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# THE NEW TIMES

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 NEWSAGENTS.

Vol. II. No. 48.

MELBOURNE, FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 1936.

Every Friday, 3d

## N.S.W. Premier's Plot To Sell Australia

THEY TELL US  
 WHAT  
 WE SHOULD EAT

But Nothing  
 About the Money  
 to Buy It

"To emphasise their claim that the national health is suffering through the eating of impoverished food, members of a deputation from the Nutritional Research group of Australasia have decided to show Dr. Harris—Victorian Minister for Health—just what sort of food people should eat and how it should be prepared. Early tomorrow morning they will prepare in the Minister's office three tables, illustrating what they consider to be the ideal breakfast, lunch and dinner."

So said the Melbourne Herald in an article featured on its front page on Tuesday. The article went on to explain that the research work of the Group "has shown that over-refined food is responsible for much ill-health." The diet recommended consists mainly of fruit and vegetables, and it is also suggested by the Group that legislation be enacted to provide for 100 per cent, whole-meal bread.

### MORE FASCISM

This attitude of the Nutritional Research Group calls for two comments.

The first is that, praiseworthy as the motives of its members undoubtedly are, their methods are those of the Fascist dictatorship. People are to be forced by legislation to have rammed down their throats (literally) what this Group thinks is good for the people—not what the people themselves may choose or desire.

The second is that the Group is living in a happy dreamland of its own. The people of Australia, and especially the children whose constitutions are in the making, don't have to be told by any Nutritional Research Group that it would be good for them to have more fresh fruit, green vegetables, milk, and the like. Nor has the average child any great taste for meat, which the Group does not appear to recommend.

The whole difficulty is that most of the breakfast, lunch and dinner tables of Australia are not regulated either by scientific knowledge or by the desires of the palate, but by the capacity of the purse. This is a subject on which research work is studiously avoided.

Reverting to the question of fruit, the Nutritional Research Group might explore why so much of our best fruit has to be sent overseas to meet interest commitments, leaving inferior grades for home consumption.

He Admits Our Only Shortage Is Money  
 He Admits How Easily It Can Be Supplied  
 But He Wants To Hand Australia To Overseas Usurers

It is nothing short of appalling that a public man should be able openly to express the views, which the Premier of New South Wales has just done, and still be permitted to remain a public man.

On Thursday, Friday and Saturday of last week three articles by this gentleman were featured in the Melbourne Argus. Their gist was a plea for the expansion of Australia's money supplies, and in the course of his articles Mr. Stevens made it clear that he now understands quite clearly how easy and how inexpensive it is to increase the quantity of money as required. Yet, in spite of his realisation both of the problem itself and of its just and natural solution, he went on to draw conclusions that are nothing short of a betrayal of his fellow-countrymen.

### THE PROBLEM.

Mr. Stevens prefaced his articles by holding up Britain as a country which since 1932 "has pursued a new and enterprising monetary policy" as a means to industrial recovery. "This"—Britain's—"success has been due largely to the fact that monetary policy has not been treated as something apart from all other policy, but as an integral part of a co-ordinated set of recovery measures."

And, as for Australia, "if Australia does not apply a more enterprising monetary policy, industrial recovery may halt, and prevent resumption of our national progress and development." And again, "the rate of industrial recovery is slackening, though the volume of unemployment is still considerable."

These quotations, and the whole tenor of Mr. Stevens's articles, show him to realise thoroughly that Australia's only present shortage is money, that the lack of money only

is to blame for our slowness in "recovery", and that this is not a result merely of unfair or unequal distribution of money, but of a deficiency in its total supply.

### HOW BRITAIN INCREASED ITS MONEY.

In great detail the New South Wales Premier also discussed how Britain's money supplies have been expanded.

Here are some examples in his own words: "The Bank of England made investments by purchasing

was reflected in a large increase in customers' deposits in trading banks, as well as in deposits in savings banks, building societies and the like." Mr. Stevens illustrated this by showing that between 1932 and 1936 the investments of the nine London trading banks increased from £270 millions to £590 millions, while during the same period their customers' deposits rose from £1650 millions to £2050 millions, and savings bank deposits went up from £432 millions to £536 millions.

A far cry this from the old pretence that banks merely lend their customers' deposits! Mr. Stevens rightly points out that bankers buy investments by the simple process of giving a cheque upon themselves. These cheques, when paid into customers' accounts, constitute an effective addition to the community's money supplies, since nearly all financial transactions of note are now carried on as a transfer of bank book entries from one individual to another by means of cheques or similar instructions to bankers.

The limit to this power of the bankers to create money is, of course, that a fraction of all bank deposits— - and a progressively smaller one, as the cheque rightly grows more popular—will be required by customers in the form of legal tender or, as it is called, cash. The British banks' requirements in this respect were met when, as Mr. Stevens said, the Bank of England made investments by purchasing securities, and paid for them with cheques on itself. These cheques, finding their way, as customers' deposits, into the other British banks, increased the deposits of the latter in their accounts with the Bank of

(Continued on page 2, column 2.)

### ANOTHER NAIL IN YOUR COFFIN

Back to the pawnshop.

A "loan" of £7½ millions is now being "floated," carrying perpetual interest at a few pence under £4 per cent, per annum.

This means further taxation, forever, of £300,000 a year.

How do you like prosperity?

securities on the British market. In paying for these it paid out cash or cheques or rights to cash with the Bank of England. These were deposited largely with trading banks . . . The trading banks bought investments and discounted bills, so placing additional money in the hands of the business community and the general public. This again

Sir Herbert Gepp,  
 Australian Club,  
 Melbourne.

Dear Sir Herbert.

What a tantalising man you are! Should we congratulate you or criticise you for your address to shareholders at the Deborah Gold Mines meeting on Tuesday?

On the one hand you are reported as saying such sensible things as "At this very moment we are stimulating a prosperity which is false insofar as it is rooted in an intense armament race, the fruits of which must, as stated by the British Foreign Secretary this week, 'spell universal impoverishment if not universal destruction'." And, "No real solution of our present impasse is possible until the disequilibria between our increasing productive capacity per unit of labour and the purchasing power of the people is adjusted." And again, "No solution of the real economic problems can be achieved by a blind acceptance of the fatalistic idea that booms and depressions are inevitable."

Hopeful stuff, Sir Herbert. And coming from an experienced engineer, a director of many business enterprises, a writer, a consultant to and adviser of governments, one would expect you then to throw your whole weight and influence into tackling our economic problems at their root - which your quoted words clearly show to be understood by you as being an unsatisfactory money mechanism.

But, alas! You tailed off into suggesting the appointment of still another Research and Advisory Council. From your own experience as a member of somewhat similar bodies in the past, Sir Herbert, you must surely, realise that this is the best possible way NOT to get things done. The people of Australia are crying out for RESULTS, not for further deliberative bodies. They see the facts of visible plenty all around them. They know that more money in consumers' pockets would distribute this plenty, would be good for both consumers and producers. They know this requires no research. THEY WANT SOMETHING DONE ABOUT IT—NOW!

But you! "Only a very long distance view could envisage the elimination of gold as a factor in the settlement of international indebtedness, and until then the gold-mining industry must take an important place in the scheme of things." Until then! As long as gold mining is profitable, as long as you are getting your own particular corner, the welfare of your fellow-citizens can be postponed for future "research." Is this what you mean, Sir Herbert?

THE NEW TIMES

"HONEST JOE"  
 Don't Miss This

In the "Men and Women" column of a recent issue of the Glasgow Weekly Herald, which a correspondent has kindly sent us, appears a description of our Prime Minister (under the heading, "A Leader in Adversity"), which we feel should not be allowed to waste its sweetness on the desert air. We reprint it without further comment.

"Another statesman from the Antipodes who will be in this country for the Coronation next year is Mr. J. A. Lyons, Prime Minister of Australia. I met him the last time he was in Britain, and hope to meet him again.

"Take a dreamy idealist whose qualities are academic rather than commercial, surround him with a large and flourishing family to whom he is devoted, endow him with good temper, humour and a love of tranquility, give him the personal appearance of an old-time actor and the physis (sic) and skill of a first rate athlete, and on the face of it you have the most unsuitable person in the world to lead a great nation in the time of financial crisis.

"Yet that description gives the main characteristics of Mr. Lyons. It needs only a glance at his record to appreciate Australia's confidence in him.

"He has been Commonwealth Premier since 1931. Before that he was leader of the Tasmanian Labour Party. In Australia his integrity has won him the name of 'Honest Joe.'

"He is not only an idealist, but he has the courage to put his ideals into practice. He is not a mere athlete, but a man who has the athlete's determination and fighting spirit developed to an unusual degree. He is not only a family man and the father of twelve sturdy children, but a man who has the vision to see that the safety of the State, like the safety of the family, is built on a rock of financial integrity.

"He began his career as a school teacher and married a teacher who shared his interest in politics. He was interested in sports of all kinds. It was in controlling the extremely noisy meetings of his football club that he first began to develop the gifts, which later made him such a power in debate.

"I must confess that at first, when I heard him speak, he did not impress me as an orator of great force. It is difficult to imagine him lashing a meeting to a frenzy of enthusiasm with a stream of burning words. He scorns the methods of the tub-thumper, and relies, instead, on a quiet persuasiveness, which, in the long run, is infinitely more effective.

"Mr. Lyons walks with a limp, the result of an accident, but there is nothing halting about his personality. His fresh-complexioned face is crowned with white hair, which seems almost out of place when contrasted with the amazing youth and vitality of his eyes."

\* \* \*

Have you ever noticed Joe's eyes?

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(Continued on page 3.)

(Continued from page 1.)

England. As the Bank of England is the sole issuer of the British banknote, the deposits with it of the other banks are equivalent to an increase in their note holdings, and come under the heading of what is called "bank cash"—just as do the deposits of the private banks in Australia with the Commonwealth Bank—since they constitute a right to draw notes from the bank of issue.

Reviewing the position thus far, the purchase of additional securities by the Bank of England not only increases the deposits (money) either of the Government or of the general public, but it swells "bank cash", and thus enables the other private banks to pyramid a far greater series of "investments", which in turn add correspondingly to the community's supply of money.

All this was put very clearly and simply by Reginald McKenna, chairman of the great Midland Bank, when he told his shareholders on January 25, 1924: "Under the system which prevails in our country, there is only one method by which we can add to or diminish the aggregate amount of our money. Gold coin is no longer minted, and additional paper currency is not issued except to meet the demands of the public. When the public require more currency they draw it from the banks and deposits are reduced as currency in circulation is increased. The amount of money in existence varies only with the action of the banks in increasing or diminishing deposits. We know how this is effected. Every bank loan and every bank purchase of securities creates a deposit, and every repayment of a bank loan and every bank sale destroys one." ("Post-War Banking Policy", by Right Hon. Reginald McKenna, page 76—our italics.)

**THE "SECURITIES."**

If we now turn our attention to the foundation upon which is erected all this superstructure of bankers' investments and customers' deposits, we find that it begins with the purchase of "securities" by the Bank of England. What are those securities?

Mr. Stevens helps us again by explaining, in the first of his articles, that there was "collaboration between the Treasury and the Bank of England"—remember Montagu Norman's reference to these two as Tweedledum and Tweedledee—"especially in operating the Exchange Equalisation Fund. That fund began to operate in June, 1932, on capital provided by a new issue of £150,000,000 Treasury bills, which was increased to £350,000,000 by a further issue of £200,000,000 of Treasury bills in May, 1933."

British Treasury bills are national I.O.U.'s bearing interest, and handed over by the sovereign Government of England on behalf of the sovereign people of England to a private institution, the Bank of England. From the point of view of the British people the "proceeds" are ledger entries in the Bank's books. From the point of view of the Bank the operation is part of the process of buying "securities" outlined above. The cost to the Bank is practically nothing. Certainly the Bank incurs the liability to produce legal tender against the book entry deposit. This liability, however, is rarely enforced and could never be met by any bank anywhere. On Mr. Stevens's figures the total notes in circulation in England this year were £400 millions, against deposits in nine London trading banks and the savings banks of £2586 millions—a deficiency of a mere £2186 millions. Moreover, the bank crisis on the outbreak of the last war showed that nowadays the Government will step in to protect the banks from the just claims of their depositors.

**A CLEAR-CUT ISSUE**

Summing up, therefore, Mr. Stevens admits (1) that our trouble is merely a shortage of money, and (2) that the money supply can be and is

expanded by the banks to an enormous extent; that one of their means of doing so is to buy up securities such as the national debt, and that the whole business is merely a matter of writing cheques and making book entries.

This immediately raises the issue: If, as Mr. Stevens contends—and we agree with him—more money is needed in Australia, why can it not be done locally by government action? What is to stop the Australian people issuing more money as required? What is to stop the nation making its own book entries? If private bankers increase the money supply by the simple device of writing cheques on themselves and using these cheques to buy up the national debt, what is to stop us in Australia from using our own Commonwealth Bank for the same purpose, thus at the one time adding to our needed supply of money and reducing our national debt?

There is nothing to stop us and Mr. Stevens shows that he knows this. Then why does he not advocate the doing by the nation, for the benefit of the people, of what he concedes to be right and proper if done by private money monopolists for their own gain and power?

**A BANKERS' MAN**

The reason is because Mr. Stevens is not on the side of the people. He is on the side of the bankers. He says so quite shamelessly. "Our need", he says—our need, mind you—"is to increase Australian bank resources."

From such a starting point this man, this bankers' man, goes on to suggest that what should be done is either to raise credits (that is, interest-bearing loans) abroad or to encourage overseas investment in Australia. "Australia," he declares, "like any other undeveloped country, needs an inflow of foreign capital . . . We can augment that flow by raising in London part of the annual loan programme approved by the Loan Council, or by circulating in London the prospectus of our next internal loan, relying on the higher interest rate that we must now offer here to attract London money."

The development of Australia, as Mr. Stevens very well knows, will take place through Australian workers, who will use almost exclusively Australian materials. The money with which they will be paid will be Australian money. Yet this man, who has just declared his knowledge of how easy it is to produce that money as required, has now the colossal humbug to suggest that the price of issuing costless money against our own real credit should be the incurring of fresh debt to overseas financiers, should be the further mortgaging of Australia to insatiable foreign usurers.

We describe the proposal as humbug because we charge B. S. B. Stevens with knowing that an increase in our overseas debt must mean still further annual commitments for interest, and a still further burden on that balance of overseas payments of which he says: "At present that balance is being sought mainly through the dangerous expedient of allowing cash resources in Australia to shrink, interest rates to rise, and business activity to be dampened down." Supposing Australia were to adopt his expedient—which is nothing more clever than pledging fresh assets in order to have interest compounded—what would be the immediate result? A heavier balance of overseas payments to be met; a still deeper sinking into the morass.

**TREACHERY TO AUSTRALIA**

But this is not a sufficiently severe description of what the Premier of New South Wales proposes. He is worse than a humbug. Having the knowledge, which he admits, his activities cannot be

**DON'T SPEND A PENNY—**

without consulting the "New Times" Shopping Guide.

**AUSTRALIAN HOMES**

By LEONORA POLKINGHORNE.

There was a lady once who said,  
Because Australia's free,  
And someone's there I wish to wed,  
It's there I'd like to be.  
(She wot not that there flourished there  
A Minister serene,  
The Guardian of Australia fair  
And all the homes therein.)

That Minister did straitly stand  
For stainless purity,  
And in that name he firmly banned  
The lady from the sea.  
And all the people in that land  
Rose up at once to bless  
A Minister who could command  
Domestic happiness.

"Australia's homes," they said  
with tears,  
"Are surely now secure,  
Since Paterson has slain all fears  
Of all that is impure."

A visitor from overseas  
Was much impressed by this,  
And begged, "O, will you show me,  
please,  
These homes of so much bliss?"

They showed him legislative halls,  
And stately homes and great,  
And courts of Law within whose walls  
The wicked met their fate.

But still he was unsatisfied,  
And said he wished to see  
The homes that were the people's pride,  
The fair Canberra site.

He said that noble Cabinet  
Would surely care not less  
That humble homes should also get  
Their share of happiness.

His guide then coughed, and said,  
"Just so!"

The others said, "O, quite!"  
Then hastened on that they might show

The fair Canberra site.  
But still that awkward visitor  
Persisted in his quest  
To seek behind each homely door  
The dwellings of the blest.

Imagine his surprise to find  
many a tenement  
Where souls cribb'd, cabined and  
confined  
Were all behind with rent.  
And others with their household

Thrown out upon the street,  
They were the free, but not the  
Freer—  
Without enough to eat.

And broken roof and falling walls  
Housed many a family;

described otherwise than as traitorous. We realise that this is a grave word and a grave charge. But what are the facts? The man admits that recovery, development, prosperity amongst his fellow-countrymen is dependent only upon an increase in Australia's money supplies. He admits these supplies can be made up by ledger entries. And he has then the hardihood to propose (1) that those ledger entries shall bear a toll of perpetual interest (taxation) against his fellow-citizens, and (2) that in return for the "accommodation" the assets, which should belong to his own countrymen, shall be placed under overseas control or ownership.

If the people of Australia only realised what is afoot, there would be an outcry to have this man hounded out of public life, to have him stand his trial for a betrayal of his high office and of his duties of citizenship. This is far worse than a betrayal of military plans or documents. It is a straight out attempt to hand over the country itself and to sell its people into servitude. And unless he recants from his present position we shall not rest until B. S. B. Stevens and his fellow conspirators are put where they ought to be.

For Stevens can no longer plead the ignorance which, however culpable is some sort of excuse for other public men.

HE KNOWS.

They were not like Canberra's halls,  
Nor yet Prosperity.  
Ill-nourished children played about,  
And idle men looked glum.  
The visitor expressed a doubt,  
"Now is a home a slum?"

"And, O, why should a Minister  
A lovely girl have banned,  
When something far more sinister  
Is stalking through the land?  
And why should Poverty be blest  
And freely let to rove—  
The Sound Financiers' blighting guest,  
More deadly far than Love?"

"O, Mr. Paterson," he cried,  
"What homes are these you guard?  
Are these sad wrecks Australia's pride.  
From these is Beauty barred?"  
The Minister declined comment,  
The Cabinet as well,  
They cared not what the stranger meant,  
They bade him go to—New Zealand.

And so, you see, it matters not  
How wretched we may be,  
So that we keep without a blot  
Our moral purity.  
Yet long ago, one can't forget,  
A woman stood alone,  
While One said to the righteous,  
"Let  
The sinless cast the stone!"

**OBVIOUS.**

One of our local youngsters was wondering the other day what he would be when he grows up. The answer seems obvious. He'll be a taxpayer. —Troy (N.Y.) Record.

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# Social Credit On The Air In Victoria

The State organiser of the Social Credit Movement of Victoria, Mr. L. H. Hollins, is now able to announce a definite date for the commencement of weekly Social Credit broadcasts from Melbourne. As already announced in these columns, difficulty has been experienced in arranging a contract that would permit of more than a very small percentage of the time used being devoted to speaking. While this might be perfectly satisfactory as far as commercial advertisers are concerned, it was felt that such an arrangement would be of little value to the Social Credit Movement. Owing to the courtesy of the 3AW and 3HA managements this difficulty has to a large extent been overcome, and a specially imported feature, "The Reporter; of Odd Facts," has been placed exclusively at the disposal of the Movement.

The feature will be broadcast from Station 3AW every Tuesday evening from 9.30 to 9.40, beginning on Tuesday next, December 1. It will commence with the "odd facts" recording, which will take about 3½ minutes, and the balance of the time will be devoted to a short talk on

## WEEKLY BROADCAST OVER STATION 3AW

Listen in Every Tuesday at 9.30 p.m.

topical matters from the Social Credit viewpoint.

### QUESTIONS TO BE ANSWERED IN "NEW TIMES."

Listeners will be invited to send in any questions arising out of each broadcast, which they may wish to ask, and arrangements have been made between the Social Credit Movement and the *New Times* for such questions to be answered regularly through the columns of this paper. This will have the double benefit of saving time over the air and of providing a printed record of information, which should materially assist Social Credit students and speakers. The questions as well as the answers will of course appear in the *New Times*.

### KEEP UP THE FUNDS.

The weekly broadcast marks a further forward stage in the activities of the Social Credit

Movement in Victoria, and will bring this State into line with all the other States of the Commonwealth, in each of which regular broadcasts have for some time been sponsored by the State Movements with wonderfully good results. It is hoped before long to extend the scope of the Melbourne broadcasts, first by a hook-up with country stations, and then by more frequent talks, following which an extensive campaign of newspaper publicity is planned. The extent and rapidity with which these developments can be undertaken will, however, depend entirely on the finance provided for the State organising fund by members and well wishers. The immediate task set all branches is to raise for this fund a sum equivalent to not less than one shilling per member per week, whether through contributions, collections or otherwise.

Social Credit will never be

established in Australia unless those who desire it fight for it. Not everyone can take an active part in the front line fight. Not everyone is asked to do so. One voice only is required to make an actual broadcast. But all Social Crediters can and should help to make the broadcast effective by getting their friends to listen in—and especially those friends who are not yet supporters, who may not yet even be interested. And all Social Crediters can and should help to build up the fighting fund by giving or collecting regular subscriptions, no matter how small, for this purpose.

THIS MEANS YOU.

### STATE ORGANISER'S PROGRAMME

Wednesday, Nov. 25: Aliphington.  
Wednesday, Nov. 25: Ivanhoe.  
Thursday, Nov. 26: Coburg.  
Saturday, Nov. 28: Yarram.  
Monday, Nov. 30: Welshpool.  
Tuesday, Dec. 1: Foster.  
Wednesday, Dec. 2: Leongatha.  
Thursday, Dec. 3: Korumburra.  
Friday, Dec. 4: Return to Melbourne for further organising in metropolitan area, and after Dec. 14 one week in Yallourn, Morwell, and Warragul districts to complete organisation in those areas.

## New Times SHOPPING GUIDE and Business Directory

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### MELBOURNE (Cont.)

(Continued from page 2.)

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WATCH, CLOCK & JEWELLERY REPAIRS. I. Pink, 16 Oswin Street.  
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(Continued on page 7.)

### "RULE BY THE PEOPLE."

Mr. J. Parsons' letter, published in last week's issue of the *New Times*, indicated that either I failed to make my point clear when addressing the private group to which he refers, or that this group has no conception of the true nature of democracy.

"Our present economic ills are fundamentally due to two causes," writes Mr. Parsons, "the action of banks in making merchandise of credit that belongs to the community, and the advent of what is known as the machine age." "Is it possible," he asks, "that these ills can be cured other than by appropriately dealing with their causes? Why, then, the silence as to method?" Without entering into a technical argument, the diagnosis of our economic ills put forward by Mr. Parsons can, in a general way, be accepted by "Douglasites," but to suggest that it is possible to get any agreement on method is a point of view, which we cannot accept. It should be quite unnecessary for Mr. Parsons to ask the latter question, for the general discussion which followed my address was a clear indication, to me at least, that even the members of his group could not agree on method. If this be true of a group "capable and willing" to understand the technique of Social Credit, how much more true must it be of the general public?

In regard to the former question, "Is it possible that the ills can be cured other than by appropriately dealing with their causes?" we would answer, "Emphatically no!"

As it is impossible to get agreement on any sort of method and yet quite easy to get individuals to agree on the results they want, we must, therefore, throw the responsibility of getting these results on to our parliamentary representatives. "While nothing but Social Credit will provide a mechanism," said Major Douglas at Buxton, "nothing but the rehabilitation of democracy in a genuine sense, and with an un-

derstanding of its limits, will enable Social Credit to become an actual fact. There is a keyword, which forms the solution of this, perhaps the greatest of all problems, which confront the world at the present time. That word is 'responsibility.' We have got to make individuals bear the consequences of their actions. Instead of electing representatives to inform bankers and industrialists (who understand the technique of their jobs perfectly) how to do them, and to pass a multitude of laws which, while providing unnecessary jobs for large numbers of people who could be better employed, still further impede industry, the business of democracy is to elect representatives who will insist upon results, and will, if necessary, pillory the actual individuals who are responsible either for the attainment of results or their non-attainment. It is not a bit of use asking democracies to decide upon matters of technique, and it is quite certain, as has already been demonstrated, that if you throw a plan to a democracy it will be torn to shreds." For this reason, therefore, we propose to throw the responsibility of getting results on to the individual member of parliament, for, as Douglas has said, "he is interested only in two things: the first is in keeping his job, and the second is in knowing how much voting power is behind any demand made upon him."

LESLIE H. HOLLINS,

State Organiser, Douglas Credit Movement of Victoria

### "CERTIFIED" ECONOMISTS.

I notice you occasionally use the term "orthodox" economists and that a recent correspondent objects to these people being granted the appropriation of the word, even using it in quotation marks. As it is necessary to have some adjective to distinguish economists of the Copland type from those who have intelligence or those who use

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

their intelligence honestly, why not call the usual University trainer a *certified* economist? The word seems to me doubly applicable. Such men are certified by the University, and most of them deserve a second certificate—signed by two doctors.

"M.D."

(Thanks for the suggestion. Highly commended.—Ed.)

### THE SOUL OF AN ARCHBISHOP

"The Soul of Archbishop Head" (*New Times*, Nov. 20) is one of its many masterpieces.

While it is fresh in the minds of readers they should secure "The Soul of a Bishop" (Anglican also), by H. G. Wells.

Then hunt up Milton's "Lycidas," and intensively study the section that with knotted cords scourges the Bishops and Pastors who in his generation pandered to the proud and tormented the poor for their puerile propensity to ape the relaxations of the rich. Then turn to that part of Ruskin's "Sesame and Lilies" which gives an analysis (scholarly, but by no means meticulous) of the section of "Lycidas" that so tumultuously tirades the clergy for mustering the masses and placing them in pens putrid with penuriousness. Pastors and Bishops! The former so named because their main office is to feed. The last injunction of Christ to His disciples was, "Feed my lambs. Feed my sheep." Not a word about preventing or punishing their minor peccadilloes.

And the office of Bishop—the word derives from *skopeo*, I see. So fundamentally the work of a Bishop is to see that his Pastors (literally those who feed the flock) keep the fold well fed.

But Milton, in scathing accents, uttered in the white heat of conviction, pronounces that too many Pastors and Bishops of his time were "Blind mouths (not feeders—but eaters), that scarce themselves know how to hold a sheep-hook. Or have learned aught the least That to the faithful herdsman's art belongs..."

The hungry sheep look up and are not fed, But swollen with wind and the rank mists they draw, Rot inwardly and foul contagion spread."

-E.J.T.

### "HEAD VERSUS HEART."

They say a woman's head is ruled by her heart; that is why women will make a great difference in the fight against poverty. As we began to understand our present monetary system, we felt rather proud in that knowledge and we expected others to see it like us and feel cheated and indignant. In our enthusiasm we talked the obsolete monetary system to everybody, but we couldn't make headway as quickly as we wished, and appealing to the heart and sympathy was rather a come-down to our intelligence until we realised that it was the stories of Uncle Tom and Little Eva that helped free the slaves in the bad old days; it was the picture of a bedraggled mother and babe standing outside in the cold waiting for her tipsy husband to come home that got the early closing of the hotels. It's the poor devil out of a job feeling like an animal because he can't pay his rent, and his bits of furniture out in the street that will help the mass decide, "Poverty Must be Abolished."

How often we hear, "Oh, but they go to the pictures!" Quite true, they do—for a couple of hours they can imagine themselves in some palatial residence, for a little while they can imagine they travel and see another country (the only way they are ever likely to travel). Can we blame them wanting to go places, if only in imagination, on the screen for a couple of hours?

("Some walk in the sunlight, Another goes, so wearily in the shade.") So let the heart decide and the battle is won.

ALICE GREY.

Adelaide.

### GOOD LUCK, DADDY.

"What did you do in the last war, Daddy?"

"I saved democracy from militarism, my son."

"And what will you do in the next war, Daddy?"

"As far as I can gather, my son, I am going to save it from Fascism."

"Isn't war wonderful, Daddy?"

—Reynolds."

Owing to recent discoveries in Russia of quick methods of ripening grain quickly, it is believed that the northern lands in Russia and Siberia will soon become great grain producing areas,

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### Canon Crotty Answers Archbishop Head

Congratulations to Canon Crotty!

On page 1 of our last issue we made some reference to an address, which had been delivered in St. Paul's Cathedral, Melbourne, by Archbishop Head on the previous Sunday. We lamented that his Grace should occupy himself almost exclusively with the peccadilloes of the poor while steering well away from the sins of the rich, and that he should studiously reserve his heart burnings and his invective petty results while displaying the utmost unconcern for major causes.

It is with far greater pleasure that we now note an address given in the same Cathedral last Sunday by Canon Crotty, of St. Kilda, whose direct and fearless utterances have been remarked in our columns before now. Canon Crotty spoke as one would expect a sincere churchman to speak, and whether by accident or design his sermon was a direct antidote to that of his Archbishop on the preceding Sunday. Whereas Dr. Head had been all hot and bothered about gambling, bathing costumes and the like, Canon Crotty, without justifying anything that is not right, put our social evils in their right proportions. Some religious people, he said, strongly denounced those who gambled with money, but said little or nothing about those who gambled with human lives, while the shape and size of a bathing suit seemed much more important in their eyes than the shamelessness of allowing people to be thrown into destitution because machinery displaced labour. Today property was placed before personality,

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the machine before man, and money, meant to be a medium of exchange, had become an end in itself.

Canon Crotty went on to show a deeper understanding of community problems by pointing out that the financiers are now dominating politics, while not only the wage earners but the big industrialists, the captains of industry, have come under their power. He finished by demanding of churchmen a practical realisation that social questions are moral and religious issues, that people have bodies as well as souls, and that no Christian should be satisfied with the existing state of affairs.

If only men like Canon Crotty were the rule rather than the exception in our pulpits, it is safe to say there would be little ground for complaining that people are indifferent to religion.

### Rev. Benson and the Three-penny Bit

In sharp distinction from Canon Crotty's address were the remarks at Wesley Church on the same day of Rev. Irving Benson. Mr. Benson is one of the best-publicised clergymen in Melbourne. His weekly contributions to the *Herald* on all sorts of subjects (*except money*) and the regular Sunday broadcasts from his church, delivered by a motley crew of politicians and other notabilities (who also discuss anything and everything *except money*) have ensured him continuous limelight for a long time past.

But at length Mr. Benson has permitted the money issue to invade the hallowed precincts of Wesley. He has himself introduced it. And how? "I am glad to hear," he is reported to have said, referring with heavy jocularity to the proposed five shilling pieces, "that we are going to have a new coin in the currency of the realm, but if the Government really wanted to help the churches it would have abolished the three penny bit. In the pictures it is no good; nothing can be done with it on the racecourse, and it will not go far in the tram, but its popularity is unchallenged in the church."

Mr. Benson may be quite satisfied to conceive of religion as a competitor for public patronage with the picture show and the racecourse. For ourselves, we prefer to put religion on quite a different plane. But is it to be wondered at if people take him at his own valuation, or if, as the Monday newspaper report has it, "afterwards it was found that the collection had yielded perhaps the greatest number of three penny bits gathered at one meeting this year"?

When has Mr. Benson ever seriously raised the money issue.

in his own writings or discourses? When has he sponsored at his Sunday gatherings one serious attempt to inquire why our people are so poor, so distracted and so sad when they are surrounded by everything that should give them not only happiness in this life but a reasonable chance of practising that virtue which will give them happiness in the next? We don't remember that he has ever touched on the fringe of realities.

But now he breaks the ice at last—to demand a bigger income on his own church plate. We would remind Mr. Benson that there are thousands of growing children in his city of Melbourne—innocent children who are victimised because industry is not able to offer a paid job to their fathers—whose total income for all purposes is fixed by the State at two *three penny bits a day!*

If Mr. Benson would use his undoubted talents and his great social popularity to plead the cause of these children, and of their unhappy mothers and fathers, he might find (believe it or not) that even his own collection plate would improve. We suggest to him that it is worth a try-out.

### What About Building Insurances on Beer?

By W.P.B.

A novel point was raised in a Melbourne suburban court the other day when an old man of 78 was sent to prison for six months because he had insufficient visible means of support—a charge, incidentally on a par with Mr. Paterson's dictation test, but with the beauty of being applicable on a far wider basis and against our own citizens.

Evidence was given by the police that the old man had relations in the country and that these had been appealed to, to make provision for him. Their response was that the Government had received enough revenue out of the drink supplied him in the past to make him a fair charge on the State. And so he duly went to gaol.

This raises all sorts of possibilities, which might be commended to the National Insurance experts, amongst others. Out of every sixpenny pot of beer the Government gets approximately three pence in taxation, and almost the same percentage on spirits. (Of course, the Government doesn't really get all this. Half of all taxes go in interest to the gentlemen who have provided us with the blessings of the national debt.) The thought therefore arises: Why not drink yourself into prosperity in your old age by consuming more beer? Why not institute compulsory savings certificates, unemployment stamps, or something of that nature so that hearty drinkers might have some participation in the taxes they pay? For years we have heard that land tax is class legislation—why not the drink tax? Why should the prohibitionist abuse the drinker, and yet enjoy immunity from fur-taxation simply because the drinker pays it? Part of the petrol tax goes to build good roads for the motorist—is it not equally logical that part of the drink tax should go to smooth the road of old age for the man whose every pot carries a 49 per cent impost? Let us arm all drinkers with little books like we have for income tax stamps and issue them a stamp from the cash register with every pot.

Then, instead of the tippler staggering home to be greeted

with reproaches, can you not see an admiring wife holding the gates and doors wide open for her hero, as he beams upon her: "Providing for you—hic—old age, m'dear"?

### The Houses that Jack Built

By D. OMINUS.

These are the houses that Jack built.

THESE are the rats that live in the houses that Jack built.

These are the debts that harass the rats that live in the houses that Jack built.

These are the ledgers leather-backed recording the debts that harass the rats that live in the houses that Jack built.

These are the figures all neat and round that fill the ledgers leather-bound recording the debts that harass the rats that live in the houses that Jack built.

These are the Bankers sleek and bland that enter the figures so nice and round in the leather-backed ledgers all nicely bound recording the debts that harass the rats that live in the houses that Jack built.

These are the Governments cap in hand that cringe to the Bankers sleek and bland that enter the figures so nice and round in the leather-backed ledgers all nicely bound recording the debts that harass the rats that live in the houses that Jack built.

These are the beautiful counterfeit cheques that flow from the Governments cap in hand that cringe to the Bankers sleek and bland that enter the figures so nice and round in the leather-backed ledgers all nicely bound recording the debts that harass the rats that live in the houses that Jack built.

These are the credits (that some perplex) that back the beautiful counterfeit cheques that flow from the Governments cap in hand that cringe to the Bankers sleek and bland that enter the figures so nice and round in the leather-backed ledgers all nicely bound recording the debts that harass the rats that live in the houses that Jack built.

This is the bountiful Commonwealth that stands by the credits (that some perplex) that back the beautiful counterfeit cheques that flow from the Governments cap in hand that cringe to the Bankers sleek and bland that enter the figures so nice and round in the leather-backed ledgers all nicely bound recording the debts that harass the rats that live in the houses that Jack built.

And THOSE are the rats (must they creep in stealth?) that own the bountiful Commonwealth that stands by the credits (that some perplex) that back the beautiful counterfeit cheques that flow from the Governments cap in hand that cringe to the Bankers sleek and bland that enter the figures all neat and round in the leather-backed ledgers so nicely bound recording the debts that harass the rats that live in the houses that Jack built.

The funny thing about it (and it's not so funny, either) is that THESE rats and THOSE rats are the SAME rats.

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### Rev. J. E. Warren Replies to Mr. Bruce H. Brown

No one could be more surprised than I was to see such prominence given in your columns (*New Times*, Nov. 13) to a sermon of mine preached in the regular course of my ministry. I desire to thank Mr. Bruce H. Brown for his gracious references to that sermon. Evidently no preacher could wish for a more attentive hearing than Mr. Brown gave to my discourse: there is nothing that a preacher desires more fervently than an intelligent attention to his message; for without that the message is scarcely likely to be effective.

At the same time, even the most intelligent listener must remember that a preacher cannot deal with many subjects in one sermon. It is enough if he can do justice to one subject at a time. And the theme of his sermon may be, and often is, determined by the circumstances of the time. My subject was "Thanksgiving," and the nature of my message was determined by the approach of Hospital Sunday. I deeply deplore the suffering caused by selfishness, injustice and ignorance, and am prepared at the proper time to speak about them, and also about the calamitous waste due to strong drink and gambling, not to speak of inefficiency, unemployableness, and other consequences of what the Bible calls sin. Utopias—Douglas Credit and otherwise—will not be built in a day. Human nature must be taken into account.

But even if I subscribed to all that Mr. Bruce Brown says in condemnation of the present system, I have yet to learn that Douglas Credit is the way out. I do not say it is not the way out. Neither do I condemn it. The diagnosis of a disease is one thing; the remedy is another. During my fairly long life quite a number of fervent advocates of many kinds of economic, political, and religious remedies for human wrongs have been brought under my notice, yet none of them have succeeded in winning even a fairly general approval. What is to be the fate of Douglas Credit? I know the hostile attitude of some people to experts, economic and otherwise, and therefore I may quote in vain as against the Douglas Credit the words of that eminent economist, like myself, a Methodist, and also Vice-President of the Methodist Conference in England. I refer to Sir Josiah Stamp, and to his latest book, "Motive and Method in a Christian Order." A man who wears so many distinctions and has won so many degrees as Sir Josiah Stamp ought to command some attention. This is what he says in his book (pp. 182-3): "There is no doubt that if the scheme were not a dangerous delusion"—he means the Douglas Credit scheme—"it would be worthy of much that is claimed of it from the point of view of Christian principle. It is the best modern example of a machinery in which there is nothing essentially moral, but for which great ethical claims could be made if it would work. It perplexes so many men, especially those who are wishful thinkers, that I feel constrained to explain why I consider it as unworkable as a machine for perpetual motion, and therefore why the pulpit should have no lot or part in it, until the main body of reputable economic thinkers have declared it to be feasible. When that is demonstrated beyond doubt, the time may be ripe for its adoption with religious fervour." (See also Appendix ii, "Social Christianity," pp. 239-248.)

J. E. WARREN.  
109 Denham Street,  
Hawthorn.

# MONEY SHORTAGE AND MENTAL DISTORTION

By W BROWNLEY

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

A money shortage and a confusion of money with wealth have produced such a distortion of human thought that the greatest obstacle to human emancipation and peace is now not so much the inadequate financial system as the perverted ideas of men and women regarding industry, life and money.

While the community is prepared to accept an artificial shortage of money as a valid reason why they should not consume the wealth they have already produced, or to proceed with enterprises for which they possess the labour and material, it is unreasonable to expect that the money controllers will take any action to make up the credit shortage. And while the community is content to clamour for more work while the wealth produced by their past labours is being thrown into the seas, burned, buried, or otherwise destroyed, there is little chance that industrial and social problems will be solved.

Because persons receive money only through industry, it is generally thought that employment is an absolute necessity before wealth can be consumed, and it is assumed that the object of the industrial system is to provide wages for the workers, profits for the capitalists and taxes for the government. The object of life has become the acquiring of money instead of the enjoying of wealth and leisure. Instead of demanding that the government and industry should supply work, unemployed and employed alike should demand that industry supply them with more wealth.

## CONSUMPTION DEPENDENT ON WORK

While consumption of present wealth is dependent upon the production of further wealth it is but natural that the nation should aim at stimulating production whether it is needed or not. As the output of industry can be bought only by constructing more factories, roads, railways, electricity schemes, water sup-

plies and armaments, there has been a constant pressure on all governments to construct these things, to assist, by prohibitive protective tariffs, in the development of industries which could not otherwise operate on a profitable basis, and to secure colonies and "spheres of influence," where the unpurchasable home production can be exported. The necessity for finding export markets and colonies, and armaments to protect them both, while at the same time maintaining self-sufficiency and economic nationalism by prohibitive tariffs at home, is the inevitable outcome of a system which distributes less money than costs, and which, while it makes the consumption of wealth dependent upon the securing of wages from industry, continually substitutes machinery for men.

The mental confusion resulting from the identification of money and wealth and from forgetting that consumption is the sole justification for production is illustrated in the Free Trade v. Protection controversy.

## FREE TRADE AND PROTECTION.

To the Free Trader it is obvious that if only everyone and every nation grew, produced or manufactured only those things, which they can most economically produce, and exchanged their surpluses with other producers, society would secure maximum production with minimum cost. The Free Trader bases his argument upon the primary assumption of sociology, that we satisfy our desires with the least effort.

The Protectionist, however, is not interested in logic. What he wants is work, and yet more work—not leisure and unemployment. His argument is based upon a secondary assumption at variance with the primary one. He assumes that men may consume what they have already produced only if continuous and universal labour is being expended on further production.

The Free Trader wants more leisure; the Protectionist more work. And they are likely to argue till eternity without demolishing each other's arguments until they consider the question of the different assumptions underlying each of their arguments. The arguments of each are logical, inevitable and irrefutable on their own levels. It is not their reasoning but their assumptions, which are faulty. The Protectionist argument stands or falls on the alleged necessity for work. Once the Free Trader demonstrates the falseness of the Protectionist assumption, the case for Protection falls to the ground.

But doing so does not substantiate the Free Trade case. A theorist may be a Free Trader, but a businessman is forced to be a Protectionist. Though the Free Trader is theoretically correct, his theories cannot be successfully applied. Free Trade would inevitably shift the incidence of unemployment from one country to another, and unless the National Dividend were in operation the Free Trade nation would be faced with an intensified unemployment "problem."

It is easy for the Free Trader to realise the increasing difficulty of obtaining willing co-operation in a scheme which demands maximum instead of minimum work for a given production programme, but his belief that industry automatically

faced from the angle of world problems, while the manufacturers wish every country to put its own house in order before worrying about its neighbours. It does not matter, however, whether the findings of international conferences are predominantly of one viewpoint or the other—any attempt to apply either theory, under the present financial system, simply precipitates discord and unrest.

## OTTAWA AGREEMENT

If the principles of the Ottawa Agreement—an admixture of both viewpoints—are to be maintained, Australian primary production must be curtailed, while Australian secondary production must be seriously limited. On the other hand English agriculture can be stimulated only by English secondary industry being expanded. But if this expansion is to take place, either Australia and other Dominions must be allowed, even encouraged, to increase their primary production (and the agreement curtails it) or the Dominions must face a fresh mountain of debt, which it will be impossible to repay when due, because the forces operating to create it will then be operating with added intensity.

The political economist assumes that trade is still only barter; that the introduction of money has not caused any difference in the industry of the nations. He studies a barter economy in which the primary assumption of sociology operated, deduces his economic laws therefrom, and, without further thought, endeavours to apply them to a money economy in which they are not operative. Instead then of questioning the money economy itself, and studying the transformation made by the introduction of credit and money, he unconsciously abandons the principles of sociology in favour of "economic laws" empirically deduced from a study of the workings of a money economy.

On these so-called "economic laws" the economists erect a political economy which, when applied as politics, results in endless social discord and unjustifiable demands for sacrifice by communities living in the midst of industrial plenty. Such political economy and such politics are nothing less than blasphemy against God, man and reason.

## NATURAL AND UNNATURAL LAWS

The "laws" of political economy, which are deduced from the operations of a money economy, are unnatural laws. They have no more validity than the direction, "Keep to the left," and are no more natural laws than the instruction, "Keep off the grass." In reality they are only descriptions of actions and reactions within an unnatural form of organisation—one in opposition to human nature and to the primary assumption of sociology. They are no more natural reactions than were the reactions of the dogs upon which

Pavlov conducted his experiments, and the "laws" deduced from these reactions are no more natural laws than would be "laws" deduced from a study of Pavlov's dogs. It might be quite right to say that a dog will eat only when a bell is rung, and a person who knew no dogs but Pavlov's might be excused for elevating such an observation into a "natural law," but as it would simply be a description of a reaction within an unnatural environment; it could never rightly be called a natural law. Economists have substituted secondary, artificial assumptions for the primary assumption of sociology, and description and by-laws for natural laws. Their science has been founded upon a fraud. As a consequence we have all governments striving to solve the unemployment "evil" by means of fresh employment. Unemployment should be a blessing; a proof of industrial progress; a step further in a spiritual conquest. It is a guarantee of the possibility of leisure and plenty for all, and accompanied by a National Dividend would be the greatest blessing bestowed upon mankind. But, observed under the financial system, unemployment appears as the greatest curse, which can affect the community. Only among the wealthy, where an assured income guarantees security and well-being, is unemployment regarded in its right light.

By making work instead of consumption the aim of industry, economic science has unconsciously been led to stress the human necessities of economics rather than the economic necessities of men. And, by mistaking an unnatural form of social organisation for a natural one, it has been led to think rather of the sacrifices and suppressions necessary to fit man into the organisation than of the changes in environment necessary to find a form of organisation suitable for men.

It is in the midst of such mental confusion that men have striven for peace. Is it to be wondered at that their pursuit of it has so far been as unsuccessful as their pursuit of all other social and economic objectives?

Before mankind can come within measurable distance of solving the problem of peace, it will be necessary for the community to have a fairly thorough grasp of the manner in which a money shortage leads to both economic and mental confusion.

(To be continued.)

**"SOVEREIGN," BUT NOT RESPONSIBLE**

Everyone is aware that the Sovereign has no personal responsibility for and no control over the Government's policy.

—"Argus" editorial, Nov. 19.

\* \* \*

Likewise everyone is by now aware that the Government's policy is controlled by finance, and therefore by those who can supply or withhold it, namely, the bankers.

Nevertheless, the "Argus," when next it suits those who control it will resurrect all its parrot-cries of "loyalty."

Loyalty to whom?

distributes enough money to buy its production and to enable society to enjoy the social increment of association prevents him from seeing that Free Trade will not work without an extraneous flow of credit to consumers in the form of a National Dividend.

It is significant that the only whole-hearted Free Traders are theorists who have no direct experience in industry, industrialists producing for a foreign market, and bankers. To the manufacturer it is all important to conserve the money in the home market for home production. If goods from other countries are imported, the quantity of wealth is increased without a corresponding increase in money, and either the imported or the locally produced goods (or rather a portion of them) can be bought, but not both. Manufacturers are therefore ardent Protectionists. The bankers who are, as it were, over and above the financial system, are almost unanimously Free Traders. They alone have carried the Free Trade ideal unscathed through the industrial turmoil. Their goal is an international State ruled by an international Central Bank, which would direct the development of such portions of the earth as could be most economically utilised. While making no provision for the unemployed, they would sacrifice secondary industry whenever it was, from their viewpoint, operating on an unprofitable basis. They certainly would produce, could they obtain the necessary human co-operation, a much cheaper production, but it would be of little satisfaction to humanity if they were very hungry and disemployed.

At every international conference these two viewpoints are in conflict. The bankers want all problems

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## CHILDREN'S WEEK AND THE CHILD

A Letter to the Editor from BRUCE H BROWN

Sir,

To the extent that the appalling conditions under which so many Australian children are being born and reared were given publicity, the "Children's Week" demonstration, just concluded in Melbourne, was valuable. The newspaper articles on the subject, however, and the reports of the utterances of some of the leading speakers identified with the movement, revealed a complete failure to expose the only obstacle to their success and showed the depth of the mesmeric trance into which so many well-meaning ladies and gentlemen have fallen in regard to finance.

"Vesta," who writes regularly for the "Women to Women" page of the *Argus*, consistently points out what ought to be done but with equal consistence is satisfied to accept "lack of finance" as an adequate reason for the inability of the various welfare organisations to do what they wish to do and what she frankly admits to be necessary. Never does she say anything about the chronic scarcity of finance or why finance should be scarce at all.

This taking-money-for-granted attitude was again in evidence in her article of November 11, entitled, "In the Service of the Children." She told us then that the objective of these welfare societies and institutions is "to give all children a happier outlook on life"; that demonstrations had previously been a feature of their work, but "through the years of the depression the organisations were too poor and too busy to continue them"; that the resumption of the demonstrations is "a welcome sign of better times"; and that "welfare workers... must beg all the time for the money to finance their work." Except for the "better times" part, she has given a fair idea of the position. Forgetting the few limelight seekers, the people who devote their time and talents to this commendable work are altruistically disposed and display a genuine desire to improve the lot of those less fortunately placed. But the sad part is that they never inquire why it should be necessary for them to "beg all the time" for the only thing that stands in the way of securing the improvements they are working for. That thing is *money*, which costs practically nothing to bring into existence and consists only of figures written in books at the banks with tickets or tokens to correspond with those figures.

Even an intelligent woman like "Vesta" speaks of the depression as some inevitable occurrence which simply has to be taken for granted, whereas if "Vesta" took the trouble to investigate the matter she would find that it was the result of deliberate action on the part of certain individuals which can only be described as criminal. There was not the slightest justification for a depression when production was increasing, and those who brought it about were guilty of murder. I for one hold the view that such persons should be brought up for

trial and punishment, irrespective of the positions they occupy or the state of their bank balance. But "Vesta" and most of the welfare workers have so far raised no objection to the activities of these schemers against the community; in fact, their representatives are actually welcomed and appointed to honoured positions in welfare and charitable organisations.

**"TOO BUSY" BECAUSE  
"TOO POOR."**

The very circumstances, which made the organisations "too poor", also made them "too busy." They became too poor because those who had supported them were robbed of their incomes and possessions through the financial manipulations of unscrupulous men; and they became too busy because the same financial manipulations sent many businesses bankrupt and created unemployment on an unprecedented scale, bringing poverty and misery to thousands of families and inevitable claims on the welfare organisations for assistance. In this respect also, "Vesta" and most of the welfare workers have made no public effort to ascertain why people should have become so poor in the face of abounding production of all the things they actually needed. As governments had done nothing to bring such calamity on the people, it must have had its origin in some other quarter, and "Vesta" would be performing a real service to society if she devoted more time to the study of that aspect and the circulation of the truth about it. Hitherto, unfortunately, she has shown more concern for effects than for causes.

If it be true that the welfare societies discontinued their demonstrations "through the years of the depression" because they were too poor and too busy then it is logical to conclude that they have now resumed them because they are no longer too poor and too busy. That, however, hardly fits in with the conditions recently disclosed in the Victorian Parliament regarding the malnutrition of thousands of school children, showing that the need exists for the organisations to be busier than ever, or with the constant cry that the work of alleviation is held up or severely circumscribed by lack of funds. The fact is that they are still too poor, and that the very purpose of the "Children's Week" was to call attention to the seriousness of the position and to make an appeal to the general public for greater financial support. The organisers of the appeal have not yet realised that the proportion of people who are in the position to contribute money for the purpose is rapidly becoming smaller and smaller. And this is only to be expected when we have a standard of living actually lower than was enjoyed away back in 1907 notwithstanding an increase of nearly 300 per cent, in production and the introduction of innumerable mechanical aids to relieve human beings of the burden of grinding toil.

**WHY PEOPLE ARE TOO  
POOR.**

The reason for this retrogression in the living standards is that instead of adopting a sensible method of distributing money to people so that they may enjoy the benefits of the additional production and the wonderful labour-saving devices, we actually took measures to curtail the distribution of money. We did it by refusing to give wages man to a when his work is no longer required because of the advent of machinery, by reducing the income of the primary producer when we allowed private financiers to knock the bottom out of the export market; by

reducing the basic wage of the Australian workers below the recognised minimum when we allowed the Arbitration Court to submit to the dictation of bankers, by widespread dislocation of business when we allowed the bankers to call in overdrafts and send hundreds of businessmen through the bankruptcy courts; by reducing payments to old age and invalid pensioners when financial manipulations by the controllers of the banking system had robbed governments of their revenues; and by imposing heavy salary taxes on government employees when the private bankers withheld the means of paying the rates prescribed by Arbitration awards. And we did it because we had allowed a private monopoly to usurp control of the nation's money supply, thus placing itself above the King, the Parliament, the Government, the Arbitration Courts, and the supposedly sovereign people. We foolishly still allow that monopoly (the private banking system) to control everything, and, so long as we permit that insanity to continue, so long must we see increasing malnutrition among children and our welfare societies "begging all the time for the money to finance their work." In the same way, unless we change our money arrangements, the report of the Director of Mental Hygiene, that the year 1935 saw "a notable increase in the number of mental deficient in Victoria", will be but a small instalment of what we must expect in the future.

**SOME TERRIBLE  
ADMISSIONS—AND  
OMISSIONS.**

"Vesta" went on to tell us that practically all of the organisations responsible for the care or training of children were taking part in the demonstration, and the following day we were given the names of the several representatives. These included such well-known names as Mrs. T. H. Moss, Mrs. Herbert Brookes, Miss Edith Onians, and Mr. W. H. Edgar, M.L.C. Side by side with these names (and the usual eulogy of what they are doing) we read the following:—

1. "Many more children are sickly, miserable, and even vicious, because the organisations lack finance to spread far enough afield..."

2. "The greatest work of the welfare organisations is to inculcate in the children cleanly and healthy habits, so that they will rise above a slum environment and make better homes for them selves and in turn for their children. Every effort is directed toward giving them the desire and the physical and mental ability to take this upward step."

3. "What is encouraging about the picture is that in Victoria there is an almost perfect chain of organisations for ensuring that the child, in whatever environment he is born, should have a fair chance of healthy and proper development. All that is needed—and it is a large 'all'—is sufficient public interest and money to enlarge the system to include every child. At present every organisation has its financial limitations."

4. "Today most of the centres deal only with babies up to the age of two years, but in Melbourne and Prahran centres children up to the age of six years are taken, and an effort is being made to finance a general extension."

5. "Nutrition and medical and dental inspection are becoming recognised as being as vital as the three R's, but here again necessary work is severely limited through lack of funds."

6. "It is a tribute to hundreds of willing organisers and workers that every normal child can be provided with the advantages of mental and physical health and development which should be his birthright — if the necessary additional funds are provided by the citizens of Victoria."

What is your opinion of those six extracts? No. 1 is an admission that only the lack of money prevents the reduction of sickness and misery. No. 2 pathetically suggests that homes come into existence by wishing for them, i.e., merely a matter of habit and desire. No. 3 indicates that everyone could have "a fair chance" if only the financial limitations could be removed. No. 4 points out that the care of babies is prevented because of the difficulties of finance. No. 5 is a further admission that vital necessities cannot be provided because of lack of funds. No. 6 not only states that youngsters are robbed of their birthright by the inadequacies of finance, but suggests that funds are brought into existence by the citizens of Victoria! The fact is that the citizens have no say at all in the matter, and in practically every case find themselves quite unable to obtain sufficient funds for their own everyday needs. Additional funds can come only from the money manufacturers, and the leaders of the welfare organisations have not yet discovered who they are.

**THE DECLARATION OF  
GENEVA**

Although it is now being admitted on all sides that finance is our only problem, and although finance is the one thing these "leaders" will not tackle, we still see the various organisations parading the "Declaration of Geneva" as their objective, even though the attainment of that objective is quite impossible under the financial system as at present operated. This Declaration of Geneva is as follows:—

"By the present Declaration of the Rights of the Child, commonly known as the Declaration of Geneva, men and women of all nations, recognising that mankind owes to the child the best it has to give, declare and accept as their duty that, beyond all considerations of race, nationality, or creed:

"1. The child must be given the means requisite for its normal development, both materially and spiritually.

"2. The child that is hungry must be fed; the child that is sick must be nursed; the child that is backward must be helped; the

delinquent child must be reclaimed; and the orphan and the waif must be sheltered and succoured.

"3. The child must be the first to receive relief in times of distress.

"4. The child must be put in a position to earn a livelihood and must be protected against every form of exploitation.

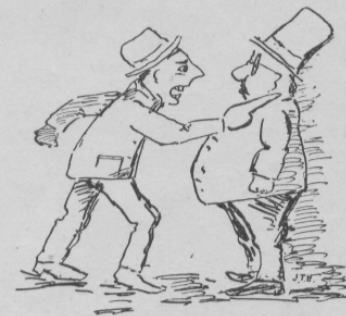
"5. The child must be brought up in the consciousness that its talents must be devoted to the service of its fellowmen."

A glance through that Declaration will confirm the assertion that it was drawn up by people naturally humane but totally ignorant on the question of money, for it is *finance* alone that stands between them and the achievement of their aims. Moreover, item No. 4 in the Declaration is evidence of misconception of the purpose of life. Children do *not* have to earn their livelihood. An assured livelihood is the birthright of every child, and becomes increasingly so in direct relation to the advance in science and mechanics. What the child has to be taught is so to conduct itself that it will merit the respect of the community and will be fitted to take its place in society. The idea of "earning its living" is entirely at variance with the facts of the day, when we have millions anxious to "earn" but denied all opportunity because the necessity for their manual slavery has been overcome. The people need *money*, not work; and unless money is made available to them there will be increasing crime leading to serious civil disturbances.

While the general sentiments of the Declaration are admirable and reflect the desires of all right-thinking people, the fact remains that those who preach these things and yet make no demand for a fundamental change in our monetary arrangements are simply inviting us to challenge their sincerity. When parents are assured of regular incomes most of these pious declarations will have become everyday experience, but *until* parents are relieved of the worries brought about by financial stringency the Declaration of Geneva is but a hollow mockery.

Yours faithfully,

BRUCE H BROWN

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## JOURNEYING WITH JOHN A Triumphant Tour

Being the diary of another young Social Crediter, Frank Cantwell, originally under the fond illusion that his fortnight with the Young Crusader in the Victorian Mallee and Wimmera would be a holiday.

*Tuesday, November 17.* —Engaged in usual propaganda conversation on train from Melbourne, and pleased with intelligent interest of fellow travellers, many already contacted by that indefatigable Old Crusader who, as a veteran commercial traveller, covers all Western Victoria, and whose influence as an advocate was to be often encountered.

Duly met at Woomelang in the evening by an unusually serious Young Crusader, with cheery optimism slightly damped by the results of recent efforts, whose success had been affected by seasonal conditions. That night's meeting, whether or not as a result of my arrival, evidently "rehabilitated" the campaign to normal, for there has been no cause for anything but gratification since. Although smaller than anticipated, the meeting was ardently enthusiastic, and included visitors from townships through which John had passed earlier that day. Presided over by Cr. Binder, vice-president of the local U.C.P., it lasted till midnight, and included a long period of keen questioning. Much literature was taken, and the intention to form a branch was expressed by Messrs. Foster, Dettman and Boucher in particular, with the prospect of another Group in the adjoining centre of Lascelles.

*Wednesday, November 18.* —Covering Woomelang, Sea Lake, Hopetoun, Betilah, Brim and Warracknabeal. A day of typical Hogan hustle; 8 a.m. found us forsaking breakfast to get quickly through necessary local interviews and organising, having been advised by phone from Mr. Alec. Wilson that a visit to Sea Lake, if possible, might ensure the success of the meeting there next week on the return trip to Mildura. Several new contacts made in the two hours spent at Sea Lake organising, then straight back through Woomelang to Hopetoun and a little supplementary propaganda work for the night meeting. On to Beulah, and straight to the platform for an afternoon meeting presided over by Mr. A. C. Everitt, whose enthusiasm for Social Credit makes him a valuable leading member of the Wheat-growers' Association and U.C.P. Still breakfastless, we then left for Warracknabeal with this stalwart, got out leaflets and further advertising for the meeting there later, and, fortified by our first meal for the

day (at 7 p.m.) returned the 45 miles through Brim to Hopetoun, where, in the unavoidable absence of Mr. Kinghorn, of the local U.C.P., who had organised the meeting, Mr. Giles presided over an audience typical of the wheat areas.

### "USE SIDE TRACKS."

*Thursday, November 19.* —Our first experience today was mending an overnight puncture. Our second was the greeting of members of the last audience, local business people and the Shire engineer included, whose definite assurances of support were cheering. Our third was meeting a young Social Crediter who had organised for John years ago in North Queensland, and we left Hopetoun about noon for Yaapeet. A touching testimony to "Sound" Finance greeted us en route—a large notice exhorting "ratepayers use side tracks and protect your property." Made roads in this land of plenty are apparently for ornament or sacrilegious strangers.

An elderly diehard at Yaapeet relieved the tension of what amounted to a public debate with John in the afternoon, during which he (the diehard) bitterly attacked all forms of mechanical progress as the cause of our present unrest, by driving off in disgust in a 1936 Oldsmobile sedan. Other listeners were impressed sufficiently to drive in to Rainbow for the night meeting.

Our reception at Rainbow, where Messrs. Harris and Wilson have led Social Credit pioneering for long and weary months, was a triumph and the meeting outstanding in the town for numbers and enthusiasm. Cr. Heinrich, Shire President, was in the chair till nearly midnight again. My own humble efforts at removing any illusions about the real cause of alleged prosperity, and the rise in the price of wheat, were greeted warmly as a preliminary to John's address, which, in fighting form, was about the best I have heard from him in a score of meetings. The audience, already roused to enthusiasm, was greatly interested in a clash of views as to the creation of credit—the clash being between those of the local National Bank manager, and those of (a) his own bank's latest circular, on the table in front of us, and (b) the Right Honourable Reginald McKenna and other world authorities. The crowd, by acclamation,

plumped for McKenna. Particularly gratifying was the spontaneous "applause of apology" which greeted Messrs. Harris and Wilson when, in turn, they rose to propose and second the vote of thanks. One previous skeptic, a leading businessman, declared that he would sum up the general feeling in the word "Eureka!" The literature demand was a furore, and no discreet critics of Social Credit will venture within range of Rainbow.

### "I 'EARDYER AND I BITYER."

*Friday, November 20.* —Up with the lark and full of beans. The fight gets more encouraging. John even agreed to have breakfast for a change, to celebrate. His public views on under-consumption are generally in contrast to private practice. Outside he was hailed as the "Bradman of Orators," which was more flattering than the greeting of a young victim of "Sound" Finance, "on the track," who accosted us. "Wot about the price of a meal, Johnnie?" he said. "I 'eardyer up at Atherton on voting day larst year, an' I bit yer afterwards. I 'eardjer at Mackay, an' I bityer afterwards. I 'eardjer at Goondiwindi and Boggabri, and I bityer afterwards. I 'eardjer agen larst night 'ere, too, and I'm —d if I knows whatcher drivin' at now, but by crapes yer right—so wot about it?" The towns concerned range from Far Northern Queensland to Central New South Wales, and might have included Tasmania if he could have got a lift there. He got his meal.

The Rainbow newsagent, inspired by surrounding enthusiasm, ordered supplies of the *New Times* and *New Era* as in other towns, plus a supply of books, which won't last long. The manager of the National Bank, we were informed, was trying to save a battered reputation for financial wisdom by assuring the populace that only sympathy for the speaker's youth had saved him from complete refutation. The two principal pioneers were being hailed as civic heroes. We left Rainbow with regret.

Jeparit was flat. We ran out to the farm of the only known sympathiser, who, like many others who have only read of the Young Crusader without expecting to see him fell off his harvester with astonishment. Mr. Breuer got on to the phone. Sure, we could get a meeting Sunday night, short notice or not. We spent two hours spreading publicity and making arrangements, then pushed across country 50 miles to the home of Mr. A. C. Everitt for an afternoon meeting of farmers. Not even the disaster of having his house burnt down the week before had deterred this battler from helping to organise five meetings in his district.

### LITTLE HAMMERS OF LONG AGO.

In the evening John's adaptability was strikingly displayed when he delivered the fighting speech of a Hargrave to the fifty or sixty workers of a road construction camp after tea, where he was cheered by men from many districts enslaved by "Sound" Finance, whose most tragic failure they exemplified. As far as the eye could see was the bounteous harvest being gathered by machinery. In the middle of it, Man, the intelligent animal, smashed rocks with little hammers of long ago, while machines of today stood idle, paying to "Sound" Finance the probate duty on their heritage of wealth before access could be gained to any share of it. And, as John grimly emphasised, displaying in a minor degree the destructive militarism by which European dictators "solved" the unemployment problem.

The Warracknabeal audience that night was peculiarly unresponsive, but thoughtful withal. It was this important centre's first Social Credit meeting, and some time will probably be needed for it to sink in and get reliable results. I had previously decided that some extra kick might be required to wake them up, and toured the town with a hurriedly obtained megaphone announcing "War Declared" to a startled populace, who, how-

ever, appeared to lapse back into a disheartening apathy on learning that it was on "Poverty, Unemployment and Debt." Centre of the comparatively prosperous Wimmera, and less up against it than the pioneers of the merciless Mallee. Warracknabeal will take some effort, but, as later conversation with local leaders proved, is certainly not hopeless. We tried to arrange for an address to the Rotary Club on Monday, but this will have to wait till next trip. I'd like to be with the Young Crusader on that trip, and can quite understand the amazing success of his return meetings. He'll get wonderful crowds all through here, and the press is surprisingly decent to him as a rule.

*Saturday, November 21.* —Cleaned up Warracknabeal, where we'll spend a few hours next week, anyway, on the way back, and thence to Dimboola. Mr. A. Wilson, father of the Rainbow scout, is the main man here, and we managed to get a few hours off in the afternoon to overhaul John's home on wheels, a splendid little Willys which, sadly tried by its long, fast running on all kinds of roads, is nevertheless well looked after, and appears never to let him down. In the evening we went on to Horsham. Messrs. Kelly and Hoare had been working hard in this big town at fairly short notice, and the latter presided in the absence of a councillor, all of whom were occupied at a reception. The meeting went off well, and although small for a place of this size, wasn't bad for Saturday night. Enthusiastic agreement was universal when one of the audience rose spontaneously towards the end and declared it to be a disgrace to the town that every leading citizen was not present to hear this magnificent speaker and message, and there'll be several dozen organisers when next John can get to Horsham.

My preliminary address, as at Dimboola next day, gave me the opportunity of congratulating the town on its local State member, Mr. Hamilton Lamb, M.L.A., with whom I have been closely associated on the Monetary Reform Committee of the Victorian Country Party, and who is one of the best-informed, most intelligent and outspoken young politicians in the Commonwealth—even though he is still worrying out some of the technical phases of Social Credit. When there was a discussion in the House last week on the sacrifice of a mother of five, who, employed in a factory making inflammable products, was destroyed in a fire recently, it remained for Mr. Lamb, representing a country seat, to protest against a system which forced a mother to work in such a dangerous position to get the right to live.

### JOHN, THE MAN IN GREY.

Yet another soubriquet was applied to John by the seconder of the vote of thanks at Horsham after question time, and in view of John's favourite attire was very appropriate. "On economics, anyway, here is another 'Man in

(Continued on next page.)

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(Continued from page 3.)

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# DEMAND YOUR NATIONAL DIVIDENDS!

PEOPLE OF AUSTRALIA:

What You MUST KNOW But Don't Seem to

REALISE

You are living in an immensely RICH country.  
 It could be immensely RICHER.  
 Production is being restricted.  
 Every year thousands of tons of food are allowed to rot on the farms and in the orchards.  
 Our industries are being hampered and slowed down.  
 They could increase their output many times if warehouses and shops could give them orders.  
 Shopkeepers are anxious to sell and people want to buy.  
 People don't buy because they are short of money.  
 EVERYTHING IS PLENTIFUL IN THIS COUNTRY BUT MONEY.

What You SHOULD KNOW but Apparently DON'T

The PRIVATE BANKS have usurped the right of the Crown to issue and control THE NATION'S MONEY SUPPLY.  
 BANKERS, not Parliaments, RULE AUSTRALIA  
 Bankers through their control of money are the overlords of the nation.  
 Banks can and do make and break Governments.  
 Bankers can ruin YOUR BUSINESS.  
 When bankers decree a money shortage all public and private activities are slowed down, with resultant depressions, unemployment, bankruptcies, increased poverty and destitution.

You Should Know THE REASON

WHY trade is slack.  
 WHY taxation is excessive.  
 WHY national, public and private debts are every day PILING UP.  
 WHY business is being forced to accept cash orders and time payment.  
 WHY people are being driven into the clutches of the money-lenders.  
 WHY small traders and small farmers are being sent bankrupt.  
 WHY the struggle for markets, internal and external, must inevitably lead to WAR.  
 WHY our hospitals are starved.  
 WHY slums and malnutrition exist.  
 WHY young men are unemployed while old men, women and girls are kept at work.  
 YOU SHOULD KNOW THAT THE ONE AND ONLY REASON FOR ALL THIS MADNESS IS A MONEY STORTAGE.  
 BREAK THE STRANGLEHOLD OF THE PRIVATE MONEY MONOPOLY AND ----

DEMAND NATIONAL DIVIDENDS FOR ALL!

National Dividends are Money to buy Goods that are now destroyed and Production that is now restricted

(Continued from previous page.)

Grey," he said. The significance of this will be appreciated by all Melbourne readers for the official "Man in Grey" at Spencer-street railway station is the Information Bureau of the Victorian Railways, and "knows everything."

Uncertain whether John had received a wire confirming arrangements, and not accustomed to his habit of arriving ten minutes before the meeting, the Horsham enthusiasts had sent out a "police call" for him over the local radio station in the afternoon. For the benefit of others who may be in this predicament, let me assure them that while there is the least uncertainty about his programme, John keeps the telephone and telegraph wires humming and, to paraphrase the motto of the Canadian Mounties, "always gets to his meeting." After some trouble getting petrol, we returned to Dimboola to stay with the Wilsons that night. This should really be under Sunday's date. It was.

Sunday, November 22. —Reports and correspondence in the morning. I've been trying to think when we did the press reports and letters that certainly have been done during the week. Dashed if I know. In the afternoon John's first open air speech this trip, in the Dimboola Park. Quite a decent crowd, but since they insisted, quite naturally, in sitting in their cars all around it was a little impersonal to speak to. Cr. Anderson, President of the Wheatgrowers' Association, had helped with this meeting, but another councillor took the chair in his enforced absence. Mr. Wilson will be able to get a keen group going here by all indications. Arrived at Jeparit in time for a representative meeting that certainly

proved the wisdom of returning, and that even short notice advertising can be effective. Cr. Leyonjholm took the chair over an audience comprising all the leading townspeople and many farmers, in a town to which hardly a whisper of Social Credit appeared to have penetrated before. The results were splendid, and the amount of literature obtained, both after the meeting and before we left next morning, was most encouraging.

Monday, November 23. —Last night woke Jeparit up, all right. Plenty of intelligent questions to answer as we "did the rounds" before leaving, and our main converts appear to be an agent and "councillor (the chairman), a saddler (who is also secretary of many local bodies), a barber and a publican, apart from farmers. If they don't do some authoritative talking from now on, I don't know who will! Across country to Warracknabeal, and a few more interviews, especially with the news-agent, and then on to Donald.

Here we struck more satisfactory organisation. Mr. and Mrs. Oakley, friends of Mrs. K. C. Edwards, of Elsternwick, who is so well known to Melbourne Social Crediters, had done a splendid job, and taken advantage of almost every conceivable means of advertising to ensure a successful meeting, with a very helpful local paper to encourage them. They had been at the Melbourne Town Hall meeting, of course. No doubt that event stirred up the country. We've hardly been in a town from which someone hadn't attended — and they're the most enthusiastic workers. Victorian Social Credit history seems to date from it. Truth's articles didn't do any harm, either. One man I

approached replied, "John Hogan, strewth, yes; 'e's the bloke wot 'ad the go in with *Truth*, isn't 'e? I'll be there with bells on!"

After a few interviews at Donald, Mr. Oakley accompanied us to St. Arnaud, 25 miles further on, since John could not bear the thought of having a few hours off, and apparently wanted to make sure of maintaining an average of 100 miles a day at least. This town could not be fitted in on his programme, and although large, was as far as we knew "dead." Put in two good hours organising. I saw the newsagent, spread some judicious propaganda, and got a few promises to bring in carloads to Donald, while John interviewed the Mayor, local citizens of prominence, and, most important of all, the local newspapers, both of which agreed to republish the report of the Donald meeting to stimulate local interest in preparation for a later meeting. Good work. Then back to Donald for the night meeting. Incidentally, saw copies of Ouyen and Woomelang papers in the office, with nearly full-page reports of John's meetings at these centres. He's sure stirred up the Mallee and Wimmera. What a week!

(At midnight that night, Mr. George Trenoweth, State Organising Secretary received a trunk call from Donald: "Had a wonderful meeting. Absolute record. Over 400 and amazingly enthusiastic. Sold right out of literature, which was expected to last another week. Send five dozen *Story of Money* and a few dozen other books by service car to Sea Lake for tomorrow. We'll need them tomorrow night by indications." This will be reported next week.)

## LEAGUE OF NATIONS' FIGURES ON RECOVERY

Recent statistics published by the League of Nations (Money and Banking, 1935-36, Vol. I, Monetary Review) have shown, what indeed was obvious to anyone capable of thinking at all, that no country has experienced an expansion of industry without undertaking a policy of monetary expansion. Of the six principal capitalist countries, four, Great Britain, the United States, Germany, and Japan, embarked on expansionist policies between 1931 and 1935; and two, France and Holland, did not. The percentage changes in industrial production in these six countries between February 1933, and February 1936, were as follows:

	Percent.
Germany .....	+79.2
United States . . . .	+49.2
Japan.....	+38.7
United Kingdom ..	+35.2
France.....	- 3.9
Holland ..	- 8.3

Holland and Switzerland are the only important European countries in which no increase of trade has yet taken place, and the only two in which no monetary expansion has yet been attempted. In every case where an industrial expansion has occurred, it did not precede, but was preceded by an expansionist monetary policy . . .

However ridiculous as well as dangerous it may be that most of the European Governments have only embarked on an expansionist policy in order to participate in a mad race for

armaments, it is an undeniable fact that monetary expansion and trade recovery are inseparably linked together, and that the degree of trade recovery which each country has experienced has been proportionate to the monetary expansion which has preceded it.

—*Social Justice*, Dublin Oct., 1936.

And it is equally ridiculous and dangerous that the expansion of money supplies should be accompanied by an equal expansion of interest-bearing national debts through sovereign governments *borrowing* what they should *issue*.

**OVER ASSESSED.**

The staff of the Offices of the Special Commissioners of Income Tax and their friends, numbering over 100—Extract from Dublin "Sunday Independent." Sounds to us like an over-assessment! —"Dublin Opinion."

**BRIGHTON BRANCH, D.C.M.**

The GENERAL MEETING will be held at the North Brighton Men's Club Room, opposite the Bent Memorial, on December 3, at 8 p.m. Syllabus item for the evening will be Question Night.