

POLICE AS
ARMED
DESPERADOES
(See page 4.)

THE NEW TIMES

THE "NEW TIMES IS
OBTAINABLE AT ALL
AUTHORISED
NEWSAGENTS.

Vol. 3. No. 5.

MELBOURNE, FRIDAY, JANUARY 29, 1937.

Every Friday, 3d.



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New Times SHOPPING GUIDE and Business Directory

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(Continued on page 3.)

Mr. Menzies Turns On The Gas

More Politician's Talk About Distant Fields

BUT WHAT ABOUT HERE AND NOW?

For some weeks since he exhausted his reminiscences of his last English trip (and his dinner invitations) Mr. R. G. Menzies, Federal Attorney-General, has had little to say for public consumption. This week, however, he has returned to the news. It may or may not be significant that J. A. Lyons, the present Prime Minister; Archdale Parkhill, N.S.W. aspirant for the heir-apparancy; and R. G. Casey, the natural selection of Collins House for the job, are packing up their traps in preparation for a long sea trip. One has visions of an active campaign of publicity by R. G. Menzies in the immediate future.

Mr. Menzies, as the Bright Young Man of Australian politics, chose as his audience the bright young men of Somers Camp— young men of much the same age as the Attorney-General was in 1914. Not having availed himself of the opportunity that then offered to see the world outside Australia, Mr. Menzies apparently wishes that they should not miss a similar chance if it arises. And so the first part of his address was devoted to distant fields.

"THE FATE OF AUSTRALIA."

"The fate of Australia, he is reported as saying, "is to a large extent bound with that of England, and England's to a large extent with that of Europe. With Europe in its present condition Australians ought to be far more interested in international affairs."

We hate to seem to contradict Mr. Menzies, an accepted authority on nearly everything (except Section 92 of the Constitution). And it may well be true that, if the Australian people are so neglectful of their own affairs as to leave decisions of major policy in the hands of Mr. Menzies and his friends, our fate will be bound up with that of England and other European countries. But why should this be so? If a tidal wave swept over Europe, should we then feel constrained to put our heads in a bucket of water? What is there of our necessities, even of our luxuries, with which we could not supply ourselves if Australia were the only land above the oceans? And in so far as we do at present have, and would desire to continue friendly trade with other countries, which of them is not anxious to take our surplus production of real wealth, and to give us in return real wealth which millions of our people would gladly accept?

Why, then, this call to be internationally minded? In the first place it is illogical from Mr. Menzies personally, since he laid the foundations of his own success by resisting the temptation to take an active part in international affairs some twenty odd years ago. And in the second place the fate of Australia lies within our own continent and within our own hands.

TWO PROBLEMS.

Australia has two main problems. Problem number one is called by various names, such as unemployment, slums, education, malnutrition, and so on. In its essence it is a problem of scarcity of goods— not an absolute scarcity, but a scarcity arising from distribution being out of gear.

Problem number two is called marketing. And it is a problem of abundance, a problem of individual producers who have more of their specialised products than suffice for their personal use and who, for lack of a medium of exchange or proper accounting facilities, cannot pass these things over for other things which they do not produce but do need.

Why, in order to settle these problems, must we cast our eyes upon the ends of the earth? Such a course can do nothing but confuse the issue and blind us to the solution, which is staring us in the face

at home. There is so much to do in Australia that there is no need for any healthy person to be without a useful occupation. There is so much of labour and materials available that there is no need for any person to remain for long without a decent house to live in. The same applies to schools and hospitals where such are required. There is so much food and wool and leather available in Australia that there is not the slightest need for one solitary person in this country to be underfed or under clothed. And when all our own requirements have been satisfied there will still be sufficient over to enable us to barter the surplus for such overseas products as we cannot make or as it would not be economical (in the sense of the energy required) to produce locally.

In these few sentences lies the crux of all the so-called insoluble problems, which have been vexing our parliamentary servants for years. Some of these men are too lazy to do what is required; others are too corrupt. But the real responsibility lies with the people themselves, because they have not united to DEMAND the solution. They have, instead, allowed men like Lyons to talk about confidence (as witness his broadcast in Tasmania

LOOK OUT, MR. NASH!

Among other engagements, Mr. Nash was the guest of "The Times" directorate at a luncheon on December 17, and there had the opportunity of discussing informally recent New Zealand legislation and the Dominion's reciprocal trade proposals.

On the same day the Minister called at the Bank of England for a conference with bankers. The London representatives of New Zealand banks were among those present.

—"The Dominion," Wellington, January 14.

on the week-end) and men like Menzies to talk about international affairs. The people, if they want results, must tell these men to stop talking and DO things—or else get out and make room for those who will.

PUBLIC SERVICE.

The second part of Mr. Menzies' oration was a complaint against (1) public servants, and (2) Parliaments as at present conducted.

If by public servants Mr. Menzies means those men and women who are at present in the paid services of governments, we cannot agree with him that "the greatest need at present is for more disinterested public servants." The public services as a whole are remarkably efficient in view of their miserable rates of pay. The principal criticism we would offer against the services is the tendency within them to bureaucracy; and this is largely attributable to members of Parliament, and particularly Cabinet Ministers, being either too lazy or too incompetent to do their own jobs. The services are subject to Parliament, and if Parliament does its duty the services will do theirs.

MACHINE POLITICS

If by public servants Mr. Menzies means men and women who are prepared to serve the State, then there are plenty of such all around him. There are, for instance, excellent people who would be prepared to serve in Parliament. The principal obstacle to obtaining such people is that they

"In 30 years," he is reported to will not subscribe to machine party domination and they will not do the dirty work which parties require...which brings us to Mr Menzies remarks on Parliaments.

"In 30 years", he is reported to have said, "if conditions in the different Houses of Parliament do not change, the Governmental system, as it is, will collapse."

The Attorney General is an optimist. We don't think, under present conditions, that Australian Parliaments have the ghost of a hope of seeing out another 30 years. And it would be no advantage if they did. For Parliaments are supposed to be a mechanism for carrying out the policy of democracy. Whereas in practice they are now only a convenient smokescreen for imposing the policy of those who finance political parties. Unless we restore political democracy, it was far better to do away with this pretence so that the people might at least recognise their real rulers and hold them responsible.

In Mr. Menzies' usual shallow way, he offered no practical suggestions

for cleaning up Parliaments except to say that "ruling a country is a job for the best men." In his mind's eye, no doubt, was a looking glass— R. G. M. as Prime Minister.

We have different notions. The idea of rule by the best men is, of course, pure dictatorship. *Rule*—the setting out of policy—should come from the people. By all means get the best men as *administrators*; but that is quite a different thing.

HOW TO CLEAN UP PARLIAMENT

Parliament could be cleaned up in double quick time. And, please God, it will. A very simple recipe is required—merely that the people shall demand from those they elect the results, which they want. It is for this purpose that the United Electors of Australia are coming into action:— non-party, non-sectional, non-sectarian, to insist that Parliament makes available to all the plenty that surrounds us. When all have plenty there will be peace for all.

If Mr. Menzies will co-operate in this we don't care even if he is Prime Minister. If he won't.....

ARCHBISHOP, POTENTATE, NEWSPAPER

In connection with the part played by the London *Times* and the Archbishop of Canterbury in leading the attack on King Edward which led to his abdication without the people of Britain or the Dominions being consulted, the following biographical notes from *Social Credit* may be of interest:—

ARCHBISHOP.

Cosmo Gordon Lang, born 1864, has the distinction of having been Archbishop of York for twenty years before he became Archbishop of Canterbury in 1928.

Of him it was recently written—in the *Daily Express*: "He dislikes extremes. He has a conventional mind, anxious," it has been said, "to avoid the discussion of foundations, but always prepared to consider reforms in detail . . . usually on the side of fashionable causes . . . he goes yachting with J. P. Morgan . . . nine-tenths of his heavy schedule of work is administrative—committees, committees, committees."

In 1918 he visited the U.S.A. In 1929 he went for a four weeks' cruise on J. Pierpont Morgan's yacht, Corsair. 1931 found him yachting with Morgan again.

With Montagu Norman, he is on the governing body of *The Times*.

POTENTATE.

John Pierpont Morgan, frequently the host of the Archbishop of Canterbury, and of the Duke of York before he became King, was born in 1867.

He is the head of J. P. Morgan and Co., New York; Morgan, Grenfell and Co., London; Drexel and Co

DON'T SPEND A PENNY—

Without consulting the
"New Times" Shopping
Guide.

Philadelphia; Morgan et Cie, Paris.

The Times is so favourably disposed to him that when he came to England after the revelations of the Banking Inquiry in New York it published a leading article.

In this article it went so far, in praising Mr. Morgan's money-lending benefactions to the Allies during the war, as to hint broadly that his efforts in the counting house were at least as important as any on the battlefield.

CONSUMERS' COOPERATIVE COMPANY LTD.

(About to be formed under
Companies Act 1928)

In the last issue of the *New Times* it was announced that the prospectus, etc., would be published in this issue. As the use of the word "Co-operative" has not been allowed in the registration of the company, it is regretted that there has been an unavoidable delay pending the selection and approval of a new name.

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

ROLL UP! ! ROLL UP!
Douglas Club Younger Set will be Holding a PICNIC at the Riverview Tea Gardens, Maribymong, SUNDAY, 14th FEBRUARY, 9 a.m. onwards
Tennis, Cricket, Mixed Bathing. Boat Fare and Hall, with Piano, included in price of ticket, 2/-. Sports Programme. Prizes All Events. Bring Your Own Eats. Hot Water Provided.
Particulars, Douglas Rooms.

THE MARKETING REFERENDUM

By C. H. ALLEN.

Much is being done to arouse people to take an interest in the Marketing Referendum; the reason given for the propaganda pamphlets and many public meetings is that the people may be properly informed and so make an intelligent decision.

The case is somewhat as if there should be an attempt to so instruct every onlooker at a test match in rules of cricket about l.b.w. that in case of unusual doubt the vote of the crowd should be taken as to whether Don Bradman was "out" or not.

It is obviously not the function of the crowd to make such pronouncements; but when, in spite of what seemed a satisfactory set of rules, bodyline bowling became a menace, it was the temper of those around the arena that really forced the matter at stake to an issue.

L.b.w. decisions are a technical matter and are left to the umpire—results in the way of Wounded sportsmen were a matter about which the expression of the popular will was in order.

WE ARE NOT TECHNICIANS—BUT WE KNOW WHAT WE WANT.

That there is something wrong in our system of distributing the products of industry to those who want them will be admitted by every thoughtful person. Parliaments have made a show of grappling with the problem, and now, in the extremity of their muddle and division, they appeal to the voters to say "yes" or "no" to a complicated technical question.

No person is competent to predict with certainty what will be the exact effect of the Referendum, whichever way the vote goes; it cannot be right, therefore, to expect the electors to take on the role of arbiters.

On the other hand, very many consumers are suffering from poverty, and not a few producers are harassed by debt and a sense of insecurity. These are the actual facts, which it is the business of

electors to face up to, show their resentment, and determine to call for measures of redress. They can demand that the abundance, which is available, shall bring reward to enterprising producers and satisfaction to the consumers whose needs were in view throughout the cycle of production.

MAKE USE OF THIS WAY OF EXPRESSING YOUR WILL.

A means of making such a demand widespread and effective has been set in motion in the Abolition of Poverty Crusade, and if the time were not so short it could be demonstrated that the success of this Crusade would forestall the need) of a technical appeal like the Marketing Referendum.

There is another and a grave aspect of the situation which should not be overlooked. After this Marketing Referendum is "settled" one way or another by the vote of electors, it seems certain that some people by class will have certainly a supposed and probably a real cause for grievance because they stand to suffer unnecessary deprivations compared with the affluence which could be theirs if there were no restrictive influences upon production and distribution.

The malcontents and others may then be urged to scoff at democratic principles in the belief that democracy has failed to be effective in solving a comparatively simple problem in Government activities.

It need merely be pointed out that in a true democratic community every facility would be given to electors to formulate and express in simple terms their will or their wish for certain results, and by suitable communal machinery the responsibility for devising ways and means for obtaining those results will be saddled upon a team of men and women, each expert in their own field of activity.

WHO ARE THE BONDHOLDERS?

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

Who are the overseas bondholders? Are they, as our newspapers suggest whenever there is any talk of approaching them, that deserving class of small investor, which embraces the widow, the orphan and the retired clergyman? Even without tracing the history of international loans, this assumption hardly seems to be borne out by facts. Some thousands of millions of pounds of loans owing in Britain are already in default, but has there been any noticeable hubbub from the small investor? Or take the case of America. Britain, while holding some £200 millions of gold—a figure she has since doubled—deliberately defaulted on the interest payments in respect of her £1000 million debt to the States. So did other European countries. The United States press made a terrific outcry about this. In the case of the British default the outcry, owing to the large section of anti-British opinion in the U.S.A., was particularly long sustained and bitter. And the American newspaper specialises in the heartthrob story. Yet a careful reading of even the most bitterly anti-British journals in the States, month after month and year after year, fails to discover any procession of ruined widows and orphans.

The whole story is just one of those romances which are on a par with the other atrocity tales the daily press is always ready to invent when, desired by those who control it. For, the plain fact is that all international debts begin as bookkeeping transactions between banks.

Assume, for an illustration, that during a given period goods to the value of £10 millions are imported from Britain to Australia, and that during the same period exports from Australia to Britain amount only to £9 millions. In this country we are then said to have an unfavourable trade balance of £1 million—in other words, to owe £1 million in London.

What has happened?

All the English exporters have

been paid in sterling in England. All the Australian exporters have been paid in Australian pounds here. The buyers on both sides have paid the sellers in the sellers' own currency. The London buyer of Australian goods did this by surrendering to his local banker a portion of his bank deposit, in return for which, after deducting its charges, the bank credited him with an equivalent deposit in Australia. And vice versa in the case of the Australian merchant buying British goods.

When the final balance is struck it will be found that Australian bankers have a liability of £1 million to London bankers, this liability being offset by a similar decrease in Australian deposits—which, of course are bankers' liabilities to the public.

Many issues arise out of this, but the only one we are immediately concerned with is that the overseas debt which has arisen is due by Australian bankers, and is held in its entirety by London bankers.

In due course, by the process of taxation and loans which has been noticed in previous broadcasts, the

HONEST STANLEY.

It has been pointed out that at the beginning of his abdication day speech Mr. Baldwin said:—

"I have had but little time in which to compose a speech for delivery today, so I must tell what I have to tell truthfully, sincerely and plainly.

—"Social Credit."

Australian Governments—that is the Australian people—are saddled with the responsibility. But the debt remains a debt either to the London bankers directly or to their nominees. In most cases the nominees will be found to be other financial institutions on the boards of which the bankers are prominent, especially the insurance companies.

It has frequently and publicly been stated that ninety percent of national and international debts are held by the banks and their subsidiaries. If the statement is not true, why has it not been challenged? Why is it that so much secrecy surrounds every new loan flotation? Why do governments, of whatever political complexion, keep secret the names and addresses of bondholders? If you wish to know who are the shareholders in any public company, you have only to pay a small fee and you may inspect the register. But in the case of this, as in most other vital aspects of our national finances, you find yourself up against a blank wall. The Australian people are taxed to the tune of a million pounds a week to pay interest, but they are not allowed to know who draws the interest.

Could one imagine a more unsavoury business? Would such a thing be tolerated for one moment in any trading company? Then why is it allowed in the nation's affairs? Why are we not given full information and a proper balance sheet?

THE—

"New World"

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

MELBOURNE (Cont.)

(Continued from page 2.)

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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.

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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.)

To The Australian Broadcasting Commission.
Dear Sirs (and Madam),

After one hour with Lander on Monday night, the best part of a million listeners must have longed for One Hour with You. We understand the fee you paid to this survival of a bygone age was £625, or something over £10 a minute. In return, the public got I Love a Lassie, Roamin' in the Gloamin', and a few similar ditties which may still be found' on graphophone cylinders, together with some very humourless patter and a generous measure of wheezy, senile chuckles. Not to put too fine a point on it, the right place for the elderly Harry is on a bank or insurance board where his business acumen, thrifty instincts and store of chestnuts would have full play; as an entertainer on the live stage he would have got the bird in the first few minutes. Perhaps this is why, like our Prime Minister of late, he felt safer on the air—and it is fitting that this pair of ex-comedians should also have been brought into association through a national hook-up. For Lauder cost the taxpayers £625 for one hour; while since Lyons was appointed Prime Minister the increase in our national debt has added much the same figure to our hourly taxation bills.

The two gentlemen have other points in common. Both are having a trip round the world at the Australian taxpayers' expense; both have cultivated the loyal patter (Lauder told us, in his Jubilee sketch, how "wonderfully beautiful" poor old Queen Mary looked); both affect the pious "God bless you" manner; both have the same blithe disregard for our pockets; and both are practised in the art of beguiling its with words.

Thinking, Sirs (and Madam), of these your foster children remind us of matters more intimately connected with yourselves.

(1) You are doubtless aware that the broadcasting tax (otherwise known as a listeners' licence fee) is, in view of your buoyant revenues, a subject of much present discontent. You must be aware that this tax, being at a flat rate, falls far more heavily upon the poor than upon those more comfortably off. How, then, in opposing any reduction in the tax, can you possibly justify what, to call it by its prettiest name, is an almost incredible generosity to such a fifth rate performer as Lauder is today? The sum you are reported to have paid him for one hour taken from his holiday is equivalent to what a beneficent Government allots as

a total living allowance to keep 68 children of the unemployed for a full year. Do you consider that fair?

(2) While you show yourself ready to allot an hour from the time of all national stations to what at best could only have been a burlesque, how do you reconcile this with your unwillingness to make any provision of time at all, and at no fee, for other matters of much greater moment and interest? As a case in point, it was indicated in the daily press last week that G. S. Carruthers, of the Tasmanian House of Assembly, has been refused the courtesy of a broadcasting session over the Hobart national station. Tasmania is about to have its State elections, and though Mr. Carruthers technically has no following in the House, his position is one of particular interest to many. As the instigator and chairman of a Select Committee whose remarkable and unanimous report on monetary questions was signed by members of all parties, as an Independent member whose casting vote in an evenly balanced House has given him unusual influence, and as a man whose well-balanced and judicial mind has earned him a considerable esteem, his review of the last Parliament and his summing up of future prospects would be listened to with respect by a far wider circle than those who live in his actual electorate.

The view is frequently advanced that if the Australian Broadcasting Commission's revenue were derived only from those who listen in to its programmes, if it were possible to put meters on wave lengths as on other gas pipes, the national stations would soon be out of business. We don't know if this be so, though we do assert that no private theatrical enterprise could for long sponsor such expensive rubbish as the Lauder fiasco and keep out of the bankruptcy court.

On more general issues we suggest you might keep before yourselves that you are the servants and not the masters of the public, and that you are emphatically not the servants of any political party, no matter who may have appointed you. If you care to canvass public opinion (which we submit it is your duty constantly to do) we believe you would find a widespread opinion that you incline strongly towards U.A.P. bias both in what you broadcast and in what you suppress; and a still more widespread belief that in your expenditure of public funds you act as though you were owners instead of trustees.

THE NEW TIMES



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FRIDAY, JANUARY 29, 1937.

Making Armed Desperadoes of the Police

The Melbourne *Herald* of last Saturday evening, under the heading, "Shots Fired At Fugitive," published the following report:—

"Two shots were fired late this afternoon by the police at a man who ran out of an hotel in Montague Street, South Melbourne.

"Two constables, who were on duty to detect illegal betting, saw 20 or 30 men move from a lane at the back of the hotel into the building. The police followed the men into the bar.

"They were making towards a man, who, when he saw them approaching, ran out of the hotel and down Montague Street.

"Pursued by the police, the fugitive did not heed a challenge to stop, and two shots were fired after him. He kept running, and, turning into Buckhurst Street, made towards the river and escaped."

If this report is accurate, the facts of the case would appear to be that the police used firearms in their endeavour to arrest a man suspected to be guilty of a technical betting offence. Starting price betting is purely a technical illegality, since racecourse betting is perfectly legal, the difference between the two being only that the one pays a tax and the other dodges it.

A pretty pass we have come to if this sort of thing is to be permitted. The logical sequel will be to arm income tax clerks, ticket inspectors, and all others in similar positions, and to allow them to have pot shots at suspected scalers.

It used to be said, and with some justice, that our laws were applied with far more severity towards

those who offended against property than towards those who offended against the person. We are now, it seems, reaching the stage when it may be a capital offence to transgress a taxation impost—for that is all that our betting legislation is.

And as half our total taxation goes to pay interest to bondholders on money that the nation should issue instead of borrowing, that portion of the taxes, at least, is sheer robbery. It comes to this, then, that the police are being used as armed desperadoes working for financial highwaymen.

Disgusting

"Loyalty"

One would have thought, after the showing up they got last month, that those who, in the past, have made a catch cry of "loyalty" in this community would have the shame to keep quiet at least until a short-memored public had time to forget a little of what then passed. However, the week has brought to light two new outbursts of patriotism, which should be recorded for reference.

The first comes from Melbourne's City Council, which has decided to present every school in its area with a framed picture of the new King and Queen. This is the identical body, which traitorously shut the Town Hall doors upon its citizens and refused to hire them the building for a demonstration of genuine loyalty—not the picture frame variety—when the present King's brother was their lawful and constitutional Sovereign. We don't remember whether the City Council distributed pictures of King Edward on his accession, but if they did it is to be presumed that such, like those of his successor, were charged up to the city's taxpayers. Lip loyalty rarely penetrates as far as the pocket.

The second instance of perfervid patriotism comes from the *Argus*. Discussing the failure of the Labor party to send representatives to the Coronation, it said in its editorial last Friday: "This, on the face of it, is such a breach of courtesy toward the immediate hosts, and indirectly towards the Throne itself, that a full and convincing explanation might reasonably be expected."

The Throne itself—with a capital T and all! Shades of Edward!

Mr. Curtin is Praised By the Argus"

In support of our criticism of Labor leader Curtin last week (and earlier) the *Argus* editorial just referred to is worth quoting further.

Promises of support for the United Electors of Australia are being received by the *New Times* in such numbers that for the moment it is impossible to reply promptly to every individual. Correspondents whose letters have not yet been acknowledged are asked kindly to accept this notification that their offers are being forwarded to those temporarily acting in each centre, pending the full organisation being completed.

Those who intend to offer assistance and who have not yet done so are asked to forward their offers as soon as possible. The greater the number of volunteers known to be ready in each area, the sooner the organisation can be efficiently established in those areas.

Every mail is bringing in its sheaf of signed pledged forms. We cannot receive too many of these, and we would again counsel those who have already signed personally that they should use the form appearing on this page every week to secure at least one new signature from amongst their friends.

Extra Pledge Forms. —Supplies of these will be available in a few days and will be forwarded to those who have requested them. Other publicity matter is being prepared to assist voluntary workers by setting out as simply and as fully as possible the case for the complete abolition of poverty from Australia.

Funds. —The costs of printing and of other matters connected with the organisation are being borne by the usual band of enthusiasts who seem fated always to foot such bills, and our readers are reminded that every shilling put into the fighting fund means another bullet to fire against destitution. All contributions received will be accounted for in duly audited statements.

"It is recorded," said the *Argus*, "that Mr. Curtin expressed 'personal' regret that neither he nor the deputy leader (Mr. Forde) would be able to go. . . . Of Mr. Curtin's personal courtesy there can be no question. Indeed, there seems to be much significance in the statement that he expressed 'personal' regret when announcing finally that his party would not be represented at the Coronation. Perhaps it is not going too far to surmise that he, as a loyal and estimable citizen of the Empire, deprecates strongly a conjunction of circumstances which makes it impossible for the leading men of an important political party to represent it on a great Imperial occasion and also impossible for lesser men of the party to take their places."

Far be it from us to throw out any hints to those who still pin their faith in party action. But, by Heaven, if we were numbered amongst them, and particularly if we remembered a history ornamented with such names as Cook, Pearce, Hughes and Lyons (to turn over but a few pictures in the gallery) we should feel desperately uncomfortable to find the *Argus*, of all papers, referring to our fighting leader in terms of "personal courtesy" and "a loyal and estimable citizen of the Empire."

THE UNITED ELECTORS OF AUSTRALIA (Non-Party) Organisation Work Proceeding in Various States

Further reports to hand include:

VICTORIA.

There will be a meeting of all those prepared to assist personally or financially on next Monday evening, February 1, at 8 o'clock, in the Central Hall, 203 Little Collins Street, Melbourne (next Victoria Coffee Palace). The main purpose of this meeting will be to make final arrangements for the bigger meeting a week later at which the Victorian campaign will be publicly launched. All persons interested are asked to accept this as a personal invitation.

A most heartening indication in Victoria is the enthusiasm being displayed towards the campaign by members of different reform organisations, which have, hitherto been more engaged in controversy between themselves than in mutual cooperation.

NEW SOUTH WALES

As in Victoria, the preliminary organising work is being pushed ahead with great vigour.

In the Watson electorate a strong committee has been set up to organise the Watson Division of the U.K.A.

Similar action has been taken in Parramatta, where a very representative meeting was held on January 20.

Further organising work is proceeding in other Federal electorates.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

The following report is to hand from our Adelaide correspondent:

The Campaign in South Australia is taking on with more vigour and determination, and rapidly gaining that new blood which is so necessary for any organisation of this type.

Last Tuesday night at Headquarters a representative gathering of all the groups in the Boothby Division met and decided to form a Boothby Secretariat, which will consist of the leader and secretary of each group, the object being to coordinate and co-operate in getting the electorate efficiently and rapidly canvassed. This, of course, is in accordance with the principle of individual responsibility.

Likely Visit of Mr. D. M. Sherwood. —Negotiations are in hand with Mr. C. Barclay-Smith, who is managing the Australian tour of Mr. Sherwood, who, as everybody is aware, was working for the Electoral Campaign in Great Britain before his visit to New Zealand, where he has so ably assisted the Movement. Mr. Sherwood is a Chartered Accountant and a man of great ability, and desires to assist this State in any way that he may.

Will those branches which would like to organise a public meeting to hear Mr. Sherwood on the Electoral Campaign, if and when it can be arranged, please notify the Campaign Director at the earliest possible moment?

Likely New Group at Saint Peters. —In response to a request on behalf of a large number of Saint Peters citizens, the Campaign Director is arranging to address citizens with the object of establishing a group in this district, and if the usual result attains, Saint Peters should be well in hand in a few weeks.

Victory Fund. —Do not forget what we told you last week re this fund, for upon your promise to subscribe we have committed our-

selves to additional expenditure, and although we allowed a marginal difference we still ask for everybody to strain every nerve to make good their promises. The attainment of our objective is a full and free life to all, and the non-attainment of it means stagnation and death to millions; so we send out an appeal to all again to put their shoulder to the wheel and let us get the good work going.

The same remarks apply to those people also who are subscribers to the Broadcasting Fund. Shall we continue to broadcast? Shall we continue our broadcasting sessions? or shall we cease to make use of the ether to carry our message to the thousands whose assistance we require? We shall judge your answer by your results.

Notice to Weekly Subscribers. — Will all those who are subscribing to the funds collected previously by Mr. J. W. Gordon, late Field Organiser, please continue to make their subscriptions to the new collectors and give them every assistance? The Director of Finance wishes to thank you for your co-operation in the past in anticipation of your co-operation in the future.

Competition. — An interesting competition is being held at Headquarters, 17 Waymouth Street, Adelaide, from which you can get further particulars. The entrance fee is 1/- and the prize is a valuable electric clock, complete with alarm, cord, etc., valued at £5 and donated by Mr. Allen.

Referendum. —All who are interested in the coming Referendum are advised to read the January issue of the *South Australian Wheatgrower*. The Editor of this paper has excelled himself in the presentation of the true position, which Electors are asked to face. Copies of the *Wheatgrower* can be obtained from this office at 3d per copy.

CENSORSHIP

It would be a travesty of British facts not to say roundly that there was "the heaviest possible British censorship emanating from official quarters last week." Actually this never ceased. Before, during and since the crisis, no London newspaper has seen fit to print anything seriously embarrassing to his Majesty's Government. By printing the clowning jibes of G. B. Shaw and the earnest expostulations of H. G. Wells an appearance of non-censorship was being maintained at latest reports. This enhanced the effectiveness of a general "smothering campaign" which was an excellent thing in some respects. If the Duke and Mrs. Simpson can be minimised, belittled or extinguished from English minds, the Duke and his problematical Duchess can soon come back to England and live more or less happily ever after. In preparing the docile minds of English newspaper readers for this, London's *Sunday Referee* printed very quietly in deed that "soon after the Coronation" next May the Duke will have returned to reside at Fort Belvedere, bringing with him "his wife." As though it were the most natural thing in the world, the *Sunday Referee* mentioned in passing that the Duke told his servants before leaving England that they could have their jobs back in less than a year. "For a part of every year," firmly insisted the *Sunday Referee*, "he hopes to lead the homely life of an English country gentleman at Belvedere."

—Time, Dec. 28.

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THE SANE DEMOCRACY LEAGUE, KING EDWARD, AND THE "NEW TIMES"

"The Edifice of Empire Remained Unshaken, to the Admiration of a Spell-bound World"

A correspondent has drawn our attention to the January issue of *Sane Democracy*, the organ of the Sane Democracy League of Australia. As this Sydney body may not be familiar to others of our readers than those who reside in New South Wales, a word of introduction may not be amiss. The Sane Democracy League professes, amongst other things, to be strictly non-party. In practice it is strictly non-Labor.

Included in its printed list of "beefs" is that the League "should demand unswerving loyalty to Empire." Exactly how the two conceptions of "Empire" and "Democracy" are to be reconciled is not explained.

But what appears to have accounted for the major activities of the Sane Democracy League since its inception is set out (or camouflaged) in Belief No. 7, as follows:

"That monetary policy has proved, especially in the last few years, such potent influence for good or evil that it is essential that monetary policy should be sanely controlled by the interests of the whole community." Glancing over this clause for the first time, the unsuspecting reader would probably incline to agree with it—"potent influence for good or evil . . . sanely controlled in the interests of the whole community." He might tend to shy off a little at the idea of policy being controlled in the interests of instead of directly by the people, which would just as easily fit in with the conceptions of Hitler or Stalin (or Montagu Norman) as with democracy. Still, he would probably not quibble at what he might consider, at the worst, an indefinitely worded phrase.

A little closer knowledge of the League would soon undeceive him. For the Sane Democracy League of Sydney is a blood brother to the League for the Maintenance of Sound Monetary Conditions which mysteriously popped up in Melbourne just before the last Federal elections, and to similar bodies elsewhere which betray their paternity by the use of such qualifying terms as "sane" and "sound." In other words, they are amongst the nondescript progeny of "sane" finance, which means the dictatorship over the people of private financiers and the perpetuation of our backbreaking load of national debt and taxation.

"THE TRIUMPH OF OUR DEMOCRACY."

The January issue of *Sane Democracy* begins with an editorial entitled, "The Triumph of Our Democracy." After asserting that, in spite of Defence of

the Realm Acts, censorship and what not, British democracy came through the last war "bloodied but unbowed," the editor goes on to mention the reshuffle of British kings which has just taken place, or, as he terms it, "a constitutional crisis such as no other empire in the history of civilisation has been called upon to face." Marveling at what transpired, he relates how "the edifice of Empire remained unshaken, to the admiration of a spell-bound world."

Spell-bound seems the right word, and it is even more appropriately applied to the British people themselves, who, overwhelmingly against the ramp, nevertheless accepted it like dumb puppets.

Running on through a denunciation of J. T. Lang, Oswald Mosley (whose only "redeeming feature is his good work during the war"), the Friends of the Soviet Union, Jock Garden, Senator Rae, "Bondy" Hoare, the No-Conscription Fellowship and sundry, others. *Sane Democracy* again comes back to the King issue. And here one finds its first kind word for Labor. "The British Labor party preserved its dignity." So it did, to such an extent that it found itself running cheek by jowl with the *Times* and similar mouthpieces of "sound" finance and "sane" democracy. Not so, however, with Lang Labor. "In Australia, Mr. J. T. Lang's newspaper and those whose opinion it represents have been accusing the British Cabinet and British Capital of being conspirators against the late King because he had been 'too democratic.' Mosley and his Fascists assume the same attitude."

MILD COMPARED WITH THE "NEW TIMES."

Sane Democracy then proceeds to rope in the *New Times*: "But even the *Labor Daily's* and the Fascists' rants seem mild when compared with what the *New Times*, a Douglas Credit paper published in Melbourne, has to say." After describing the front page of our issue of December 11, *Sane Democracy* continues: "Elsewhere in the paper are articles in somewhat similar vein. Edward VIII is represented as a Douglasite martyr being cast into the lion's den by bankers, Jews and members of the British Cabinet. The Douglas Credit movement hitherto seemed to be not much concerned about the existence of a King. But when the nation found itself faced by a critical situation, when equanimity and level-headedness were essential, the Douglasites raised a cry of hysterical protest. Not that it necessarily mattered to them who was King. Simply, there

was a chance to be sensational, and so the Douglasites, and the Mosleyites, and the Langites made what they conceived to be the most of it." We are not concerned here to notice the willful misrepresentations in the wording above, nor the attempt to bracket the *New Times* with Lang and Mosley. What we are concerned with is the charge that a frank discussion of what was afoot early in December should be termed hysteria, and that what was called for was "equanimity and level-headedness." *Sane Democracy*, in spite of meandering around the subject, and accepting as a triumph for democracy that "the edifice of Empire remained unshaken," has had not a single word of discussion upon the issues involved. It must therefore be taken to interpret "equanimity and level-headedness" as meaning silence; and the democracy it stands for is evidently the acceptance by the electors of any policy which may be imposed upon them by a bureaucratic, hush-hush Cabinet.

WHAT AN ENGLISH PAPER SAID.

Since the first stage of the constitutional crisis (for we believe it to be the first stage only) was settled by the displacement of Edward in favour of his brother, we have followed with very great interest comments in many newspapers

The same victim is marked down for a holocaust, the workingman the ordinary citizen. The same leeches are anxious to drain the nation's life-blood and energy, the debt-merchants who have had us by the throat since 1689."

The editorial then goes on to discuss at length, from a religious aspect, Edward's proposed marriage, and to conclude uncompromisingly: "Many millions of devout non-Catholics would, like us, regard it as a disaster, an adulterous union." But—"We scarcely need to add: *de internis non judicat lex*; the law does not deal with a man's subjective view of things, but with objective fact and obligation. The King may not be conscious of obligations which we Catholics recognise."

Turning then to the constitutional question: "We should not be absolved from our allegiance if, contrary to all we long for and pray for, the King persisted . . . He would still be our King. We should owe him allegiance, obedience, respect for his office and for his leadership in civil matters. It is not too much to say that he might be a good King even though he became to us an erring man . . ."

"**BOWING TO DICTATORSHIP**" "Parliament has lamely surrendered its rights to Government departments, and it is now tamely bowing to the

kingly spirit. The people admire him for it, and want to see him do more of such work as he did in South Wales. . . ."

WHAT OF THE OPPOSITION?

"The Labor Opposition is once more being pulled by the nose. The Labor Party obviously do not know what it is all about, and they throw bouquets at the Government and Baldwin in a way that makes them look ludicrous.

"It has always been said that these gentry, these money-lenders, are the ones who contribute to the secret Party Funds of all Parties, and that they are the ones who oppose any auditing of the secret funds because their little game would be discovered. Can that be the reason why there is never any opposition to schemes, which affect the moneylenders, no matter who is in power? There is certainly no effort being made by Labor at this critical juncture to repay the King for all that he has done for the labouring classes . . ."

"Everything goes to show that the whole game has been fixed up as neatly as ever it was in the past. The biggest money ramp since 1689 is in progress, a bigger one than that which gave us 'National' government for the first time, and the representatives of the working classes have got such a 'shock-and-scandal' complex that they are helping it on."

"L'ETAT, C'EST NOUS."

Compare the above extracts, which are typical of a long, fair and well-reasoned article, with the flagrant dishonesty of *Sane Democracy*, which can write: "*L'etat c'est moi*, said Louis XIV. *L'etat, c'est nous*, says British Democracy, with the full concurrence of its King."

L'etat, c'est nous—We are the State. What opportunity was given to British democracy or to Australian democracy to voice, much less to assert its views? Yet this is what the Sane Democracy League hails as worthy of "the admiration of a spell-bound world." Who now is ranting?

It is an old trick of the wolf to don the sheepskin. This is the year of Federal elections. And we have no doubt that it will be marked by a lot more wolfish bleating from the Sane Democracy League, alias the Money Power.

The Scots Want to Know More

In Scotland, where optimism is unfashionable, able editors were doubtfully convinced last week that the press has not seen the last of the non-gossip features of the Edward and, Mrs. Simpson story. Its gossip aspects last week were just bursting into brightest bloom.

In the Glasgow and Edinburgh view, history will soon begin to record that altogether too many subjects of King George VI are altogether too unsatisfied with what little they know about how Prime Minister Stanley Baldwin secured the abdication and departure of King Edward.

The fact that Edward VIII had apparently quit, and was even being called contemptuously a "quitter" last week, failed to appease the patient resolve of Scotsmen to know all, sooner or later. The adjournment of the House of Commons in London last week was welcomed by Scottish constituents as an opportunity to get their Scottish M.P.'s on the carpets of their homes during the Christmas holidays and make them come clean. About results of this discreet procedure the Scottish press will speak in its own time, tersely.

—Time, Dec. 28.



I. — Where Is the Pea?

which we have received from Britain, from all the Dominions, and from the United States. Some of these newspapers are the organs of parties, some of denominations; some are more or less independent. Of them all, we desire most to bring before the Sane Democracy League an editorial in the London *Catholic Times* of December 11.

We select this paper because it is published in England, because it has a wide circulation and influence, because it is definitely non-party, and because, obviously, it is a strenuous opponent of divorce. Even the Sane Democracy League could hardly term its views rant or hysteria.

The *Catholic Times* editorial would take up over a page of this paper, and therefore cannot be quoted in its entirety. But it begins: "Graver issues than the King's marriage are involved in the King's marriage . . . Something is being attempted in this country, which calls for the pen of a Cobbett to lay it bare. 1689 is here again. The same forces are in antagonism, the King and the Plutocracy.

dictatorship of the Cabinet on a matter which profoundly affects the right of the nation to settle the terms of holding the nation's highest office. . . .

"Is the objection a constitutional one? Then give us the proof that the King of England must resign if the lady to whom he proposes to unite himself does not please the Cabinet. . . ."

"Nor have the people spoken. Let nobody delude himself, as the 'respectability-minded' members of the Cabinet are deluding themselves, that the King's proposal is so 'shocking' that the people will back them to the extremity of enforcing his abdication, if he persists in it. If this issue is fairly and squarely put before the people we prophesy that they will be more adamant against forcing him to abdicate than they are against his proposed union . . ."

"The people will want to know why the King had to go to South Wales to bring home the human claims of the suffering people there to a Cabinet lost in the ethics and economics of 'big business.' In his genuine solicitude for the poor Edward VIII has the true

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.....

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

JUDGE BEEBY'S LATEST

II.

A Letter to the Editor from BRUCE H BROWN

Sir,

It has been said to me that my last week's criticism of the Federal Arbitration Court was rather on the strong side, and I replied that that was exactly what it was intended to be. To me, the most surprising feature of the court and its work is the attitude of Mr. Crofts, Mr. Monks, and other gentlemen representing the unions in taking knock after knock without telling the members of the unions the real reason for their repeated failures. It is no use beating about the bush, and unless Australia's financial arrangements are altered it is quite impossible for the unions to succeed. The banks manipulate the quantity of money in existence, and the court manipulates the wages according to this quantity of money. This explains why, despite the marvellous increases in production, the workers are actually worse off than they were away back in 1907. Their representatives have never tackled the question of money—the very core of the problem; neither have the judges of the Arbitration Court nor the members of the several Parliaments.

THE COURT ON SPENDING POWER

As to the court, you may judge for yourselves. Dealing with "spending power", it expressed itself as follows: "The proceeds from the sale of its products... constitute the only purchasing or spending power that can be derived from industry, even if nothing were taken by the employer or landlord or capitalist, and everything were taken as wages by the wage-earners. If by awards of this court we could effectively raise wages so as to transfer the whole profits, rent, and interest to the wage earners, we would not increase purchasing power but would only transfer it. Conversely, when wages are reduced there is a transfer of spending power from those employees who suffer the reduction, but there is no reduction in the aggregate spending power."

What do you make of that? It was an explanation that industry could distribute only what it could get, and that the court could not increase the quantity of money. All that it could do was to parcel out or transfer the quantity available.

Well, supposing that we accept the view of the judges and regard them as mere apportionment clerks, what is it that industry really needs—more buyers or fewer buyers? An increase in wages transfers the means of purchase from the comparatively

few employers to the comparatively many workers, whereas a reduction of wages transfers the means of purchase from the comparatively many to the comparatively few. The latter is what the court ordered, with the result that unemployment increased alarmingly, poverty spread in all directions, bankruptcies were more than doubled, suicides became much more numerous, the marriage rate declined, and the general conditions became more and more chaotic. All this happened because the people who use their money were given less to use, and the number having no money to use was increased. Obviously that was a great thing for business! So great, in fact, that within 18 months of the court's decision unemployment increased by 250 per cent, and this notwithstanding the announcement that the court had robbed the workers so as to provide the employers with more money to spend on employment!

TELLING THE PEOPLE A LIE.

The court also said that "the total amount of spending power of a community at any moment is therefore equivalent to its supply of commodities or services which at the moment are able to find buyers . . . The spending power of each class of industry is derived only from the sale by it of its products or services, and could not be more than that amount if the employers received nothing." This says nothing at all about what buyers buy with or how the quantity of the stuff they buy with is increased or decreased. It means that if people have money and do not spend it they are not "buyers", and that consequently their money is not spending power! It also means that the position would be the same in regard to spending power if the employer took everything and gave his employees nothing!

It is quite true, of course, that the different classes of industry do obtain their incomes from the sale of their products, but it is also true that more and more of them must go bankrupt if fewer and fewer people have money to spend. To be successful they must, as the judges have admitted, find buyers, and buyers are people who want things and have the money to pay for them. At present there are millions of people in Australia who badly need things but have not the money to pay for them. For this state of affairs the banks are directly responsible, but the judges of the Arbitration Court have aided them by cutting wages, and the members of

the Federal Parliament have treasonably remained silent while the same bankers usurped the functions of Government, and told the people the lie that their income must depend on the sale of their goods in other countries. The court appears to have accepted this lie, and now Judge Beeby is retailing it.

THE JUDGES' STRANGE SILENCE

The plain and inescapable fact is that all movements of the day are diverting the money circulation from the many to the few, and the court has done nothing at all to check it. The very reverse is the case. No honest person could any longer deny that the only shortage in Australia is a shortage of Australian money, and that, in the main, Australian money consists entirely of figures in books and pieces of paper. No honest person could any longer deny that it is only the absence of these figures and pieces of paper that stands between the community and better wages, better hospitals, better roads, better education, better health, better homes and better service of all kinds. On this all-important point, however, the judges of the Arbitration Court have been strangely silent, and it has become necessary for us as a people not only to concern ourselves with the distribution of Australian money in Australia, but more urgently and emphatically to demand that Parliament shall see to the regular provision of Australian money for all Australian needs.

CASEY'S BOGEY

Mr. R. G. Casey, Commonwealth Treasurer, brings forward the old bogey that an increase in the quantity of money would be inflation. This bogey has been used in the past with good effect, and the community has been frightened off fruit trees by a scarecrow. Inflation occurs only when prices are increased to deprive us of the benefits of the additional money. If we use the money to bridge the gap between the producer and the consumer we place in the hands of the people who use their money the wherewithal to secure additional goods, and this is what industry urgently needs in order to "find buyers." The additional figures which would be written in the money books at the bank would scientifically readjust the difference between the rate of the flow of prices and the rate of the flow of money to the community. Under existing practices, prices are generated faster than money is distributed, and this is the crux of the problem.

All the academic talk in the world, and all the ponderous pronouncements of elderly men in judicial positions will not dispose of the fact, that, under the present private banking control of the creation and cancellation of money, the amount of money distributed to meet the amount of prices on the goods for sale is increasingly insufficient. Consequently, until he is ready to face up to this actuality it were better for Judge Beeby to remain silent about "the future of Western Civilisation", for unless it is faced up to, Western Civilisation is doomed.

THE ROMANCE ABOUT "NATIONAL INCOME"

When the court gave its judgment in 1933 refusing to discontinue the 10 per cent cut it went out of its way to explain how the National Income had fallen, how foreign buyers were unable to pay former prices, and how the rest of Australia had to have their income reduced to the level of those engaged in farming and mining—i.e., because one section had suffered a reverse in income, a compulsory and arbitrary reverse had necessarily to be imposed on all the other sections. Not a word was said about the fact that although the foreign buyers were paying less they were getting a far greater volume of Australian goods, and that the total "value" of this larger volume was not as much below the value of former years as the public had been led to believe. It will therefore help us to understand the part played by the court in perpetuating the swindle against

THE MARTYR SHORTAGE

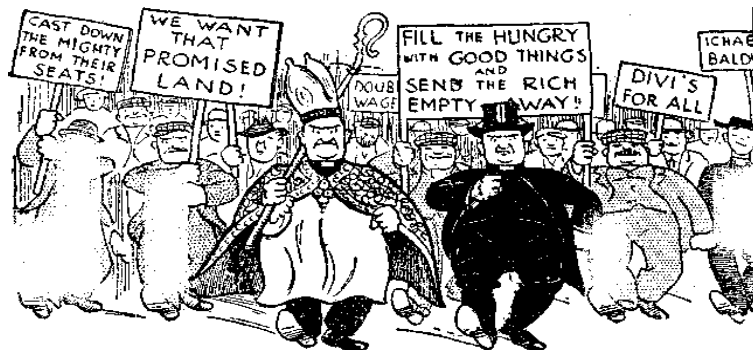
By YAFFLE, in "Reynolds News."

The subject of my discourse is The Martyr's Crown, and my text will be found in the recent remark of the Bishop of Chelmsford:—

"Life is too easy in this country, particularly in regard to religion. We have all become complacent, self-satisfied, easy-going, smug and flabby . . . History shows that persecution has never done religion any harm . . . It would be better here if somebody started persecuting us, and went round shooting a few of us—bishops included."

Delicately nurtured in an atmosphere of aesthetic sensibility, I deplore anything in the nature of a mess, and the sight of a bumped-off bishop invariably puts me off my lunch. Nevertheless, in the interests of religious revival, I will endeavour to master these inhibitions. In this country, however, there are impediments to effective religious persecution. There have been periods when the mass-production of martyrs was a staple industry, and executioners, working overtime on a piece-rate basis, might be seen pulling parsons limb from limb, with the indifference born of daily habit, murmuring absently the while, "She loves me, she loves me not . . ."

But fashions in entertainments change, and bishop baiting has now been added to the list of forgotten sports of the past. Today, the controversies, which move men to violent action, are purely secular, and men who, in loyalty to their principles, will gladly plough a furrow into the soil, will hesitate even before knocking a curate's hat off.



It Should Be Easy For The Church To Achieve Persecution.

In religious matters we have acquired a lamentable tolerance, and few men will extend their anti-clerical sentiments beyond the point of placing a banana skin on the pulpit stairs, or attending evensong in yesterday's collar.

Even the toughest egg who ever pushed a policeman off the parapet will hesitate to bust a bishop on the beezer or kick a canon on the cush. And the most agnostic rural district councils have dropped the old English custom of roasting a rector whole upon the village green.

WHAT FOR?

If, therefore, the clergy want us to persecute them, they must tell us what we are to persecute them for. If a parson stops me in the street, and says, "Excuse me, sir but I am too flabby," my normal reaction would be to show him a few Swedish exercises. Personally, I will bash no bishop and manhandle no minister until he has made out a case.

Moreover, if we did decide to do

the community if we review what took place regarding the National Income, and I hope to write on that aspect next week. In the meantime, the workers of Australia might ask themselves where Dr. Page gets his grounds for the following statement relating to the forthcoming referendum—viz., "On the marketing issues, there is a widespread belief that the organised marketing of primary production to protect the farmer is a natural corollary to the protection of the manufacturer by the tariff, and of the wage-earner by the Arbitration system." In what way has the court "protected" the worker? The worker's production has gone up but his living standards have gone down.

Yours faithfully,

BRUCE H. BROWN

a spot of persecuting, we know what particular parsons to paste. Nowadays, what society demands of the Church is guidance for behaviour in private and public affairs. And in these matters the clergy display wide differences in their interpretations of holy writ.

For instance, two archbishops recently made a pronouncement regarding the Christian's attitude to war. They gave us one view Canon Sheppard gives us another. One section holds that the meek shall inherit the earth; the other says "Not while the other fellow's got a gun." One says, "Resist not evil"; the other says, "On the contrary threaten to bomb his civilians."

One section of the clergy will forbid a man to marry a divorced woman, but will permit him, on occasions, to blow up any number of women, irrespective of matrimonial experience. Others exactly reverse this order of permission.

This is not, strictly speaking Schism, for it concerns morals, not theology; nevertheless, it borders upon Schlemmle.

True, the clergy are united in some matters of behaviour. They all agree, for example, that it is wrong to throw the baby on the fire. But many of them will, in specified circumstances, permit you, their blessing, to get into an aeroplane and throw fire on the baby."

"DO UNTO ONE ANOTHER"

In view of these wide differences

regarding the practical application of Christian principles, it might be advisable, pending the public's hesitation, to encourage the clergy to persecute each other and make sure of it.

But at this point a difficult problem arises. Believing that persecution benefits a movement, both sections will wish to be persecuted. When a member of one section bares his bosom to the oppressor's knife, and says, "Strike!" the other will reply, "No, you strike!" and bare his bosom also. And the result of this mutual bosom baring will be fruitless deadlock.

There seems only one way out of the difficulty. If the clergy refuse to persecute each other, and the public holds back, it must be done by the State. History suggests that persecution is only effective when it is State-controlled. This should be simple. There are plenty of questions on which the Church could oppose the State.

It might, for instance, inaugurate a movement for filling the hungry with good things and sending the rich empty away (Luke i., 53) The Cabinet and the City would then readily combine to make the path of the clergy less easy-going and cause even the flabbiest to de flab.

In 1926 the then Archbishop got ticked off by the Cabinet for demanding a square deal for tin miners. He accepted his off-tick and a good opportunity for persecution was lost. But the miners still lack one or two little things. Why not have another go? There are plenty of martyrs' crowns in stock in all sizes.

The Church must, I repeat, let us know what it wants to be persecuted for. Pending such decision we stand expectantly, with our bad eggs poised and our pea-shooters at the ready.

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“BALDWIN THE MAGNIFICENT”

The figure cut by Britain's Prime Minister over Edward's abduction, as seen by the American journal *Time*. It will be remembered that *Time*, on account of its well-informed frankness, was constantly censored in Britain until Mr. Baldwin and his coconspirators were ready to let the British public in on the "crisis." The article below is reprinted from *Time* of December 21.

"Not only did the Prime Minister show himself a great Minister of the Crown, but the whole British people displayed a moral force," said *Le Temps*, of Paris, last week. "This test, which was very perilous, has magnificently confirmed the value of British institutions!"

Even Stanley Baldwin's warmest enemy, sanctions-badgered Benito Mussolini, was enough of a Great Editor last week to agree that the Prime Minister had been great in handling the Empire crisis of Edward VIII. Il Duce dictates daily the tone of Italy's press and the following handsome admission in *Giornale d'Italia* might have been tagged *To Stanley from Benito*: "Prime Minister Baldwin has served the interests of his country worthily by facing the painful but necessary battle to separate, even up to extreme consequences, Edward's private life from the duties that are his toward the Empire."

The way in which Squire Baldwin did this in the House of Commons was intensely moving, mellow and dramatic without melodrama, in fact it was magnificent.

SQUIRE AND THE SALESMAN

Here was Mr. Baldwin, the massive Victorian figure of a John Bull who has not a nerve in his body, who reads the newspapers as little as a statesman can nowadays, who simply will not use the telephone in international crisis — because one never knows who is listening — and is, in short, a middle-class English company director who never went out to make a sale in his life. Here, on the other hand, it was the "Empire Salesman," the ever-young and helpful crowned head. In him Britain had invested millions to build up Edward as Heaven's gift to the masses and to British trade — not to mention women of both hemispheres. Could this investment last week be saved? If not, could the liquidation be accomplished without impairing the Royal Family's immense goodwill dating from Queen Victoria? Could humdrum Mr. Baldwin keep steady and do his awful duty while narrow Downing Street echoed to such cries as God Save the King — from Baldwin! FLOG BALDWIN! FLOG HIM!! WE — WANT — EDWARD!! !! The last man in the world whom such cries could disconcert is Mr. Baldwin, and the last woman is Mrs. Baldwin.

"MY LIPS ARE SEALED."

Mrs. Baldwin says she "knows that the inscrutable hand of Providence guides" her husband, and Mr. Baldwin is not alone in thinking she is right. He was last week the absolutely ideal Prime Minister to weather an English crisis by applying precisely those qualities of bulldog smugness, which have strewn his career in foreign affairs with disaster after disaster and are today threatening to gum the works of British rearmament and imperil the Empire. Again and again Mr. Baldwin has told the House of Commons that "my lips are sealed" until this has become a 1936 British byword for hypocrisy. Came last week, however, the Supreme Crisis in which the curiosity of the world had to be kept unsatisfied day after agonising day if good, great Mr. Baldwin was to wear down and tame his passionate and obstinate King Emperor. In his own time, and it seemed an outrageously long time, Mr. Baldwin, who is 69, last week entirely tamed a Sovereign of 42, recalling him to that state of dignity minus which a King Emperor is not worth to Great Britain the millions per year he costs, and securing his abdication.

TRUTHFUL AS A BANK PRESIDENT

How he did this Mr. Baldwin explained to the House of Commons last week as truthfully as a bank president reassuring alarmed depositors. Mr. Baldwin observed: "I would like to say at the start that his Majesty, as Prince of Wales, honoured me for many years with a friendship which I value, and I know that he would agree with me in saying to you that it was not only a friendship, but, between man and man, a friendship of perfection."

There could not have been in the House of Commons a single member who did not know that this opening was a bland reversal of the facts — yet so bold and sweeping that it rose not to the crescendo of a lie but to that of the most convincing and comfortable assurance which a Prime Minister could feel it his awful duty to make. Mr. Baldwin went on to tell how these two perfect friends had confided to each other that the one wanted to marry Mrs. Simpson and the other, while not venturing to advise, still less to blame, had expressed the opinion that the Home and Dominion Parliaments would never enact such

legislation as would permit Mrs. Simpson to take the status of a morganatic wife, as the King wished. That was about all, according to Mr. Baldwin, except that his royal friend had required a little time to decide to abdicate rather than make Mrs. Simpson his Queen and Mr. Baldwin later most vehemently declared that the entire Royal Family had congratulated him upon his zeal in pressing Edward VIII unceasingly NOT to abdicate.

"THEY HAVE FORGIVEN ME."

"I am convinced that where I failed no one could have succeeded," concluded the Prime Minister. "Let no word be spoken that causes pain to any soul and let us not forget today the revered, beloved figure of Queen Mary." The speech also contained that little throb of penitence, which has for years been the trademark of every "crisis speech" by Stanley Baldwin. A democratic Prime Minister must undertake no great matter, without informing at least three or four principal members of the British Cabinet. Of his approach to Edward VIII on this grayest issue, the Prime Minister told the House of Commons: "I consulted — I am ashamed to say it, but they have forgiven me — none of my colleagues."

It is for taking this kind of risk that an officer under fire is afterwards either shot or plastered with medals. As Mr. Baldwin had just laid before the House the irrevocable abdication of Edward VIII, "signed by his own hand," the Prime Minister was not exactly under fire. The House was offered a choice of voting either for or against his Majesty's "irrevocable decision." It was ratified by a vote of 403-to-5 in the Commons and passed without dissent in the Lords. Dominion Parliaments hastened to concur by rubber-stamp landslides, all excepting the Irish Free State. Finally Parliament so legislated that Prince Edward and his heirs shall be free to marry whom they please without having first to obtain the King's consent as ordinary members of the Royal Family must do, further that neither Prince Edward nor any heir of his shall ever occupy the British Throne.

READY FOR THE SCHOOL BOOKS

This was the simple, masterly solution of a great British crisis as schoolbooks will read about it for generations. Here and there a rare scholar will dip into the official record of Parliamentary proceedings and shake his head before passing over the fact that in the House last week there was the inevitable Scotsman who never will hold England's peace. George Buchanan, an ordinary, cheerful Independent Laborite from the Glasgow slum area, in which pinch-faced Scots so often cheered royal Edward, said: "Today I have listened to more cant and humbug than ever before in my life. I have heard praise of the King, which I feel now is not held sincerely in any quarter of the House. If he had not stepped from the Throne voluntarily, everybody knows that those who pay lip service would have poured shame and filth on him."

"You will go on praising the next King as you have praised this one. If he is half as good, or one-tenth as good, as you say, why are you not keeping him? Why does everybody want to unload him?"

During the long career of the Prime Minister he has always hitherto, "refused to answer hypothetical questions." Last week he squashed Scot Buchanan flat by simple silence. The Empire thanked God that he did so, turning happily to George VI and crying "God Save the King!" Mrs. Baldwin knew, and she was right, that Mr. Baldwin, under Providence, had done the saving.

Americans at the Coronation—and After

The question whether some of the many "distinguished Americans" going to the Coronation next May should be "commanded" (invited) to have audience of new King George in Buckingham Palace arose last week. The late King George had no personal friends of U.S. nationality. As a rule, in the case of "Americans," he gave audience only to Morgan partners. In the last year of his reign, excepting U.S. diplomats on official missions, George V. audience just two "Americans," Morgan Partner Morgan and Morgan Partner Lament. King Edward VIII, again excepting U.S. diplomats, accorded audience during his reign to no U.S. citizen — an amazing fact, revealing the grip which permanent Court functionaries maintained over even an extremely pro-American King.

At Marlborough House last week a secretary to H.M. Queen Mary, the Queen Mother, appeared horrified at the question, "Who are her Majesty's American friends?" He replied, "I cannot answer that question. I believe her Majesty is acquainted with Mrs. Andrew Carnegie." Significantly not mentioned were Mr. and Mrs. Henry Ford, once asked by Viscountess Astor to tea at her country place on an afternoon when King George and Queen Mary also came for tea. Mr. Ford was, however, twice "commanded" to audience with Edward of Wales as a special favour before Edward came to the throne.

The issue was up before his Majesty's Government last week because nearly every London newspaper has editorially let slip during the recent crisis its fears that when the next war comes U.S. citizens may have a slogan as important as "Remember the Maine!" — "Remember Mrs. Simpson!" — and be disinclined to rush overseas a second time to help the "Mother Country" fight. Not in the least far-fetched in the United Kingdom today, this authentic fear was giving serious concern in Whitehall.

—*Time*, Dec. 28.

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A meeting of members will be held in the North Brighton Men's Club Rooms, Point Nepean Road (opp. Bent Memorial) on THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 4, at 8 p.m.

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(Continued from page 3.)

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FROZEN FORMS OF THOUGHT WHICH BOLSTER UP THE PRESENT SYSTEM.

"There is no short cut to prosperity we are told. We shall probably be told so with increasing frequency in the near future. As Social Credit grows, defenders of the present system, unable to advance against it any clear, reasonable and logical arguments, will try to use the weapons of oblique attack.

They will attack it without mentioning it, instilling into people's minds the idea that any plan which promises to give them relief from their burdens within a reasonably short time must on that account be suspect.

The best retort to those who use this cliché is, why not?

If there were any scarcity either of raw materials, labour or machinery, there could be no justifiable expectation of immediate prosperity. As, however, all the elements that go to make prosperity are there in the form of abundant natural resources, plentiful labour and marvellous equipment, there is no reason why it should take years and decades to achieve it.

REMEDIES FOR PLENTY—NOT POVERTY

Those concerned are said to be investigating every possible remedy for the tragic anomaly of poverty amidst plenty, but from the facts it seems that a remedy is being sought for the plenty rather than the poverty. There have been various schemes for the destruction of goods already in existence and for the restriction of further output. These are curious remedies for poverty!

Unfortunately, many are apt to accept such clichés as expressions of profound truth, even if they are at variance with the most obvious facts, and particularly if they have a moral flavour.

For instance, in one column of a newspaper a politician or an economist may be reported as saying that prosperity can only be attained by hard work and thrift. The next column may contain an account of the destruction of gluts of food, or of schemes for the destruction of wheat acreage, while underneath may be a description of a new labour-saving machine that will do the work of fifty men.

Yet millions probably read these items without reflecting on the utter absurdity of exhorting people to work hard, and, at the same time, planning to destroy the fruits of their labour; of advocating thrift while deploring superabundance.

NO TAMPERING WITH THE CURRENCY.

"Nothing is to be gained by tampering with the currency." is another well-sounding phrase.

Social Crediters quite agree with this sentiment. What they want is to put an end to the tampering with the currency that is now going on and to institute a National Balance-Sheet showing the country's assets as well as its liabilities, so that we may know exactly how we stand.

What should we think of a firm or an institution that kept no balance-sheet, and when reproached that it paid inadequate wages or kept its inmates short of necessities, replied vaguely that its resources were not as vast as some people imagined, that it had no means of ascertaining what they were and preferred to be on the safe side by keeping expenditure low?

Appeals for an impartial enquiry into the financial system are met with another stock phrase, that confidence is necessary to the maintenance of the delicate structure of credit. The suggestion is that anything that tends to undermine confidence, such as hazarding that there might be something wrong with financial methods is dangerous.

A monetary mechanism that is so delicate that it has to be kept in the dark, or at least in a dim religious light, is a legitimate object of suspicion. Faith in a system that is obviously working well and smoothly is one thing. Blind confidence in one that is working to the accom-

paniment of jolts, jars, and stoppages and is not achieving the purpose for which it exists, is a totally different thing.

"Better, leave it to the experts," is another phrase commonly used by the timid, the mentally lazy, or those whose thought only runs over the surface, and one which is very useful to the said experts and their financial paymasters.

Nothing could be more sensible and admirable than this attitude, if what is left to the experts is how to carry out the policy decided upon by the people. But unfortunately what is usually meant is that the experts should be trusted, not only to carry out a given policy, but to settle what that policy shall be. It may be argued that as they are in possession of facts, which cannot be accessible to everyone, they are in a better position to know the best thing to do, as well as how to do it. It should be realised that every man, woman and child is in a position to know that poverty can be abolished.

Sir Josiah Stamp, in a broadcast talk, stated, "The means of subsistence are now almost embarrassingly great." Politicians constantly allude to the crisis as one of abundance, and all who peruse the daily papers have read of gluts of milk, fruit, wheat, meat, etc., and of producers actually being compensated for restricting their acreage—that is, paid not to produce.

No other proof is necessary, especially if it is borne in mind that these gluts occur while productive capacity is not being utilised to the full or anything approaching it.

FINANCIERS KNOW WHAT THEY WANT.

Unbending determination on the part of the people that poverty should be abolished, and that all other legislation should be deferred until this is done, would infallibly break down the resistance or apathy of Members of Parliament and ensure victory. At present the people do not know what they want, while the financiers do; therefore, the latter are the more powerful, although they are few and, the people are many. It would, however, be impossible for them to stand against the clearly expressed will of the people.

"People will be well advised to fight shy of plausible schemes that promise something for nothing." This, or something like it, is almost certain to be uttered in cultured tones over the wireless, and to appear in the papers, and it is safe to assume that it will, in most cases, refer to Social Credit.

Social Credit would not be something for nothing, but dividends upon the heritage of science and invention left us by our forefathers.

Modern wealth is chiefly due to the increment of association. That is to say, men working together and pooling their skill and industry can achieve many hundredfold more than the same number of men each working individually for himself.

ECONOMIC NATIONALISM.

There are innumerable clichés. "We are interdependent. No nation can live to itself alone," is the cry of the internationalists. Can America, which is ninety-eight per cent self-sufficient, not live to itself alone, or Australia, a continent abounding in natural wealth and with a sparse population? Certainly there is no reason why countries should live in isolation one from another. Friendships between them and an amicable exchange of goods is natural and desirable. Every country has doubtless something to gain from contact with the culture of others.

That, however, is not what is usually meant by "interdependence." The "United States of the World" is what Finance is aiming at, and if it were brought about while the present money system remained unaltered, it would mean in practice that the servile States of the world would be presided over by the Bank for International Settlements at Basle.

Your Heritage of Knowledge and Invention has a Cash Value: Demand Your National Dividend!
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—Inserted by the Douglas Credit Movement of Victoria

TOTEM

Totem: The Exploitation of Youth; by Harold Slovin (7/6; Obtainable from F. M. Stapleton, 166 Little Collins Street, Melbourne).

It would be a worthy exercise for a bookmaker to work out what odds might be laid against the chance of modern young people achieving self-respecting and intelligent citizenship and individuality. These odds might with safety be very long, according to the thesis of Mr. Slovin, an English schoolmaster who has seen a great deal of what English youth has had inflicted on it. There is apparent an organised effort, blessed by the chief beneficiaries (in terms of money and power) of the existing social organisation, and lauded by the commercial press, to herd youth into tribal organisations, and there by skilful mental conditioning to stamp out every vestige of independence in thought or action. In Italy and Germany the process

is blatant, and openly under State auspices. In England and the Empire results are achieved through Youth Movements such as the Boy Scouts, Toc. H. Y.M.C.A., the Oxford Movement, etc. These have one central attribute—a return to the totemism of the tribe in lieu of any reasoned effort to remedy the manifold ills of mankind. Ritual and collective hysteria take the place of thought. Doubt and criticism are discouraged, and are, in fact, taboo. "That real honesty of mind can only begin with a great intellectual effort, which involves the analysis of every belief, traditional or otherwise, you have ever held, especially myths, these magic-makers ignore." "We have today one very important mental trait in common with the savage, namely, suggestibility to pseudo-intellectual (or really mythical) compensations for an environment which is unstable, unpredictable and too complex for us. The real point about the savage tribe in the jungle with its myth, totem, taboo and intense collectivism, is

that it develops this enormous paraphernalia *simply because it cannot master the jungle or exploit its natural resources.*

The modern tribes are governed by myths—"fellowship", "comradeship", "esprit de corps", "alma mater", "old school tie", etc., all considered as a group possession. The spell words of the groups, "service" and "sacrifice", etc., have little to do with the modern fact of abundance, and with the problem of distributing that abundance. The sole effort of the groups and tribes tends towards a continuance on a servility basis of service and charity to outcasts of the present monetary system. There is no thought that these same outcasts might be placed on the self-respecting basis of economic freedom and endowed with the fundamental human right of being able to pay their way. In short, these Movements appear to have a vested interest in so-called "social service", really in poverty and degradation. They nevertheless carry out their

work in an atmosphere of terrific self-congratulation. Any member of the tribe is amply compensated for a service or sacrifice by the adulation of other members of the tribe.

Mr. Slovin lets these Movements damn themselves by quoting freely from the speeches of their leaders and from their official publications. He has performed a very valuable service in the debunking of what are in essence red herring Movements — designed to lead the mind of youth off the track, and to make a fit herd for cannon fodder in the years to come. Putting garlands round guns does not reduce their lethal efficiency, and these Movements do no more than put garlands round them.

This book is very well worth reading, and will receive the approval of all who appreciate the fact that a mentally conditioned herd is neither a thing of beauty, nor yet an asset to the social structure.

—Aquarius.

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