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THE NEW TIMES

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Vol. II. No. 46.

MELBOURNE, FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 1936.

Every Friday, 3d

Your Policeman Is A Tax Gatherer

Dear Little Pieces of Paper

By JEAN GIONO, in "Europe"
(Paris).

Men have created a new planet: that of misery and bodily disaster. They have deserted the soil. They have pieces of paper, which are called money.

Now, in order to secure a greater quantity of these pieces of paper they suddenly decide to slaughter and to bury 160,000 cattle from the finest dairy farms.

They decide to uproot vineyards, for, if they do not tear them up, wine will be too cheap; that is, they will not be able to produce a great enough number of pieces of paper.

For when it comes to a choice between the pieces of paper and the wine they choose the pieces of paper.

So they burn coffee, hemp, flax and cotton. When harvests are abundant, they complain; we have too many peaches, pears, wine, wheat, potatoes, sugar beets, cabbages, artichokes, spinach, beans, lentils and carrots. The over-abundant earth is pro-

Established For Your Protection, He Is Now Becoming A Bankers' Agent

Revenue Matters More Than Crime

There is growing in this community, steadily and even rapidly, an antagonism between the public and their police. For this neither the public nor the police as a body of men are to blame; both are the victims of circumstances.

From the public's point of view the police have almost ceased to be regarded as what they should be—the people's protectors. Should a householder be the victim of breaking and entering, or even of a hold-up or assault and battery, he will still generally report the matter to the police. But he will not as a rule be very hopeful that arrest and conviction will follow, and his routine giving of information will in many cases be prompted mainly in order to support his claim for insurance or compensation.

Many people considered that the depths of police ineffectiveness had been reached when advice was issued to Melbourne employers some days ago that payroll escorts, when returning from the banks to their premises, should choose a different route each week. Instead of suppressing bandits, said the disgusted public, the best our police system can now do is to devise new rules for hide and seek.

THE ELSTERNWICK RAID

The same Melbourne public read on Monday morning that the gaming police, reinforced by squads from suburban stations, had raided business premises in Elsternwick on Saturday afternoon. In those premises were somewhere about 200 men, and as it was just before the last race, it is not hard to guess why they were there. Had those men gone on to a racecourse (including tax) and made their wagers with registered bookmakers (including tax) or the totalisator (including tax) they would have been law-abiding citizens. As it was, 112 of them were arrested. The police having overlooked a back door, the rest made a getaway.

Elsternwick being a highly respectable middle-class suburb, it is extremely probable that the men arrested will prove to be quite good citizens and irreproachable husbands and fathers—for even men who like their little "interest" on Saturday afternoons can be such. Added to which, on account of the rain, cricket and other fixtures having been postponed, many were at a loose end.

The conditions accompanying the arrest of all these men were deplorable and scandalous. It was

8.30 p.m. before the last batch were taken away to the City Watch house, and, owing to the difficulty of obtaining bail at such a late hour on Saturday, 50 men had to spend the night in the cells. Meanwhile their families were frantic with anxiety.

"AFTER HOURS."

Take again the question of hotels after 6.0 p.m. As early as about 6.15 you can now find plainclothes police entering licensed premises and booking up every customer in the bar. Notwithstanding everything said to the contrary in certain quarters, the vast majority of these men will be found to be quite sober, quite respectable, and perfectly law-abiding in their instincts. It will also be found that such men have generally been unable to leave their offices or shops until nearly six o'clock and that in the ordinary way, if not interfered with, they would have had their few drinks and proceeded home without being either drunk or disorderly.

These raids on hotels shortly after six o'clock also draw attention to a glaring discrepancy in the law and its administration—not the obvious one that men can drink in clubs if they

(Continued on page 2, column 2.)

Making the Worn Turn

Up till now (says *Social Credit* Japanese silkworms haven't distinguished themselves in any way from their brother silkworms of other lands, and have spun the threads of their cocoons strictly according to ancestral traditions. However, in the general modernisation of the Land of the Rising Sun, they were not spared.

An engineer from Yokohama has just invented a process, which obliges the silkworm to produce long narrow cocoons instead of the spherical ones that have been fashionable for so many centuries. The inventor had more in mind than the creation of a streamline appearance: for this instrument is guaranteed to increase production of silk. When the worms begin to spin their cocoons, they are placed on metal slabs through which a light electric current is running. Disturbed by this current the worms move about more while continuing to spin, and thus arises the new form of the cocoon. Under the effect of this excitation, the production of the threads used in fabrication of silk is considerably augmented.

Presumably the next development will be overproduction of silk and increased unemployment amongst silkworms. The choice will be between silkworms on the dole, or people on the Dividend!

THIS SUCCESSFUL WOOL SEASON

Wool sold in Australia for
first four months of season:
1936-37 715,094 bales
1935-36 762,026 bales

ducing too many cattle, cows, pigs, sheep, horses and goats.

A vast collective terror shakes society: our pieces of paper! Governments, ministers, deputies, kings, emperors, laws, human laws, to the rescue!

We have too much of everything.

Quick, quick, set fire to the fields! Pull down the orchards with the axe. Kill the cattle, pigs, sheep by stabbing, with a blow on the head . . . and if that isn't quick enough: cannon, cannon, cannon.

When scarcity returns! When the earth is a desert, then I can sell this solitary little sheep, this little peach that scarcely makes two bites, at a high price.

You are hungry? All the better, you will give a few more pieces of paper for them. Dear little bits of paper! If I could only stop the rivers! If I could make water expensive, too! I would sell you water. What money is lost in this river from which everyone can drink freely! Ah, dear, delightful bits of paper!

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The Hon. A. A. Dunstan,
'emier of Victoria

Dear Mr. Dunstan,

Speaking in the House on November 5 you expressed a bigger truth than perhaps you realised. In endeavouring to justify the transfer of £30 millions of railways debt to the general debt of the State, you said this: "Payments for depreciation fund purposes, in conjunction with sinking fund contributions, constitute a dual provision; firstly, to replace assets from railway income, and secondly to arrange for the gradual redemption of the loans by the sinking fund provisions, while the assets are maintained in a full state of efficiency . . . The question of the relation of provision for depreciation on commercial principles to the establishment of sinking funds for liquidation of loans is one of great complexity. Trading concerns provide for depreciation, but do not as a rule make systematic provision for the repayment of loans . . ." (Interruption by Harold Cohen: My word they do.) . . . It would be a very praiseworthy, objective to establish an adequate sinking fund and a full depreciation fund, but if such a policy were adopted in the present case there would be the likelihood of undue strain being imposed on present-day ratepayers."

You are quite right, Sir. There would be more than the likelihood. And the reason is quite simple. When a railway is financed by a bank loan a sum of money more or less equal to its financial cost is put into circulation. This sum can be withdrawn from the public EITHER in the form of depreciation charges OR as a provision for loan repayment. To endeavour to collect both from the public is to try and subtract two from one.

Social Crediters have been telling you this for quite a long time, and they have been pointing out that, if new assets are financed by loans, then either the assets must remain unencumbered forever or else they must be allowed to waste away. The process, of course, is complicated by the loans being interest-bearing, and

still further complicated by failure of the financial institutions to distribute fully, as dividends all interest received by them. You accept in practice what we tell you; won't you please delve a little more thoroughly into the underlying principles?

If you did, you would not resort to the childish expedient of hiding dirty hands behind your back. Merely to transfer the unrepayable debt from the railways department to some other department is no solution, as you must surely see.

In your same speech from which we have quoted, you spoke, as though it were an impossible ideal, of making a present to posterity of assets provided by previous generations. If you would only study, this money business a little more closely you would realise how absurd you were. In terms of physical fact all assets are paid for as soon as they are provided. Don't you realise how silly it is to say that this generation can't afford to pay for a railway or a weir, or a sewerage scheme, or whatever it may be? The generation that provides the material and the energy DOES pay for the job. It is there, completed. A debt is passed on to their children only because the money (a bookkeeping record) to correspond with the asset is written up in private financiers' ledgers as a debt against the people. If the State ISSUED the money against the asset, there would be no interest-bearing debt upon its completion, and the money could be withdrawn through depreciation charges as true depreciation occurred.

THE NEW TIMES

PS.—Don't worry about Harold's interruption. He is one of the lucky ones. We can't all be in the Collins House monopolies, whose success is measured by the failure of non-monopolistic competitors - any more than we can all win Caulfield Cups with 66 to one chances. Harold is both the exception that proves the rule and the beneficiary of the money monopoly that makes it.

An Invocation

We have seen ten thousand cattle,
Oh, the very finest meat,
Put on the fiery furnace,
Where they couldn't stand the heat;
They were just ten thousand cattle
That the hungry didn't eat,
But the price went marching on.

We have seen a million fishes,
All a-silvered from the sea,
Dumped outside an anxious
harbour,
Because it might not be
That a life-sustaining morsel
Should be offered almost free
And the price go marching on.

We have seen fine crops a growing
In the East and in the West,
But some starved despite the
fullness
With which the land was blest,
For the harvest wasn't gathered
As the experts thought it best
That the price go marching on.

There's a sovereign people
knocking

At the big financial door:
They must hale it from its
hinges

To prevent it creaking more
As it swings in vicious circles,
Wheeling round again to war-
While fools go marching on.

There's a money-mad tradition,
That our modern sense insults. With
its oft recurrent crises Like
great backward catapults;
People! rid ye of this millstone,
Your commands will bring results
In a National Dividend.
-Robin Hood, in *Social Credit*

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(Continued on page 3.)

(Continued from page 1.)

have the money, while their poorer fellow citizens are made criminals by the clock, but the discrepancy between the law's treatment of hotel licensees and of other traders. Supposing one goes into any ordinary retail establishment just before closing time, one expects to, and will undoubtedly be served until one has completed one's order. The same will apply if one goes into a public dining room. How often does one hear of the police raiding, say, Bourke Street emporiums for after hour trading? And if one imagined such an event happening, and the customer being paraded before two policemen with notebooks and asked why she was there at that hour, etc., etc., and generally treated as a depraved criminal, what would happen in the event of a prosecution? Would a conviction against the firm be accompanied by a mark on the house, three of which would result in forfeiture of the licence to trade? Why the distinction between the hotelkeeper, who has to pay so heavily for his licence, and every other shopkeeper?

PROSTITUTION OF POLICE FUNCTIONS

Further instances of this sort of thing could be multiplied, all tending to show that police activities, instead of being used for the real protection of the public, are more and more being diverted into two channels:—

1. The police are being used as tax gatherers or revenue collectors. Instead of guardians they are becoming raiders—raiding hotels and so-called gambling saloons, seeking convictions and fines *en masse*; persecuting owners of stationary cars, again *en masse*; misusing their brains and intelligence to catch technical transgressors rather than to prevent or to punish real crime. And as a result there is no question but that there is a general and regrettable lowering of the public morale on the question of breaking the law.

2. There is a strong tendency to concentrate police action against "drink" and "gambling" on the part of the poorer sections of the community, while overlooking or exempting the same when indulged in by the richer members. In this respect there is unquestionably one law for the poor and another for the rich. And there seems no doubt that this is done, if not purposely, at least knowingly, in order to retain the support of what is called the wowsier element—the element that forms the backbone of the "sound finance" party and that believes the poor should not dare to ape their betters.

THE CASE FOR THE POLICE

Nothing of this is written by way of criticism against the rank and file of the police force. The men in the service have no choice; they have to carry out orders, however distasteful. And conversation with random members of the force will readily elicit that the ordinary policeman has no desire to be a pimp or a spotter, that he would far rather be friendly than hostile towards his fellow citizens, that he is the first to appreciate courtesy and consideration shown him, and that he would much prefer helping people observe regulations to booking them up for infringing them. People who live in the lesser noticed parts of Australia—such as the outback or North Queensland—will readily admit that in those places the police look after "order and law" rather than "law and order." And will not the people of those parts stand very favourable comparison with the rest of us?

WHERE THOUSANDS ARE SUSPECT

Again, turning to the detection of real, as against artificial crime, the police are daily labouring under greater and greater difficulties. These difficulties do not arise so much because seasoned criminals are better equipped or organized, but because the numbers of suspects or potential criminals are growing by leaps and bounds. At one time we did have something akin to

what is called a criminal class, and the police could quickly narrow down their line of investigation. Take the case of breaking and entering. There were certain recognised receivers, certain types of law-breakers known to be prone to this kind of crime. Failing the professional, investigation turned to "inside" channels, such as the antecedents and connections of the domestic help, and so on. But now! Just consider the thousands and tens of thousands of young men with no regular income, no permanent occupation, and no visible prospect of either. Just consider the numbers of married men with hungry children who are in the same case. Failing an obvious clue, where is the policeman to turn when he knows that on all sides he is surrounded by truly desperate men? How can he judge which of these, having given up hope of ever receiving justice from society, has at length declared war on society? Do we not find, day after day, our judges literally apologising to those they are called upon to convict—and with good reason?

THE SAME OLD CAUSE.

What is the conclusion? It is this. The system under which we are living makes criminals out of honest men on the one hand, and changes the police into tax-gatherers on the other. People become criminals principally from lack of money. Rarely do we meet the person who really has criminal tendencies, and, when we do, investigation will generally show that he is a case for the doctor rather than for the judge. In most instances lack of money on his parents' part has caused his shortcomings, and lack of money on the part of the State prevents him, when arrested, from receiving curative treatment or training. The same lack of money on the part of governments is responsible for sending so many of the police out

"The banking system practically controls the credit of the community, and that without any direct responsibility to the people as a whole. 'It is the power of the private mint,' says Professor Soddy, 'which imperils the future of scientific civilisation, which makes politics a sorry farce and reduces Parliament to a sham.'"

—Rev. Arthur Edmunds, Presbyterian Church, Wynnum, at citizens' meeting in City Hall, Brisbane, October 21.

with a definite objective of securing as many fines as possible—for all governments are desperate for revenue. More than half of government revenues go to pay interest on the national debt—on money created directly or indirectly by private bankers as their own property and issued to the people bearing interest forever.

As long as we permit this lack of money (and of nothing else) to cripple the community, so long will the condition of law and of police administration go from bad to worse. And we shall finish, not merely with mutual antagonism between public and police, but with a thoroughly corrupt police force. That great body of police, which is still essentially honest and decent, dislikes the duty of administering law with which it has no sympathy. The administrator of a law, which he knows to be penal, is obviously an easy subject for bribery. And not all the commissions in the world would persuade millions of the Australian people that many (if not most) of their police are not susceptible to being "approached" on the question of prosecutions for technical offences. Whether or not this be true, that wide credence should be given to it is disastrous alike to police, to public, and to law.

But this, like most of our other troubles, is merely one result of the mad money system, which decrees that consumers shall go short, and producers head towards bankruptcy while governments declare that their problem is marketing—or anything except dealing with the money shortage.

But don't forget that you elect the government.

THE FOLLY OF LOOKING AT INDUSTRY UPSIDE DOWN

FROM AN ADDRESS BY THE MARQUIS OF TAVISTOCK

("PROSPERITY," OCTOBER, 1936)

The purpose of industry, regarded from a non-moral standpoint, is to produce the maximum output of goods and services that people desire and that the resources of the age and country allow; regarded from a moral standpoint, it is to produce the maximum output of goods and services that contribute to human welfare and the enrichment, interest and beauty of life.

It is the duty of society to see that the maximum output of real wealth (or claims upon it, which comes to the same thing) is distributed in accordance with deserts in so far as it is deserved and equally in so far as it is not. It may be remarked, in passing, that the vast productiveness, actual and potential, of the modern civilised world is due in great measure to the ability of scientists and inventors who are now dead, and the credit for it does not in consequence belong to any living man merely because he can lay claim to being a worker.

It should be, I think, a demonstration of the obvious to point out that the purpose of industry and the duty of society, as above defined, are not being achieved to a most lamentable degree, for the reason that consumers do not receive sufficient money to buy at a fair price the maximum desired output of producers; while the State, also because it is starved of money, renders its services to the community in a niggardly and inadequate fashion, with the single and glorious exception of armaments and munitions of war, which it is providing on a lavish scale.

THE FRUSTRATION OF SOCIETY

Neglect to remove the monetary barrier which separates the citizens of every country from the land of plenty which science has placed within their reach involves intellectual as well as physical starvation, because the State will be unable financially to provide education in the best and fullest sense of the term for all classes. Children and young persons will be dragged into industry at a prematurely early age, because they provide a source of cheap labour for the hard-pressed industrialist who cannot sell his goods and a source of income for the hard-pressed parents who can barely keep the home going. Since the employment of a larger staff for shorter hours would increase the wage-bill and inflate prices, already beyond the consumers' reach, long hours remain the rule in industry. Tired workers have little inclination for intellectual pursuits during their short hours of leisure, while lack of houseroom and lack of money to buy the necessary equipment are an effective check on the development of arts, crafts and hobbies. Miserably short and inadequate holidays also deprive working people of chances of travel and of opportunities for attending conferences and gatherings of an educational nature—a loss both to themselves and to the men and women belonging to more leisured classes who are deprived of their fellowship and company.

A disproportionate amount of time, thought and activity has to be devoted to the collecting and doling-out of money and to the invidious task of trying to discriminate between deserving and undeserving applicants for assistance. While it is true that no environment is so bad that the power of God cannot enable a man or woman to rise above it, it is often a disheartening task to preach the gospel of the love of God to people mentally and physically weakened by undernourishment; bent by unnecessary moral temptations by overcrowding; or driven to distraction by

unemployment, actual or imminent, or by the spectacle of loved friends and relatives slowly dying from lack of those extra comforts for the sick that panel medical attention does not provide. Money-poverty is further responsible on the physical side for delay in rehousing, delay in town planning, delay in smoke abatement, delay in medical research, reduced efficiency of hospitals, restricted health education and the continuance of unhealthy conditions of work in dangerous trades—a list of evils that could be extended almost indefinitely.

NO ONE FLOURISHES.

The economic and commercial evils of the defective money-system are too obvious to need much stressing. No trade or industry can flourish as long as the consumer cannot pay a fair price for its output. The poverty of the consumer-market also encourages bitter competition between rival firms, often resulting in under wage cutting; while a disproportionate amount of industrial activity is devoted to non-productive

SOFT JOBS.

"The shirker, however, will be caught and, made to do his share, instead of staying at home, as he has done up to now, not only evading his duties, but getting into SOFT JOBS WHICH WE WANT TO SEE KEPT FOR OUR BOYS HERE WHEN THEY RETURN . . ."

—From Birdwood's appeal to the A.I.F. to vote for conscription in 1916 (re-printed in "Smith's," Oct. 24, 1936).

advertisement, again with the object of grabbing from rivals the consumers' meagre custom.

The universal folly of regarding the main purpose of industry as being the production of paid jobs, rather than the production of goods and services, provides one of the main causes of war. Governments impose tariffs partly because they are short of money; partly because they fear unemployment by reason of the goods sent in from abroad. It is fear of unemployment that makes under-populated lands close their doors to immigrants. So is the extension of work thereby brought about, that makes governments and dictators favour the making of munitions and armaments; the conquest of foreign markets or the annexation of colonies, not so much as an outlet for emigration as an outlet for the labour of their citizens at home who are set to work to make capital goods for export, thereby earning wages to buy the consumable goods they are not otherwise allowed to touch.

MUST THERE BE POVERTY?

Under the auspices of the Inter-Church Social Research Council

PUBLIC MEETING

will be held in the Town Hall, ADELAIDE, WEDNESDAY, 18th NOVEMBER, at 8 p.m. The Chairman of the Council, Rt. Rev. D. D. Munro, M.A., will preside.

Speakers:

MISS ISABEL McCORKINDALE, "Humanity on Crutches." THE REV. JOHN T. LAWTON, M.A., of Melbourne, "The New World and Its Demands"

Admission Free. No Collection

H. F. Stewart Anderson, Hon. Secretary

POKER—WITH GUNS UNDER THE TABLE

By "F.J.A.," in the "Public Service Journal of Victoria."

The Budget speech of our Premier announced that the salaries of public servants would be restored in full as from October 4. This made very glad tidings, if unexpected. It bore out the suggestion made in these columns prior to the announcement of Budget plans—viz., that the Premier, being a sensible man, would restore salaries if he could.

In the general feeling of satisfaction that has ensued following the Budget speech, it is to be feared that two things have been lost sight of—the first that the injustices of the past five years have not been rectified; the second that there is no guarantee that the restoration will last as long as the reductions in salaries lasted.

Recriminations are usually very futile. But public servants have sat behind very bad cards during the last few years, and they must guard against the same bad run in the future. One, Eli Cuthbertson, we are informed by the daily newsrags, makes £100,000 per year because at one time, being the possessor of the average Australian income of £2 per week and less, he set about studying the cards and evolved his perfect formula for the game of bridge. We, as public servants, are at the moment in the financial doldrums. Now is the time to study the cards to evolve a system that will secure us continued and guaranteed prosperity.

THREE BAD CARDS

Our first bad card was *security*. We thought that whatever came or went our position was secure, and so nobody bothered very much about the things that governed our salaries. The public servant was open-minded in his politics, because he thought that he was superior to the machinations of politics. That card was not a trump. When the "depression" hit us we found that it was the right colour, but the wrong suit.

Our second bad card was *complacency*. We believed what we were told by the press and by the politicians. The consequences were that, when the cuts came, we had to hastily marshal our forces in an

endeavour to counteract the vicious class taxation that was thrust upon us. It was only when our sacrifice was measured in terms of millions of pounds that the organisation of the Crown Employees' Federation assumed dimensions sufficiently impressive to secure even partial redress of our injustices.

Our last and worst card was *ignorance*, and before the next hand is dealt it is essential that we destroy this particular card.

When one examines the reasons behind our succession of reverses, one becomes suspicious of the dealer. The stranger who lets one win with an occasional pool is usually looked upon with grave suspicion. Who was the dealer?

WHO WINS EVERY HAND?

Well, now, the average cardsharp sharp for his own advantage, and if after the first round of jackpots one party is alone showing results, and we know that the cards have been stacked against us, then that party is logically the dealer.

We are told that the nation is recovering. From what? Was there ever any shortage of goods, or of labour, or of services? On the contrary, there was too much of all these things. The only chronic shortage was *money*—and money in practice is stamped silver, stamped copper, printed paper, or hand-written paper notes called cheques. And there was a shortage of money! And our sacrifice consisted of surrendering our claim to portion of the paper and metal we usually drew in reward for our labours.

And if we get our salaries back again in November, where will the money come from, and where has it been during the last four years? It does not grow anywhere—if you grew in your back garden vegetables to the value of £1 billion sterling, not "one penny of money would grow with them. All the extra money will be "paper money," and the cost of its manufacture will be negligible. Therefore, we can say that either somebody will start printing notes or somebody will start writing cheques. If new notes are printed, why were they not made available during the last four years? And if new cheques are honoured, why were

they not honoured during the last four years? Certainly the amount of legal tender in Australia will be the same, and hence there will be no new infusion of backing for these new cheques. It would appear that the dealer has a finger in the note-printing pie or the cheque-writing pudding, or, maybe both. In point of fact, he is the banker.

THE REWARD OF HAND-WRITING

Have you ever followed the progress of a farmer's overdraft? He goes to the bank and gets an overdraft of £1000, and gives a title to his property as security. The bank writes in its ledgers: "Credit Farmer Brown, £1000." Then Mr. Brown gives a cheque for £500 to the grocer, who pays it back into the bank; and another cheque for £500 to the butcher, who pays it into another bank. The second bank exchanges it with the first bank cheques drawn on itself. Then the following position accrues: the bank of Mr. Brown has neither more nor less money than it had at the start. Then when Mr. Brown sells his wheat he gets a cheque and gives that to the bank, and everything is as it was. The bank makes a few pounds in interest for its great trouble in writing in its ledger the words: "Credit Farmer Brown, £1000." But this is poor remuneration. Were it not better that a drought should destroy the farmer's wheat? Then the farmer cannot get a cheque and the bank can claim his property. Thus the reward for writing in the ledger, "Credit Farmer Brown, £1000," would be a nice little farm.

Droughts, unfortunately, cannot be raised to order, so that if the bank really depended on droughts for a decent return for all this laborious handwriting, its living would be precarious. It has, however, another implement. When Farmer Brown is in the middle of spending his £500—e.g., when he has paid the grocer but has not as yet paid the butcher, the bank may "call in his overdraft" and foreclose on his little farm just the same. And what can be done to Farmer Brown can be done to anybody and everybody; and if it were done, everybody would still have the same amount of property as before, and the same bright prospects for the future; but they would be short of money to pay back their overdrafts and they would sell things at a loss to try and get money, and they would put off their employees to save money, and we would have a depression. That is remarkably like what happened a few years ago. The cheque-writing facilities were withdrawn alike from Governments and trades people.

OWNERS OF AUSTRALIA
And the same bankers had a finger in the note-printing business. Actually they got it in 1924, when Messrs. Bruce and Page made a free gift of the Commonwealth Bank to the trading banks. Sir Denison Miller, the first controller of the bank, used to exploit the note-printing business in the interests of the people and used to finance the wars and "pools" at small cost to the people—sometimes at a profit to the people. But after Messrs. Bruce and Page had finished with the bank a directorate controlled it, and as we learned at the Commonwealth Monetary Commission, the bank now adopts "a non-competitive policy with the trading banks and subscribes to orthodox banking practice." It is a coincidence that while the war and poor financing left us comparatively free from debt, the financing of actual living expenses (less percentage cuts) leaves the community in debt to the extent of £1259 millions. Now if overdrafts were to be called in, in their entirety, it is possible that the bankers would own Australia—and they certainly own a goodly portion of it already, and have a pretty fair hold on the remainder. Yes, the banker seems to have been the dealer, since he alone thrives on depressions, and no one else interfered with the pack.

DEMOCRACY-AND PALESTINE

In its issue of October 3 the London *Economist* begins an editorial note on "British Statesmen and Democracy" with these words: "British statesmen have been accused more than once in recent months of remaining silent in face of the ever noisier battle in Europe between the principles of democracy and dictatorship. A fortnight ago it was left to M. Blum to speak up for liberty and equality after the totalitarians had had their hysterical say in Nuremberg and Moscow. The three speeches, therefore, by Mr. Eden, Sir John Simon and Mr. Winston Churchill last weekend, all actively championing the cause of political freedom, were very refreshing indeed."

Speeches count for little without actions. The same issue of the *Economist* has this note about the political freedom of the Arabs in Palestine (the italics are ours):—

"The situation in Palestine is rapidly moving towards deeper complications. The outstanding events of the last few days have been the arrival of the powerful reinforcements to the British Army on the spot; the consultations between the Palestinian Arabs on the one hand and the four independent Arab sovereigns of Saudi Arabia, the Yemen, Iraq and Transjordan on the other; and, finally, the publication of 'The Palestine Martial Law (Defence) Order-in-Council, 1936. The new Order, which requires a proclamation of the High Commissioner in Palestine in order to bring it into force, goes far beyond the introduction of martial law on the ordinary terms. General Dill, the General Officer Commanding, is to be empowered to make regulations for the public safety which will not be open to challenge in any civil court of law, and to set up military courts of his own for the trial of offences against these regulations—with discretion to exempt the decisions of these military courts from any appeal, challenge or review. The attribution of these arbitrary powers to a military officer is the more startling in view of the wideness of the field over which he is to be entitled to exercise them. *The General may establish a censorship: he may execute arrests, detentions, exclusions and deportations: he may control harbours, ports, aerodromes and landing-grounds, as well as the movement of ships and transport by land, air and water; he may regulate trade, and decree the appropriation, control, forfeiture and disposition of property: and he may inflict communal fines, or the forfeiture and destruction of property, as punitive measures.* In fact, the new Order-in-Council distinctly transforms Palestine into a totalitarian State under a military dictator. With so free a hand to use the ample military forces under his command, it cannot be doubted that General Dill will find himself able to crush any overt resistance—passive as well as active—that the Palestinian Arabs could conceivably put up. He can not only drive the guerillas off the field: he can break the strike of the Arab labourers and cultivators and shopkeepers. But we come back once more to the insistent question: "What next?" Can these things be done without destroying all prospect of that eventual understanding between Arabs and Jews which is the only hope for the future?"

And all this is done by gentlemen who speak so glibly of democracy, and rearming for peace! You may say that this is Britain's affair. Quite so, if Britain is also content to fight her own battles in any subsequent eventualities. But will she? Or will Australia again be expected to rally to the "Empire"?

It is time the *people* of Britain took a hand in their own affairs. And it is high time the people of Australia made up their minds that they will fight no more wars to make the world safe for bankers and Jewish-Dutch oil kings.

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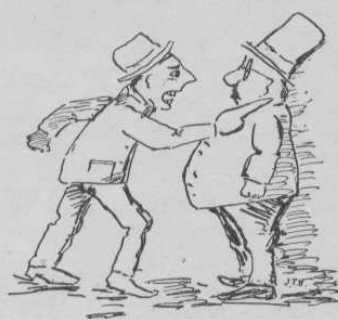
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Their Majesties the Bank Board

Events of the past week have again clearly shown that that democracy around which R. G. Menzies and other after-dinner speakers like to roll their tongues does not in practice exist in Australia. As far as details of our conduct are concerned, gentlemen like Mr. White and Mr. Paterson act as Ministers for Morals, deciding on the one hand what we shall or shall not read, and on the other what standard of personal morality shall be required as a qualification of residence. That courts of law exist to deal with such matters does not seem to occur to these dictators—or maybe, realising that the police are too busy collecting revenue in accordance with financial legislation to have time for dealing with laws on morals (as we have pointed out elsewhere in this issue), Cabinet feels that it should set itself up as a super police force.

On the wider issue of policy the proceedings of the Loan Council have again reminded the people that they have no say in their own national finances—which means that outside sources are the final arbiters as to what may or may not be done in carrying out public works for the improvement of our country. The men and the material are all there, but finance holds the starting pistol. And it is no exaggeration to say that the starting pistol is now in the hands of the hold-up man.

The refusal of the Commonwealth Bank Board to make available the finance asked for by the assembled Australian "governments" (which do not govern) has been met with resentment by the Ministers concerned. But so far there has been little criti-

cism directed against the real cause of the offence. Ministers and other politicians have complained of the undue restriction of credit, but what have they said against the system, which has put finance beyond what U.A.P. newspapers like to term political control—otherwise control by Parliament, the elected representatives of the nation? And which of them has complained against the kernel of the swindle, that the combined governments of the six States and the Commonwealth should have to borrow at all? If there is enough money in Australia to satisfy the nation's requirements, it is the clear duty of governments to secure its equitable distribution by taxation; if there is not (and there is not), the deficiency should be made up by issue and not by loan. The mere idea of a *sovereign* people borrowing from within itself is an absurdity—and that's all there is to it.

Still, the protests of Cabinet Ministers mark at least one forward step. Parliamentarians, including those who recently were ardent adherents to the Premiers' Plan of living within our "means," are no longer content either to live within those means—taxation limits—or to accept complaisantly the last word of Sir Claude Reading as King of Australia (vice Montagu Norman, whom he has just returned from consulting). The Premiers wrote to the Bank Board protesting against the seriousness of restricting credit "at the present juncture," and endeavouring to foist on to the Board the full responsibility for such a course. As the Board, once appointed, has no responsibility, this is obviously an attempt to hoodwink the public. Federal Parliament made the legislation, which placed the Board beyond parliamentary control, and it is for the same Parliament to unmake the legislation, and for the States, which constitute the Federation to see that this is done. Failing this, members of the Loan Council will never wash off their hands the stains of the blood (or, rather, the anaemia) of those who are suffering from the lack of nothing but book-entry money.

There is only one effective way for the people at large to force this issue. That way does not lie in displacing one party government by a different party government; all parties have shown themselves criminal in this matter. The way lies in dealing with individual members of Parliament, in forgetting party methods and demanding results. This is the way of the Electoral Campaign now getting into full swing in the various States. There is no doubt that the changed attitude of many parliamentarians, the attempt to disclaim responsibility for credit restrictions, proceeds from communications and protests those members have

received from electors. It is the business of electors now to tell their members that Parliament cannot dodge responsibility that Parliament is supreme, and to back this up with a united demand of such dimensions that members of Parliament will not dare to disobey.

This puts the onus on *you*. Have *you* signed the pledge form of the Electoral Campaign? Have *you* canvassed others to do the same?

Flags and Buttons

In prostituting himself to become the party hack of W. M. Hughes in 1916, Sir William Birdwood, in his appeal to the A.I.F. to vote for conscription, referred to the "soft jobs which we want to see kept for our boys here when they return." Poignant memories of those soft jobs are aroused at this time every year when survivors and dependents of those "boys"—now crippled, destitute and ageing men—are compelled to resort to street mendicancy and the rattling of collection boxes. At the same time, with consummate impudence, the very same people who were responsible for the promises of soft jobs are again appealing to a newer generation of our boys to prepare themselves for the same sacrifices.

For twenty years the general public have been subscribing to collection boxes on behalf of the A.I.F. For many more years they have been doing the same for the hospitals and similar institutions. Their instincts have been those of half-thoughtless charity, but their actions have done nothing but bolster up injustice. The men who suffered in the last war, the sick, the invalids, the aged, the destitute—these people are not objects of charity at all. They are the victims of cruel injustice. Admirable as private charity is, it can never be an excuse for public injustice. Making proper provision for *all* the citizens is the duty of the State as a whole, and the plethora of goods abounding in this country is a physical witness of the ease with which that duty could be performed.

The State endeavours to put this duty off on to committees, auxiliaries and the like, because of its financial difficulties. Financial difficulties arise only because Parliament permits the monopolists to control our money supplies. One way of forcing reform is to make financial difficulties insuperable without it. Hence, though at first sight it may seem a callous thing to do, reform—and justice to the oppressed—will be assisted if the public steadfastly refuse to give one penny to appeals of which the object is the raising of funds that should properly be supplied by governments. Governments will not dare to let the hospitals close or the destitute starve; and there is no more justification in rattling street boxes for hospitals or disabled soldiers than in doing the same for police or parliamentary salaries. If we pass the buck back to Parliament it will find the money somehow. And the more pressing its needs for money become the more likely it is to do a little inquiring on its own account into the source of our money supplies, into the manner in which they are regulated, and by whom.

FIGURES THAT SHOULD MEAN PROSPERITY

But We Call It the Unemployment Problem

The following assemblage of progress statistics appears in *Prosperity* (London) for October. Now that England and Germany are momentarily returning to "prosperity" through armaments, with a consequent releasing to consumers of extra money to buy staple commodities, while America is doing the same by pyramiding debt in the guise of many-lettered public works schemes, we may look to see manufacturers introducing still more wonders in labour-saving inventions—and, until people get the National Dividend, to still further destitution, still more debts and still more taxation.

Here are the typical figures of what science has done and is doing, and of the consequent problem which, only the National Dividend will solve:—

A new huge power plant capable of producing 240,000 kilowatts is nearing completion in Rummelsburg (Germany). Only 200 workmen and 50 clerks will be needed to keep this plant going. Had it been equipped with less modern machines, such as are still in use in several other power plants in Berlin, not less than 3000 workmen and 700 clerks would have been employed.

The 7200 members of the Shoemakers' Guild of Roman days would make 7200 pairs of shoes in five and a half days. The same number of employees in a modern shoe plant in five and a half days would produce 595,000 pairs of shoes. In Fleetwood, Lancashire, a new boot-repairing machine has been installed, that resoles boots

every 24 hours, disemploying 2000 handworkers for each machine installed.

The Boston Railroad Co. uses a freight-car handling device, which takes charge of 1,000,000 cars per year. One man directs the whole operation and saves the labour costs of 400 men.

A new multiple automatic drilling machine with eight men is estimated to do the work of 2000 men, each operating a single drill machine.

5900 PERCENT INCREASE IN PLOUGHING

A man-less plough has been tried in the U.S.A. After the first furrow this machine guides and turns itself without a conductor. It is calculated that by modern machine methods a man can produce 1300 per cent, more than by methods of the past. Plough outfits working with a width of 60 feet are being used in place of the old two-horse single-furrow plough, the increased efficiency in ploughing being 5900 per cent, and, in spite of huge extensions in farming, disemploying two and a half million men from the year 1918 to 1927.

One hundred thousand tickets can be cut and printed by one machine in one hour attended by a single operator, at the Stratford Printing Works of the L.N.E. Railway. Roughly 100,000,000 tickets weighing 120 tons, are printed yearly by this machine.

One man tending 25 machines will produce 3600 socks per day. The Wade Mechanical Woodman enables one operator to do the work of 30 men.

There is a machine for stripping currants off the bush, which puts 40 women out of a job and does the work in less than half the time. One man with a machine turns out thousands of tins every day to can the machine-picked currants when machines have made them into jam; also to can fish which automatic machines have cleaned and prepared.

One hundred and twenty-eight men out of 130 lose their jobs when a crane armed with an electric magnet is put to work unloading pig-iron.

Here is an instance that should interest all municipal authorities. At St. Louis, where sewerage work is being carried out, 33 machine operators, assisted by 37 labourers, are doing the work of 7000 pick and shovel men.

Mr. Caulwell, a farmer of Weston, England, sprayed his potatoes against disease by aeroplane. The field of 40 acres, which by ordinary methods took two days to disinfect, was sprayed in 25 minutes.

SPRAYING 300 ACRES AN HOUR

Until the year 1922 the U.S.A. fought the dreaded boll-weevil (a pest which used to destroy half the cotton crop of the world), with a mule-drawn drenching machine, which treated 30 acres a day. Aeroplanes are now used and drench 300 acres in one hour.

The largest single modern turbine has a capacity of 300,000 horsepower, or three million times the output of a human being on an eight-hour basis. But the turbine runs twenty-four hours a day, which man does not do. Hence its total output is 9,000,000 times that of one man. *To say it in another way, four of these turbines have a greater energy capacity than the entire adult working population of the United States.* At the present moment, the United States has an installed capacity of one billion-horse power in engines to do work.

What are these billion horses good for? Just one thing, to get work done. If these installed engines were operated continuously at capacity, it would require fifty times the number of adult workers now living on the earth to equal this output of human labour alone.

Apart from good will there is necessary much expert knowledge. The Christian cannot claim that just because he is a Christian he possesses an adequate acquaintance with the rules of finance or the technicalities of sociology. He cannot, however, on that ground excuse himself from the consideration of these subjects. As a Christian he is a follower of a Master Who cared, not only for men's souls, but also for their bodies, and if he is a worthy Christian he will endeavour to apply the teaching and example of the Master to the conditions of his own day.

—Archbishop Wand, of Brisbane, October 21.

and shoes at the rate of 120 pairs an hour. (One shoe in 15 seconds.) This machine needs only one operator.

A bricklaying machine used by Arrol and Co., Glasgow, will lay 1500 bricks per hour. The brick-makers for over 5000 years did not attain, on an average, more than 450 bricks a day per man. A modern brick plant will produce 400,000 bricks a day per man.

In 1929 iron-ore was mined at the rate of 20,000 tons per man per year, whilst modern blast furnace technique has made it possible for one man to produce 4000 tons of pig iron per annum as against 800 tons per man per annum by the old obsolete method.

50 CHASSIS FRAMES PER MAN PER DAY

In Milwaukee, U.S.A., there is a huge factory filled with practically one single machine turning out motorcar chassis frames almost untouched by human hands. The output is no less than 10,000 frames and 34 miles of pipeline per day, the total number of persons employed being 208.

Machines have been recently installed which produce 2600 cigarettes per minute as against the previous maximum of 600 per minute. Each machine employs three operators and disemploys 697 men.

More astonishing is the manufacture of incandescent lamps. Today, one man is doing in a single hour that which took him 9000 hours to do in 1914. This high-speed machine was built in six weeks by 37 men. Other automatic machines produce 73,000 electric light bulbs

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ARE WARS FOUGHT FOR RELIGION?

By W. BROWNLEY.

Editor's Note. —This is the fifth of a series of articles by Mr. Brownley. The earlier articles appeared in our last four issues.

It has been seen that there is no inherent human urge to war. If man has a "fighting instinct" it is one that can be evoked only by certain emotional states. The questions before us are: Are those emotional states engendered by cultural, economic or financial conditions, and what sort of conditions might reasonably be expected to evoke emotional states conducive to peace?

CULTURAL URGES TO WAR

One of the difficulties confronting a writer on these subjects is that he must either strictly define the senses in which he uses abstract terms, such as religion or patriotism, or else run the risk of having them interpreted differently by every reader.

Patriotism, religion, nationalism—all of them have been declared to be the causes of war by some persons, while others have declared that wars have been possible only because of spurious substitutes for these real things. The latter urge that true religion leads to brotherhood, not to war, while the demand for national sentiment naturally carries with it a similar claim to other peoples. Likewise with patriotism, by which is generally meant love of one's own country. By claiming the right for oneself one naturally concedes a similar right to others. True patriotism, far from trying to impose one culture on all, would aim at the greatest degree of free diversity.

Now I have neither the ability nor the desire to attempt a distinction between true and false patriotisms and religions. They are inclusive words and will always cover a wide range of feelings and desires—a range so wide that the opposite extremities will generally seem contradictions. It is not only much easier, but much more profitable to enquire whether nations have ever waged war purely for any of these motives, or whether these motives have generally been mobilised in favour of wars really waged for quite other objectives.

The Mohammedan conquest of North Africa and Asia would seem at first sight to be primarily a re-

ligious war. Undoubtedly, religion was one of the motive forces, but it is quite conceivable that a similar conquest might have resulted even without the cohesive force of the new religion. Arabia has at other times sent out eruptive forces, which had evidently no connection with religion. What is certain is that if the Arabians set out to spread their new gospel they ended by enjoying the wealth and power, which resulted from their conquests.

THE CRUSADES.

Likewise the counter-religious movement—the Crusades. Their failure more than their partial success brought out most clearly their underlying purpose: access to the spice islands. The Moslem bar in Asia made inevitable the voyages of Vasco de Gama and Columbus.

These in their turn were of a twofold nature—economic and religious. While attempting to gain access to the spice islands Christendom also looked upon the voyages as possible ways of attacking the heretical forces in the rear.

Spanish colonial policy will never be understood unless it is realised that Cortez and Pizarro were more than adventurous conquerors. They were Crusaders and, as Aldous Huxley has recently pointed out, they have left an indelible influence on every territory conquered by them. The American republics and the Philippines have been lost by Spain, but the heritage of those countries is predominantly Spanish—not American.

In both the Moslem conquests and the Crusades religion played an enormous part, but they are more correctly described as wars in which the religious interests were secondary to the economic. They cannot truly be described as religious wars.

On a similar plane is the contention that wars are caused by language. Undoubtedly differences of language raise their own problems—particularly at international conferences—and if everyone understood an auxiliary language, such as Esperanto, as well as his own mother tongue, the gain would be undoubted. But to elevate language difficulties into a

cause of war is unwarranted. If bitterness of combat be any criterion, wars between peoples speaking the same language are even worse than wars between strangers and foreigners. The American Civil War and the Spanish War now waging were and are as bitter as any fiend could desire.

NATIONAL SENTIMENT.

A more convincing case can be made out for nationalism. National aspirations have generally led to war or discord. Excepting England, France and Spain, which emerged out of the discord of the Reformation, all the remaining European national States have attained their unity only at the cost of war. It is therefore easy to argue that nationalism leads to war, but a moment's reflection suggests that the responsibility for the conflict might rest rather with the Empires of which these States were once parts and from which they could gain independence and freedom only by war. According to this view, the Austrian Empire, rather than Italian nationalism, was responsible for the Italian wars of liberation.

Professor Lowes Dickenson has argued that patriotism and national sentiment derive from the same feeling which makes a boy bristle when his school is spoken of disparagingly, or a parent angry when others criticise her children. Whatever its origin, it seemingly grows only when people are conscious of oppression and injustice. For this reason, nationalism is generally the coating round the pill of economic discontent. Had Ireland not been economically injured in the interest of English trade, Irish nationalism would not have been so vehement. Most people are generally too busy making their money last a week to contemplate the glory of an empire on which the sun never sets or a visionary national state to which they could belong, unless it can be reasonably demonstrated that those things will make their money go further.

NEGATIVE FACTORS IN WAR

At the most patriotism and religion act indirectly; they don't help peace and they definitely aid war, but they would both act as conservative bulwarks to peace if real peace were achieved. Men will fight for them only when they become the sublimated emblems of more materialistic and, generally considered, less ethical objectives. As conditions change nationalism and religion manifest themselves differently. The more truly peaceful and the more just the economic relations of life, the more pure the spiritual aspirations of man. The cloudiness of patriotism and nationalism are a direct indication of the disharmony prevailing in the underlying material and physical relationships.

THREE IDEALISTS.

One day mankind will rise to the heights of a Goethe or a Mazzini. Said the former: —
"How could I write songs of hatred without hating? Altogether, national hatred is something peculiar. You will always find it strongest and most violent where there is the lowest degree of culture. But there is a degree where it vanishes altogether, and where one stands to a certain extent above nations, and feels the weal or woe of a neighbouring people as if it happened to be one's own. This degree of culture was conformable to my nature, and I had become strengthened in it long before I had reached my sixtieth year."

It is an ideal, but to be achieved it will first be necessary to solve some of the more material problems of life. A study of modern Europe leads one to believe that nowadays it is not even considered an ideal, but moonshine, and the Italian conquest of Abyssinia is a poor commentary on the Italian patriot, Mazzini, who wrote: —

"You are citizens. You have a country in order that in a given and limited sphere of action the concourse and assistance of a certain number of men, already related to you by language, tendencies and customs, may

THOUGHTS FOR ARMISTICE DAY

By VERY REV HEWLETT JOHNSON, D.D., Dean of Canterbury.

Two distinguished Conservative statesmen were recently addressed by a third companion, who said, "What a fool Hitler is, extending his armaments and enlarging his army, at a time like this." "Not so foolish," said the elder statesman, "when you know the internal economic conditions of Germany." The younger statesman agreed. Both were right.

And the thing they agreed upon is only too pertinent to Armistice Day and to our own thoughts at this time. The economic stringency, the lack of employment, the restriction of trade, and the tightening of the belt in a world that can produce so much is a perpetual menace to peace. Trouble at home invites statesmen to divert attention to dangers abroad, be they real or imaginary. The causes of war are mainly economic, and if on Armistice Day our thoughts and prayers are for peace, we must use mind as well as heart and will to conquer the economic problem which confronts us all alike.

ECONOMIC CAUSES.

Hitler was the victim of economic causes. He seized the customary momentary easy way out. An enlarged army brings discipline to bear upon dangerous elements in the community, and the building of armaments creates employment; it sets money flowing, even if it brings future trouble through the increased taxation, which inevitably follows. It gives immediate relief, even if only temporary relief. And it diverts men's gaze for a time.

What is true of Germany is true also of Italy. Economic pressure was the key to the Italian-Abyssinian problem. Italy suffers from the same difficulty as the rest of us—namely, shortage in a potentially rich world. Mussolini, failing to find a radical remedy, was driven to seek an outlet abroad, and in doing so escape for the time being from the disaster, which threatened him at home.

In this matter who is free to throw stones? We all live in a world where foodstuffs are destroyed; and, worse still, because it is less dramatic, restricted. Children are condemned to remain inadequately nourished. We limit production of things we need because the mechanism of distribution is as unsuited to modern mass production as a Tudor road to a Rolls Royce car.

COMPLAINT COMMON TO ALL

Italy was monstrously wrong in defying the judgment of the

enable you to labour more effectually for the good of all men, present and to come; a task in which your solitary effort would be lost, falling powerless and unheeded among the immense multitudes of your fellow beings."

As showing that neither Germany nor Italy can make exclusive claims to idealists, let the Frenchman, Romain Rolland, speak: —
"For the finer spirits there are two dwelling places: our earthly fatherland, and that other city of God. Of the one we are the guests, of the other the builders. To the one let us give our lives and our faithful hearts; but neither family, friend nor fatherland, nor ought that we love has power over the spirit. The spirit is the light. It is our duty to lift it above tempests, and thrust aside the clouds which threaten to obscure it; to build higher and stronger, dominating the injustice and hatred of nations, the walls of that city wherein the souls of the whole may assemble."

Thus points the spirit of man. Otherwise he goes. Why? Neither human nature nor human culture necessarily leads to war. The cause must therefore reside in either the economic or financial conditions under which men live.

(To be continued.)

nations. She acted like a spoiled child; but she has a grievance and we ought to recognise it. She suffers from a complaint, which is common to us all. But her resources are less great than ours. Mussolini strikes the attitude of the strong man. Perhaps he even thinks he is an all powerful dictator. He is deceived. He is less of a dictator than one dictated to. He is the victim, as all of us are, of economic absurdity. His people's thoughts must be diverted from the facts.

We shall never rid the world of the dread and the reality of war until we solve this economic problem. Mussolini was, we are rightly convinced, wrong in forcing his conquests despite his own

"Personal piety is not enough; under a democracy the responsibility for social evils and injustice rests with the individual since legislation reflects most faithfully the desires of the majority wherever it cares to express them. The Christian has no right passively to acquiesce in an evil state of things when, by uniting with other Christians, he has it in his power to build up public opinion which would issue in the necessary remedial legislation."

"To the churchmen we must present the economic background of life. It is ignorance of this background that is one of the greatest obstacles to progress. For without understanding of this, it is impossible to have an enlightened Christian public opinion."

"True democracy has yet to be achieved. Democracy is only just beginning to find expression. At present we have but the political form of democracy, since actually economic and financial interests of sectional groups are highly organised and dominate politics selfishly. Public opinion is so ill-informed and unorganised that it has no power to make the public welfare paramount. The opportunity and task before democracy is, by means of a growing tide of intelligent and organised public opinion, to mould these powerful economic and financial forces to serve the public welfare."

—From the manifesto of the Christian Social Order Movement, Brisbane, consisting of representatives of the Church of England, Presbyterian, Methodist, Congregational, Baptist and Churches of Christ. Published in the "Christian Clarion," Oct. 21.

pledges to the League of Nations and in defiance of the conscience of the world. And we were right to hinder him.

THE MAJOR PROBLEM

But we are grievously wrong if we do not go further and recognise his major problem, which is also ours, and seek with all our will, with all our mind, and with all our heart to remove it.

It can be removed. Physically we are rich. Physically the work can produce all that it needs, and there is more than enough for all. If we are financially poor whilst physically rich, finance is not functioning. We must insist that it shall be made to do so.

That I believe to be the supreme call to Christian people on Armistice Day, and may God help us to remove this economic tragedy and dispel the threatening clouds of war.

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to the

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PRAISE GOD, FROM WHOM ALL BLESSINGS FLOW

A LETTER TO THE EDITOR FROM BRUCE H BROWN

Sir, -

Two Sundays ago I had the very great pleasure of listening to an address from the Rev. J. E. Warren, an ex-President of the Methodist Conference, on the subject of the Doxology, and he succeeded in showing what a lot there is in the world to be thankful for.

Apart from one or two references which I prefer to forget, the address was one of the best it has ever been my privilege to hear, and so far as 90 per cent, of it is concerned I wish it could be put up in pamphlet form and distributed to everybody. What a power men of this type could wield on the side of the people against vested interests, money mesmerism and sheer fraud!

The speaker vividly called attention to the magnificent bounty of God in all directions, referring to the great power of the sun, the atmosphere we breathe, the wonders of nature, the material resources of the earth, the blessings of surgery and anesthesia, of

Milk is a free gift from God, but unless people have *money* they cannot get it, and consequently the youngsters must go without while the precious stuff is poured down the drain. That is blasphemous, but I heard no condemnation from Mr. Warren. Not one word did he utter against the sacrilege of the gifts being thrown back in God's face, or the fact that it happens merely because so many of God's people have been denied the money tickets which alone give claim to the gifts.

"DESTITUTION AND SEMI-STARVATION."

Here is something for all Christians to ponder over. Even though producers complain that they cannot find buyers—i.e., people with *money*—it was stated in the Victorian Parliament on October 29 that "if it were not for the relief given by the Mothers' Clubs and the State Schools' Relief Committee, destitution and semi-starvation would be appalling," and also that "one child probably would die from systematic malnutrition." Is this state of affairs nothing to the Christians in the community?

Commenting on this particular disclosure, the Melbourne *Herald* of October 30 published the following:—

"The secretary of the Children's Welfare Department admitted today that the 34 institutions under his care were overcrowded. The boy, who is six years old, . . . had a piece of bread and dripping for breakfast. Other children at the school said they had a piece of dry toast and tea. None of those questioned had milk or porridge. Distribution of milk to undernourished children continues from May to about the middle of September, and as funds have now run out has ceased for this year."

A serious failure of our harvests could alone justify such conditions, but God has not withheld His hand in that way. In fact, He has been more generous than ever. The only trouble is that *funds* have run out! Yet *funds* are nothing more than figures in books with corresponding tickets or tokens. There is; of course, no shortage of milk, butter, porridge and the like. The shortage is always of *money*, which clergymen, despite the warnings of Jesus, have allowed to step between God and man without any investigation into its origin, nature, ownership, purpose, or the methods employed by its unscrupulous manipulators to thwart God and keep the people in financial bondage.

It is because "Mr. Warren and I have *money* coming regularly to our homes that we can appreciate the wonderful gifts of God, and conversely it is because hundreds of thousands of others are denied regular and adequate incomes of *money* that they *cannot* enjoy and appreciate those gifts. It thus becomes our duty to insist that other parents are given the opportunity to have homes as comfortable and happy as ours are. A happy home is the surest foundation for a happy race, and no home in which the parents or members of the family are subjected to a condition of continuous financial worry can possibly be a happy place.

THE CENTRAL MISSION'S REPORT

Read the following from the report of the Wesley Central Mission, dated December 1935:—

"A large number of those who come to us are out-patients at one or other of the public hospitals, and the toll taken by malnutrition and the mental strain of long-continued unemployment is all too evident. Both physical and mental deterioration are on the increase."

This mission is doing a great work in trying to patch up human debris, but how much greater and more effective its work would be if it relentlessly exposed the evil interests which turn so many humans into scrap. Unfortunately, defenders of

these evil interests seem to be more welcome to it than accusers.

In the face of the conditions mentioned, it is not to be wondered at that reports of an alarming increase in juvenile crime are coming to hand from many countries. A recent issue of the *New Era* called pointed attention to the following:

"When our boys and girls leave school, they reach a dead end. In America, tens of thousands of them leave homes of poverty and steal rides in railway trucks in search of work in the cities. This floating population comes into contact with undesirables, from whom it receives its first lessons in crime. In Britain, the young people are growing up and marrying on the dole. Here in Australia, our youths leave the crowded cities to go up country in search of jobs that prove mythical. Many of them have been mangled in railway yards. Many others have been sent to gaol for the technical offence of trespassing on railway property. Each year our schools throw hundreds of thousands of boys and girls on to a glutted labour market—semi-educated and without prospects, yet they are the future manhood and womanhood of the nation. A proportion of these young people come from homes where the struggle to live is intense, *where every penny counts*. . . . Practically all crime arises from the stress of poverty, a poverty which is absurdly unnecessary in this world of superabundance."

Homes, where the struggle to live is intense, and where every penny counts! Always a question of *money*. Can Mr. Warren and his colleagues conscientiously sing the Doxology and forget this terrible indictment? The indictment is all the stronger when we realise that, *on the basis of production*, we could increase the basic wage to more than £10 a week without any person being worse off in the slightest

"NEIGHBOURLY" SLUMS!

"The neighbourliness of the slums is a very beautiful thing, and it depends largely upon the poverty of the people and the small amount of money they have to spend. . . . In trying to sweep away the slums they were in danger of breaking up something which was good and valuable."

—Dr. Letitia Fairfield, of London, as reported in the "Morning Post."

degree, while millions would be immeasurably better off. It is all a question of *money*, and money is only a system of figures and tickets.

"EVERYONE MAD BY A.D. 2039."

And there is the startling assertion of Dr. Francis Harding at a Health Week luncheon address in Sydney that, "If the growth of insanity continues at its present rate, every man, woman and child will be mad by 2039." If our praise is to be sincere should we not be seeking out and exposing the *cause* of such a horrible prospect as that? Dr. Harding also said that worry and war were contributing factors, and it can be shown that both of these are caused by the economic insecurity of the people, which in turn is caused by a shortage of *money*, which is due to a Bankers' Credit Monopoly.

Although all things are freely given by God, we look around and see "a world in debt." Notwithstanding this, we are asked to believe that the remedy for this is to increase the indebtedness. Can our clergymen tell us to whom all this debt is owing, and why? If increasing indebtedness is the only way open, then are we to assume that some unknown but specially appointed person on this earth is booking things up for God—some person who has had secret instructions to destroy wealth rather than allow it to be distributed?

It is easy enough for those who are comfortably placed and have full stomachs to talk of the wonders of Providence and of praising God, but what of the millions who are being driven to listen to the doctrines of Communism simply

because they do not get the chance to share in God's bounty? Mr. Warren does enjoy the amenities of life. He has economic security; he has no financial worry; he does get good food and as much as he wants of it; he does have good health; he is provided with a comfortable home and a good bed; and he is blessed in all the things referred to. So am I, and it is not the fault of God that every other person is not equally comfortable and equally happy. Jesus said: "Behold the fowls of the air—they sow not, neither do they reap nor gather into barns, yet your heavenly Father feedeth them. Are ye not much better than they?"

GOD OR MAMMON?

Jesus also said: "Ye cannot serve God and Mammon." Mr. Warren would probably be shocked if I said he has been the servant of Mammon, but is it not true that he not only failed to raise his voice against the small coterie who have assumed the power to take possession of God's gifts as their own property and to determine who may and who may not have access to them, but has actually allied himself with that coterie in persecuting the people? This small coterie is known as High Finance, and High Finance is an international swindle. Mr. Warren, doubtless in good faith, gave his approval to the Premiers' Plan which robbed the aged, the sick, the infirm, all classes of wage-earners, and the small property-owner—to say nothing of the further restriction of the distribution of God's gifts to those who were badly in need of them. His attitude on this issue must have been the result of ignorance, for I feel sure that had the truth of the situation dawned on him he would have been in the forefront of those opposing the plot. The Premiers' Plan merely strengthened the grip of the High Finance coterie, and was actually formulated at their behest and to suit their purposes.

That God intended His gifts for everyone is demonstrated by the fact that the sun shines and the rain falls alike on the just and the unjust, while the atmosphere, without which we could not live, extends to all parts of the earth and is available on precisely the same terms to each individual. In this, the criminal is treated just as generously as the saint, and the child in the humblest home is equal with the child in the king's palace. There is no unfairness where God is concerned, no stinting, no price ticket, and no discrimination. Yet millions are suffering privation because they are short of the very things He has supplied so freely and so bountifully.

Because of his omission to say anything about that cruel aspect of the situation, I got in touch with Mr. Warren personally, pointing out that not one person in the whole world is in need in consequence of failure on God's part, but only because enjoyment of God's gifts has been made subject to the possession of *money*. God had nothing to do with the money business. In fact, He has warned us that it is one of His greatest adversaries, and the distressing truth is that this adversary, with the approval and even the assistance of some sections of the Church, has been placed in an almost impregnable position between God and His people. This amazing position has come about largely through widespread hypnosis induced by carefully designed propaganda and the blind support of an ignorant clergy. I do not use the word "ignorant" in any offensive sense, either. No man unless he is ignorant of the true facts of the money system could possibly support its continuance, and yet hundreds of well-meaning clergymen still cry, "Hands Off the Banks!" That is the clearest evidence of ignorance.

With the clergy telling the people the truth about the nature, origin, and purpose of money, this almost incredible atmosphere of pernicious hypnosis would quickly disappear, and we would have

an enlightened community demanding the establishment of social conditions in harmony with the physical possibilities and the undoubted purposes of the Creator. It is not much use reminding us that human bodies are the temples of God if we shut our eyes to the neglected and tortured temples in the slum areas, or to the temples in many other areas, which are being improperly subjected to increasing strain. These unardonable conditions exist only because we have not taken the trouble to find out exactly how money comes into existence, how it goes out of existence, and *who* controls this most vital community matter.

PRAYING ABOUT DEBT.

At the same service, Mr. Warren made a strong appeal for a generous offering on behalf of the Hospital Fund, and then actually prayed about the hospital *debt* in a manner that might have tempted even God to show impatience. We can imagine God replying something like this: "Why appeal to Me? Have I not supplied you liberally with *everything* the hospitals need for their merciful work—land, timber, materials of all kinds, women to do the nursing,

TWEEDLEDUM AND TWEEDLEDEE

"At one time the Bank (of England) possessed ONE telephone. It was connected with the Treasury."
—Overseas Daily Mail, Oct. 3.

doctors to do the advising and surgery, food in abundance, water, power, *everything* you have to use? Why don't you use them? The thing they call money is only a system of figures and tickets designed to facilitate the transfer of things from one person to another, and all you have to do to overcome any difficulties in that regard is to increase your figures and tickets to agree with the things you have available. For several years now, and particularly since 1929, I have been trying to show you that all your troubles arise out of your insane money arrangements, but somehow you won't be told, and you still try to bring every service and every activity back within the limits of wholly inadequate financial figures instead of insisting that the financial figures shall be increased in harmony with your national development and public necessities. The remedy is entirely in your own hands, just as My servant, C. H. Douglas, has been telling you for seventeen years, and even if I sent a prophet from heaven you would refuse to believe."

The hospitals, like everything else, are in difficulties because the gifts of God can only be obtained through permission from the private banking system in the form of financial credit. Without *money* they are helpless, and even when they collect money from a poverty-stricken community (money that most of the people cannot really spare and should never be asked to spare) it is used to pay off bank overdrafts and so goes out of existence and reduces the community's money to that extent. God might have gone on further to say: "I am pleased when you sing the Doxology, but it would be much more acceptable to Me if you showed greater commonsense in distributing the things you praise Me for sending."—Yours faithfully, BRUCE H. BROWN.

THE—

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Edited by HALL THOMPSON

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chemistry and medicine, of hospitals and institutions for the afflicted, of comfortable homes, of good food and clothes, the great boon of a balanced mind, of refreshing sleep in comfortable beds, of good friends, of protection from accident and illness, of freedom in political, civil and religious spheres, of electricity and the radio, the grandeur of the Universe, the wonder of life itself, the Bible, the Church, and every beneficial thing we could think of. Not only did he praise and magnify God for these things, but he eloquently emphasised the generosity, even the lavishness with which the Creator provides them as *free gifts to mankind*.

He also referred to the extraordinary wonder of our human bodies, and reminded us that they are "the temples of God." In this, too, the speaker was fluent and eloquent, and certainly did show that those of us who enjoy the bounty of God *have* reason to be thankful.

WHAT MR. WARREN FORGOT

But what of the other side of the picture? What happens to all these bountiful gifts from a generous Creator? It was a great surprise to me that Mr. Warren made no mention at all of the appalling fact that millions of good people are not *allowed* to enjoy these bounteous gifts. Surely he was aware of the widespread poverty in the land and he must know that the withholding of the permission is not the work of God.

Right here in the city of Melbourne there are ten thousand school children under-nourished. The State Schools' Relief Committee has asked for a grant of £7500 "so that a half-pint of milk may be supplied to these children throughout the year instead of for only three or four months as is possible now with the £1650 granted."

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"TWO ALTERNATIVES"

By F. K. BARTON, B.A.

Some two years ago, Mr. Paterson, Minister for the Interior, speaking in Brisbane, was reported to have said words to this effect: "It is argued by some people that with the increasing mechanisation of industry the world is faced with two alternatives; to have half the population working and half on the dole, or to have all working shorter hours."

Assuming that machinery is replacing, and will progressively continue to replace human labour, it is interesting to follow the social and financial implications of the two alternatives suggested.

THE DOLE SYSTEM

Take first the continuance of a dole system. There are two ways of distributing a dole:—(a) In kind, or (b) In money.

(a) A dole in kind (a governmental institution distributing food, clothing, etc., at appropriate intervals) would lead to a premium on idleness without opportunity of culture (no money to spend on any form of culture, hobbies or amusements). Call this (A) for purpose of reference. Result—Demoralisation of unemployed.

(b) A dole in money. There are two possibilities with regard to sufficiency of money at present:—(c) that there is enough, (d) that there is not enough.

(c) If there is enough money in Australia to buy all our production (or its equivalent in imports), then our difficulties are caused by maldistribution of money incomes. "The poor are poor because the rich are rich." The remedy would be to take money from the rich and give to the poor. That is in essence taxation. (N.B.—The extremity of taxation is a complete equalisation of incomes—estimated at about 30/- per head per week in Australia. This is powerful support of the belief that there is a total insufficiency of money.)

Further taxation of larger incomes (Federal Labor's policy) will be passed on in prices, and so will be Taxation of the Employed (B for reference). But Industry cannot stand further taxation - - Result, breakdown, distress, revolt in some form, probably issuing in dictatorship (Fascist or Communist).

(d) If there is not enough money or credit (N.B.—"Credit is often said to be a substitute for money. It would be just as accurate to say that money is a

substitute for credit," R. G. Hawtrey, in "Currency and Credit."), then the cure is to create more money or credit. This may be done under one of two conditions, within the circle of orthodox finance, (e) without Price Control, (f) with Price Fixing.

(e) Without Price Control—result, a fall in value of wages (another form of B with same results), hitting the middle class, people on fixed salaries, pensioners, etc., first. (N.B.—Inflation is an increase of money, leading to a rise in prices.)

(f) With Price Fixing. (Cf., Roosevelt, and Savage in N.Z.) Necessitates ultimately inquisitorial governmental control of all industry and commerce. No need to amplify objections and various possible results.

Provisional conclusion: Mr. Paterson's first alternative unsatisfactory.

SHORTER HOURS.

Second alternative: All working shorter hours. If you shorten hours of work, you either (g) reduce wages proportionately, or (h) you don't reduce wages.

(g) If wages are reduced, it is another form of taxation of employed, this time falling first on the wage earner, accompanied by a sop of more leisure, which is useless to him because he has nothing to spend on culture of any kind. (Another form of B, with same results.)

(h) If Jones is given half of Smith's work, you can't offer him less wages. (The fact that wages costs will be doubled is not the important point for this argument. Actually, of course, with the progressive mechanisation of industry, the wages costs would become less important.) This involves a bigger financing of industry, and leads us back to (d) the creation of additional credit, with the same alternatives and results.

The dilemma seems complete.

The alternatives—

- (a) Dole in kind, (b) Dole in money.
- (c) There is enough money;
- (d) There is not enough money;
- (g) Reduce wages, (h) Don't reduce wages

—are what may be called exhaustive. There seems to be no third choice in any of the three pairs.

What of (e) and (f), the two conditions under which additional credit (i.e., financial credit

—not *Real Credit*, which is created by the efforts of *Individuals living in a community*) can be issued? Is there no third choice here? Is there no possibility of Price Control as distinguished from Price Fixing?

CONSUMER CREDIT.

It is to be observed that nothing has so far been said as to who should issue the additional credit needed or on what terms. "Orthodox" finance would assume that this would still be the function of the Associated Banks through loans to producers and governments. It is suggested here that the only escape is the issue of direct Consumers' Credit by a governmental authority with status similar to that of the High Court (administering a formula as the High Court "administers" the law, not to suit itself, but ultimately under direction and sanctions—e.g., removal by vote of both Houses of Parliament for dereliction of duty) in the form of a National Dividend (Douglas) or Social Dividend (G. D. H. Cole) representing the surplus value now asserted by the Marxist to be in the hands of the "bloated capitalist" (most of them mortgaged up to the neck); this Dividend to be issued in two forms:

(i) Dividend proper to ALL whether working or not, to prevent A.

(j) A subsidy to retailers to sell at a percentage to be fixed from time to time according to the ratio of the community's total consumption (including exports) to total production (including imports), to prevent B. This

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

Australians as a nation ate about half the amount of fruit that should be eaten. Allied to this question, as to purchasing power, there was food for thought in aspects raised by the Douglas Credit advocates.

—Dr. G. S. Robinson, Williamstown Health Officer, at health week demonstration.

subsidy (Just Price Discount—Douglas) would be equivalent to putting the purchasing power into the consumer's pocket—but indirectly in respect of a reduction of prices on proof of sale (a sales tax inverted—in case of disaster leading to a real deficiency of production as compared with consumption, it would become a sales tax, necessitated by the real ECONOMIC (not FINANCIAL) position of the community.

N.B.—Portion of new issue could be issued direct in payment of interest on *internal* debt and for public works and social services, with a corresponding reduction of taxation, which would have the double effect of reducing prices to the consumer and relieving the producer of an intolerable burden.

Any rearrangement of working hours that seemed suitable could then be made without upsetting finance, for, taking any suitable basic wage as a foundation, it would not matter if increased wage costs were incurred, because whatever the total cost of production, it would be met by the issue of consumer credit to the necessary amount and no more, that being the instruction given by Parliament (or better, the Constitution) to the Credit Issuing Authority.

External debts could only be met, as now, by export of gold to such countries as want it, and by excess of exports over imports. If our creditors refuse to accept an "unfavourable balance," we would be in the position of a debtor whose offer of legal tender is refused.

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

A VOYAGE THROUGH SPACE

On Monday evening, 2nd inst., Professor Ross, of the University of Western Australia, accompanied by his wife, left Perth on an imaginary voyage through space, on a rocket propelled by an atomic energy apparatus. During the first portion of the journey, Professor Ross maintained radio communication with Perth national station, which relayed his commentary to listeners, who distinctly heard his landing on Mars. The following radio-lettergrams have been lodged for transmission to Professor Ross by Mr. D. J. O'Leary, of Walgoonan, West Australia. Mr. O'Leary is well known in that State as the foundation General Secretary of the Wheatgrowers' Union of Western Australia, being one of the principal founders of that organisation, which in turn took a prominent part in the establishment of the Australian Wheatgrowers' Federation:—

FIRST MESSAGE.

"What ho she bumps. Please be careful. Wheatgrowers objecting chunks Universe flying around destroying what drought, hoppers, emus, etc., have left of crops. Has depression lifted yet on Mars? When directing attention Martians to hazy disc, which is your home planet, explain that bright patch shining through haze is Australia, and that brightness caused by what is known to Earthatics as Prosperity or Recovery, attained by borrowing ourselves out of debt. Do not omit state that brighter portion of bright patch is Western Australia, that small point on brighter patch whence bluish-green vapour arising, is Walgoonan where Wheatgrowers' Union generated, and that bluish-green vapour considered some authorities ominous indication more trouble brewing. When explaining meaning Prosperity, Recovery, etc., as understood Australia state that whilst cause depressions very obscure—some blaming what known to Earthatics as "The Banks," others again, known as economists, who ought to know, attributing the cause to sunspots or the rings of Saturn—only one Earthatic with knowledge how lift depressions, known all over bright patch as Joey. Ascertain if Martians can find him job.

"Do they have droughts or grasshoppers there? In case unintelligible to Martians, explain droughts due inefficiency certain Earthatics known as wheatgrowers, generally considered possess strong backs very weak heads. Explain that grasshoppers dealt with by feeding with earth substances known as bran, molasses and arsenic, but some wheatgrowers consider, and at least one legislator agrees, that mixture minus arsenic equally effective if fed to starving stock. Hope have good time. Cheerio."

SECOND MESSAGE.

"Several foreign powers protesting against hoisting Australian flag certain icebergs Antarctic on grounds grave danger -whales sensing Prosperity ahead limiting families. Special meeting Federal Cabinet decided abandon project and hoist flag on Mars instead. One million pounds (claimed by W. A. wheatgrowers for relief) allocated for building within 24 hours large rocket your model but equipped with bar. Large party headed by Prime Minister accompanying flag. Invitations extended to and accepted by all Federal and State legislators, financial magnates, economists, etc. Arrange civic reception on arrival party. Prime Minister, Minister Trade Treaties anxious address gathering on overseas markets, etc., before function reaches Glorious-Empire-Great-hic-Heritage stage. During reception perhaps you could conduct Martian school children tour inspection Federal rocket. If frolicsome little ones throw hats into delicate innards atomic energy apparatus irretrievably damaging same preventing

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MELBOURNE (Cont.)

(Continued from page 3.)

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The economic diseases of the world will only be finally cured when the workers of the world unite, not as workers, but as consumers, and it is only then that we shall begin to be really civilized.

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JOHN HOGAN IN THE NORTH

After a most successful return tour in the Echuca district, although, unfortunately, a meeting was not possible at Echuca itself, John reports that as soon as Mr. Hollins, State Organiser, can get up there and do the organising work that the young crusader's programme does not allow him time to perform, over half a dozen branches can definitely be established on a firm footing, and a consequent District Council. With a little time for John's message to sink in, the area will be ripe for results, and in many cases the principal local supporters are prepared and willing to get on with the Electoral Campaign.

ROCHESTER.

Probably on account of later meetings in the outer centres, the attendance at Rochester on Monday night, although much larger than on John's first visit, was not up to expectations, although the Rochester branch expects to gain much new strength from the enthusiasm generated. The Shire President was in the chair. Much valuable assistance has been extended here by the *Rochester Express*. The hospitality of Mrs. Somerville, wife of the branch's first president, who is now at Colbinabbin, was appreciated by John several times during the week in the district.

KYABRAM.

Cr. Cooper presided here, over a meeting that again was very much better and more enthusiastic than the first occasion, and very fully reported in the sympathetic *Guardian* and *Free Press*. Mr. Lancaster, ex-Shire President, moved the vote of thanks, and, with other now keen supporters, will keep things moving there.

NATHALIA.

On Wednesday John spent several hours at Echuca, mainly in interviews, and, on arriving at Nathalia in the afternoon, was joined by enthusiast W. Henley, who organised the Nathalia meeting, for a trip to Tocumwal (N.S.W.), which resulted in making several valuable contacts in this large and hitherto untouched centre. At night a crowd of nearly 150 in the Nathalia Shire Hall was chaired by Mr. S. Prior, of the Country Party, and leading citizens, in moving the vote of thanks, warmly complimented the young orator on a speech that they claimed to be even more stirring and informative than his first much-discussed address in the town, where the nucleus of a strong Movement now exists. John commented sadly on a report in the day's local paper, wherein Mr. McEwan, M.H.R. for the electorate, was reported as saying that in another 50 years present sinking fund arrangements would have paid off all the National Debt, apparently ignoring the fact that

additions to the Debt were regularly taking place at a much greater rate than sinking fund repayments, and that the Loan Council was meeting in Melbourne to discuss the next addition that very day. Those who supported Mr. McEwan's election, under the impression that he was interested in monetary reform and fairly conversant with national finance, have been very disappointed in his attitude, but still hope that organised pressure in the electorate will yet be effective in releasing him from extraneous control.

TONGALA.

A little time was well spent at Kyabram en route to Tongala, where the efforts of Mr. R. G. Caldicott and other supporters for the second time produced a splendid meeting. This was the best yet; even larger than Nathalia, and representative of a wide district, including Wyuna, Kyabram and Tatura. Enthusiasm was high, questions keen and plentiful and final closing time after midnight. The local C.P. secretary presided. After considering whether or not to form a separate branch, the many supporters here, who are all members of the C.P., have decided that this is desirable and will permit of officially organised propaganda and campaigning. Incidentally, almost every centre John spoke at this week, especially Tongala, was well represented at the Melbourne Town Hall meeting.

LOCKINGTON A RECORD

One of the finest meetings for the district John has yet held in Victoria was produced in the Lockington Hall on Friday night, under the auspices of the Bamawn Branch of the U.C.P., whose energetic secretary, Mr. John Vise, is well known to all Social Crediters and readers of the *Countryman*. Before eight the cars were rolling up from a radius of over 20 miles, and by the time Mr. W. Dunstone, M.L.A., the chairman, arrived the hall was packed by about 300 representative farmers and settlers, with a good sprinkling of women-folk. Quite the biggest and most outstanding meeting in the history of the district, and a parking attendant was kept busy looking after enough cars to produce a traffic jam on Princes Bridge. The Member's opening remarks indicated a sympathetic interest, typical of the early part of the meeting, but which gradually changed to a warmer feeling, and even actual enthusiasm before the close of John's speech on the part of many who were having their first introduction to the subject. Again, a long and very interesting question time, and, to add to the interest, a few daring interjectors, who provoked rapid sallies, which made them remember that John had trained among audiences sprinkled with Queensland radicals. Well after midnight again the meeting

finally closed and John got back to Rochester not much before dawn.

MELBOURNE HECKLE HOUR.

Phoned by Mr. Trenoweth next morning to try and get down for a debate on the 3DB Heckle Hour that night, John made hurried arrangements, cut out a proposed effort at the Rochester Show, then in progress, and, after picking up Mr. John Vise from Lockington, Mr. George Bright, Rochester branch secretary, and two other available supporters, left in the afternoon for a rush trip from the border to the city, which, culminated in the eminently worthwhile and successful broadcast event reported elsewhere in this issue.

Subsequently, all went round to the reception at which Captain Rushworth spoke, where John seconded the vote of thanks to this distinguished visitor from our sister Dominion, and later discussed the details of his South Australian tour with the State President, Mr. C. L. Tucker, who had come over on a flying business trip. Next morning he had to see Mr. L. Hollins; met Tasmanian Treasurer, the Hon. Dwyer-Gray, M.H.A., over for the Loan Council meeting, and managed to get away a little before 2 p.m., with a meeting at Colbinabbin, 100 miles over middling roads, at 3 p.m. Somehow, this actually did commence at 3.30, and the crowd who attended, both in number and type, delighted the hearts of Mr. T. Somerville (late Rochester president) and Mr. A. Mowson, local schoolmaster, who had worked hard for this first meeting at fairly short notice; and the latter of whom presided—an able and enthusiastic chairman, too.

Councillor Taylor moved the vote of thanks afterwards, compli-

A MAN OF MANY GENERATIONS— OB DUTY NOBLY DONE

"If New Zealand wants to experiment in any system of legislation it is no business of ours to comment thereon, but if, from many generations of experience, we see that the Government is making what seems to us to be a mistake, it is not only our right, but our duty, to tell you what we see," said Mr. J. A. Aiton, of the Derby and Derbyshire Chambers of Commerce, in the Auckland Town Hall on Oct. 28. Mr. Aiton then proceeded to advise the people of N.Z. to stick to sound financial methods, and concluded: "I hope you do not think that there is any discourtesy in my remarks. I merely offer advice. Whether you accept or refuse it doesn't matter to us in the least. We have done our duty, and that is all that matters to us."

menting the speaker on his presentation of undoubted facts, and the results of this effort will exceed the most optimistic expectations of its organisers. The attendance was about 80.

KERANG.

Next day John left Rochester for Kerang, calling at Gunbower and Cohuna en route. Councillor Foster took the chair here, in the absence of the Shire President on business, over a crowd of more than 200, which was very pleasing as the first in the town, and promises several times the number next trip if John can return. The audience again was very representative, carloads coming from Barham, Koondrook and other centres, although it is doubtful whether anyone came further than the 44 miles of Mr. and Mrs. Edgar Hollins, brother of the State Organiser. The meeting was responsive and enthusiastic, question time lengthy and valuable—again helped considerably by the curiosity of a local bank manager—and literature

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Formation of Co-operative Trading Co.

At a meeting of persons interested in the formation of a co-operative trading company, held at the "Mayflower" Cafe, at 8 p.m. on October 12, an advisory committee was selected and instructed to investigate and report upon the possible avenues of success in this direction.

The committee met and submitted a report at the meeting held on November 9, at 8 p.m. at the "Mayflower" Cafe, and the meeting endorsed the report and proceeded to bring the proposed company into being.

The provisional directors elected were: Messrs. H. R. Groves, F. Barnes, N. R. Worrall; and the solicitor to the company, Mr. M. L. Davey.

A meeting of the provisional directors was held on Wednesday, November 11, to deal with the articles of association and general matters concerning the formation of the proposed company, and, at an early date, a general meeting of shareholders and intending shareholders will be called to ratify and accept the articles of association, etc.

It is proposed to register the company with a capital of £100,000, divided into 200,000 shares of 10/- each.

The registered office of the company has not yet been decided upon, and until this is done all correspondence is to be addressed to the directors, c/o H. R. Groves, 39 Huntington Grove, Coburg, N.13. (Phone, FW 8750.)

John Hogan at 3DB

On Saturday last John Hogan made a hurried trip to the city from Rochester to take part in the Heckle Hour Debate over station 3DB. The question for debate was "Is Douglas Credit Practicable in Australia?", and the negative was taken by Mr. Fred. Stewart.

In this session each speaker is allowed 15 minutes to present his case, the remainder of the time being allotted to questions from the audience. John made exceptionally good use of his period, showing that Douglas Credit is not only practicable, but essential for the welfare of Australia. His opponent showed a lamentable lack of knowledge of Social Credit, and the nature of money. His main argument was that, as a partial application of Social Credit in Alberta was disastrous, the complete application in Australia would be an even greater disaster. He also brought in our old friend, "something for nothing," and concluded with the argument that it was no use fiddling with the superstructure if the foundations were not sound.

Most of the audience directed their questions to John, all of which he answered admirably. He was able to state the facts of Alberta, the nature of money, the "cure" of unemployment, etc. The audience appreciated his answers, and would have remained for hours if possible.

This broadcast has been of great value to the Movement, and has raised considerable discussion amongst the outside public. The general comment is aptly summed up in the words of one casual listener, "A lion ate a lamb."

simply mopped up at the end. Great heart has been given to the few known supporters here at finding their numbers greatly increased, and being brought into contact with many of whose active sympathy they had been previously unaware. A full report in the *Kerang New Times* followed, and this important centre is now definitely on the map in Social Credit circles. The interest shown here by both businessmen and farmers is likely to be typical of the whole Mallee, as John should now be discovering.

John Hogan's Programme

November.

Saturday, 14.—Mildura: Afternoon, meet Social Crediters in conference; 8 p.m., Mildura Band Rotunda.

Sunday, 15.—Redcliffs: 3 p.m.; Mildura: Town Hall, 8 p.m.

Monday, 16.—Ouyen: Public Hall, 8 p.m.

Tuesday, 17.—Woomelang: Public Hall, 8 p.m.

Wednesday, 18.—Beulah: Public Hall, 3 p.m.; Hopetoun: Public Hall, 8 p.m.

Thursday, 19.—Kenmare or Yarepeet: 3 p.m.; Rainbow: 8 p.m.

Friday, 20.—Warracknabeal: McCoomb's Hall, 8 p.m.

Saturday, 21.—Horsham.

Sunday, 22.—Dimboola: Public Park, 3 p.m.

Monday, 23.—Donald: Soldiers' Memorial Hall, 8 p.m.

Tuesday, 24.—Wycheproof, Birchip.

Thursday, 25.—Sea Lake: Public Hall, 8 p.m.

Friday, 26.—Mildura, for big Town Hall Demonstration.

Saturday 27.—Renmark, South Australia; thence to Adelaide.

Captain Rushworth to Address Goodwill Group

The usual monthly meeting of the Goodwill Group will be held at Griffiths Bros.' cafe, Little Collins-street, Melbourne, on Tuesday, the 17th inst. Dinner will be at 6.15 p.m.

The speaker will be Captain H. M. Rushworth, M.P., of New Zealand, and President of the Social Credit Movement of the Dominion. The subject of his address will be, "World Problems, Great Britain and the Dominions."

Captain Rushworth, who is returning from a tour of Great Britain, Europe and America, had an opportunity whilst in those countries of discussing world problems with political, industrial and social leaders, and many other responsible people.

The committee extends a very cordial invitation to members and friends, but requests intending visitors, in order to save disappointment, to get in touch either by letter or 'phone with the secretary, Mr. G. R. Trenoweth, c/o *New Times* office, or 123 Rennie-street, Coburg, not later than Monday evening, so that catering arrangements may be completed. "Phones: Office, M 5384; private, Bwk. 1879.

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BOOKS ON MONETARY REFORM

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ABC of Social Credit. By C. Barclay Smith.....7d.
Dividends for All By C. Barclay Smith.....7d.
Tell Me the Story Simplv. By Will T. Duggan.....7d.
Modern Problems and Mental Attitudes. By Rev. J. T. Lawton.....1/1
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Social Credit. By C. H. Douglas.....6/4
The Breakdown of the Employment System. By C. H. Douglas.....4d.
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