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ELECTORS
OF
AUSTRALIA

THE NEW TIMES

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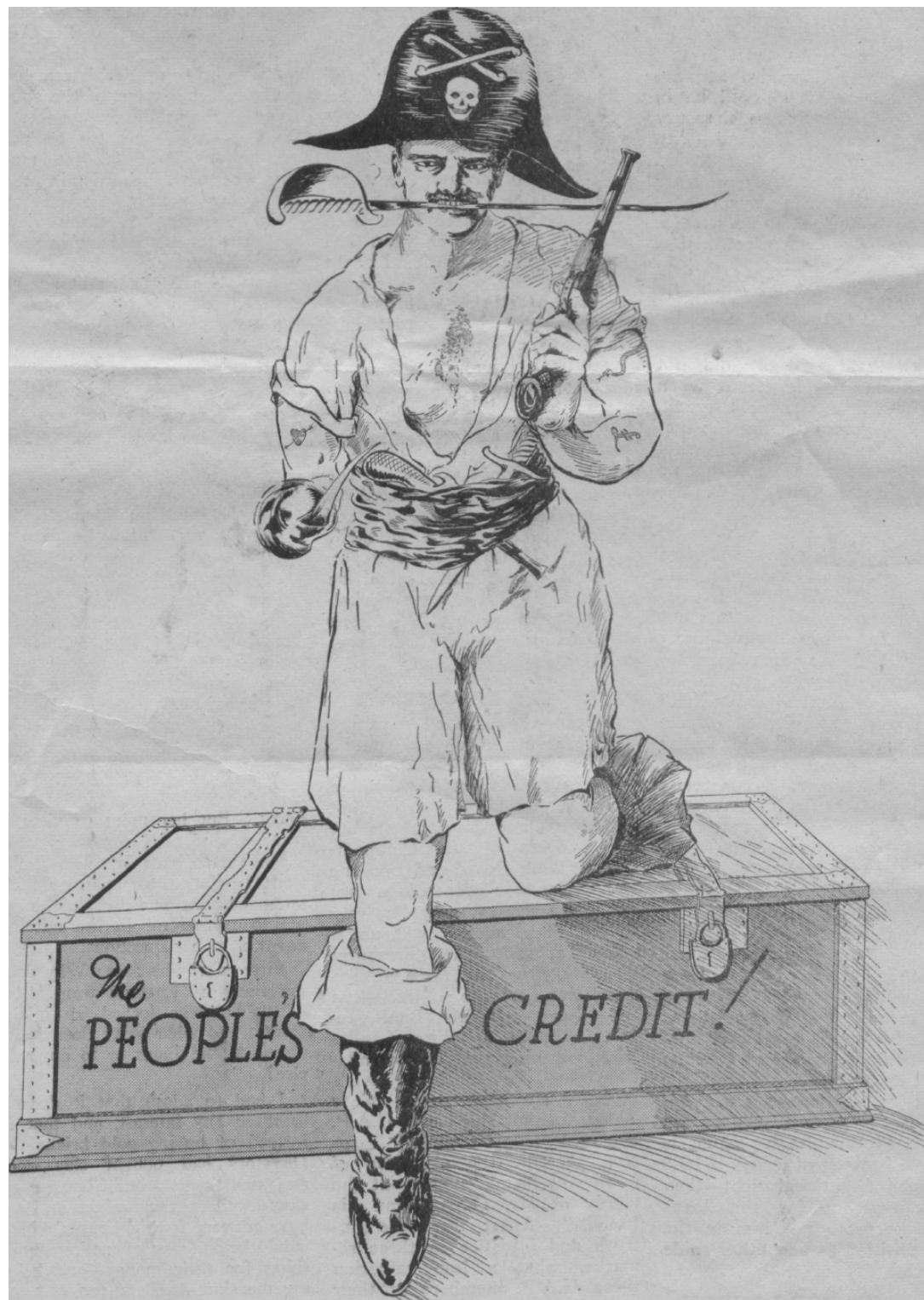
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No. 3.

MELBOURNE, FRIDAY, JANUARY 15, 1937.

Every Friday, 3d.

PUBLIC ENEMY Number Two-



R. G. CASEY

New Times
GUIDE
and Business
Directory

PATRONISE THESE
ADVERTISERS.

Their advertisement helps your paper. Say you saw it in the "New Times."

GENERAL

INDUSTRIAL ADHESIVES Pty. Ltd., 155 Yarra St. Cold Glues, Dextrine. **'LEUKOL'** By far the most up-to-date Toothpaste. No Toothache. No Extractions. No Pyorrhoea. 30,000 packages sold without advertising. From local Chemist; or end 2/- to W. Winford, 45 St. Elmo Ed., N.21.

MELBOURNE

ABBOTSFORD.

COLLINS, A. R., 405 Victoria St. Motor Repairs of all kinds. 3 2047.

AUBURN.

BLACK CAT LIBRARY and Ladies Hairdres. 639 Burw'd Ed. Haw. 1779

BLACKBURN.

"A" GRADE MOTOR ENGINEERS Station Garage, Whitehorse Road. X 1490.

HADDRESSER and Tobacconist, Ladies' and Gents. Wright, 122 South Parade.

MOTOR REPAIRS, Straton's. Better Service. Lower Cost. WX 18

PAINTER. PAPERHANGER, etc.

G.B. COLLIER, 8 Wolsley Cres.

BOX HILL.

ALL Electrical and Radio Needs. G. G. Foster, W'horse Ed. WX2581.

BOOT REPAIRS. Work Guaranteed W. Tolley, 975 W'horse Road.

BOX HILL FURNISHING CO. 247 -9 Station St. Cash or Terms.

CHAS. L. COX, TAILOR. Men's and Boys' Wear. 285 Station St.

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GROCER, W. M. Anderson, 4 Main St. WX 1233.

HAIRDRESSER and Tobacconist. Larsen, Station St., opp. Gilpin's.

IRONMONGER & SPORTS STORE Park, 10 Main St. WX1290.

MARS LAUNDRY CO. WX 2662. Pick up & Deliver. Quality G'teed.

STATION MOTORS. Rennie's Taxis. A. Hulme, Motor Engineer. VX 1946.

TAILOR, J. G. Penson, 227 Station Street. Suits Hand Made from 95/-.

W. A. MOODY, 1014 W'horse Rd. Fruit, Vegetables. Delivered Daily.

WATCHMAKER and Jeweller. Barnes. Station Street. Repairs.

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SPORTS DEPOT & Leather Goods. B. Goslin, 777 Burke Rd. Haw. 4900.

CARNEGIE.

P. A. McWHINNEY, Grocer, Confectioner. Opposite State School.

CITY.

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ANNOUNCING Naytura Cafe Health Service & Store. Free dietetic advice. 300 Lt. Collins St. C 5001.

A TAILORED SUIT at Moderate Price. Dress Suits. DOYLE. C. 6192. Wentworth House, 203 Collins St.

ATTENTION! Naytura Hostel. Vegetarian Guest House. Accom. State & Inter. Guests. Haw. 74.

BLINDS of every sort. Car curtains repaired. T. Pettit, 235a Queen St.

CAKES, PASTRY, etc. Home Made "Clovelly," The Block, Elizabeth St. Cent. 255.

COLONIAL BUILDING CO., 465 Collins St., MU 1930. Call for free booklet on home building.

DAVIS, 568 Bourke St. Royal Medal Milk, Separators, Engines

DOUGLAS SOCIAL CREDIT BOOKSHOP, 166 Lt. Collins St.

DRY CLEANING & REPAIRS. "Saville," Leonard House, Eliz. St., 5th Floor.

FROCKS, Coats; W., Q.S.; Mod Price. Kellehers, Block Court, 3rd Floor.

(Continued on page 8.)

Casey To Go To London And a Pity He Wouldn't Stay There

Richard Gardiner Casey, Treasurer of the Commonwealth, has been selected as one of the three Federal Ministers who will participate in the coming trek to London, which is adjudged sufficiently important to justify shutting down the Australian Parliament for the best part of a year.

The Prime Minister, in breaking the news some days ago, stressed Mr. Casey's importance in the financial discussions, which will take place and paid tribute to his knowledge of international affairs and Imperial defence. Regarding these latter qualifications, Mr. Casey may or may not be all that J. A. Lyons thinks; but we seriously question whether his ripe wisdom will greatly affect any vital decisions of the British Cabinet, and as the attitude of the Lyons Ministry has been one of slavish subservience to orders from overseas, anything Mr. Casey may say or do is not likely to alter Australia's present policy towards international affairs or Imperial defence, either.

It would seem, therefore, that the real Casey activities will be confined to finance, and in this connection he himself announced on Tuesday that he will be in touch with the British Treasury and the Bank of England—with Tweedledum and Tweedledee. As discussions of this nature are likely to have a far-reaching effect on the people of Australia, it might be well to reflect on Mr. Casey's qualifications.

DOESN'T KNOW WHAT PUBLIC CREDIT MEANS.

In September, 1935, Mr. Casey publicly said that he did not know what people meant when they talked about public credit, unless they meant inflation; that he could not understand what public credit meant; and that no one had yet shown how to raise money on public credit.

If Mr. Casey believed what he said on that occasion he showed himself an utter ignoramus. Even the Commonwealth Constitution Act specifically sets out that Parliament shall have power to make laws with respect to borrowing money "on the public credit of the Commonwealth." We prefer, however, to respect Mr. Casey's knowledge rather than his truthfulness, for the Treasurer was greatly concerned at that period to combat persons who dared to suggest that Australia should finance its own works programme by *issuing* money rather than by *borrowing* it.

It has fallen to R. G. Casey, in his official capacity as Treasurer, to sponsor by press advertising and by broadcasting quite a number of national loans during his period of office. What security does Mr. Casey offer on these occasions? Is it not the public credit of the Commonwealth? If Mr. Casey does not believe in this credit—which is the sole backing of nearly £1500 millions of national debt—then his canvassing for the loans would seem to put him in the same position as any other snide go-getter.

"CREDIT" FOR LONDON LOANS.

Some months after his notorious don't-know-what-public-credit-means speech—on May 12 last, to be precise—Mr. Casey used his influence to suppress certain questions listed on the parliamentary notice paper. The incident was described fully in our issue of May 22 last. It concerned a lying advertisement about Australia's financial position (bolstering it up, needless to say) prepared by Mr.

Casey's political godfather, S. M. Bruce, and inserted in the London *Economist*. Concerning that and similar advertisements in the London *Times*, we have the undisputed statement of Mr. Maurice Blackburn, M.H.R., that Mr. Casey told him "the Government thinks it would damage Australian credit and renewal possibilities if the fact that they are advertisements were publicly disclosed." The "renewal" referred to is of course, a London loan renewal, which the Government was negotiating at that date.

From this incident it appears that R. G. Casey recognises Australian credit as something fit to pledge to London moneylenders—and incidentally it appears that he is prepared to tell any tale at all to the pawnbroker as long as he can "put it over."

MISLEADING STATEMENTS IN AUSTRALIAN PRESS.

On the subject of tale telling, the Treasurer has repeatedly shown that he is not above spinning his fairy romances for the benefit (or otherwise) of the Australian public. We gave a detailed instance of this in our issue of June 39 last, when we analysed one of Mr. Casey's press statements. One of his paragraphs might be repeated here by way of illustration:

"It is also encouraging to remember that sinking fund payments from revenue have been steadily growing each year. The growth of the national debt sinking fund, which is contributed to by all the Governments, and is used each year to reduce the Australian national debt in Australia, London and New York, has been as follows..."

Then came a table of figures, of which the total from 1932-33 to 1935-36 came to over £33 millions.

From the above, would not the ordinary reader be expected to assume that the national debt had actually been reduced in those four years? Mr. Casey, however, conveniently omitted to offset the new loans of the same period, which amounted to £79 millions—indicating quite a different result.

"REPLY" TO OGILVIE.

Within the last ten days the Treasurer has made two public statements on finance. One was by way of reply to Tasmanian Premier Ogilvie's charge that the Australian Governments are the puppets of the Commonwealth Bank Board and that the Loan Council proceedings are purely a farce. We say, "by way of reply," because it was not a reply at all, the Treasurer merely saying that "Mr. Ogilvie's complaint amounts to this—that the Commonwealth Bank refuses to adopt a policy of inflation; anything that is not inflation is deflation in Mr. Ogilvie's mind." He then went on to shelter behind the usual U.A.P. smokescreen of "political control," "credit the plaything of politicians," and "savings at the mercy of Mr. Ogilvie and his friends." Apart from the untruth and injustice in these remarks, what a low valuation these U.A.P. members in their attitude to political control set upon politicians! They ought to know.

To pretend that the Bank Board, or any other Board appointed by Parliament is not under political control is essentially dishonest and a deliberate attempt to mislead the people. What Mr. Casey and his friends want is that U.A.P. Ministries should appoint "safe" men to these positions and that thereafter they should be subject

to no interference by any succeeding Government—in other words, that there should be permanent U.A.P. control of every administrative position in the country that counts.

On the question-of-inflation the Treasurer produced not one jot or tittle of evidence to support his statement. His whole attitude in the matter is rather that of the pugnacious schoolboy than of a responsible Minister. In any case, has not the policy of his Government for years been the endeavour to bring about a rise in prices? And if rising prices are not inflation, what is?

"IMPORT LESS AND EXPORT MORE."

Mr. Casey's second statement for public consumption took the form of a farewell broadcast to his constituents on Tuesday night. We wish to draw attention here only to one sentence in his address. The sentence is this: "Whatever views you might hold, a little time in charge of public finance would convince you that we need to import less and export more."

Put into physical terms this statement means that the Australian people must labour to produce still more real wealth in order to send it out of the country and that they must get still less of outside wealth back in exchange. That is, we must continue to work harder in order to grow poorer. And the Treasurer ascribes these views to his experience in charge of public finance.

As public finance is at present conducted, he is perfectly right.

Public finance is based upon the

sovereign government of Australia drawing its necessary revenue partly from taxation and partly from borrowing. If there is enough money in Australia for all lawful needs, then government revenues should come entirely from taxation. If there is not enough, the shortage should be made up by government *issues* and not by government *loans*.

The necessity of our exporting more and importing less comes from two causes. One is the toll payable to the overseas usurers—headed by the Bank of England, with which R. G. Casey will shortly be in consultation. The other is the lack of sufficient money in Australia for us to buy the whole of our own production or imports to the full value of our exports.

Both of these in turn proceed from the failure to use our public credit in the national interest. R. G. Casey will cheerfully *pledge* our public credit to bankers, usurers, moneylenders here or abroad; will cheerfully commit the Australian people to an everlasting tribute—already £1 million a week of taxation goes in interest. But he will *not* assent to the same credit being used to supply national money free of interest. Raise this issue, and he cries "inflation"; he doesn't know what public credit means!

We don't believe Casey is an ignoramus. If he is, he is holding his job under false pretences. If he is not, he is a traitor to his fellow-citizens, and so, having termed J. A. Lyons Public Enemy Number One, we assert that Richard Gardiner Casey is Australia's Public Enemy Number Two.

DAPHNE AND THE GOLD STANDARD

Many Englishmen, ordinarily of orthodox Conservative views; pay profound regard to the contents of two journals—the London *Times* and London *Punch*. Partly their reason for doing so is that they know the contributors to each paper number in their ranks the most brilliant products of English Universities. The author of "Daphne and the Gold Standard," reprinted below from London *Punch*, appears to be every bit as brilliant as our own contributor, turned out by the University of Melbourne, who writes under the name of "William Blackstone."

Dear Mr. Punch, —Daphne and I have been discussing the Gold Standard, about which I have read several textbooks, so I ought to know. But her point of view is peculiar, and all I can say is that she ought to have interviewed the writers before they published their latest editions and not left it to me to try to fill in the missing answers to her questions.

First of all she asks: Why does the Bank of England want a lot of gold bricks locked up in its vaults, and what good does it do there—to the Bank or to anybody else?

I had to admit that it doesn't bring in any interest, and that if instead of buying gold bricks the Directors had bought clay ones and used them to build houses for slum-dwellers, they might at least have got rent for the houses, which would be one way of getting something for their money—and helping the slum-dwellers, too.

Daphne, I may say, is no longer a "deb," and she is interested in gold because she has exotic tastes and likes bangles. She blames the Bank of England very much for locking up all this gold in what she calls "a hole in the ground" instead of banging it about among the female population. Of course I explained that, according to sound finance, the gold is wanted as a backing for our bank notes and so on; but she countered with the objection that if you can't

demand your share of the gold when you present your share of the bank-notes this "backing" is only a silly bluff. She produced one of her bank-notes—part of my Christmas present—and pointed scornfully to the words: "I Promise to pay the Bearer on Demand the sum of One Pound," and asked what on earth Mr. K. O. Peppiatt, Chief Cashier, meant when he signed that document. I was forced to say that the textbooks hadn't mentioned *his* point of view, and suggested she should write to him—or, better still, ask for an interview.

By this time Daphne was rapidly establishing a superiority complex, and opened a smart attack on the Gold Standard itself. She asked what a gold reserve had to do with our paper money, anyway, if you couldn't demand gold for your paper; and whether it wouldn't be less childish to stop buying and burying gold and give up pretending that paper-money represented gold pounds when you knew very well that it didn't.

Daphne has evidently heard something about money being a ticket or token for goods, and she boldly announced that our paper-money really represents the value of our goods, not the gold in the vaults of the Bank, and that we ought to "back" our bank-notes by our goods and see that as the nation manufactured all the goods it wanted, *somebody* should provide all the (Continued on page 8, column 3.)

WHAT WOULD ADAM SAY?

By YAFFLE, in "Reynolds News"

When Adam was thrown out of Eden by the slack of his fig leaf, there was at least one point on which he and his Creator were agreed:—

That work was a Curse. (Genesis 3, 14 to 24.)

To whatever school of scriptural interpretation you refer, you will find corroboration of my statement that, when Work was first introduced into the Divine Plan, it was regarded by all parties concerned as the very origin and prototype of the Wet Smack.

Since then, different economic opinions have prevailed. From every quarter authoritative voices continually do cry, "Work is our hope and our salvation."

If any son of Adam should deny that such changes of opinion were possible, here is irrefutable evidence:—

"The only device, which man has yet discovered, by which the wealth of society can be distributed, is by work... That is why politicians guide themselves mainly by those policies which produce the greatest amount of employment"—Mr. W. S. Morrison, Minister of Agriculture. If Adam could hear rival parties at elections promising to exceed each other in punishing their supporters for his Original Sin, perplexity would furrow his brow. "Surely," he would say, "Democracy does not, save in its nuttier moods, vote for the ratification of its curse! How come?"

Let us, then, consider Work, and man's inexplicable demand for that which, was originally regarded as an unmistakable Kick on the Primordial Pants.

Seeing that for about 15 years the politicians' main object has been to find work, their lack of success is remarkable. Its absence puzzles them. Some attribute the shortage to a plague or epidemic; "the disease of unemployment," they call it.

This has led some experts to think that the work-crop is attacked by some kind of pest, such as the white ant or boll weevil, while others simply think the mice get at it.

Anyhow, it would appear as if some influence were at work trying to lift the curse. There is, indeed, an old legend to this effect.

It is said that as Adam was leaving the Garden, bowed down by the dismal prospect of steady employment and increasing prosperity, the Serpent whispered in his ear, "Cheer up, old egg! I'll invent some labour-saving inventions!"

Whatever the truth of this, the promise seems to have been made good. Glancing briefly over the field of industry, no one, except perhaps a politician, can fail to notice here and there various gadgets designed to substitute mechanical for human labour.

It will further be noticed that, as a result, society is engaged in pursuing two opposing and mutually destructive objectives: which seems to indicate the Serpentine origin of mechanical inventions.. For while one section is continually trying to make less work, the other is trying to make more.

In the words of a prominent industrialist, "As soon as man-power is absorbed, Science will always displace it."

We have just reached a stage of social organisation in which the disease of unemployment can be cured only by the curse of work, and the curse of work can be lifted only by the disease of unemployment. As the bishop said when they asked him if the Absolute would ever be other than it is, "I'll have a bob each way."

LAUNCESTON,
TASMANIA.
Listen in to
7LA EVERY SUNDAY
EVENING AT 8.15.

* * *
If you have followed me thus far, you will agree that if Mr. Morrison's statement is correct, there is little chance of the nation's wealth being distributed, at least before Christmas.

Here, on the one hand, is the nation's, wealth, consisting of consumable goods, raw material, and the means, of producing more. Here it stands, piled up in shops, warehouses, crates, boxes, cartons, and, as you say, sir, bottles.

And here, on the other hand, stands a large number of citizens, staring at it, smelling it, but unable to touch because they haven't got a job. Are we satisfied to leave the matter thus?

Must these twain — the Wealth and the Society— pre-ordained for blissful union, remain for ever parted in unholy deadlock, like a couple of heavyweights discussing the prize-money? England answers No.

VOTE FOR SMITH



AND WORK FOR ALL

Adam would be puzzled.

In my opinion, Mr. Morrison's remark needs a little interpretation. It is not work they want. If it were, there are plenty of ways of absorbing labour. No amount of machinery, need prevent the nation, from digging holes and filling them up again.

The fact is, when Mr. Morrison said, "work;" he meant "wages." It was a 'natural mistake. Both words begin with a W. Besides, we must observe the traditions of statesmanship. A Minister who says exactly what he means would be of little Use to his Party.

* * *
Nevertheless, a difficulty remains. We cannot distribute the wealth without giving the people wages, they cannot have wages without work, and the machines are getting all the work. Can we give people the wages of the machine? No; a machine doesn't have wages. It doesn't even know when it's Friday.

Embarrassing alternatives

To Those Melbourne Doctors (Un-named) Who Constitute A "General Opinion" For the Melbourne "Herald."

Dear Sirs,

Some days ago an alarming announcement appeared in the press, giving the impression that malnutrition (a prettier name than semi-starvation) was becoming increasingly evident amongst our Australian children.

The Melbourne "Herald" at once got busy—not to see that the children were fed with some of those nourishing things we are so anxious to ship to distant countries, but to interview you shy and retiring members of the B.M.A. On Tuesday evening it was able to record this: "The general opinion among Melbourne's doctors associated with child welfare is that undernourishment among Australian school-children is not so alarming as is widely believed."

One anonymous medico from the Children's Hospital said: "There is no doubt that there are signs of underfeeding and malnutrition among Melbourne children" but I do not think there is any need for alarm." It would seem from the newspaper report that one of the grounds for this lack of alarm was that "as many under-nourished children were admitted to the hospital from the outer suburbs and nearer country districts as from the slum areas of the city." Apparently the idea is that if you spread poverty and

THE OVERSEAS INVESTMENT RACKET

This is the seventh of the weekly series of broadcasts being delivered from Station 3AW every Tuesday night at 9.30.

Last Tuesday you were told that tonight's broadcast would deal with overseas investment in Australia.

The idea of investment generally conveys the putting of one's money into something to get a regular income. But as English money is not now used in Australia, how can an English investor put his money into an Australian enterprise? He can do this only by first exchanging his English money for Australian money. This can be done in two ways: One is to use the English money to buy English goods, and then to ship the goods to Australia and sell them for Australian money. The other is to buy Australian money directly from a bank in England by exchanging an English deposit for an Australian deposit.

But since Australia normally sells more goods in England than she buys from England, which means that on an annual balance there is an accumulation of Australian-owned funds in London, how does it come to pass that English investments in Australia are increasing, instead of vice versa?

Simply because Australian governments and semi-governmental bodies have to get hold of English money in London to the tune of about £30 millions a year to pay interest. As, for reasons outlined in last week's broadcast, our producers are generally unable to sell goods abroad to an extent sufficient to establish this annual balance, it is by this means that the overseas investor gets his stranglehold over Australian industries. Supposing that our national trading balance is £10 millions short of the required interest toll, there is then the opening, for the investment of £10 millions from overseas in Australia. In effect, the English investors, through the banks

face our rulers; they must either destroy the machines, or give people wages without work.

They hesitate to undo the scientific progress of centuries. On the other hand, if they decided to give people money, they would be faced with a final, paralysing problem: *Where does money come from? Does it grow, or is it made?*

I cannot deal with that now. I have dealt with Adam and Creation, and before I probe even further into cosmic mysteries, I must go and lie down.

For intellectual effort, unlike the undistributed wealth of society, is limited.

sell £10 millions of their London bank balances to Australian governments in return for £10 millions of Australian bank balances. Our governments get these Australian bank balances either by taxation or by raising loans in Australia.

How far has this process gone? It has already proceeded to an extent that is absolutely appalling. To take but a few instances, here are some of the big Australian enterprises that are owned overseas: Of the banks, three—the Australasia, Union and E.S. & A.—are purely London institutions, and nearly all the others are so to a considerable extent. The great pastoral companies, such as Dalgety's, Australian Estates, New Zealand Loan, etc., are almost entirely in the hands of absentees abroad. With these go huge tracts of our best agricultural and grazing lands. The mining industry, both in gold and base metals, is coming more and more under overseas domination. So is the transport industry, whether on land or in the air—cars, planes, petrol, tyres, and so on. Overseas interests have a tremendous hold in chemicals, gas, light, power, and in manufacturing and merchandising generally. And with every year that passes the tentacles of the octopus grip more tightly what they have; with every year fresh tentacles begin to wind themselves round some fresh property or industry. Unless you wish to see the Australian people reduced to a status little above that of the aborigines, you must demand that this exploitation be stopped. And you will stop it if you insist upon two points.

The first is that, since all the money used in Australia is made in Australia, there is absolutely no need, when we have the men and materials on the spot, to speak of *financing* any enterprise from abroad.

The second is that, if bondholders abroad expect to be paid interest, they must either accept Australian money in this country or goods in their own country. Australia has no control over English money and can secure English money only by selling Australian goods abroad. If the bondholders will not accept this proposition, then the Australian Government should act towards them in exactly the same manner as the British Government acted towards the bondholders of the United States.

Next Tuesday night's talk will be devoted to Australia's overseas trade, which has a very close bearing on this subject.

underfeeding over a wide enough area, it ceases to be a matter for any great concern.

This particular doctor, like most other doctors, was not prepared to accept any personal responsibility, either for making available to the children the food which abounds just out of their reach, or even for waking up the consciences of his fellow-citizens by scathing denunciations and exposures. After admitting that "there is no doubt there are signs of underfeeding and malnutrition among Melbourne children," he went on to say that "the welfare of children should primarily be the concern of the highest authority, the Federal Government, from whom the States, and finally, the municipalities, should seek guidance."

Finally! Guidance! What guidance do you men want? How any man can term himself a healer and yet bear to see one solitary child going short of enough nourishing food without raising the very devil about it passes our understanding.

Besides, the whole conception of government FROM Canberra TO the People is wrong as can be. That conception is the prime cause of starving children facing mountains of food. The citizens are the highest authority: it is their business to GIVE ORDERS to Parliament, not to seek guidance from it. Unless you realise this, and act upon it, the "signs of underfeeding and malnutrition" will continue to grow-and spread until even you have cause for alarm. Meanwhile, what of our children?

THE NEW TIMES

New Times SHOPPING GUIDE and Business Directory

PATRONISE THESE ADVERTISERS.

Their advertisement helps your paper. Say you saw it in the "New Times."

MELBOURNE (Cont.)
(Continued from page 2.)

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JAS. JENNINGS, 211 Queen St., and 6 Regent Arc. Optician, 73 years est. Testing Free.
MAISON MERLIN, Natl. Bk. Bldg., 271 Col. St. Ladies' Hairdressers.
OPTICIAN and Hearing Aids. M. L. COLECHIN, Champion House, 4th Floor, 57 Swanston St. F 5566.
OPTICIAN, J. H. Buckham, J.P. Nat. Bk. Ch., 271 Collins St. C. 831.
PRINTING. E. E. GUNN, Off 600 Lit. Bourke St. Cent. 6021.
QUICK SERVICE TOBACCO KIOSK, Equitable Place. Buy your Smokes here!
TAILOR, Dependable Suit for 130/-. P. Whitcroft, 215 Queen Street.
TAILOR, High Class; H. Stackpole. Lang Arc., off 333 Lons. St.
WATCHMAKER and Jeweller. M. Chapman.
CAPITOL HSE, 6 yrs. Hardy Bros., in charge Repair Dept.

DARLING.
ESTATE AGENT, J. White, 1 Illowa St. UY 6521.

ELSTERNWICK.
CARMICHAEL'S, Men's Wear. 233 G'huntly Rd., next Baptist Ch.
H. L. SERCOMBE Pty. Ltd., 70 Glenhantly Rd. Dairy Produce Specialists.

RADIO & ELECT'L SERVICES, Mackintosh's, 72 Glenh'tly Rd L 4588.

ELWOOD.
THE DUCHEY LIBRARY, 3 Ormond Road. New Books Weekly.

FAIRFIELD.
BUTCHER, 93 Station Street. Arthur B. Heath Solicits Your Patronage.

FOOTSCRAY.
BOOT REPAIRS. A. A. Taylor. Station Ramp, While U Wait S'vice.
MASSEY'S GARAGE, W'town Rd. The Home of Motor Reconditioning

GLENFERRIE.
OPTICIAN, W. W. Nicholls, 100 Glenferrie Rd. Haw. 5515. SUITS to order from 70/-. H. 5813. A. Sutherland, 184 Glenferrie Rd.

HAMPTON.
BEAUTY SALON, Norma Bell, 133 Hampton St., next P.O. XW2160
BOOKSELLER, S. J. Endacott, 75 Hampton St. for all book needs.
CHEMIST, Rod Burgess. 156a Hampton St. XW 2424.

HAIRDRESSER, Ladies and Gents. R. STEWART, 68 Hampton St.
HOME MADE CAKES. BEAN'S, 140 Hampton St. XW1787.
TAILOR, R. W. Simpson, Railway Walk. Suits Hand Made from 95/-.

IVANHOE.
BOOT REPAIRS. J. Fraser solicits your custom. 130 Upper H'berg Rd.
UPHOLSTERER, Blinds & Badding. Duke's, 111 H'berg Rd. Ivan. 626.

KEW.
ANDERSON'S, 141 High St. Authorised Newsagent. Haw. 1145.
BUTCHER, S. Daw. High Street, Opp. Union St. Satisfaction, S'vice.

C. KENNEDY, Grocer. Haw. 229. Opp. Cemetery Clock, Parkhill Rd.
DRY CLEANING, Depot & Library A. I. Fraser, 182 High St. H. 3733.

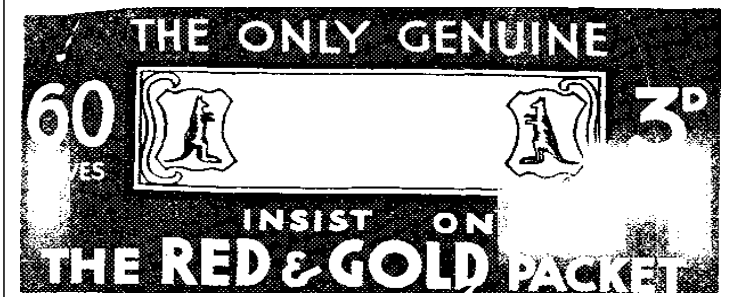
E. WHITE, 109 High St. Confectionery and Smokes.
FLORIST, "Mayfair," Haw. 1452. Gotham Rd., near Glenferrie Rd

GIBSON'S, High St., opp. Rialto. Hosiery, Underwear and Aprons.
GIFTS, & All Jewellery Repairs. Old Gold Bought. Greaves, opp. Rialto.
LADIES' Hairdresser. Haw. 5605. "Burnie Salon," 81 Gotham Rd.

M. J. MARTIN, 157 High St. Haw. 3794. Shoe Store, Shoe Repairs.

KEW EAST.
WATCH, CLOCK & JEWELLERY REPAIRS. I. Pink, 16 Oswin St.
WICKER & Pram Repairs. L. Pavitt, 2 Hale St. Pick up and deliver.

(Continued on page 7.)



The New Times
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The "New Times" and the United Electors

On page 5 of this issue there are outlined the proposals of a new national movement to be known as the United Electors of Australia. Behind that movement the *New Times* proposes to throw every ounce of whatever influence and energy it may possess. And in doing so it feels that it should begin by making own position quite clear to its readers.

Since its inception this journal, whenever technical methods of reform have come up for discussion, has made it evident that it subscribes to what is usually known as Social Credit — other wise the proposals put forward some years ago by Major C. H. Douglas. It has done so because it was (and is) of the opinion that these proposals are the fairest, the most far-reaching, and withal the least disturbing that have yet been advanced to do more than provide some sort of a temporary stop-gap. At the same time the *New Times* has never been in any sense an official Social Credit organ. It is not affiliated with the Social Credit Movement here or overseas and its policy is not cramped or restricted by any instructions coming from outside its own office.

In allying itself with the United Electors of Australia, a non-party, non-class and non-sectarian movement, the *New Times* is not giving up its ideals. But is ceasing to advocate detailed *methods* in order to concentrate on the *objective* which is common to it and to other reformers, that objective is to banish poverty, in its broadest sense, from land spilling over with God's gifts. The *New Times* has always believed that the abolition of enforced and degrading poverty

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is just as much a spiritual as a material end — and it is supported in this both by statisticians and by theologians.

The Social Crediter would abolish poverty by the institution of the National Dividend and the Just Price. The programme of the United Electors is not so specific. Its Elector's Demand (printed on page 5) insists, "monetary or other claims to those goods we now destroy and the production we restrict be distributed to every person in Australia so that the community may make the fullest use of the country's production." We feel that Social Crediters can subscribe to this—and so can any number of other people who will not subscribe to Social Credit. It is ridiculous to assert that, with existing goods on the one hand and living people who need them badly on the other, it is impossible to devise any other means of bridging the chasm than ever-increasing doses of debt for posterity. The best bridge may be that of the engineer Douglas. Social Crediters believe it is. But those who are subscribing to the United Electors are not insistent upon any one method or mechanism. They simply say to politicians, in effect: *Everyone* in Australia has a God-given right to decent living conditions. The goods are here. Distribute them somehow, at once.

There are those who will say that such a mandate is too vague, too indefinite. But is it so? Is it any different from the mandates we give in our daily business transactions? If we have a leaking roof, do we tell the plumber how to fix it, or do we ask him to stop the rain from coming in? If our lights are out of order, do we know or care what the electrician does, provided he makes them respond to the switch? When we buy a wireless set or a motorcar, which are we interested in, how it is made or what it will do? Some few of us, experts in particular lines, may be concerned about technical details, but to the overwhelming majority it is only the results that matter. And why should it be different with politics?

Social Credit is more than a mere method, certainly. It is the expression of a philosophy of life. But it lays down certain technical propositions, and particularly with reference to money. Those who understand the technique of our present monetary arrangements find no difficulty in understanding Social Credit technique. But what percentage of the people do understand money? Admittedly this understanding is growing rapidly, but is the growth as rapid as the approach of the catastrophe, which looms upon us all? Even if the suppressions and distortions of the press were removed and the ground left clear for propaganda, would we win

enough of the people in time?

On the other hand, even a community bamboozled about money can see the goods. Every government tells them that its problem is one of finding markets for goods. And the same people can see that there is a vast unexploited market and a vast unsatisfied need at home. Is it too much to suggest that a mass demand can be created which will, in the briefest of time, insist upon the making available to our own citizens of their own production in preference to any other form of parliamentary activity? Put so simply, we believe it can be done.

Members of Parliament may not, and probably will not, have a formula. But did members of Parliament have the formula for the Sydney Harbour Bridge, for the Hume weir, or for any other similar enterprise, which has been carried out under parliamentary instructions? Did the electors have the formula? Or did the members simply transmit the orders of the electors to engineers and contractors?

If the order to abolish poverty is given in unmistakable fashion, will not the same members of Parliament be able to execute it? The abolition of poverty is a far easier task than the building of the Sydney Bridge, since it requires no great engineering skill. It is a matter of shifting Australian food to Australian mouths, of Australian wool to Australian backs, and so on. There may be some scratching of heads about the accounting process. But will it be more difficult than the minute reckonings of stresses and strains involved in bridge designing? Or the calculations required for the fashioning of the instruments which enabled Kingsford Smith to hop off from Honolulu, fly blind across the ocean, allow for head winds, tail winds and cross winds, and hit Suva, a speck 3000 miles away? Hardly.

The United Electors of Australia propose to concentrate all their efforts upon this one simple demand: Poverty must go from Australia. They propose to transmit this demand to the members of the Federal Parliament, irrespective of their parties, not only at election times but all the time, and to adopt for that end such intensive, but strictly constitutional methods of pressure as have never before been witnessed in Australia.

In the name of humanity, for the sake of your sons already marked down for the holocaust of war, for the sake of those coming after you to whom you are bequeathing nothing but a millstone of debt, you are asked to do everything within your power to make this a whirlwind campaign to success.

"The Usual Luncheon"

On December 16, according to *The Record*, the official journal of the Melbourne Chamber of Commerce, "the usual luncheon to the Executive Heads of the various Government Departments was held at the Hotel Windsor." Then follows a list of those who "were entertained by a representative gathering of

members of the Council," the list including such names as those of Mr. Pitt (Director of Finance), Mr. Chapman (Under Secretary), Mr. Jungwirth (Secretary to the Premier's Department), and Mr. Partington (Acting Deputy Director of Posts and Telegraphs).

The report does not name the "representative gathering of members of the Council" of the Victorian Chamber, but for the information of readers here are some of the Councils "representative" members: —Mr. G. D. Healy (Bank of Australasia), Sir Ernest Wreford (National Bank), Mr. W. H. Swanton (Commercial Bank), Sir Robert Knox (Commercial Banking Co. of Sydney) and Mr. H. G. Darling (National Bank). Other Council members of the Chambers are Colonel Stevenson, W. J. F. Collens and R. B. Lemmon, a trio whose association with probankers' propaganda will be remembered. And there are still others with similar affiliations.

It does not necessarily follow that there is anything pernicious about a luncheon, but we should like to know why prominent civil servants should be feted by a Chamber whose record is such as to make it repugnant to every decent citizen of this country. As an instance, in case our readers may have forgotten it, we would remind them that this body, at the last annual meeting of Chambers of Commerce, was associated with a resolution favouring conscription, and with another which sought to retain the sales tax as democratic while demanding the abolition of property taxes. Our property before your lives and, if need be, your lives to preserve our property—such seems to sum up the attitude of this Chamber.

It is notorious that banks and similar enterprises, while expecting something for nothing, seldom give it. Then why the Chamber's sumptuous luncheon—"the usual luncheon"—at the Windsor? Thanksgiving, or expectation?

Are the heads of government departments employed to give results that will please financiers, or results that will please the people?

The "Argus" and Records

Wednesday's *Argus*, eager as ever to persuade us how prosperous we all are, spread out double column heads: "Record Christmas Trade," "Increased Spending Power of People." After the usual bright introduction, however, came the figures comparing 1936 with 1935. Some of those for 1936 showed a slight increase over 1935. For instance, petrol cleared jumped from 8.1 million gallons to 8.6 million gallons—although we are not aware that petrol cleared necessarily means petrol sold. But the really significant figures by which to judge business turnover—which is the nearest pointer to prosperity that such comparisons can furnish — are those of bank clearings and of goods sold for purposes of sales tax returns. In the case of Melbourne bank clearings, the *Argus* index for December 1936, is

£65.3 millions, and for December 1935, £66.6 millions—hardly an encouraging sign. The latest sales tax figures it quotes are for the periods August to October. And here again 1936 gives a total of £17.2 millions, as against £18 millions in 1935.

All the propaganda in the world will not hide that, in spite of overseas buying from us for war preparations, Australia has now reached, if it has not passed, the summit of such prosperity as; we may expect before the next financial depression. Our real wealth increases; it could be made to increase twice as rapidly, but it will turn to dust and ashes before our eyes unless we make up our minds that *we must give the people the money to buy it.*

Letters to the Editor

THE SPHINX

Wesley Church, so often the pulpit for orations by members and hangers-on of the financial monopolists on the occasion of pleasant Sunday afternoon services, has now become akin to the Sphinx of ancient Egypt. On Sunday last Mrs. Claude Couchman, a member of the Australian Broadcasting Commission, and of the Australian Women's National League, put over a fast riddle in the following form:

"Don Bradman, Mr. Lyons, a big business magnate, a scientist, and the Rev. Irving Benson are in a balloon which bursts. There is only one parachute. To whom should it be given?"

The Rev. Irving Benson, of course, is the kindly reverend gentleman who so persistently makes Wesley Church pulpit available to the Menzies, Caseys, Lyonses and whatnots of this community to pronounce upon God's views on democracy, inflation and sound finance.

The riddle is of interest not only to myself, but, I am sure, to many of your readers, and I feel certain that the following solution will appeal:

Give the parachute to the scientist (who probably invented the bally thing) and if he can get Don down safely as well so much the better. If not, let them toss for it.

The big business magnate may be left to his fate, as I am sure that both the Commissioner of Taxes and the legal profession would have it so.

The Hon. Jo. Lyons has heretofore saved his bacon by a somersault, and I suggest may very well be expected to repeat the performance.

As for the rev. gentleman, I suggest that he might save himself by the power of prayer, as he apparently thinks the unemployed might save themselves,

UNDERTAKER.

BOOKS ON MONETARY REFORM

Why Poverty In the Midst of Plenty? By the Dean of Canterbury 8d.
 ABC of Social Credit. By C. Barclay Smith 7d.
 Dividends for All By C. Barclay Smith 7d.
 Tell Me the Story Simply. By Will T. Duggan 7d.
 Modern Problems and Mental Attitude*. By Rev. J. T. Lawton
 Economic Democracy. By C. H. Douglas 6/10
 Credit Power and Democracy. By C. H. Douglas 6/10
 Social Credit. By C. H. Douglas
 The Breakdown of the Employment System. By C. H. Douglas
 Monopoly of Credit. By C. H. Douglas
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 Poverty Amidst Plenty. By J. Galloway
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The United Electors Of Australia

A National Movement To Make Parliament Act Non-Party, Non-Class, Non-Sectarian

In our last issue we indicated the formation of a new national movement in Australia. We are now able to announce the name of that movement. It is: THE UNITED ELECTORS OF AUSTRALIA (NON-PARTY).

At the Melbourne conference citizens from various States which resulted in the formation this new national movement it was unanimously resolved that those present, while not opposing the nomination of independent Candidates who agreed to be subject to the will of their electorates, were entirely opposed to the formation of a new political party or to party action as such. To secure control of each electorate over its parliamentary representative, the conference approved the principle of an electoral campaign, with provision, in certain circumstances, for the endorsement of candidates by the body conducting the campaign within the electorate concerned. It was also decided that the United Electors' campaign would be entirely distinct from and not connected with any existing reform movement as an organisation. The purpose of the electoral Campaign is (1) to secure signed pledges from individual electors (See pledge form below), and (2) take the steps required to make those pledges effective.

OBJECTIVE OF U.E.A.

As a reading of the pledge form will indicate, the objective of the United Electors is to abolish poverty from Australia.

The evidence of electors' own eyes and the published statistics production are ample proof that this can be done, and that it can be done at once.

The facts are that it is not at present being done. Taxation—which means a general impoverishment—is increasing year by year. Figures published, by the Taxpayers' Association of New South Wales on Monday show that taxation per head increased from £14/9/7 in 1926-27 to £15/9/11 in 1935-36—an increase of £1 per head levied on a people whose monetary income is lower now than it was then, and representing a jump from 2/8 in each £1 of income to 3/9 in each £1, or a real increase of over 40 percent.

And there is not the faintest prospect; unless the electors take a determined stand that this taxation will do anything but mount up. To provide even the present miserable appropriations for urgent public works and social services, for the unemployed.

the aged and the sick, governments are committing themselves to steep increases in future taxation, since a great part of these activities is being financed from interest-bearing loans. Even last year's restricted borrowing means an increase in the annual interest bill of over half a million pounds a year. The people are now realising that they cannot either tax themselves into prosperity or borrow their way out of debt."

With the simple proviso that the abolition of poverty must be genuine, that there must neither be direct confiscation of property nor indirect confiscation of incomes through taxation or soaring prices, the United Electors of Australia propose to transmit to members of Parliament an unconditional demand for something that is easily feasible.

They do not propose to pin members down to detailed methods, principally for two reasons.

DIFFICULTY OF AGREEMENT OVER METHODS.

The first of these is the tremendous difficulty of getting a sufficiently large body of electors to agree upon methods or even to understand them.

Assemble any group of half a dozen citizens at random, from one or more classes or sections of the community, and invite their views. Invite them on any subject you like—say, cricket. How many of them will agree on what Bradman ought to do or to have done in any given set of circumstances? Ask them how the traffic problems of our cities should be dealt with. Will you not get a different, and often a contradictory opinion from every individual? Translate your discussion into wider national affairs and, once you start on methods, you make confusion worse confounded. U.A. P., U. C. P., Labor, Fascist, Socialist, Communist, Social Credit, Henry George Gesell

—there is no end to disagreement on methods. And the more earnest and sincere the discussion the greater the divergence of views and the more heated and bitter the ultimate split.

Yet on an issue like the abolishing of poverty everyone must agree with you that it is possible and easily practicable. The goods are here. What is more, if producers knew that what they produce would readily be sold for consumption, in what department of our national output would not production be immediately stimulated and even multiplied?

It is the purpose of the United Electors of Australia to make vocal a nation-wide demand for this one objective on which all the people of Australia must surely be in agreement, and to insist that this demand be carried out as a matter of supreme urgency.

METHODS OBSCURE OBJECTIVE

The second reason why the United Electors will not prescribe detailed methods is that for many years, and particularly for the last

of hoses you employ or what variety or nozzles. But we insist that not one plant in the garden must be allowed to droop.

That is the test: Not one plant in the garden must be allowed to droop. There is nothing indefinite in that order. Every man, woman and child in Australia must have sufficient to satisfy their reasonable needs. And the electors will stand over the members to see that this is done.

PENALTIES.

If such a demand is to be effective it must have sanctions. It must be able to inflict penalties.

The first penalty is that the member who refuses to carry out the demands of a majority of his electors will be faced with the certain loss of his seat at the next election. Conversely, the member who does carry out their demands will be assured of continued support. We believe that this threat and promise, when backed by the required number of signed pledges, will immediately be effective, without waiting for elections.

But there is the possibility that, even in the face of such signed demands from electors, certain members may still prove obstinate. Until that position arises there is no need to detail the steps for dealing with it. But it can be said here and now that plans have been worked out—strictly law-abiding, strictly constitutional—for dealing with any such members in a manner which will make their lives a positive misery to them. On that, if the necessity for it arises, more later. Meantime, immediate steps are being taken to make the organisation of the United Electors of Australia effective in every Federal electorate. Further announcements will be made in these columns each week.

WHAT YOU CAN DO NOW

Readers of the *New Times* will say: What can I do about it this week, to day, now?

You can do two things immediately:

1. You can sign the pledge on this page and get every member of your household who is over 21 to sign it. For the moment, until the local headquarters for the United

Electors of Australia are established in each State, you can forward your signed pledges to the *New Times* office, where the pledges will be sorted and duly transmitted to the several State bodies. You will help sorting by indicating the name of your Federal electorate.

2. You can notify the *New Times*, at once, of the way or ways in which you are prepared to assist the campaign. Will you establish for the United Electors a centre in your own town or district? Will you take an active part in distributing pledge forms and collecting signatures? Can you enrol other workers, and how many? Will you subscribe or collect funds to finance the enormous amount of pledge forms, pamphlets, etc., which will be required; and if so how much? These are questions to which you can forward an answer as soon as you have read this.

IF YOU WANT THIS CAMPAIGN TO BE AN OVERWHELMING SUCCESS DON'T SLEEP ON IT. START WORKING TODAY.

Cost of Living and Sustenance

As a result largely of higher prices received for our exports from nations preparing for war, there has been recently a further upward movement in the prices-wages spiral—with prices still on top. Further increases in the cost of commodities to householders have been notified this week.

A few weeks ago there was a small increase in most of the wage scales, which are fixed on a price level basis, but these are already dragging behind once more.

In the case of the unemployed receiving the dole and those working for sustenance there has been no increase in payments at all. In some cases the men have been "compensated" by being required to work for slightly shorter periods. They will thus have more time in which to take in another hole in their belts. So will their wives and children.

WITHIN THE LIMITS

The Federal Government "desires that everything possible, within the Limits of funds available, should be done to assist in ensuring that infants and children requiring additional nourishment should obtain it regularly, day by day, for as long as it is required."

—Melbourne "Herald", Jan. 11.

Within the limits of FUNDS available. Why not within the limits of FOOD available?

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beginnings of money; the coinage; the banknote and fixed deposit; the structure of Australia's money system; how bank credit is supplied and cancelled, and why it is inefficient and insufficient; the velocity of money; how international trade is financed; international loans; the flight of capital; Australia's money monopoly and how it is composed; the need to finance consumers; the national dividend, its meaning and justification.

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JOHN HOGAN JOINS THE U.E.A.

John Hogan, whose national crusade for Social Credit has made him one of the best-known figures in Australia today, has definitely thrown in his lot with the United Electors of Australia.

The *New Times* has invited him to tell you why. Watch for John's statement next week.

seven, the people have been fooled by having methods dangled before their eyes. They have voted for Labor methods, for Country Party methods, for U.A.P. methods. They have been distracted by Premiers' Plans, by Lang plans, by spend-more plans and save-more plans, by grow-more plans and grow-less plans, by tariffs and quotas, by marketing boards and Privy Council decisions, by shorter hours and rationing and national insurance and a host of other methods. And the objective is as far off as ever—simply because the people, in voting for methods, have lost sight of the purpose, and the politicians have been judged by their adherence to methods instead of by their getting results.

What the people are now going to say to their members of Parliament is: Water the national garden. The plants are wilting for lack of it. There is unlimited water in the reservoirs. We will supply you with all the labour and all the materials you ask for. Get to it! We are not concerned whether you use four-inch pipes or one inch, or what sort

"Britain now has a plethora of gold."
—J. M. Keynes quoted in Melbourne "Herald" of Jan. 13.

But does J. M. Keynes, or anyone else who talks about the sanctity of Australia's debts in London, make any suggestion that this gold should be used towards paying Britain's debt to the U.S.A.?

ELECTOR'S DEMAND AND UNDERTAKING

1. I know that there are goods in plenty and that therefore poverty is quite unnecessary and must be abolished.
2. I demand that monetary or other claims to those goods we now destroy and the production we restrict be distributed to every person in Australia, and that taxation be progressively reduced, so that the community may make the fullest use of the country's production.
3. This must not increase prices, deprive owners of their property, or decrease its relative value.
4. In a democracy like Australia, Parliament exists to make the will of the people prevail.
5. So I promise to vote only for a candidate who pledges himself to support in Parliament these my demands.
6. If my present member will not so pledge himself, I will vote to replace him.

Signed.....Address.....

Signed.....Address.....

Signed.....Address.....

"COUNTRY WOMEN"

II.

(WITH PASSING REFERENCE TO A. L. BRIENT.)

A Letter to the Editor from BRUCE H BROWN

Sir—

In addition to what Mrs. Alfred Watt said to the Country Women's Association at the Melbourne Town Hall on December 21 about better health, better education, better homes, and better citizenship (referred to in these columns last week), she evidently felt called upon to tell the country women that they were lacking in education. "Educate yourselves and your families," she said, "in what other countries in the world are doing. Prejudice springs from ignorance, and if we can turn ignorance into knowledge we have gone a long way into turning it into understanding as well."

WHAT SORT OF EDUCATION?

That was good advice as far as it went, but education regarding the control of their own country is far more important. How many ladies of the Lyceum Club realise that they themselves are being robbed through heavy taxation to meet interest charges on fraudulent debt? How many countrywomen are aware that the price of their everyday needs is increased enormously through Customs and sales tax for the same purpose? How many of us as a community realise that the public debt of the Commonwealth is a swindle, and that every time the Government floats a loan it lends itself and Parliament to the perpetuation of the swindle? It was not education along these lines that Mrs. Watt had in mind. She said nothing at all about the money swindle, and the whole tenor of her remarks as reported was designed to keep the thoughts of the womenfolk as far away from this subject as possible.

And strangely enough, although money is the most important subject in the world it receives the least attention from our education authorities. This lack of attention on their part is so pronounced that one is forced to wonder whether these authorities are quite honest. Fortunately, however, the women of the Commonwealth are gradually realising the true cause of their

worries, and are stirring themselves in increasing numbers to demand the removal of the cause. Our "accepted" economists are already discredited, and the directors of Education and principals of public schools will suffer a similar fate unless they tackle the real issue more straightforwardly and more courageously. Some of the best "educated" people are actually the most prejudiced where questions of progress are concerned and this is due either to faulty work on the part of school principals or to intellectual dishonesty.

THE ALL IMPORTANT PART

As pointed out last week, even the *Sydney Morning Herald* acknowledges the truth of our contention. In its leading article of February 7, 1933, it said "There is no evading the basic fact that everything depends upon, finding purchasers for what is produced, and the trouble over currency and credit is at the heart of our difficulty." When we speak of "purchasers" we mean people who have the wherewithal to buy, and when we speak of the "wherewithal to buy" we mean money. That being so, our people are not suffering from unemployment (as Mr. Young declared from 3KZ on January 3), but from disemployment. They are poor because they cannot buy the things they need, and they cannot buy the things they need because they are not supplied with money. Therefore, money is the all-important part of the business, and those who control that part control all the parts. It naturally follows from this that any "education" that fails to reveal the identity of the money controllers and the methods by which they exercise their control over the lives of the people is only sham education, and so long as our "authorities" ignore this basic fact they lay themselves open to a charge of complicity in a scheme of treasonable duplicity.

SOME EDUCATORS SEE IT.

The President of St. Francis Xavier University, Canada, has

publicly acknowledged this. He says, "It's the banker and capitalist who need education most, not the average man. The former have been running the show right along, and the show has not been successful."

Professor R. B. Forester, of the University of Wales, also recognises the seat of the trouble. He says: "The main cause of inadequate food supply and inadequate housing is not so much an ineffective use of incomes as the *insufficiency of such incomes*, however wisely spent, to provide the standards which the experts deem essential for health and well-being."

Incomes consist of money, and the quantity of money is controlled by the private banking system. The people are therefore short of money because of the policy of the banking institutions, and these institutions exercise an unfettered monopoly over the creation, distribution, and cancellation of money. The Chairman of the Midland Bank has officially told us that "the Bank of England is the supreme authority in determining the quantity of money available for the use of the British public," and it is a fact that the same bank is also allowed to control the quantity of money available for use by the people of Australia. Note particularly that it is "the supreme authority" and that it is a private corporation! Did Mr. Menzies say something about our wonderful democracy?

How many of these "country" women are aware of that amazing state of affairs? Confirmation was given in the newspaper, *John Bull*, of October 24, in the following words: "Theoretically, the Chancellor of the Exchequer and the Cabinet control the financial and economic policy of Britain, but in practice the Chancellor's hands are tied. The State's financial policy is almost entirely formed by the nine secret men of the Bank of England. Their advice is equivalent to a command." Nine secret men who "offer" advice but give commands!

MR. BRIENT IN THE "ARGUS."

Up to now, the people of the world have had no say at all regarding financial policy, and it would seem from the special article written by Mr. A. L. Brient for the Melbourne *Argus* of January 2 that unless they bestir themselves quickly they will continue to have no say in that vital matter. This is where education is exceedingly urgent. Mr. Brient admits that the existing economic conditions are chaotic, but says not a word against the men responsible for it. Indeed, he suggests that they are the very men in whom we should continue to pin our faith, despite his statement that "at the beginning of 1936 President Roosevelt, pleading for 'practical peace, permanent peace, real peace throughout the world,' said that it was being blocked by 'only 15 per cent.' of the world's population, by people who . . . in seeking rectification of injustices . . . reverted to the fantastic conception that they, and they alone, had been chosen to fulfill a mission, and that all the others among the billion and a half of human beings must and should learn to be subject to them." Are the women of these "country" organisations content to remain subject to this unknown 15 per cent, or is it that the "leaders" of these countrywomen are part of the 15 per cent.?

Mr. Brient went on to say that, "Those alive today may never learn the exact cause of this terrible state of affairs. What we do know for certain is that Russia turned Bolshevik, Italy became Fascist, and Germany adopted Nazism at a time of acute economic disturbance in each country, culminating in a world-wide depression between 1929 and 1933 on a scale never before known. We know also that although those countries blessed with stable forms of Government, democratic and non-aggressive, have weathered the storm, in others, with illiberal, intolerant dictatorships, political and economic disintegration has continued and shows no sign of

ending." This indicates that Mr. Brient has not troubled to ascertain the cause of the economic disturbances which brought about the changes and the world-wide depression, and that when he speaks of countries "blessed with stable forms of government" having weathered the storm, he shows inexcusable ignorance of both the nature of the storm and the actual conditions in the particular countries mentioned. Obviously he had Britain in mind as one of the countries "blessed" in regard to government, but the truth of the matter is that the conditions in England are such as to cause a feeling of the greatest uneasiness.

WHAT BRITISH AUTHORITIES SAY.

In addition to the facts given last week, we now have the declaration of the British conference of the Workers' Educational Association, held in November last, that "the effects of poverty and malnutrition on school-children are a grave national danger," and that "physical exercise is no substitute for proper food."

The President of the National Union of Teachers also issued the solemn warning that "children are coming to school with only half enough food inside them. They can hardly stand up to the exercise they already get." And yet the very people responsible for this outrageous condition are actually advocating compulsory physical training as a remedy while they keep the people short of the money they need to purchase food. If Britain has "weathered the storm," then Judge Beeby has not spoken the truth about the conditions of the British people.

MR. BRIENT'S ADMISSIONS

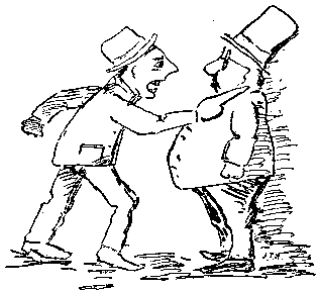
One other reference to Mr. Brient. He tells us that "a plan has been evolved in London and Paris whereby Nazi Germany will be offered economic and financial assistance... The plan, said to have been formulated by Mr. Montagu Norman (Governor of the Bank of England) and Dr. Schacht (head of the Reichsbank) proposed that Germany should devalue its currency . . . in return for which Great Britain, the United States, and France would accord Germany greater access to their domestic markets and to those of their colonial possessions. Germany's remaining external debt would be reduced and refunded, and Germany would receive a new loan to be used for the purchase of raw materials for her export industries. . . . It was not claimed that either Mr. Norman or Dr. Schacht had his government's approval of the plan

. . . and American bankers were said to be in favour of the scaling down of the German external debt. . . . The purpose reference is to point to the fact the world's troubles are economic, that economics are merely the reflection of financial conditions: financial conditions are controlled by a small group of private individuals; that plans regarding economics and finance emanate from private bankers; that just as British Budget is dictated by American bankers representing international finance, so the conditions in Germany have been dictated by the same interests; these arrogant men have assumed the power to control domestic markets and colonial possessions; that they can produce money where and when it suits them to do it; that they create and cancel debts as they think fit; that it is through these debts they exercise their power; that there is no wail about the investments of the poor widows and orphans and retired clergymen when bankers propose debt cancellation; that they plan and act without reference to the "sovereign" government of the several countries; and that they are determined to allow no country to make use of its own resources for the benefit of its own people. It is a monstrous situation, and there can not possibly be peace and progress for any country until it wrenches itself from the grasp of these scheming men and determines order its own finances to suit its own needs.

COUNTRY WOMEN SHOULD SUPPORT COUNTRY MEN.

All this being so, what a pity it is that this Country Women's Association has not yet thrown its weight behind the country men who are seeking release from the dictatorship of finance. At its annual conference in April last, the Victorian Country party adopted the following resolution: "This conference demands that its elected representatives in Parliament shall make it their first business to ensure that this country's internal economy shall be so managed as to reflect its real wealth, instead of, as at present, an artificial state of poverty in the midst of plenty." Every one of us can conscientiously support a resolution of that nature, and if the country women are really sincere in the expressed desire for better health, better education, better homes, and better citizenship, they will enthusiastically join in the movement which is educating the people how to obtain these things through Parliament. —Yours faithfully,
BRUCE H BROWN

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CHURCHES AND CANNON LAW

By EDGAR PLUMPTON.

The most significant feature of world politics at the present time is the concentration of the civilised countries upon armaments. Every newspaper contains at least one scare headline dealing with somebody's army, navy or airforce. For example, taking at random the *Herald* of January 8 there is a two-column head advising that Captain Maund, of cruiser Danae, wants Britain to build 45 new cruisers. In the same issue Field Marshal Lord Milne considers that boys should be trained "to do something useful in soldiering." Elsewhere there is a note that a £4 million arsenal is to be constructed in Lancashire.

It is therefore no exaggeration to say that one of the foremost and most pressing topics of the day is this preparation by the nations for war. From people such as Captain Maund and Lord Milne we may expect warlike counsel; for it is from strife that they draw their very existence, universal peace ever settles upon the world, it is difficult to know what can be done with such people, and it is not to be expected that they should in any way contribute to the cause of peace, unless it were a peace whereof the participants are always armed to the teeth. "Si pacem vis, para bellum", which is equivalent of saying that if you want the weather to stay fine put on goloshes.

There is, however, one body in the world from whom one might expect concerted and continuous effort to stem the tide of warlike preparation—that is the several hundred million Christians who meet at least once a week to worship Him whose command was, "Love thy neighbour as thyself." It is accordingly of some interest to refer to the same newspaper to see what action is being taken what contemplated in order to read the teaching of Christ as an antidote to the virus of hate which is so very obviously poisoning our present civilisation.

The voice of organised Christianity in that issue of the *Herald* had apparently only two things of importance to say. Archbishop Head was reported to have announced that the staff of the St. Martin's Boys' Home would be changed at the end of the month; and there was a report that a party of members of the Church England Boys' Society of New South Wales had arrived in Melbourne to camp, play cricket and visit the Zoo.

Is it expecting too much of Christ's ministers on earth to consider that some concerted or at least some individual protest would be registered against the steady and deliberate preparation for war going on all round them? Have the Christian Churches, then, nothing to say in opposition to rearmament, no action which they are prepared

to take in the name of the Gospel of Love upon which the whole of the Christian faith rests?

APATHY OF CHRISTIAN LEADERS

To be perfectly blunt about the matter, it is clear that the appointed leaders of the Christian faith preserve upon the subject of arms and warlike preparations a silence as conspicuous as it is shameful. Of the vast army of Christian clergy, there does not appear to be one, from the Archbishops down to the humblest curates, who feels it his duty to register a continuous and fervent protest against war and the preparation therefor. It is true that there have been isolated and theoretical protests, but these have generally lacked conviction, and have not been accompanied by any decisive action more serious than *pro forma* gestures—such as presiding at local antiwar meetings.

Such action as is being taken in the matter is, through the apathy or moral cowardice of the Christian clergy, left almost entirely to laymen; and those laymen, by reason of the very fact that the burden of the campaign has devolved upon them by default, are fast losing what respect they ever had for the professional religionists.

St. Paul, in his epistle to the Romans, said, "Love is the fulfilling of the law." One might have expected this to have some meaning for our Christian clergy. If it does, how can anything be said in explanation or extenuation of their silence during the world armament race? Is it in love that a man prepares to shatter his neighbours' entrails with a bomb? Is it love that produces gases to rot the lungs of our women and children?

Of politicians we expect the shirking of responsibilities, for, after all, they owe us allegiance merely in return for money. Of Christ's ministers on earth, who profess to have received a call to preach the Christian doctrines, and who are not tied to us by purely contractual obligation, we are entitled to expect the observance of their spiritual obligations; and these must surely include a lively opposition to war and warlike activities, which are essentially the negation of Christian ideals and of the teaching of Christ.

THE CHURCHES AND THE LAST WAR.

From the point of view of organised religion, the great fact—revealed by the last war was that the Churches, although in theory opposed to war, are invariably in favour of any existing war. Once war has commenced, national allegiance takes precedence over spiritual allegiance, and our clergy busy themselves ministering to the needs of those who are about to meet their Maker at the hands of their brothers whom they are supposed

to love as themselves. Could there ever be a sorer farce than this? It is small wonder that, since the last war, ministers have frequently deplored the dwindling attendances in their churches. If religion reigns no longer in the hearts of men, it is surely because our religious leaders are neither religious nor do they lead. The attitude of the Churches in the last war was definitely un-Christian, and in an extreme degree hypocritical.

In his autobiography, recently published, Mr. Lawrence Housman, novelist and playwright, said:

"Today, over the most burning of all moral problems—the relation of Christianity to war—it (the Church of England) takes a back seat, and still signing itself with the Cross, does nothing! . . . *The Church's tolerance of war has become the final barrier between myself and any form of Institutional Christianity.*"

The words italicised have merely crystallised a thought, which has long dwelt in the minds of thousands who, like myself, feel that the Christian Church has failed us in the hour of our greatest need.

In retrospect, it becomes only too painfully obvious that our clergy are loud-mouthed and vigorous about the little things that arise—points of dogma, crumbling spires, the preponderance of the three penny-bit in collection plates, and so on—and preserve a decorous silence with regard to social and moral evils of paramount importance, and which are diametrically opposed to the very principles which underlie the Christian Faith.

How many of our leading clergy have had the courage to attack the Money Monopoly; although by reason of their educational advantages they should and must realise that it is from this anti-social force that flow nine-tenths of the miseries, which oppress our present civilisation? One is forced into the belief that they take the line of the least resistance, and attend scrupulously to the symptoms of the world's ills, unwilling and fearful to uncover the underlying causes. The "change of heart", so earnestly prayed for in the sanctimonious utterances of our economic theologians, is unlikely to be achieved while the whole workings of our economic system force us to model our conduct upon lines far divergent from those set forth in the Sermon on the Mount.

THE SENSE OF PROPORTION

The faculty of reasoning, which is the essential characteristic of man, has shown us that, in dealing with any problem, of whatsoever the nature, the vital thing is to eliminate side issues and grapple with fundamentals. The reverse process is favoured by those of our clergy whose actions achieve prominence. Apparently no effort is spared to combat the growth of gambling, intemperance and Sunday travelling. The dubious film and the lascivious novel are legitimate prey, but the wealthy church patron, whose income is derived from sweating his workers, from slum tenements and brothels, is respectfully ushered to a comfortable pew.

The fulminations of Bishop Blunt, the general condemnation of the higher clergy, and in particular the stony attitude of the Primate

in the recent constitutional crisis are still fresh in the memory. If anything more were needed to destroy the weakening hold of Institutional Christianity on the minds of the British people, the ousting of Edward VIII from the British Throne should be enough. A marriage in accordance with the laws of England but repugnant to Church dogma can stir to righteous action the whole of the clergy; but millions of unemployed, millions of undernourished children, subjected to the most ignominious treatment before they can receive relief, cannot find among those same clergy one man who will lead a crusade in their favour.

It has been said that if another war like the last is permitted to break out, whatever of our civilised institutions survive it, the existing financial institutions will not be among them. It seems painfully evident that the same applies to our religious institutions.

WHAT MIGHT HAVE BEEN

At the outset of the last war, had our Christian Churches resolutely opposed it, had they publicly exhorted the troops to lay down their arms and live in brotherhood as Christ counselled, there would have been no war! The propaganda staffs of the belligerent nations have since told how they suppressed and distorted the truth, lied, cozened and cheated, in order to keep up the morale of the troops and of those who stayed at home. They well knew that once that morale weakened, all hope of victory would be gone. The retreat of the Russian troops on the eastern front, prior to the close of the last war, gives a perfect example of the results of a weakened morale. Had the Churches made any reasonable effort to stop the war, there can be little doubt that they would have been successful. It is difficult to separate two fighters who actually hate one another; but this is not the case when two armies are fighting. Ninety per cent, of the troops on either side had only the vaguest idea of the reason why they fought, and felt no particular ill will against the enemy as individuals. Concerted efforts by the Christian Churches of Britain, France and Germany would have so weakened the morale for war that the whole thing would have petered out. Instead of that, there remains the memory of church pulpits draped with national flags—ironical symbols of temporal pride and arrogance flaunted in places dedicated to the worship of Him Who said, "Blessed are the meek!"

It may be said that the power of the Churches to stop war exists in theory, but is impossible in practice. The point is, of course, debatable; but if Institutional Christianity is not to be accounted the hollowest of shams, at least the effort should have been made—and an (Continued on page 8, column 1.)

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(Continued from page 3.)

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OUR SOCIAL HERITAGE

Let us suppose that there exists a small community of people composed of a hundred workers and one "reckoner." The workers, by sheer unaided physical toil, produce yearly one hundred units of necessities. The function of the reckoner is to distribute to each worker a claim-symbol for his share of necessities equivalent to his SHARE OF THE COMMON EFFORT. The reckoner uses certain shells for the purpose, which he gets from the beach at a spot unknown to the workers, and, after being used, the claim-symbol is returned to this spot to be used again. For the services of the reckoner each worker contributes some of the necessities, which he has helped to make.

At first the total claim-symbols represent claims to the total necessities produced, which consequently are all claimed and used—100 workers, 100 units, 100 symbols.

Presently, however, the workers begin to find that the hundred units are barely sufficient to keep them healthy, and that their toil is becoming wearisome. They therefore begin to devise means of lightening their toil and of making more commodities. One thinks out one little idea and another improves on it, so that, as one generation succeeds the other, numberless ideas and improvements are put into use.

THE INCREMENT OF THE MACHINE

By this time the community has increased its numbers to one thousand, and the various inventions and ideas of their forefathers and of themselves have, at last, resulted in the making of a wonderful machine. This machine, together with the work of the thousand people, now produces two thousand units yearly, which looks good to the community and certainly is good.

Now, obviously, no one individual or group of individuals within the community can, in justice, lay claim to the machine which was evolved by the community as a whole. This machine is the "Social Heritage."

There are now two thousand units of commodities awaiting distribution among one thousand workers. These extra 1000 units *must* therefore be distributed equally to the whole of the community, because no one can possibly say whose particular forefathers contributed the most towards the extra units. They are the UNEARNED increment of co-operation.

THE CREDIT FIGURES

In the meantime the "reckoner" has changed his name and become known as the "bookster", and instead of shells he makes mysterious entries in books and uses elaborately enscrolled pieces of paper, which impress the workers and enable him to demand their contributions as before.

The workers now go to the "bookster" and ask him to let them have claim-symbols for the 2000 units. But, AS THEY HAVE DONE ONLY THE SAME AMOUNT OF WORK AS BEFORE and have always received symbols according to their respective share of WORK and not of the units produced, the bookster is in a quandary, and refuses to let them have more than 1000 symbols.

There are therefore 1000 units of necessities to which no one can lay claim and which cannot be distributed.

The bookster then has an inspiration. "Look here," he says, "I'll LEND you 1000 more symbols to distribute the extra 1000 units provided you keep on working and make another machine."

Although the claim-symbols cost him practically nothing, the bookster also suggests that both the old and the new machines should be handed over to him until all his symbols are repaid. The workers, who have no time for thought, as they are always working, agree.

The new machine is duly made, but the problem only gets worse, as there are now two machines producing 4000 units. The process of lending is repeated at an accelerated pace, more and more machines are made, many of the workers are not wanted, fewer symbols are earned, more and more borrowed, piles of units are rotting, and the workers are getting hungrier and hungrier.

FORESTALLED.

The workers cannot pay back all the symbols they owe. If they did they would be able to claim only a very few of the commodities. Their work and that of the machine would come to a standstill. The bookster has become the owner of the machines and the master of the workers. He has claimed the "Social Heritage," the "Unearned increment of co-operation," and the services of the community.

The workers, whom we can now call the people, being an unthinking and trustful lot, still believe the bookster to be their only guide, philosopher and friend. They come to him again and ask him what to do with the increasing surplus units, some of which they are already throwing into the sea. He advises them to sell the surpluses to the black savages just across the border.

"But," say the people "they haven't any symbols to pay us with."

INTERNATIONAL FINANCE.

"Don't bother," says the bookster, "I'll lend them some."
"But," say the people, "suppose they don't want our surpluses and refuse to borrow your symbols?"

"Then," says the bookster, "you must kill some of them and teach them what civilisation really is; after all, they are only black, uncivilised savages who don't know the value of money."

"But some of us may be killed ourselves."
"Those who are killed," replies the bookster proudly, "will die gloriously for those who remain—are there not too many of you already who cannot be fed?"

The bookster is the world's political financial system, and it has become the tyrant of the nations. It is a Frankenstein monster that out masters even its masters. They and all of us are its slaves.

There is only one way to stop the onward grinding march of this monster, and that is by the nation controlling the making of its own claim-symbols in such a manner that all the units of production shall be distributed to the people that want them.

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(Continued from page 7.)

effort more real than the pallid prayers for peace which represent the only perceptible effort made by the religious institutions.

WHAT OF THE FUTURE?

That we are upon the eve of another devastating war is perfectly obvious. That it will be worse in horrors and in slaughter than the last is equally obvious. That Institutional Christianity will make any but the feeblest of efforts to avert it is a hope unlikely of fulfilment. Since, therefore, against our wishes, we are to be plunged into a welter of destruction, let us at least realise that those in whom, by reason of our early training, we trusted for spiritual guidance, have played us false. The teaching of Christ still stands, and our betrayal by those who profess to disseminate it in His name cannot affect its eternal validity. If we must have war, let us see that God is kept out of it, and let us not attribute to His will the tortures which we are assured will be the portion of combatants and non-combatants alike. Let us see that the generals, the bankers, the armament and

munition kings, and all the hangers-on of the financial monopoly are with us in the slaughter; and when the clergy come to console our womenfolk for their husbands, sons and lovers mangled, gassed and disemboweled on the field of glory, let them be greeted with the brave words of Eleanor of Gloucester:—

"Could I come near your beauty
with my nails,
I'd set my ten commandments in
your face!"

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DAPHNE AND THE GOLD STANDARD

(Continued from page 2.)

"tickets" on which those goods could travel *where* they were wanted.

I confess that I wish Mr. Montagu Norman had been there, for my defences were inadequate, and if the Gold Standard had been really in my keeping Daphne would have captured it out of hand and probably used it as a bedspread or adapted it as an opera-cloak to match her bangles.

Then, having won the first round, she harped back on the question of the gold backing; and here again, Sir, I want your help.

Daphne says why go to a lot of trouble and expense in digging gold out of a hole in the ground in South Africa, melting it up into gold bricks and sending it by sea to London at great expense, only to put it back into another hole in the ground under the Bank of England?

Her plan is this. Let the British Government buy the Rand mines and pay for them in Government

Bonds. (She is a little vague about this transaction, but says that it could be "worked out" all right.) Then let the Government build a wall round the Rand mines and have a handsome entrance-gate labelled "Bank of England Gold Reserve—Trespassers Will Be Prosecuted," and leave it at that. Daphne says they know near enough how much gold is there (I suspect her of having read some Chairman's speech in which he flaunted his Company's hoards of unmined gold); also that they could always get the gold out if they wanted it, and know what it would cost to extract, and how long it would take, and all that.

So—according to Daphne—the Bank could allow in their house accounts for the expense of getting their gold out of hole No. 1, and reckon near enough what their net gold reserve really was without all the bother and expense of actually extracting it in dribbles from hole No. 1 and putting it back into Hole No. 2.

She says that in this way the Bank of England would have an *ever* so much larger gold reserve than they have at present, and that bank-notes, nicely backed with gold, could then be very much more

more plentiful than they are now. Daphne's real point is that she might then be able to buy bangles—or, better still, I could afford to give them to her for next birthday.

Of course I pointed out that the second scheme is altogether inconsistent with the first, but she just looked at me rather pityingly and answered, "But so are the paper and gold, darling," and didn't seem even to want to be logical. But Daphne is like that.

Can you, Mr. Punch, advise what to do about it? The textbooks don't seem to help, and Daphne is dead sure to bring the subject again.

I am, Sir,

Yours in perplexity,

J. CITIZEN!

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