, could not be established because of lack of money. When eventually brought into existence, it became possible only through the "generosity" of the banking-financial combines, who naturally look to their child for reverence and obedience.

Even if we disregard the callous behaviour of the financial controllers following the conference of international bankers at Brussels in 1920, and the resultant appointment of a former American banker, in the person of Montagu Norman, to take charge of that private mint known as the Bank of England, we can only feel amazed at the events which took place in 1929 and the way in which those events were made to operate almost immediately against the people of practically every country. Our own experiences in Australia force us to the conclusion that, consciously or otherwise, Professor Copland has been a public enemy without our having suspected it.

### THE PART PLAYED BY THE BANKS.

Speaking as Prime Minister in the House of Representatives in 1931, Mr. Scullin informed the people of Australia as follows:—

"Recently there came a very sudden drop in the price of exportable commodities, together with a complete cessation of borrowing overseas, and these two factors have greatly aggravated the financial and economic depression. The Government has endeavoured, during the last year or two, to arrest the deflation, which has been going on. We have endeavoured to prevail upon the banks to extend credit in order that unemployment might be arrested. Failing to obtain bank credit, part of the plan was to pass a Fiduciary Notes Bill to assist the wheat farmers and the unemployed, but that measure was rejected in another place."

Only a few weeks ago, banking witnesses before the Monetary Commission admitted that the banks did act in concert as early as 1928 to reduce the amount of financial credit available to the community, and on June 21 of that selfsame year the Melbourne Sun published the following:—

"The forecast that the present mild depression will be followed by a period of recovery, probably developing into active and even boom conditions, is made by Professor D. B. Copland, Dean of the Faculty of Commerce at the Melbourne University."

### THE THREE STEPS

You can see from the foregoing that the depression really consisted of a series of three moves, as follows:—

1st.—A fall in prices (sudden);  
2nd.—A refusal of further financial accommodation in London (sudden);

3rd.—A curtailment of financial credit in Australia (at first "mild," but then suddenly serious.) Each of these was a piece of deliberate financial manipulation to serve the interests of the money controllers—the first ruined the primary producers; the second embarrassed the Government; and the third placed the business people

even more within the control of the private money monopoly. Millions of pounds of Australian credit money were called in by the private banks and cancelled out of existence. They had created it, and they cancelled it.

Having thus brought about a serious shortage of Australian money in Australia, even though the workers and producers of Australia were actually supplying increasing quantities of the things we all needed, the banking system then directed the Loan Council to impose a policy of retrenchment in government services so as to bring those services back to the limits of the restricted quantity of money which they had arbitrarily and dictatorially determined. They also controlled publicity so as to get the Judges of the Arbitration Court to reduce the already meagre wages of the workers. That was done on the claim that such a reduction would stimulate employment, but the result was that during the ensuing eighteen months unemployment consistently went from bad to worse.

### THE PREMIERS' PLAN "EXPERTS."

It was in this atmosphere and in these general conditions that a committee of "experts" was appointed to investigate the "budgetary" position of the several governments and to recommend what

### "TOMMY" WHITE ENTERS THE ARENA.

Having left Henry Gullet to bear the brunt of the attack while he went on a winter jaunt to the North, Minister of Customs White is now back to take his part in the ramp against the people of Australia. As would be expected, his first appearance was before the Australian Women's National League. On Monday night he told the members of that body at St. Kilda that "the Federal Government will stand behind the primary industries to see that they do not suffer." A little later, however, he admitted, "while the wool people know they might suffer in some measure at the outset, they were taking it very well."

should be done to put our house in order. To these experts, "putting our house in order," meant only one thing, and that was the restricting of everything so that the physical facts would be brought into line with a fictitious shortage of financial symbols. They gave no thought at all to the much more sensible course of requiring the financial symbols to be brought into line with the physical facts. Men holding the latter view were of course not "experts," and consequently selection of the personnel of the committee was confined to those who could be depended upon not to expose the swindle by which the private money monopoly exercised complete control over the life of the nation. Both of the professors mentioned showed themselves ready to defend and support the swindle as good lackeys were expected to be, and quickly secured prominent places among the "experts." In addition to this, they both did a lot of public writing and speaking as part of the plot to keep the people as a body in a state of mesmerism about finance, and to make them amenable to the pills prescribed by the pirating pretenders who had unscrupulously usurped the community's credit, and who were cruelly curtailing the purchasing power which alone could give access to relief from poverty and distress. They served their employers well, but at what a price! Please also note that while monetary reformers are denounced for their unorthodoxy, this great professor now publicly declares that the "orthodox" principles of the Plan were but a smoke screen to cover the much more beneficent features of an unorthodox type!

ORTHODOX ADMISSIONS. Now, regarding the very sudden drop in prices we place on record the fact that at the annual meeting of shareholders in the Midland Bank, London, in 1928, the chairman declared that "... the American price level is controlled by the policy of the reserve banks in expanding or contracting credit"; and also the statement of Professor Cassel,

described in the "Encyclopedia Britannica" as one of the world's foremost authorities on foreign exchanges, that "... the world price level is actually regulated by the leaders of the United States' bank policy." The fall in prices referred to by Mr. Scullin was preceded by what the newspapers described as "an orgy of speculation on the New York Stock Exchange." This orgy was started by the Federal Reserve Board when it deliberately lowered the re-discount rate, and the orgy was stopped by the same Board when it deliberately put the rate up again and ushered in the depression. Following this wickedness, the same Professor Cassel expressed himself in the *Financial Times* as follows:—

"Practically absolute power over the welfare of the world has been placed in the hands of the Federal Reserve Board, and one is appalled to see the apparently haphazard manner in which the Board uses this power, how ignorant it is of the aim which ought to dictate American monetary policy."

Immediately following this action on the part of the American banking controllers the policy of deflation in England was intensified by Montagu Norman, who had been publicly described as "Wall Street's Deflation Agent," and the inevitable result was that business was curtailed and the people of England further deprived of their purchasing power.

Mr. Ludwell Denny, a prominent American author, in his book entitled, "America Conquers Britain," comments thus:—

"Many nations may laugh at our State Department but all must tremble before our Federal Reserve Board. High money rates in the United States in 1929 forced an increase in the official discount rates almost at once in England, in ten European countries, in two Latin-American countries, and two in the Far East, and in almost every case that action restricted business and brought suffering to millions of foreign workers." (Note—This includes us.)

To get some idea of the significance of these things it is necessary to bear in mind that Montagu Norman, since his appointment as Governor of the Bank of England in 1920, has spent a great deal of his time in New York consulting the Federal Reserve Board, of which, until his death recently,

Paul Warburg, the originator of the central bank idea, was the dominating force. Mr. Norman keeps his name out of the press as much as possible, rarely appears in public, goes to extraordinary lengths to hide his movements, and never explains anything. It was through his agency that these diabolical conditions were imposed on the people of Australia, and in 1931 the late Sir Robert Gibson informed the Senate as follows:—

"The Commonwealth Bank, more particularly in recent years, has been in intimate association with the Bank of England. There has been constant and growing exchange of opinion and views with the bank and the Bank of England, which places the Bank of England in a reliable position to ascertain our actual position, both overseas and in Australia. The bank is in

According to Mr. E. G. Menzies, the after-dinner speeches of England have reached the lowest ebb for years. And, according to such men as Sir John Orr, so have the dinners.

continuous communication with the Bank of England on all questions affecting finance in its broadest sense—world finance. . . ."

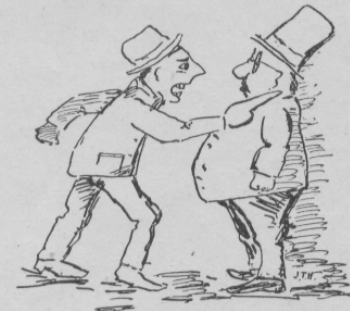
This information was revealed after Mr. Norman had sent Sir Otto Niemeyer and Professor Guggenheim Gregory here in 1930 as bailiffs (Gregory, by the way, married Miss Niemeyer) to have everything cut by the scissors of financial restriction and retrenchment. Sufficient has been said to show that from the Federal Reserve Board, through the Bank of England, and through such agents as Niemeyer and "Gregory" and Sir Robert Gibson, the power and dictates of international finance spread to the Australian credit monopoly, filling the Commonwealth with unemployment, insecurity, bankruptcy and distress.

### PROFESSOR COPLAND AND THE BANKERS.

As one of our leading economists, Professor Copland should have known all this. If he did not know it, then he was incompetent as an economist; but if he did know it, then the part he played in connection with the Premiers' Plan was nothing short of throwing millions of his fellow Australians to the wolves of finance behind his deceitful smoke screen of orthodoxy.

In formulating this outrageous

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plan he worked hand in glove with the bankers, who as a matter of fact should have had no place at all in the conferences. Not only were they there, however, but they were represented by the heads of the supposedly Australian banks which are controlled from London (the three banks thus controlled are the E.S. & A., the Union and the Australasia, some of whose London directors are also directors of the Bank of England!). The whole purpose of this "plan" was to bring government expenditure down to a greatly reduced financial figure, the latter having been brought about by the deliberate actions of the people with whose representatives Professor Copland had so closely allied himself. At a time when the people were suffering acutely from shortage of money tickets, called purchasing power, he actually took a leading part in intensifying the shortage. Listen to what the Treasurer said in the Federal Parliament when the "Financial Emergency" legislation was under discussion:—

"The economic position brought about by the world-wide depression affects Australia as intensely as any other country. The 'value' of our exportable products has declined by over sixty million pounds a year. The 'stoppage' of the flow of loan money, which was cut off suddenly in 1929, deprived the nation of thirty millions a year. In these two ways alone the national income has been reduced by more than ninety million pounds a year. Concurrently, the monetary policy pursued by the banks allowed the collapse of prices overseas to be reflected immediately in the Australian prices, and in my opinion that policy was woefully mistaken. It brought about a too sudden diminution of values, and too great a disruption of the relationship between the creditor and debtor classes, and caused such chaos that the primary producers have been almost ruined. . . . The Commonwealth Government has given earnest and constant consideration to the problem of meeting equitably this loss of national income. It propounded a financial policy, involving an alteration of monetary policy, to effect the liberation of credit and the utilisation of the credit-creating sources, in order to counteract the effect upon the local prices of the sudden collapse of the markets overseas. But the Government was unable to carry that policy into effect."

Mr. Beasley asked: "Who stopped it?"

The Treasurer replied: "It was resisted by the banks, and the legislation which would have overcome a portion of that resistance was rejected by the Senate. . . . I say

frankly that had the necessary legislation been passed and the Government been able fully to operate its financial proposals, there would have been no need to attack pensions or the basic wage."

But Professor Copland, although he must have known that Australia's greatest difficulty was a shortage of Australian money—the only kind of money that can be used in Australia—actually helped the private bankers to increase the difficulty by further limiting the quantity of money in circulation. That was bad enough in all conscience, but what are we to say of his hypocritical lament at this stage "it was a tragedy that wages and salaries had to be reduced"? They did NOT have to be reduced, and, as the Treasurer so clearly showed, those who brought the reduction about should be charged with the perpetration of a serious crime against the nation. Moreover, what was the purpose of Professor Copland's subsequent interview with Montagu Norman? (This will be mentioned again.)

Financial policy was therefore the explanation of the disgraceful events of recent years, and there is no longer the slightest doubt that farmers are suffering from the effects of lowered prices, pensioners from reduced pensions, public servants from heavy salary cuts, business men from loss of trade, industrialists from the loss of wages, and the unemployed from both physical and mental distress wholly because of the actions of international financiers aided by the banking system of Australia and certain of our inspiring economists. The circumstances brought about by those actions have been responsible for increasing the number of bankruptcies, suicides and domestic tragedies.

By introducing the Financial Emergency legislation to give effect to this so-called Premiers' Plan, the Governments of Australia admitted to the world that they were helpless in the hands of the private monopoly controlling finance, and that they had neither the sense nor the will to break free from such clutches. Professor Copland's actions were calculated to tighten the clutches instead of loosening them, and any man who acts in that way against his own country cannot blame his fellow countrymen if they look upon him either as a hopelessly incompetent adviser or a.... In this respect, one of the other economists has since apparently become conscience-stricken, and has given us a little insight into how the swindle was worked. That will be referred to next week.

(To be continued.)

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## WOMEN AND THE CHURCH

By LEONORA POLKINGHORNE.

If all the women suddenly declared the churches "black," what would become of organised religion? Surely it would cease to function. The proportion of male attendants at services, already small enough, would dwindle still more without the constant drive of the woman in the home, and the offertories become so depleted as to make it impossible to carry on. Then, of course, there are the innumerable money-procuring activities for which women are solely responsible—fetes, bridge parties, dances, jumble sales and many others. It is difficult to imagine man left to continue this branch of church work. Under these circumstances one would think that woman had a special place of honour in the churches; but is it so? No doubt hundreds of them sat meekly while John Knox thundered about "the monstrous regimen of women" and generally gave them to understand their comparative insignificance in the scheme of creation. But we need not go back so far. A very few years ago, a country parish sent a woman representative to the Anglican Synod in Adelaide. She was chosen by the men and women of that church as the best person to represent it, but was denied admission, and had the humiliation of returning bearing that refusal to those who had sent her. (In justice, it was not the Bishop of the diocese who took that attitude, seeing that, in the face of the disapproval of most orthodox churchmen, he invited Dr. Maude Royden to the Cathedral pulpit.) Why do women submit to these insults, you ask? Partly because they look beyond these men to a higher ideal, but mostly, I fear, because this particular class of women has taken too literally in early youth Kingsley's advice. "Be good, sweet maid, and let who will be clever."

If all the good people were clever, and all the clever people good, what a number of excellent things could be done for the world! The verse would really run thus: Be good, sweet maid, but also, mind, be clever.

Else noble deeds are lost in psalm and song,  
For life is death without that fine endeavour

By which we use our brains to right the wrong.

So you will see that of all women, the hardest to rouse on things like Social Credit are those who are given to pious works. For religion makes little appeal in these days to anything but the emotional, as anyone can judge by listening-in to Sunday sermons. Only last Sunday, a rousing voice from a prominent Methodist pulpit seemed to be striking the right note when he denounced the war-mongers, the armament makers, the economic mess in which the world found itself today, the shocking condition of the poor, the wickedness of sabotaging food; so that when he at last said, "And what is the remedy for all this?" one listened with considerable interest. But one heard this: "Is it not that we urge the message of love on human hearts?" Which, of course, left the whole thing just where it was, and, for all the good done, that gentleman might as well have stayed in bed as face the wintry elements to give his "message." For the people who listened to him were already for the most part quite willing to love one another, to banish war and social inequalities (for it was a poor quarter), and they simply acquiesced and went home to dinner—that is, those that had any. Of course, if a few bank directors, newspaper proprietors, munition interests and representatives of monopolistic commercial concerns had made part of the congregation, it might have been different.

EMOTIONAL PIETY

It has been said that religion is just an anodyne for heartache, and there are so many heartaches that

women must endure that there may be some justification for this saying, for even in Russia, a country that was determined to get rid of anodynes and to substitute constructive effort, many women cling still to the faith that Russian men have forsworn.

All this would seem to assume that religion is mere sentimentalism and that it would be far better to throw it overboard and get on with the job. And that, of course, would be quite a wrong conclusion for if religion means anything it means a burning faith in human nature, a strong recognition of the fatherhood of God and the brotherhood and sisterhood of men and women. There was nothing wrong with the preacher's statement that we need to keep the fire of love alight in our hearts; where he failed was in letting it be imagined that the problem was a small per-

### PUT THIS BY FOR FUTURE REFERENCE.

"The invention of fiendish cruelties is now an important part in the duties of war propagandist."  
—Melbourne "Herald" editorial, July 30.

sonal one, and not a call to arms for the sake of humanity as a whole. Religion should not be used as an anodyne for an individual heartache, but as a submerging of individual troubles in a great passion and pity for the troubles of the whole world. Mere emotion without brains and resolution evaporates in pious wishes, and accomplishes nothing but the intellectual decadence of the emotional debauchee.

What women need to fear more than anything is the danger of over-sentimentalism. Few things are more disastrous to the progress of the world. Sentiment—yes, strong, sound sentiment is always needed, but let it never degenerate into the other thing. Sentimentalism can and does turn aside the course of justice, as is often shown in the decisions of juries—and exclusively male juries at that.

With regard to the Church, then, and women's relation to it, I would suggest that they use their undoubted power there to insist that the Church wakes up to its job of doing something for suffering and exploited humanity. Let them say, "All this singing and praying is very good and helpful if there is something behind it, but we are getting a bit tired of platitudinous utterances from pulpits, and if you have nothing better to offer for the world's situation today, well, we're out of it, and resolved to place our talents and energies at the disposal of some organisation that is prepared to make some practical use of them." It seems to me that this is the only way in which women can be a real power for good in the Church today. Otherwise, they are mere pew-occupiers and contributors to the collection-plate.

## "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.

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## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

WHO WILL DO THE DIRTY WORK?

Apropos the question of who, under Social Credit, would be prepared to do the dirty work, the press reports that Philip Hargrave, the celebrated boy pianist, is abandoning his highly paid occupation to become a doctor. There are very few jobs in the community entailing more unpleasant duties or more irregular hours than those of the doctor and the nurse. The preparatory training for both professions is such as virtually to limit them to the children of comparatively wealthy parents, yet when do we hear of a shortage of recruits?

"CANCER."

THE PAULINE DOCTRINE

If Mr. Bruce H. Brown had consulted the Greek text of St. Paul's remarks—and if the Labor politicians would do likewise—he, and they, would spare themselves much space in argument. For what the Apostle says is, "If any man is unwilling to work, neither let him eat." People who are familiar with the effects of labour-saving machinery know very well that willingness to work is having less and less to do with the matter. In any event, it can be induced, where it is lacking, by offering sufficient wages and tolerable working conditions.

ROY HEAD.

The Rectory,  
Barcadine, Q.

LEAVE DETAILS TO TECHNICIANS.

When advocates for the abolition of slums speak or write, they are not asked any questions as to their knowledge of building construction. All they are expected to do is to rouse public opinion as to the necessity for slum abolition, leaving details and methods to architects and builders.

So should it be with the advocates of Social Credit, but, instead, we find that invariably some in the audience expect Social Credit advocates to be bookkeepers, accountants and banking technicians, and Social Credit advocates fall into the error of attempting to fulfill that expectancy. This is a mistake. We should avoid argument as to detailed methods and concentrate on showing where the cause of social ills lies and demand its abolition. We may know the class of house we want and yet have no expert knowledge of banking.

So all together—away with poverty and down with the cause, the Bankers Combine.

G. REDFERN.

## Hear John Hogan

at

**Pleasant Sunday Afternoon  
IVANHOE HALL,  
Sunday Afternoon, August 9,  
at 2.45.**

Chairman: DR. JOHN DALE.

## John Hogan's Remarkable Gippsland Tour

Exceeding the most optimistic expectations, and indicating a splendid wave of interest and enthusiasm, John Hogan's return tour through Gippsland established many records for numbers and enthusiasm in the towns visited, and without the heat of electioneering to attract large audiences tallied 2400 at meetings, as well as two radio audiences, in less than a fortnight. The country press responded well to this popular feeling, and glowing headlines in many journals took the spirit of reform to thousands more.

After Traralgon, profitable hours at Sale on Saturday afternoon preceded a half-hour's broadcast over Station 3TR. In the evening, a short address and general discussion organised by the Sale Debating Club was reported by the Gippsland "Times" as "not only giving those present an opportunity of hearing an accomplished speaker with a national reputation under crossfire from the more courageous of local champions, but also served to bring out many of the more obscure points, especially in regard to money."

John spent the night at Maffra with Mr. Jack Haycox, who accompanied him to Bairnsdale next morning, where he was welcomed at the High School, for technical discussion, by a group of the more prominent of those locally interested since his last visit. An excellent audience of about 150, widely representative, gathered at the Masonic Hall for the Pleasant Sunday Afternoon address, the small local committee, whose president is Dr. Fraser, being greatly strengthened by this success in a hitherto dubious, but very important centre. Cr. Heath presided, and Cr. Murphy moved the vote of thanks. On then to Orbost, and a warm meeting in the theatre, with the Shire President in the chair. Unavoidable delay next morning spoilt a surprise gathering at Lakes Entrance, but with Crs. Broome and Morkham lending interest here, a strong meeting will eventuate on a later occasion, and the generous publicity accorded by the Bairnsdale "Advertiser" and "Every Week" has done good work in the district. Final organising at Bairnsdale was rushed, and the 50 miles to Sale covered in time to commence a further broadcast over 3TR immediately prior to the public meeting at the Institute, presided over by the Mayor, Cr. Cooper. The broadcast was widely effective, and for the first visit an excellent crowd, again of about 150, packed the hall at Sale, and responded to his address with keenly interested questions.

### 250 AT MAFFRA.

Press reports, correspondence, interviews and a run over the Maffra Factory occupied Tues-

day, and a great crowd of nearly 250 rewarded the energetic preparation of Mr. Jack Haycox and his colleagues at Maffra that night. The foundations of a progressive branch were laid, the chairman, Cr. Ashton, indicating his intention of joining up right away. This trip has been remarkable for the assistance and support received from shire and borough councillors throughout, representing the best and most responsible elements in the community. On next day through Heyfield, Rosedale, Traralgon, Morwell and Yallourn to Moe, "finishing off" each town en route, urging all supporters to continued action and, if possible, attendance at the August 8th Convention. A wild night at Moe threatened the first unsatisfactory meeting, but interest in the young crusader's message was stronger than the elements, and a record crowd of nearly 150 again attended. A pioneer of the movement, Mr. J. Burrage, jun., presided, and once again Bob Morton and the "Yallourn boys" came along to help in the various ways that ensure the polished organisation of a meeting.

**TOWN BAND AT MORWELL.** The energetic and resourceful Yallourn organising secretary was once more to the forefront at Morwell the following night, and again in spite of bad weather conditions a record crowd, including many whose shift had prevented attendance at other meetings in the Yallourn district, followed the town band to the hall. Cr. White presided, and two other councillors were prominent during the particularly interesting and informative question time.

### ANOTHER RECORD AT TRAFALGAR

Two of the Cranwells from Hazelwood accompanied John next day back through Morwell, and up the range to Mirboo North for organising purposes. In the afternoon, met by Mr. W. Hochkin at Thorpdale, he addressed a crowd of about 150 farmers at the sale yards, and was well received, many undoubtedly helping to swell the Trafalgar crowd at night. Father Gavan, Mr. J. Spehr and others had done splendid work at Trafalgar since John's first visit, and the initial crowd of 30 had accordingly swelled to nearly 250, a record again for a town where 50 is a good audience to hear any public speaker or politician. The town band rendered items until after the business houses had closed and the last of the audience had come in. Mr. Moncur, M.L.A. for the electorate, presided, and was accompanied on the platform by the Shire President, councillors, and representatives of the Social Credit organisations from various centres until well after

midnight, with a most approving crowd. The effect on the member, who had never seen so many at a public meeting here before, nor heard such unanimous applause, may be imagined, and a little definite Election Campaign activity, which will now be commenced in most of the centres John has opened up, will put him and his colleagues into a position where they can go ahead with security.

John left for Melbourne immediately afterwards, after taking leave of the central Gippsland enthusiasts, who will carry on. Not least among these are the Yallourn members, and not least among them is Bob Morton, an organising secretary and a half! Backed by many less prominent pioneers and a couple of hundred members, plus initiative and a personality that somehow gets the others to work—and to pay—his assistance was of great value to the State Organising Secretary, Mr. G. R. Trenoweth, and to John on this trip especially.

### BERWICK SUCCESSFUL.

Returning to Berwick on Monday night, while Mr. L. H. Hollins took the meeting at Bachus Marsh, for which he had also been booked, a large and enthusiastic audience again greeted him, and gave Messrs. White and Turner a definite basis for the commencement of Electoral Campaign activity. The Rev. Collins presided over a crowd of 120, and the vote of thanks was moved by Rev. Forbes Ewan. Incidentally, this meeting responded particularly well to the financial appeal.

### METROPOLITAN. WILLIAMSTOWN OPENS CAMPAIGN.

Opening the Electoral Campaign at Williamstown on Sunday afternoon, a great crowd of nearly 500 turned up to the P.S.A. organised by the Williamstown branch and supporters, and presided over by popular Dr. John Dale, Melbourne City Health Officer. Cr. Gordon moved the vote of thanks to John Hogan for a particularly stirring address, which will undoubtedly succeed in enrolling ample help to carry on the Campaign in this area, and to the visiting artists.

On Tuesday John returned to the Ordnance Works at lunch hour to meet the barrage of questions arising out of his earlier address, accompanied by Mr. A. Greig, and the final applause was evidence that this body of men are in behind.

### JOHN HOGAN'S PROGRAMME

Friday, August 7.—PRAHRAN TOWN HALL RALLY, 8.30 p.m.  
 Saturday, August 8.—STATE CONFERENCE, Nicholas Building, Swanston St., 2 p.m.  
 Sunday, August 9.—CONFERENCE RALLY, IVANHOE THEATRE, P.S.A., 2.30 p.m.  
 Monday, August 10.—KEW RALLY, RECREATION HALL, 8 p.m.  
 Thursday, August 13.—Address on Tariff Policy and Social Credit to public meeting at St. John's Hall, Wagga (N.S.W.).  
 Saturday, August 15.—Leave for Launceston, Tasmania. John expects to return from Tasmania towards the middle of September, and communications and requests in regard to his future programme should be addressed to Mr. G. R. Trenoweth, State Organising Secretary, D.C. Movement of Victoria, immediately, to ensure that arrangements can be made as far ahead as possible. In his early programme will be included, at convenient rotation, return tours through Western Districts and (final) Gippsland remaining centres; Goulburn Valley; Wimmera and Mallee; Riverina.

### TASMANIAN ITINERARY

Mr. W. W. Drake of Ravenswood, c/o Mowbray P.O. Launceston, to whom relevant correspondence should be addressed, reports that the following programme has been arranged for

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John's initial Tasmanian Campaign:

August 16. -- Pleasant Sunday Afternoon, Launceston. Evening: Broadcast, 7LA.  
 August 17.—Launceston Rally, Mechanics' Hall.  
 August 18.—Derby.  
 August 19.—Scottsdale.  
 August 20.—Campbelltown.  
 August 21.—Langford.  
 August 22.—Sheffield.  
 August 23.—Mole Creek.  
 August 24.—Larrobe.  
 August 25.—Devonport.  
 August 26.—Burnie.  
 August 27.—Ulverstone.  
 August 28.—Leave for Hobart and Southern tour.  
 The arrangements in the South will be in the hands of the organisation there, and communications may be addressed c/o Mr. G. S. Carruthers, M.H.A., Hobart.

## Douglas Credit Movement (Victorian Notes)

Country districts are eagerly clamouring for information of Social Credit. The young crusader, John Hogan, stimulates interest wherever he goes, and country people are realising that Social Credit offers them a reasonable solution of their problems.

The Yarrowonga branch of the United Country Party recently organised a meeting in the Shire Hall, and were addressed by the Rev. J. T. Lawton on "The Nature of the Present Breakdown." Mr. Lawton was accompanied by the State Organising Secretary, Mr. G. R. Trenoweth, and the trip occupied two full days. Calls were made both going and coming on Social Crediters at Nathalia, Echuca, Rochester and Bendigo. The meeting at Yarrowonga was most successful. The president of the local U.C.P. branch, Mr. A. E. McPherson, presided. Mr. Lawton enjoyed the audience to study the present financial system, as "things" do not right themselves, but have to be put right. He explained how money had become the master of man, and was the cause of the present breakdown. At the conclusion of his address Mr. Trenoweth emphasised this. The interest of the audience was proven by the rush to buy literature, and the complete stock carried was sold out. The farmers and businessmen of Yarrowonga are becoming enthusiastic, and an active group will be formed there.

On Monday last Mr. L. Hollins travelled to Bacchus Marsh to address a meeting organised by local enthusiasts. The Mechanics' Hall was well filled, and keen attention was paid to the speaker. At the conclusion of the meeting new members were received, and Bacchus Marsh will shortly have a branch of the Movement well established.

## Queensland Douglas Credit Party Notes

Last Saturday evening a very successful dance and social was held by the Metropolitan Divisional Council. A considerable number were present, and everyone thoroughly enjoyed themselves. Several solos were kindly delivered by members of the Party, and these were greatly appreciated.

The Secretary of the Hughenden branch of the Party reports that great efforts are being made by the local members to thoroughly organise the surrounding district. A great amount of literature has been distributed, and so far the results have been satisfactory.

In the country centres great progress is being made. Mr. G.

"SATISFACTORY PROGRESS." The temporary agreement with Belgium expires on Saturday, but to facilitate the conclusion of present negotiations for a long-term treaty the existing agreement may be extended. It is not expected that finality will be reached this year for a trade treaty with Germany, but satisfactory progress is being made with France, Poland and Czechoslovakia.  
 —Melbourne "Sun," July 29.

H. Nichols and the State Secretary, Mr. G. H. Gray, have been making a combined tour. So far this has been one of the most successful tours ever conducted in Queensland, many branches have been formed, and members obtained. The details of this wonderful achievement will be made known in our next report.

The Study Class, which meets each Tuesday night at H.Q., is still going on well. In the absence of Mr. Gray it has been taken by Mr. Sawtell, who placed many aspects of Social Credit in a manner easily understood. Quite a lot is gained from these classes, and those who attend are undoubtedly getting a thorough knowledge of the Douglas Credit proposals.

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