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MELBOURNE, FRIDAY, MAY 21, 1937.

Every Friday, 3d

Should State Subsidise Catholic Schools?

*

LYONS ON POVERTY
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MENZIES ON WAR

*

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(Continued on page 3)

What Chance Has the Catholic Taxpayers' Association? Should the State Subsidise Non-State Schools? And If It Does, What Will It Cost?

Some notice has been given in the daily press to the formation of a Catholic Taxpayers' Association, which began its active canvass for members last Sunday, and which announces that it will shortly be conducting its campaign over a national network of radio stations. Like other Taxpayers' Associations, the purpose of this new body is not to press for a general reduction of taxation, but to exert itself in favour of a sectional reduction for its members without reducing taxation as a whole. In fact, the proposals of the Association, if granted, would lead to an increase in the total taxation of every State in the Commonwealth.

It does not follow from this that the claims advanced are unfair, though it does seem to make their recognition, under present circumstances, most improbable. But what are these claims—are they just or unjust? If just, what hinders their being granted? And is there any practical way of removing the hindrance?

Who Should Dictate Educational Policy?

The Catholic Taxpayers' Association is claiming that the State should pay for the secular education provided in denominational schools (whether Catholic or otherwise), contingent upon these schools being subject to State supervision as to buildings, training of teachers, and general efficiency. They admit the right and duty of the State "to fix a minimum standard of education, to see that schools are conducted efficiently, and to provide educational facilities for children where parents fail or are unable to do so", but they deny that the State has the right "to force a uniform type of education on parents against their will."

This argument, as will be seen on reflection, covers a much wider field than that of denominational education. It is a definite statement of revolt against the totalitarianism that is common alike to Fascism, Communism and International Finance. As such, it will be heartily commended by all lovers of liberty, and it needs no qualification. It is a pity, therefore, to find this body weakening its stand by such petty attempts at "strengthening" its case as: "In the Great War, we provided at least our numerical proportion of combatants." What has that to do with the issue? They might as well have said, what is equally true, that at Xavier's Head of the River Ball last Friday night there was a big picture of King George, before which Mr. Marcus Burke (son of the well-known land agent, "Eight-pence-a-day" Burke) delivered a little homily on the Coronation, whereupon the band struck up "Land of Hope," etc. (appropriate to the Burkes' family business), and "God Save the King" (also appropriate to a man in Edward's shoes). All very interesting, but nothing to do with the Head of the River. And the same applies to liberty of education and the war issue.

Who Is To Pay?

Very few people will now deny that the right of parents is prior to that of the State in directing what sort of education—religious or secular—their children shall have. But it is doubtful if more than a minority have seen the implication. If a parent has the right (with the proviso as to standards, etc.) to make this choice then it is unjust to penalise him for exercising this right. And this is what the Catholics are very truly pointing out. The State schools are financed out of taxation, towards

which they contribute their share. The secular education in denominational and private schools is paid for entirely by those who send their children to them. The latter, therefore, pay twice over.

It is a great pity that this argument has been obscured and confused for the last half-century by matters that are in themselves quite foreign to it. There has been the religious aspect of Catholic v. Protestant, and the racial aspect of Irish v. English, and even the party political aspect of Labor v. Conservative. And as a result the real aspect of individual liberty v. State tyranny has been almost completely lost sight of. (Even now, we are quite confident that a number of our readers will tell us we should not be so indiscreet as to take up such a subject in the *New Times*.)

As far as we understand the issue, the Catholics, in presenting their case, are quite prepared to be reasonable. They are not asking the State to pay for their existing buildings, their land, or to reimburse them for any part of the £50 millions, which they claim they have expended in the past. They will be quite satisfied to be relieved of the extra cost, which would have to

"LO, THE POOR INDIAN! WHOSE UNTUTORED MIND ---"

Under the above heading the Melbourne "Herald" on Tuesday reported: "Appalling" is the description applied to the figures of Indian illiteracy in the Government of India's report on education for 1935, which has just been issued...

But that the Indian's education for 1936 is being steadily proceeded with was proven by another cable on the same page, which began: "Fifty tribesmen were killed and 40 wounded in further fighting between the big British expedition sent into Waziristan, on the North-West frontier, to quell the disaffection among the tribesmen. The casualties among the British" (!) "troops were: Four Indians killed, 39 wounded; two British soldiers wounded."

be borne by the State (for teachers, not for equipment) if they were to close down their schools tomorrow. In other words, they are asking less than is done in practically every other part of the British Commonwealth and in other countries. And they are asking that all denominational and private schools, which conform to the required standards, should receive the same treatment.

The Hindrances

Having said that the general principle involved, apart altogether from its religious, denominational or accidental trimmings, is one of justice and of liberty, what are the practical aspects?

The campaign has not one chance in twenty of being successful, and opposition will come, not only from the general body of taxpayers, but from a considerable section of Catholics themselves.

The Catholics estimate that at present there are about 200,000 of their children in their own schools. Putting down the cost of these at £10 per head per annum, which seems as low as could reasonably be expected, this would entail a compensation or subsidy of £2 millions a year. Such a sum would be a new tax. In the case, say, of Victoria, the State Government would have to raise another half million a year. Can you see Mr. Dunstan taking it on, or Sir Stanley Argyle, or Mr. Tunnecliffe?

And consider those numerous Catholic families who have already completed the education

of their children. They originally paid the full cost of this in their own schools. They are now continuing to pay for the State schools through general taxation. Will they welcome the prospect of being slugged a third time to relieve others of what they themselves have had to pay for?

With the taxpayer at large it is not now a question of granting justice either to Catholic or to Calithumpian. Far more urgent even than this education issue is that of providing the bare necessities of life for the destitute unemployed and their wives and children—and the taxpayer is so desperately overtaxed already that he is kicking like the deuce at the impost which barely enables these to keep body and soul together. Hence, seeing new Catholic schools going up on all sides, he is hardly likely to be impressed with the urgency of the matter, no matter how much he may admit its abstract justice. For it must be remembered that our taxation is not, and never has been based on justice or equity.

Then there is the present condition of the State schools. It is publicly admitted that the buildings are in many cases in a woeful plight, that equipment is insufficient or antiquated, and that the staffs are almost universally overworked and underpaid. An argument in favour of the Catholic case, you may say? Yes; if they ever made a serious threat to close down their own schools for the time being, and so confound confusion—but not unless. Otherwise the pressing needs of the State schools will still further postpone any subsidies to outside institutions.

The Only Solution

No matter which way you look at it, as a matter of practical politics the Catholic Taxpayers' Association will be wasting its time if it continues on its present programme of working towards its objective. Apart from the direct action course of threatening seriously to close down its own schools in order to prove its case—which seems most unlikely to be adopted—it is hard to see how it can get anywhere as long as it aims to do so at the expense of other taxpayers. It must seek some other motto than, "Come on in, the water's fine."

The Catholic schools, the other denominational schools, the private

schools all need funds. So do the State schools. They are all under-equipped; they are all insufficiently staffed. Why should there not be ample classrooms—are we short of bricks? Why should there not be ample equipment—are we short of furniture factories? Why should there not be ample playgrounds—are we short of acres? Why should there not be a teacher for every dozen children—are we short of candidates? Why should children be herded together in classes of fifty or sixty or more, and in huge barracks housing anything up to or exceeding a thousand youngsters? There is no sufficient physical excuse. The only cause is that we are trying to eke out a miserable insufficiency of money with a dope fiend's doses of interest bearing

THE RED PERIL

From Wednesday's "Argus": "Compelled to build and live in a shack on the river bank, a workless man, his wife, three girls, aged 2, 4, and 10 years, two boys aged 13 and 6 years, and a baby aged 10 months are in need of warm clothing, bedding, and bed coverings. The mother will make undergarments and frocks for the children from any material donated. Gift parcels will be called for if donors telephone Central 1214. Cash donations to assist this and similar cases of distress may be forwarded to the secretary, State Relief Committee, 201 Spencer-street, Melbourne. "D. J. HENDERSON, "Secretary, State Relief Committee."

And in the two adjoining columns the "Argus" had a tirade against the Communists' "subtle propaganda." There is no subtle propaganda required when the conditions outlined above are permitted to continue, year after year.

debt. And neither the fruits of Catholic education nor the products of State education are anything to be proud of in this respect. They do nothing but mill round like a mob of brainless cattle, rushing round and round in vicious circles, horn-ing one another and getting nowhere. And they never will until they change their tactics, cease jockeying for position against one another, and unite to demand that whatever is both desirable and physically possible shall be done.

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COME INSIDE

By YAFFLE, in "Reynolds News."

Having duly wept about the declining birth rate, we will now shed a few tears about the nation's intelligence.

The experts (ha-ha), having discovered that we are rapidly disappearing, have now decided that before we depart we are all going mad.

I will take as my text an article by Dr. Cattell, psychologist to the Leicester education authority.

He concludes that our intelligence is declining because the number of births among families of low intelligence (naming no names and casting no asturtiums) is higher than among families of higher intelligence. Statistically speaking, the sap is rising.

Further, the number of mental defectives per 1000 is increasing. The conclusion drawn from this is that, sooner or later, the nation will

lini and Capone, were all above the average intelligence. Doubtless, they all brought home promising reports from school.

Yet, somehow, we do not desire more of such intelligences in our midst, and I am sure that Dr. Cattell himself would admit that even a fathead like you, Herbert, whose brains, if treated with rubber

them on the base of the skull with a loaded sock.

We are therefore left, as usual, by the experts (ha-ha) to decide on what brand of intelligence to choose. Otherwise, we had better do without it, and live happily in blissful mental deficiency, following the advice of the poet—"Be good, sweet mutt, and swat who would be clever."

I notice, further, that the learned psychologist demands "courageous Government action to transform the decline into a steady breeding for greater mental fitness."

One of the means to mental fitness, he says, is to encourage more births "among persons able to provide a good home background."

The logical conclusion, therefore, is that the intelligence of the people depends on their having good homes; then, before breeding steadily for mental fitness, we had better breed steadily for courageous Government action.

For we have to breed a Government with a mental fitness which will enable them to change the whole basis of the money-system, and then provide the entire population with a good home apiece.

The task appalls me. Waiter! Fill Mr. Yaffle's glass.

After that we shall have to breed (steadily) for a new Expert-intelligence. I am not satisfied with experts (ha-ha) who demand higher intelligence before deciding what they want it to do. I do not care for doctors who prescribe a cure before determining the disease, nor for builders who start building before they have decided upon the design and purpose of the edifice.



solution, would barely provide enough material to make a waterproof cape for the old cock linnet, would be a more desirable type of citizen. Have a cigarette.

Let us, therefore, see if we can unearth the writer's intentions, if any. It complains that "industry is ways demanding brilliant organisers and inventors" and failing to get enough of "those able brains necessary for the successful organisation of complex civilised undertakings."

Looking back upon those complex civilised undertakings, they appear to have acted upon their populations somewhat after the manner of a carelessly-operated mangle. Mankind has generally emerged from them looking like an old shirt that never ought to have been sent to the wash

Further, a cursory glance at the "brilliant organisers and inventors" shows that their endeavours were largely directed towards removing workers from their work, organising the dispossessed into the required state of submission, and so arranging their education, entertainment, feeding and housing that the effect on the intelligence of the majority was similar to that produced by pasting

Perhaps we are taking an unnecessarily serious view of the situation. Perhaps we have all the intelligence we need, and need only a new spirit—excuse the word. I have often thought that the intentions of the people are better than the experts' intelligence that controls them. Most of the men I meet are ready to stand me a drink. But the experts only stand me statistics and the Government only stands me a bomb.

Again, it may be that the decline of intelligence is Nature's benevolent design. Having seen the social order the intelligent ones have made, she may have decided to leave the world to the thicker-headed majority.

Hope breaks in upon me. I have never yet met a village idiot who did not think that the right thing to do with things in shops is to buy them. As Chancellors of Exchequers they might have some new ideas.

British Armament Profits and "Danger of a Decline"

The chairmen's speeches at the Vickers, Cammell Laird and Firth-Brown meetings last week have caused a substantial reaction in the armament share market (says the *Economist* of April 10). At one time this week, Vickers 10/- shares were as low as 30/3, and Cammell Laird 5/-shares at 14/-, compared with levels at one time last year of 39/6 and 21/6 respectively. Yet the tenor of General Sir Herbert Lawrence's speech at the Vickers meeting, and Mr. W. L. Hichen's speech at the Cammell Laird meeting, was not unsatisfactory. The speeches lacked points upon which the speculator could fix, but they gave ample promise of large profits in the future. Both chairmen, and also Lord Aberconway at the Firth-Brown meeting, gave extraordinary evidence of the increase in their companies' business. Cammell Laird has jumped from severe depression to "more orders now than ever before in the history of the company." The number of men employed by the Vickers group has increased from 35,955 at the end of 1934, to 64,068, and the armament orders alone still exceed the company's capacity. Firth-Brown's orders in hand "represent a substantial increase in the value at the same date in 1935," and the company has been passing through "a period of extreme activity." For the next five years, unless there is some striking change in international relations, these companies' positions should; be assured,

"UNFORTUNATE RESULTS." University economist Reddaway, at the basic wage case before the Arbitration Court, on Tuesday: "If wages are not raised now we should get unfortunate results—results not disastrous to wage-earners, because they are getting a low wage, but to the community, because profits are too high." Isn't the wage earner lucky? No more disasters for him—because he's already got the lot.

and, in the words of Sir Herbert Lawrence, "total profits should increase."

In order to handle this tremendous increase in business, however, the companies have been compelled to incur very heavy expenditure for technical reconstruction and extension of plant. The English Steel Corporation's scheme, for example, has cost £1,765,000; Cammell Laird spent £122,661 on capital account in 1936, compared with £62,412 in 1935; Firth-Brown's reconstruction cost over £1,000,000, of which £390,000 was spent in 1936. This work of expansion and modernisation has not yet been completed, and Mr. Hichens pointed out that Cammell Laird, at any rate, would in 1937 have expended at least as much as in 1936. The companies will thus need to make large depreciation allocations at the expense of profits, which would otherwise be available for dividends. Moreover, all the chairmen were impressed with the need for accumulating reserves against the double danger of a decline in armament and commercial demand. The Vickers' chairman, indeed, was so insistent upon this point as to assert, "Increased total profits would not necessarily mean larger divisible profits." Thus, although the actual "rearmament profits" have hardly begun to accrue yet—there is a time-lag of some two years in naval shipbuilding profits, as Mr. Hichens explained—the companies are already talking of conserving a large proportion of them. It was this point, which caused the fall in armament shares this week. It robs them of speculative interest, but endows them with investment stability.

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(Continued from page 2.)

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LADIES' Hairdresser. Haw. 5605 "Burnie Salon" 81 Cotham Rd.
(Continued on page 7.)

A PUZZLE.

Here is a puzzle. I don't care if nobody answers it. I shall be satisfied if they merely think about it.

Jones buys a bicycle wheel from Smith for £1.

Smith buys another wheel from Brown for £1.

Brown buys the framework of a bicycle from Jackson for £1.

Jackson now wants to buy a bicycle. Jones, Smith, and Brown severally own the components of a complete bicycle. They want, collectively, £3. Jackson has £1.

What about it?

—"Farming First."

be composed entirely of mental defectives.

I am not in a position to say whether the nation will behave any differently when it is insane from what it does now.

I have met men who said they were, respectively, Napoleon, Henry VIII, Cromwell, Julius Caesar and the Great Gazook; but I have not heard of a case of paranoia who boasted that he was rearming for peace and prosperity, or that he intended to reduce wages in order to increase trade.

Now, I notice that the experts (ha-ha) who demand higher intelligence do not specify which sort of intelligence they want.

We have many brands of intelligence in stock, some of which, if cultivated, would not improve the general situation.

For example, Messrs. S. Todd and J. the Ripper, Drs. Crippen and Goebbels, and Signers Musso-

Mr. Vernon Smith, General Manager, Shell Company of Australia.

Dear Mr. Smith,

The Smith family in its time has put up some remarkable performances, but it may be doubted whether the romantic side of the clan has ever exceeded your effort last week, when you told the Junior Chamber of Commerce in Melbourne that the oil industry is a force for world peace.

Did you ever hear of a book, Mr. Smith, that appeared on the Australian market in the latter part of 1935, and which was suddenly and mysteriously withdrawn from circulation by the English publishers—by cable, we believe? Subsequent inquiries in London elicited only the laconic reply that the work was "out of print." This was the more surprising because, if we remember aright, the edition sent to Australia was the third printing called for within a few months. The book was written by two gentlemen named Frank C. Hanighen and Anton Zischka, and its title was "The Secret War for Oil."

A foreword said: "This book tells the astounding story of the fight for oil which is now being secretly waged throughout the world. It reads like the wildest melodrama, but it is fully substantiated by concrete facts and documents, and shows that world affairs are being manipulated behind the scenes by utterly unscrupulous forces over which the ordinary citizen has no control . . . Behind the innumerable ramifications of policy, international, economic and domestic, with which the oil industry is connected and which it directly influences, is the central struggle between Standard Oil of America and Royal Dutch Shell of Britain controlled by Sir Henri Deterding. . . The amazing conflict between Deterding and the Standard, between the Soviets and the Capitalist world, with sheiks, emirs, presidents, and dictators in the foreground, has racked the world for many years."

The book itself was one of the most extraordinary tales of villainy ever unfolded—of the promotion of war and revolution in every quarter of the globe where oil has been discovered. It told of the shedding of countless human lives, and it painted your own principals in such colours as made Basil Zaharoff, commercial traveller for Death, look like a saint. The most valuable part of the work to a student was the copious list of references at the tail end, giving easy access to a welter of further detailed material in support of the authors' case.

For a generation your principals—the Dutchman, Deterding, and the Whitechapel Jew, Samuel, later Lord Bearsted—rent the world in their battle for supremacy against Rockefeller. And yet you say the oil industry is a force for world peace!

It may be that Royal Dutch Shell and Standard Oil are not the bitter rivals they were. We have more than a suspicion that you have lately, unable either of you to achieve outright mastery, joined forces to establish a dual world monopoly against such new contenders as the Soviet. We believe you joined forces to try and dominate the oil-from-coal process, a potential enemy to you both. We believe, further, that you have a secret arrangement whereby, putting up a pretence of competition, you divide the lion's share of the Australian market, and that if one of you oversells his quota this year he must undersell his quota the next. We have heard rumours that there are such things as "competitive" brands both piped from the one tanker. Perhaps this is what you mean when you talk of peace and the oil industry—but if so, it is the peace imposed upon the vanquished by the undisputed victor. Oil Caesars!

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PS—By the way can you tell us when your friend Menzies, advocate for the Shell Co before the Royal Commission on Petrol, proposes to allow Parliament to discuss the long bottled-up report of that Commission?



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FRIDAY, MAY 21.

Menzies On War

Having only a distant spectator's knowledge of war, the Federal Attorney-General for the most part approaches this rather delicate subject with the same caution as he once displayed towards the real thing—especially when he deems it his duty to preach preparedness. Last week he contributed to the Coronation edition of the Melbourne *Herald* a special article entitled, "Dominion Relationship on New Basis." The article purported to be a discussion of the new constitutional position arising from the Statute of Westminster; but the sting was in the tail, as follows:—

"... Since the element of union is 'a common allegiance to the Crown,' the attempt, which is being made by many people . . . to cut up the common Crown into six different Kingdoms, is one, which ought to be resisted. If the allegiance of the Australian citizen is due to the King of Australia, while the allegiance of the South African citizen is due to the King of South Africa, it is difficult to understand how there is either a common allegiance or a common Crown . . . The point is one of tremendous practical significance. If King George VI occupies six Kingdoms and not one, he may very well be at war as the King of the United Kingdom and as King of Australia, while he remains at peace as King of South Africa and King of Canada. If such a position were recognised by foreign countries, part of the British Commonwealth of Nations would be at war and part of it at peace." The Attorney General then pictured the frightful prospect of "a group of merely friendly nations, with no organic cohesion and with no obligations beyond those which normally exist between two countries which happen to be friendly with each other."

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Not so long ago Mr. Menzies made a remark to the effect that he could not envisage the King of England being at war while the King of Australia was at peace—to which, if we remember aright, we replied that the last time the King of England was at war his loyal subject, R. G. Menzies, had found no personal difficulty in remaining at peace. And if R. G. Menzies can do this for himself, why cannot the whole Australian people? Or even, if it came to the worst, we could always take to heart the lesson taught us last December. If it were better unceremoniously to dispose of a King than to shock a nation's sense of decorum, how much better to do the same in preference to throwing a nation into a bloody war it did not want? In any case, have not our own politicians just shown us that the King can have a birthday in one Australian State and not in another? Then why not a war? Assuredly the people he was fighting would offer no objections.

The point behind Mr. Menzies' apparently detached reasoning is that if the financiers who misrule Britain (and not the King, who has no say) choose to declare war, then the people of Australia must also plunge themselves to destruction. Add to this that, when the Attorney-General was recently asked in England whether, in the event of Australia being at war, the Government could legally impose conscription without a referendum, he was reported to have replied that he would not care to answer offhand—and you begin to see what a pretty dish this gentleman is preparing for the young men of Australia who probably feel the same about war as he himself did in the years between 1914 and 1918.

If this peace-time warrior would only give an undertaking that, should the occasion arise, he would avail himself of the second opportunity to enter the front line trenches on behalf of the King of Australia, he would be welcome to write articles for the *Herald* till the cows come home. If not, he should have the common decency to keep right off the subject.

Lyons On Poverty

This week's prize for humbug must surely be awarded to the Prime Minister for his speech at the opening of the Imperial Conference. Mr. Lyons made two utterances, which the cable editors thought especially worthy of transmitting to us. One was that "a revival in world trade was indispensable to economic appeasement and world peace," and the other that, "despite scientific aids, making possible advanced standards of living, they were confronted with a world in which poverty and unemployment had led to grave political discontents."

Fancy a man pleading for a revival of world trade whose min-

isterial policy has been to retard trade in every way possible! When Mr. Lyons and the Dame (then plain Mrs. Lyons) were last abroad, did we not pay for a jaunt that covered Europe and America, and that was nominally undertaken as a preparatory step to the signing of trade treaties with all sorts of countries? Did not Sir H. Gullett, R. G. Menzies, Earle Page and others gallivant in all directions for the same avowed purpose? And what has come of all their wanderings and meanderings? Only the infamous edict of a year ago, aimed openly at restriction rather than expansion of our trade with existing world customers; while the long promised treaties with other countries are still in the air.

But hypocrisy reached its climax when Mr. Lyons deplored the present state of needless poverty. After nearly six years of office, what has he done to remove poverty, or even to abate it within the system of private finance, which he serves? One does not expect any radical action from a Prime Minister who takes for his favourite slogan, Hands off the banks. But what of the palliatives, which even the banks would allow him? What of the national insurance scheme which he has been promising for years? And what of the public works policy designed to give incomes to the unemployed? Did not the daily press announce a week or two ago that the Federal budget for the current year would be balanced by a cutting down of the Government's estimated expenditure on public works? Admittedly there is little, if any, national loss by not proceeding with the erection of further white elephants in Australia's Siberia, Canberra; but what of those who thereby are deprived of the opportunity of getting a little more than the dole?

It was fitting that at the Coronation of George VI, climax of the Lyons successes, the Prime Minister's belt should have become unhitched, and that he should have presented throughout the ceremony the ridiculous spectacle of a man trying to hang on to his dignities with both hands. However disconcerting the predicament to himself, it is a happy omen for the people to whom he must shortly render an account.

Wonthaggi Widows to Fight?

Following on the protests made in these columns against the scandalous attempt of a self-appointed committee to frustrate the intentions of those who subscribed money to the appeal for the widows and orphans of the Wonthaggi mine explosion victims, there comes the welcome news that the miners' widows are proposing to fight for the money that really belongs to them.

Wednesday's *Argus* contained the following report upon its main news page: "Dissatisfaction has been expressed by the widows of the men who lost their lives in the disaster at the State coalmine with the proposed allocation of the money subscribed to the Wonthaggi relief fund. The widows will meet tomorrow to consider placing their claims in the hands of a solicitor.

"The widows consider that a substantial donation should be made from the fund to enable them to buy homes in other districts. Several wish to make homes in other centres, but cannot do so on the allowance that has been set

aside by the committee in control of the funds.

"Since the fund was opened the widows have received one payment only—an amount of £100 in the first week in March. This money was used to meet funeral expenses and other costs. The women are at a loss to know why they have not received the money that was subscribed by the people of Victoria."

The women are at a loss—and so is every decent-minded citizen. Only those who glory in the committee mind, in the protracted doling out of benevolence and in the pulling of the forelock are contented that the busybodies of the so-called Relief Fund Committee should be allowed to have their way.

There is no need to repeat here what has already been said on the subject in the *New Times*, and which is confirmed in the *Argus* report of the widows' views. Suffice it to say that we wish them every success in their fight for justice.

Judge Beeby Is Facetious

Last week we reported Judge Beeby's attempt at humour when, in the basic wage case before the Arbitration Court, he professed his willingness to hear the views of any economist, "unless he is a Douglas Credit man." The Judge perpetrated a further attempt at facetiousness this week, and one that fittingly followed on the other, when, supporting his chief's plea for shorter presentations of evidence, he said: "We are anxious that this case should finish before the next slump sets in."

Fancy a man in Judge Beeby's position accepting "slumps" as something which, like tides, rainfalls, or other acts of God, must "set in"! No wonder he doesn't want to hear a Douglas Credit man.

A CORONATION ODE

Dear Mr. Editor—

I am sending you a Coronation Ode, in the hope that if it should come under the eyes of the Right Persons, I might be offered the Laureateship, should a vacancy occur. You will observe that, whereas poets-laureate in general sacrifices the sense to the rhyme, I have taken the opposite course. Do you think that this will disqualify me?

Yours, etc.,
LEONORA POLKINGHORNE.

THE ODE

"GINGER-NUTS SUSTAINED MR. BALDWIN.

"During the ceremony at the Abbey, Mrs. Baldwin, wife of the Prime Minister, produced a bag of ginger-nuts, and said to her husband, 'Have one, dear.' Mr. Baldwin said, 'An excellent idea, darling, and joyously munched.'"
—Cable in S.A. Advertiser, May 14.

What a splendid coronation!
Peereesses in massed formation,
Such a glittering coruscation,
Gems and other decoration.
Clergy robed and organ pealing,
Sun through tinted glass revealing
All the splendour and the glory
Of traditions great and hoary,
Wealth and majesty and power
In the Abbey at this hour.

(What's this fair-haired ghost that's walking?
Shocking form — this spirit's stalking.
Won't it set the people talking?
Pass the ginger nuts!)

Here's our only Mr. Baldwin—
He's the man that's always called in.

In those brittle situations
Whereon hang the fate of nations.
Mind you, though, 'twas pretty trying;

All those ugly rumours flying,
Hard to keep the "status quo"—
Stable monarchy, you know—
Tell you it was touch and go
With the people feeling so;
Nearly wrecked the blessed show.
But, thank goodness, that is over,
Monty kept well under cover,
And we shipped *him* off to Dover

(Phew! Do pass the ginger nuts!)

Now comes stately the Archbishop
What fine sentiments he'll dish up
About justice, truth and mercy
(Things he came to know by hearsay).

He's the expert who likes throwing
Mud at monarchs when they're re going.

But no finger must be pointed
This time at the "Lord's Anointed"—

"George by grace of God," and so on—

How the unctuous voice will flow on!
Doesn't he look simply splendid
By his satellites attended?

(Would *he* like a ginger nut?)

Thank God for the small princesses,
Coronets on golden tresses,
In their lovely velvet dresses—
Quite the best card we can play now;

Who a word will say now?
Aren't they sweet? But could we brave it,
If they asked for Uncle David?

(O, pass the ginger nuts.)

Splendid show! Unprecedented!
Is South Wales not represented?
But the slums are all a-flutter,
Rags of flags from every gutter—
See how well we of the classes
Furnish pageants for the masses!
Guess today when we are mealing
They'll forget that empty feeling.

(Do have a ginger nut.)

Now God bless our Empire glorious,
May she ever be victorious
O'er Huns, Dagos, and dark races:
May we keep them in their places,
And, above all, save our faces
As we have this Coronation
In a threatening situation
With a glittering coruscation,
Uniforms and decoration
And all sorts of demonstration,
Envied thus by every nation.

(Pass the ginger nuts! What, the bag's empty, too?)

STANLEY THE STRENUOUS

Nobody appears to have stood up to the strenuous programme better than the High Commissioner (Mr. Bruce), who attended the Buckingham Palace banquet on Thursday night, departed at midnight for the German Embassy reception, and later attended the Coronation Ball at Albert Hall, reaching home at 3 a.m.

—Melbourne "Herald," May 15.
And some silly taxpayers say that poor Stanley is not earning his few paltry thousands a year!

CAMPAIGN TO ABOLISH POVERTY.

CAULFIELD TOWN HALL, on
TUESDAY NEXT, MAY 25,
at 8 p.m.

DR. JOHN DALE,
Melbourne City Health Officer,
and

The Brilliant Young Orator,
JOHN HOGAN

Will address the meeting and outline a plan to bring in

PEACE AND PROSPERITY

WHAT PLUTOCRACY WOULD DO

A Letter to the Editor from BRUCE H BROWN

Sir, —

Last week we noticed that a new movement had been announced under the name of the Australian Democratic Movement; that it claimed to be non-party; that it had one of the Austin Emblings for its president; that Sir George Fairbairn of the *Argus* was the principal speaker at "the first meeting"; and that through the *Argus*, the Stock Exchange, the Women's National League, and the National Union there was a pretty connection between the Movement and the Money Monopoly. This week we are to have a look at the aims and objects of this "democratic" body.

The "Democratic" Meeting

An undated letter was distributed to selected people (all tools of the money monopoly are hand-picked!) inviting them to the meeting at Temple Court (the location of the Stock Exchange) at 4 p.m. on April 28, and advising them that the purpose of the movement is to bring about "much-needed reforms in the government of Australia and of uniting the people in a sense of duty to their country." When they spoke of "the government of Australia" they were thinking of the politicians, not of the real government; and when they spoke of "duty to their country" they were not thinking of the country's duty to the people. The letter also intimated that admittance would be by invitation only, and that "in accordance with promises already received the meeting would be representative of business, manufacturing, financial and other interests in the metropolitan area." Entirely democratic, you see, and quite fitting that two men (president and secretary) should be brought from Yea to the city to look after metropolitan interests.

With the letter of invitation there was a printed list of "Aims and Objects", totalling eleven, but before considering these we should remind ourselves that they are put forward by a supposedly democratic body, and that "democracy" means government by the people. Government by the people does not mean government by a clique, which is at present the case and which has been the case for years. Notwithstanding this, the letter of invitation indicated that there was to be no criticism of present or past parliaments. Clearly, therefore, there is no intention to seek a change in the control of parliament; and as all governments hold office at the pleasure of the heads of the banking system (*vide* the *Financial Times's* warning to Mr. Lloyd George), the sponsors of this movement, under the guise of democracy, are dishonourably seeking the entrenchment and intensification of the worst form of plutocracy.

The Subject That Is Taboo

If this criticism should offend the dignity of any of the gentlemen who have publicly identified themselves with the movement, they might be reminded that even if every one of their professed aims and objects were an accomplished fact we would still be without democracy, for their programme makes no reference at all to the one thing that renders it impossible for democracy to function. That one thing is the control of our finance by a private monopoly. Ignorance in this respect can no longer be excused, as the chairman of the Midland Bank has openly admitted, "those who control the credit of a nation *direct the policy of governments and hold in their hands the destiny of the people.*" From this is obvious that as credit is not controlled by any of our parliaments there is no such thing in Australia as government by the people, and any man carrying the degrees of Master of Arts and Master of Laws could hardly claim not to know it. Of course, it is possible that Mr. Austin Embling was mistaught at the University, just as the Archbishop of York was mistaught. The Archbishop has

expressed himself in these terms: "I was taught some political economy at Oxford, including some propositions about money. What is perfectly plain is that money is *not* what they told me it was."

Elements of the Situation

Now the elements of the present situation are these: —

1. Hundreds of thousands of Australians with an insufficiency of food, clothing and shelter, side by side with wicked destruction of these necessities and callous restriction of their production.

2. Hundreds of thousands of Australians idly wandering city streets and country roads, side by side with hundreds of necessary works urgently requiring attention.

3. Tens of thousands of youths with a hopeless outlook, side by side with old men hanging on to jobs in order to maintain their all too limited incomes.

4. Insecurity and apprehension on all sides, side by side with every physical necessity to give security and remove apprehension.

5. Thirty-eight per cent, of male workers and 51 per cent, of female workers with an income of less than £1 per week, and 66 per cent, of male workers and 75 per cent, of female workers with less than £2 a week (at last census figures), side by side with producers frantically searching for buyers.

6. Mechanical power available for industry equal in man-power to several times the population of the world, side by side with long hours of labour for a decreasing number instead of short hours of labour for all the able-bodied.

The Proposals

To rectify these insanities, this new democratic movement, with a University-certified president and an army of generals and would-be generals, advocates the following: —

1. Australia to remain in the Empire with the right of appeal to the Privy Council;

2. Preservation of personal liberty and recognition that "democracy" means the better and fuller life of the individual for the common good;

3. Uniformity of basic laws affecting the "Rights of Citizenship";

4. Standard of living to be maintained in accordance with the policy of a "White Australia";

5. Insistence upon the effective occupation and adequate defence of Australia;

6. Every encouragement for private enterprise "by the most effective means" and restriction of government interference in trade;

7. State electorates to be made coterminous with Federal electorates;

8. Taxation to be limited to main essentials of government, and greater efficiency and economy in government to be insisted upon;

9. Unnecessary duplications of authority to be removed;

10. Bureaucratic methods of government to be discouraged;

11. Improvement in the accounting methods of all governments, and the clear and simple presentation of budgets.

Not one of these proposals would provide more food for hungry stomachs, more clothes for cold bodies, and better shelter for needy families. There is no explanation of the terms, which have been employed, and we simply have the reiteration of meaningless generalisations, which we have become tired of reading in the press. Items 1, 2, 3, 7, 9 and 10 mean nothing, and the others merely indicate thoughtlessness or barren intellect on the part of those who put them forward.

"Maintaining" Living Standards

Look at Item 4. It would "maintain" the standard of living. "Maintain" means to carry on or cause to continue, and it is doubtful whether anyone in his right mind would wish to carry on the living standards as they are today. We have had "the policy of a White Australia" for many years, but the standard under

this policy has deteriorated and today is actually lower than it was in 1907. And that is the standard these fellows talk of maintaining! Instead of getting more food, clothes and shelter for the needy it would mean that they would get still less. The fact of the matter is that the standard of living is not based on the colour of the people, but on the quantity of production and accessibility to it. Production in Australia is sufficient to give a much higher standard than we have ever had, but the people are denied access to it. Access is obtained through money, but that vital subject is not even mentioned by these new democrats.

Item 5 insists on effective occupation and adequate defence, but how in the name of common-sense can we "insist" on effective occupation if we do not place the people in the position to buy their own production? The only thing that stands in the way of effective occupation is shortage of money in the hands of the people, but that is not to be spoken of. The same thing applies to the development of the air, land and sea services upon which our defence must depend. Plenty of men and materials but no money. Finance is the only obstacle, but, of course, the new movement is not out to focus attention on that aspect, for to do so would inevitably lead to the exposure of the witch doctors and medicine men, some of whom have been truly described as knighted counterfeiters and pretenders. The job of the movement is to protect these fakers.

How to Encourage Private Enterprise

Item 6 is no exception. It calls for the encouragement of private enterprise and restriction of government interference. Private enterprise needs no better encouragement than an increasing number of people with money to spend, but none of the aims and objects of this wonderful movement would contribute one iota to the realisation of this. They all tend to secure economy and efficiency, which, under existing conditions, means the circulation of less and less money. So far as government interference is concerned, all the difficulties we are now experiencing actually arise from private interference with government. It was private action that knocked the bottom out of the markets in 1929 and ruined our farmers. It was private action that closed the London market for Australian loans in 1929. It was private action that restricted financial credit in Australia in 1929 and after. It was private action that led to the imposition of the Premiers' Plan in 1931. In fact, it was private interference that caused the depression and the resulting bankruptcy of so much private enterprise, criminality that can only be prevented by community control of credit. Not a word, however, is to be found in the programme of the new democrats about "this fundamental necessity. Instead, they are endeavouring to foster the false impression that government action has been the cause of the nation's difficulties, whereas all the trouble has come entirely from the actions of the private monopoly controlling finance.

Taxation and Loans

Item 8 is the clearest admission that true democracy is the last thing the movement is concerned about, for it stands for the continuance of the fraudulent methods by which governments obtain money—i.e., taxation and loans. These methods, combined with the silly talk about economy in government, mean complete surrender to the dictates of the private money monopoly. Taxation and loans are necessary only because the Commonwealth Government has permitted a private monopoly to usurp its function as the producer of the country's money; and economy and budgets are the weapons by which this private monopoly brings the governments to heel. Government economy at the dictation of this monopoly was the vogue between 1930 and 1932, during which period bankruptcies increased alarmingly, suicides were more

THE CORNUCOPIA OF MARS

(From the London "Economist" of April 10.)

The social reformer, who has long and unsuccessfully appealed for public expenditure in the interests of a better country and a happier people, must be indulging in puzzled reflections at this moment. He sees the children of his dreams, escorted by the most unlikely foster-fathers, paraded before him dressed in the cloak of wartime economics. All his demands are being handed to him, if not exactly on a plate, at least on a shield.

For two decades he has been agitating for comprehensive and bold road development, and has chafed while successive Chancellors callously raided the Road Fund. Now he is solemnly instructed (as if he had never before given a thought to the matter) that it is vital to relieve the congestion around our docks and in our urban centres, so that food and other supplies can be rapidly transported in an emergency. After a lifetime's agitation for consistent town planning he sees the Philistine converted to his cause overnight by the long-distance bomber. He has watched Greater London sprawling, in the name of speculative building, until it threatened to engulf the whole of the Home Counties: now he is to have a green belt,

if only of aerodromes. A year ago he was tendered the philosophic consolation that the distressed industrial areas would eventually revert to good pasturelands; now they are crowned with orders and the incense of calcium carbide. It needs no fantastic flight of imagination to suggest that one of the sights of London in 1950 may be a £50 million Charing Cross Bridge, stretching from Euston to Camberwell, and having at either end a statue of Benito Mussolini and Adolf Hitler. Its construction will, of course, have been necessary to provide a clear run for mobile anti-aircraft batteries between North and South London.

Poignant indeed must be the reflections of the moderate progressive who in the past has pleaded merely for investigation and not necessarily for action. The same quarters which have given shortest shrift to his modest request for information and proposals for research are today demanding shadow schemes for every eventuality, the co-ordination of all departments of State, the elimination of all overlapping, the stopping of all gaps and a comprehensive survey of all economic activities in areas specially vulnerable to attack.

In view of these developments, may one not urge progressives to introduce a little subtlety into their tactics? The usual social and cultural arguments for raising the school age make slow work of this reform. Let it be demonstrated that an important strategic move in the last war was thwarted by the distortion of a vital message by an illiterate bearer. No youth will then be allowed to leave school until he can decipher codes written in Sanscrit characters. Recently, a measure for securing a fortnight's annual holiday for workers came to grief, because it was urged on commonplace humanitarian lines. Had its supporters only been armed with a report, proving from scientific tests that after a fortnight's relaxation the average worker could dismantle and

CENTURIES HENCE.

Centuries hence, in a more enlightened world, we of this generation may be objects of derision for our worship of gold. But no one can deny that we do worship it, and no Government, not even that of Soviet Russia, has been bold enough to turn its back on the yellow metal.

—Professor Copland, May 18.
He's coming on. Centuries hence he may be talking sense.

reassemble a machine gun in 25 per cent, less time, they would have had difficulty in preventing the authorities from thrusting a month's annual leisure on their constituents.

What purpose, again, can possibly be served by a march from Jarrow to London? When the contingent reaches the Marble Arch the military authorities heave a sigh of relief, for if, after four years of unemployment and short rations, men can complete a route march of 270 miles in the rain, then the heart and feet of the country are obviously sound. The organisers should arrange for half the contingent to fall out with sore heels within the first twenty miles, and the other half to collapse at the county boundary. Such consternation would be aroused that public assistance scales would be revised forthwith.

Only thus shall we build Jerusalem in some of England's least green and pleasant lands. Let us raise three *Heils* and three *Evvivas*, and bend our energies to our herculean task.

DON'T SPEND A PENNY—

Without consulting a the "New Times" Shopping Guide.

Yours faithfully
BRUCE H BROWN

THE SPLIT IN AMERICAN LABOR

And Some Reasons for the Growth of the C.I.O.

Alongside the epidemic of sit-down strikes in American industry during the past month or two, there has also been waged a fierce war between two sections of U.S. trade unionists. On the one side is the older American Federation of Labor, presided over by William Green, and on the other the new Committee for Industrial Organisation, led by John L. Lewis. To date, Lewis's organisation seems to be winning all along the line, and this article, reprinted from "Social Justice" of April 5, explains some of the reasons. Most Australian readers will be surprised to learn how few of America's industrial workers are organised, and they will be particularly interested to note how Labor is being used as a pawn in the Roosevelt move to secure control over the U.S. Supreme Court.

A year and a half has passed since John L. Lewis began his crusade for the mass unionisation of workers.

A lot of page one copy has flown through the new mills of the nation in that time, labour developments that have brought on the greatest social upheaval since the Civil War.

It cannot be denied that the box score in the craft-industrial union feud at this writing is decidedly in favour of Lewis.

He has brushed aside every counter thrust of the American Federation of Labor. He has established himself as the leader of many thousands of industrial workers who, either because they were mesmerised by his "man of destiny" bearing, or because they were coerced, have flocked to his standard. He has, more than this, become a matinee idol of the wives of the industrial barons he is opposing.

The eight international unions he led out of the A. F. of L. when he formed the Committee for Industrial Organisation have increased to ten, the membership of his organisation has more than doubled, he has stolen many members away from the federation and smashed numerous company unions in steel and auto plants.

C.I.O. Sets Pace

American labour, excluding farm, domestic, professional and personal service employees, now numbers approximately 28,000,000 workers. The different groups may be classified as follows:

Committee for Industrial Organisation—2,000,000 members
Independent (company and railroad unions)—2,250,000 members
American Federation of Labor—2,750,000 members
Unorganised—21,000,000 workers.

The most rapid increase in membership has taken place in the unions affiliated with the C. I. O.

Organisation in steel, since Lewis took it over, has grown from 8000 members to an estimated total of 200,000. The auto union has increased to 200,000 from 20,000.

Organisation growth has not been confined, however, to the C.I.O. The American Federation of Labor has enjoyed membership increases consistent with the last four years.

The rapid rise of Lewis stock in the union market may be attributed to four main causes: (1) Coercion of non-union men by C.I.O. organisers; (2) immunity to legal processes; (3) plentiful funds, and (4) partiality of the Roosevelt administration.

Workers Intimidated

It is no secret that Lewis agitators have abandoned their usual proselytising and propaganda methods and have resorted to mass force. Downright physical coercion has been used in order to compel workers to join a C.I.O. union. Workers whether members of the A.F. of L. or non-union, have been badgered

with threats of actual violence in some cases, and at other times have been told:

"You better join us now and pay two dollars for your badge or it'll cost you twenty-five dollars later on."

Those are the exact words hurled at many employees in the Chrysler auto plants. Others are told their jobs will be taken away from them when "the union takes over the factory and runs it."

Lewis sit-down strike leaders have taken full advantage of their immunity to legal action. Court injunctions have been laughed at where local authorities and the employers are genuinely desirous of preventing bloodshed. Thus assured that punitive measures will not be taken against them, the C.I.O. agents are able to defy the police and the courts for an unlimited period of time.

Plenty of Funds

In the important matter of financial resources, Lewis is in a much more propitious and secure position than his foes in the A.F. of L. He is taking all the money he needs for organisation expenses out of the treasury of the United Mine Workers' Union by the check-off method.

Under the check-off system mine owners are required to deduct union dues and other assessments out of the pay envelopes of the miners and turn the money over to the union officials. Lewis will institute the same system in motors, steel, oil, textiles and other industries, once he has them solidly organised.

The impression that C.I.O. unions want to become the sole bargaining agency for workers with the single desire of bettering labor conditions has been discarded by intelligent people. C.I.O. officialdom wants sole bargaining privileges in order to introduce the check-off system right through America, amongst the 28,000,000 workers.

In approaching the fourth reason for Lewis's strength, his friendship with the President, one must begin with the wholly obvious fact that the chief executive has sided with the Lewis legions by his refusal to become personally involved in the strike problem.

Involves Court Plan

Why has the President washed his hands of the serious state of affairs in the auto strike? Why has he refused to use his authority to forestall an approaching economic crisis that may plunge us back into the dark days of 1932?

The apparent answer is that the President wants the labor issue to come to a head, thus forcing the Supreme Court to render a decision on the Wagner Labor Act. Because of the obvious unconstitutionality of this act, it is assumed that the high tribunal will vote it down. Such a development would, of course, prove to be excellent cannon fodder in the fight for court reform—that is unless the nine judges hand down an overwhelming majority decision.

The President's position, therefore, is one of political strategy. Meanwhile, he has passed the strike problem on to

Secretary of Labor Perkins and her underlings, who are playing Lewis against A. F. of L. president Green and whose considerations are also influenced by politics.

Miss Perkins, in turn, has passed the ball to Governor Murphy of Michigan. Impassioned long distance telephone appeals by Murphy to the President for a change in signals have proved futile. The President wants to remain a sideline quarterback.

Perkins Held Fussy

The official favour shown Lewis may be answerable in part to the mine leader's donation of 441,000 dollars (check-off money) to the war chest of the last New Deal campaign, or in part to the invaluable role he is playing in the court reform tussle.

Certainly the strategic position of Lewis cannot be attributed to friendship between himself and the Secretary of Labor.

Miss Perkins is known to admire the union chief as a woman admires any strong man. But the admiration isn't mutual. Washington correspondents will tell you that Lewis looks upon the secretary as a fussy woman unequipped to handle her job.

It is commonly believed that the issue at stake in the Lewis-Green altercation is founded on the conflict between craft (or

THE "HARD CORE" IN NEW ZEALAND

The numbers of registered unemployed in New Zealand are interesting. Here they are:

1933	46,971 (av.)
1934	39,235 "
1935	38,234 "
End Dec., 1936 ..	36,260 "

The "hard core" of unemployment seems to be rather resistant.

—"Farming First."

skilled trades) unions and industrial unions (covering all the workers in a mass production plant).

That is a mistaken view. The real issue is: Shall the organised Labor movement of America be maintained as a democratic entity or shall the will of one man be made the supreme law governing the destinies of 28,000,000 workers?

Election Withheld

Foremost in the negative, but potent, aid rendered Lewis by the administration in the strike epidemic was the President's refusal to project the National Labor Board into the General Motors negotiations.

The Board is empowered to intervene in such a strike and call an election to determine what union group shall represent the workers as a collective bargaining agent.

An election in the General Motors plants would unquestionably have gone against Lewis's auto union. A somewhat different situation obtains in the Chrysler plants, where the union claims it has a clear majority of the workers organised. If a referendum were conducted in the Chrysler plants, Lewis's opponents say this claim would soon be discredited.

Should the Lewis faction prove its majority among Chrysler workers, the corporation management would undoubtedly test the Wagner Act in the courts.

PARTY POLITICS

"Have you voted, Rastus?"
"Yassir."

"How did you vote?"

"Well, boss, it was dis way. I meets a Republican, and he gibs me eleben dollars to vote his ticket. Den I meets a Democrat, and he gibs me seven dollars to vote his ticket. So I votes for de Democrat."

"But the Republican gave you the most money."

"Yassir. I voted for de Democrats because dey is de least corrupt."

WOOD AND WATER JOEYS

(From a Correspondent.)

The Mildura Water trust requires firewood to pump the water for irrigation, and it may interest your readers to know under what conditions. Some of this wood is found the supplying is let on contract at cut-throat prices, and the cutting is sub-let to the unfortunate hewers of wood at 4/- per 80 feet.

I, and my old clobber, joined a camp of woodcutters about 80 miles up the Darling River, and I shall try to state the conditions which we found prevailing and under which we worked during our term of enslavement there.

* * *

One unfortunate had a tarpaulin thrown over a rope between two trees, and slept on the ground underneath. Yet another had the blue canopy of heaven for a roof, and lay at night on the ground against a tree, and, last but by no means least, "Scottie" had the half of a tent fly sewn to a bag or two, attached to the branches of a gum and hanging loose at the sides.

We found after a day's work that it took a real good man to cut two tons of wood, and thus earn 8/- per day. Our dining table was a chaff bag laid on the ground, and one had to be very quick to beat the ants and flies to it.

In due course, when the wood was measured and paid for, we found the best axe man amongst us had earned £5 in two weeks and a day. Two or three others came next, just covering their "tucker" bill, and a few others were on what I may describe as the bread line.

* * *

Owing to a mishap, the boat did not return to schedule, and the food supply in the camp got pretty low. There was much borrowing of such things as tobacco, flour, tea and sugar, and after making some quiet inquiries, I found that most of the camp lived on "damper," dripping, and an occasional rabbit. No vegetables arrived in the camp while I was there. One cutter stated he had used no butter for weeks. Meat we could have had from a station nearby, but the men seemed slow in ordering it, being fully conscious that they were not "earning" it.

"Scottie's" bunk broke down, the bags which comprised same being rotten. On asking him if he had plenty of bed clothing, he stated he had an overcoat, a "wagger" and some more bags. (It is a pity Australia can't grow wool.)

* * *

When the final settlement was made I was just about square for stores. "Scottie," a Digger, was still 5/9d in debt. It was evening, and he was on the boat to get away, but on learning of his financial position, and apparently being a non-repudiationist and with that true spirit of honesty and bulldog tenacity which we are told builds empires, he jumped off the boat and stayed another week to square matters.

Just then a kookaburra from a gum top burst forth into a peal of mocking laughter, and, looking up, the thought occurred to me, "This bold, black bird is surely Sound Finance in disguise." No wonder Jacky laughed. Although he neither toiled or spun nature had provided him with a full belly, but "Scottie," in the power age, whom science had provided with many units equal to his own capacity for work, could not in a given period provide himself with a very plain and frugal fare.

* * *

Now, Mr. Editor, after wasting, I am afraid, too much of your valuable space I am coming to the point. On March 8 we had a referendum on marketing, and were told by that august organ, the *Sunraysia Daily*, by officialdom generally in Mildura to vote "Yes." The principal threat issued to the worker was that a "No" decision would leave him with a smaller wage and a lower standard of living.

Yet here are the conditions that prevail in raising wood for the

Mildura Trust. During the period of borrowing, when our supplies of stores were low, I never heard of such a thing as butter asked for, and not alone did nobody ask for Five Crown or Four Crown, but there was absolutely no mention of a sultana.

I was one of the 1400 in this district who on referendum day said "No"—due, no doubt, to my brains being back to front, as stated by a Shed Magnate in describing some of the growers. I thus went against public opinion in Mildura. Public opinion in Mildura, you know, Mr. Editor, is the *Sunraysia Daily*. If that paper by any unforeseen circumstances did not appear of a morning, then the sun would never rise. (Hence the name "Sun-raiser.") It is owned, I believe, by an ex-Senator Elliott, who has been to Russia, and came back an admirer of Communism. Yet a few years ago this Mildura paper tried to justify, nay, gloated over a dipping that was given to some Communists in the river here. This, I suppose, may be described as a "change of heart," which Archbishop Head tells us is so necessary. The "Sunraiser" seldom mentions such subjects as Social Credit, but recently took objection to the traffic being obstructed by a meeting held by John Hogan. I was in Mildura on that particular night, and could not pass McInnery's bookshop owing to the presence of three tramp musicians and the crowd gathered on the footpath. No mention of them. They are a necessary evil.

Imagine a Social Credit gathering interfering with the traffic in Mildura—a city founded on Credit as Debt and nurtured on compound interest, where the fear of the banker is written on the hearts of 95 per cent. of the people!

However, we live to learn. I often wondered over the locality of that corner "Joe" mentions, where prosperity hangs out. It must be one of those 20-mile bends on the Darling River.

THE DEBT SYSTEM BREAKING DOWN IN CANADA

The Federal Government was forced to take action recently in the financial affairs of the two Prairie Provinces of Manitoba and Saskatchewan. Some time ago their Ministries notified Ottawa that unless help was forthcoming they would no longer be able to resist local pressure, stimulated by the example of the Social Credit Ministry of Alberta, for a drastic curtailment of interest rates on their bond obligations. The Federal Government felt it wise to secure a report upon the finances of the two Provinces, and Mr. Graham Towers, Governor of the Bank of Canada, took charge of the investigation. His report about Manitoba confirmed the contention that despite taxation of abnormal severity and genuine efforts towards economy, there is no hope of meeting Manitoban obligations.

The appointment of a Royal Commission was then announced to investigate the broad problem of Canadian public finance and the present allocation of powers and responsibilities under the Constitution. But since the situation in Manitoba and Saskatchewan did not admit of waiting the Government agreed to come to the rescue of these Provinces forthwith. This announcement at once evoked a vigorous protest from Mr. Aberhart, who maintained that unfair discrimination was being practised against Alberta.

—The *Economist*, April 10.

MOTH-ERS' DAY

By LEONORA POLKINGHORNE.

Now that it is past, one has leisure to reflect on the tremendous enthusiasm exhibited by trade and commerce in the institution of motherhood.

Appeals to us to remember that we had mothers perked out of every shop window, sprawled over the advertisement pages of the daily press, and were crooned to us over the air with a lingering emphasis and a long vowel. Even our public utilities made use of the occasion, and among appeals to buy her a tube of Clean-em's toothpaste or Screecher's radio we were urged to "Send her a telegram." For even the Government knows that we can't buy half the things we want, and must put in its frenzied claim for its share of revenue. So it would appear that in the scramble for the limited supply of nuts nothing is too sacred for the monkey trick of commerce to make use of. The birth of the Redeemer is made a tremendous ramp, and all prices are marked up as the 25th of December approaches, while the young are encouraged to believe that the Easter tragedy is merely an occasion to buy imitation eggs of plaster of Paris filled with indigestible sweets.

And we submit to it all. Few of us envisage a world so sane, so dignified, that shops would sell and shoppers buy without all this ballyhoo and vulgarity, one in which our domestic relationships and religious emotions were as private as they were holy.

At present it is like the bad old practice, bred out of our wrong economic traditions, of throwing a limited number of sweets to children. It is not the deserving that gets them out of the dirt, but the smartest and those who don't mind mixing a little dirt with them.

Every year this shriek to us to remember our "moth-ers" grows louder and more insistent, and, if it proves successful, we may expect to see other relations' claims made for a day of celebration.

"Satisfying Progress" and "Deplorable Conditions"

In today's (May 13) daily press we read of the "satisfying progress made in the value of Victorian primary and secondary production compared with 1934-35. The total value of production increased from £90,000,000 to nearly £106,000,000. The pastoral production group shows an increase value of nearly five million pounds. These figures . . . make good reading."

What has been said of Victoria may fairly be said of the other States, yet, turning to another part of the paper, we see the following: "Deplorable conditions at Port Adelaide." "To support their claim, which will be submitted to the Minister of Employment, that steps should be taken immediately by the Government to relieve the widespread distress in the Port Adelaide district, representatives of the Port Adelaide Ministers' Fraternal are preparing a detailed report of conditions in the district for presentation to the Minister. In a joint statement, the president of the organisation and the secretary said yesterday that the conditions under which many unemployed and their families had to live were deplorable. People on relief were not getting sufficient food, and many children in the district were being fed on what is known as a deficiency diet. An adult was allowed 2/5 for groceries and 6d for vegetables for a week, with no special milk allowance, except in certain cases, and no allowance for lighting, except by means of candles or kerosene bought with part of the grocery allowance. Each person was allowed two cwt. of wood a fortnight. Absolutely no provision is made for clothing or footwear... We are of the opinion that the figures referring to the decrease in the number of people receiving rations

misrepresents the position as it applies to Port Adelaide. In many cases just enough money is being earned to deprive the worker of his right to receive rations, although the amounts earned are insufficient to maintain the family on a decent standard of living."

Thus the report of the Ministers' Fraternal. In the light of such disclosures, it is hard to see why figures showing increased production can be called "good reading." Good for whom? For the unemployed? We have heard of their plight. For the man on the basic wage? All his costs have gone up, including rent. For Governments? They are still afraid to reduce the unemployment tax, in spite of their repeated assurances that unemployment has decreased tremendously. A little difficult to find out whom it is good for. The primary and secondary producers do not seem to be throwing their hats in the air with joy. The shops are increasing their advertising stunts in the endeavour to draw the money out of the pockets of the people. Mothers' Day is but one. The Rev. A. C. Stevens, whose parish is an industrial and depressed district, speaks out, when approached by the press for some opinion on Mothers' Day, with his usual blunt realism.

What Rev. A. C. Stevens Said

"Modern civilisation has been exceedingly harsh and merciless where mothers are concerned. Vile housing, lack of medical attention, children made victims of poverty and distress, these are the crucifix on which motherhood has been nailed. Australia has been deprived of 60,000 babies since the Great War—more than the actual war mortality itself—through the empty cradles forced on motherhood through unnecessary economic distress. Mr. Hughes has appealed for full cradles. The woman on the basic wage is universally regarded as unwise and foolish if she fills the cradle. Landlords do not want children; the high price of commodities in comparison with wages murders children . . . The nation is in a silent conspiracy to murder motherhood. Thus, while we wear a white flower on Mother's Day, the whole thing is a mockery and a farce unless as a people we repent of our crimes against the very thing we profess to revere."

To arrive at such truths as this we have to wade through columns of Coronation details. This week there is scarcely anything else to read in the dailies. Why is this particular Coronation so loudly over-emphasised? Does it not almost seem that the people have to be kept from thinking of----- well, another and more romantic figure who was once expected to be the central one on this occasion? So the outpouring of slush goes on—slush about loyalty, slush about the Empire, slush about the little Princesses (one cable reported that Princess Elizabeth "patted her mother's gown" during the ceremony), and, worst of all, unending slush about motherhood, the while thousands of mothers live unsanctarily, undernourished and half-crazed with anxiety for the future of their children in a world that pours forth sentiment lavishly, but purchasing power penuriously.

There is one way in which to honour motherhood, and that can be done by getting behind the Electoral Campaign, and compelling legislators to stop thinking of Coronations and the honours crumbs that drop from the Coronation table, and to get busy abolishing unnecessary poverty.

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THE BASIC WAGE—AND SOME BASIC REALITIES

In view of the present basic wage application before the Arbitration Court, the article reprinted below from the April 26 issue of "Farming First" (the official organ of the Auckland Province of the New Zealand Farmers' Union) might well be read by every wage earner in Australia.

The annual conference of the New Zealand Labor Party has just been held in Wellington. One of the resolutions passed was as follows:—"That it be a recommendation to the Government to set up a Commission to investigate the cost of living, with the object of deciding upon a wage that will adequately provide a reasonable standard of living for a man, his wife and three children."

Reports in the Auckland press, as might be expected, have been meagre. When, therefore, we are told very-briefly "considerable discussion took place concerning the basic wage before the conference passed this resolution," we are left with a feeling of deprivation. It would have been interesting to learn just what paths the discussion followed. We may be sure that there was a certain amount of nonsense talked; for the correspondence columns of the city press have no monopoly of economic drivellers, and conferences of political parties offer a peculiar temptation to such folk. We may be equally sure that the remit brought out a good deal of sensible comment on the part of some of the delegates. We find no evidence, however, in the resolution actually passed, of any genuine effort on the part of the conference as a whole to come to grips with reality.

Eminent Historian

Our first criticism of the remit is a technical one. The Commission that it is suggested should be set up would, we fear, almost certainly include the Government Statistician, and be dependent very largely on the information it is his business to collect. The Government Statistician, unfortunately, is so strongly imbued with that "sense of the past," described by the novelist, Henry James, that his cost-of-living figures, as they appear in the monthly Abstract of Statistics, might almost be said to belong to the domain of history rather than of economics. Examining them, the man in the street will be struck by their failure to keep pace with those sharp rises in prices that his wife tells him about at dinner every night. It is to be feared that if the Statistics Department were to have a hand in the work of the Commission, the basic wage would turn out to be so very basic that the delegates to the Labor conference would cry out in pain.

Real Benefit Cancelled

This, we freely admit, is a practical difficulty that might be surmounted. But there is another and much more serious criticism to be made of the resolution. Putting it briefly, it is this: that it asks for a benefit to be conferred on the wage earners, and at the same time cancels that benefit.

We once knew an old gentleman who used to play himself at billiards at five pounds a time, and get a lot of fun out of it. The logic at the back of the Labor conference's demand is of the same order as the old gentleman's; but we doubt whether they and the wage earners they represent will get an equal amount of fun. Events during the past year or so have shown that a simple policy of bolstering up wages leads by an equally simple process to the bolstering up of the cost of living. Indeed, the position may in the end be worse, because higher wages provide an excuse for unscrupulous businessmen to profiteer. There can be no

doubt whatever that this sort of thing is going on to some extent at the present time. The prices of some products are being raised beyond the level justified by increased wage costs. Delegates to a Labor conference, having the interests of the mass of the people at heart, should have only one aim in dealing with the wage question—the aim of increasing the *real* income of the community. When they ask that wages shall be raised, without making any provision for keeping down prices, they merely bite their own tongues.

The Root of the Matter

The main point in this whole matter (and we hope that it found expression from some of the delegates) is that increased wages *must* involve increased prices if they pass through the books of employers. The only sort of wage increase that can represent a rise in *real* income is the sort that does not go through the books of industry. In other words, only a distribution of extra income, in some form or other, *out of the National Credit*, can bridge the gap that exists at present between production (actual and possible) and consumption.

To issue money on overdraft from the Reserve Bank for public works or for other purposes is to concede the rightness of the principle we have just mentioned. But two further conditions are necessary—first, that the overdraft shall never be repaid; and second, that the purposes for which the money is issued shall be genuine, and not based on the irrationality of "work for work's sake." The most necessary and practicable method of providing such extra money would be to build up returns to primary producers to a level that permitted them to meet their costs; for this, by ensuring a steady supply of imports, would benefit the whole community. We do not, however, presume to lay down the law as to the method. We wish rather to see the principle accepted first—accepted fully and frankly, as it was by many of the Labor Party's candidates at the last election.

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(Continued from page 3.)

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ELECTORAL CAMPAIGN NOTES

VICTORIA.

Box Hill. —A telephone message from Box Hill as this issue goes to press (Wednesday night) reports that an enthusiastic audience of 600 persons in the Box Hill Town Hall is applauding the opening remarks of Dr. John Dale, Melbourne City Health Officer, as he opens the Campaign in the first of the metropolitan Town Hall meetings.

A full report will appear in next week's issue.

Caulfield. —The Caulfield meeting takes place on Tuesday next, May 25, at 8 p.m. The organisers are satisfied that their work will fill the hall. Every possible means of publicity has been used to make the meeting known—leaflet distribution, 500 addressed invitations, screen announcements at three picture theatres, organisations advised, amplifier announcements in the business centres. Certainly the organisers deserve great credit for their efforts to bring the citizens of Caulfield together. The Caulfield Council is to be congratulated on their public-spirited action in making the City Hall available, free of charge, for the occasion. South Melbourne will follow with its meeting shortly after Caulfield.

Indi Electorate. —John Hogan addressed two meetings in the Indi electorate during the week. Wangaratta turned out with an attendance of nearly 400. Benalla had not such a good attendance, about 80, but the Campaign Director reports that he is more satisfied with the Benalla than with the Wangaratta meeting. Wangaratta was no surprise to him, but Benalla has more than filled his hopes. The men present, he said, were the key men of the town and district, and the meeting has given him confidence of thorough work being undertaken in that division of the electorate. John's meetings produced immediate results by the arrival of unsolicited signed Demand Forms.

Cranbourne. —A request has come from Cranbourne for a speaker to address an organised meeting. This is an example of the work of quiet contacting, probably resulting from a stray leaflet or spoken word. The request arrived voluntarily. May many more come in a like manner.

Home Fireside Meetings —The initial meeting at Caulfield had an attendance of 17. The hostess, after being worried as to how to entertain her guests, was nonplussed because she couldn't work in her programme. Important things of State kept a hum of earnest conversation going. No doubt, the Fireside Meetings are a wonderful means of keeping enthusiasm going, and also of kindling a flame in new bosoms.

Speakers' Classes—Will those who have been attending the speakers' classes please note that the Tuesday evening classes will be discontinued for a period. Notice will be given in these columns of the date on which they will be resumed. The Thursday evening class will be continued until further notice at Central House, Collins Street, City.

Squalid Slums "Appalling." —From the *Argus* of May 18: "The Rev. N. Stuart Watts, in an address to members of the Quota Club today, said that conditions in the slums of Sydney were appalling. I have been amazed at the housing conditions," he said. "On a recent tour I saw tubercular children, insufficiently clad; I saw eight people of both sexes living in two rooms; mildew on the walls of houses; houses that never receive a ray of sunshine; small backyards and no bathing facilities in house after house.

In these primitive conditions people are trying desperately to remain clean and are trying to live moral lives. The odds are against them. I Sydney there are 2000 acres of squalid, congested areas, some of which, I am

forced to admit, are owned by the Church. Other cities in Australia and many country towns have similar problems; investigation in Melbourne would astonish some people who imagine that the only slums in Australia are in Sydney."

IS THERE POVERTY IN OUR MIDST?

DEMAND THAT SUCH DISGRACEFUL CONDITIONS SHALL BE REMOVED.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

Adelaide Division—The spectacular activity continues at the Botanic Park meetings. Messrs. C. Goode and C. D. Brock are the speakers, and permits are being secured for others. Results are showing in the form of funds, enquiries and signatures. This work will be continued every Sunday. Workers to distribute forms and leaflets and to collect signatures are needed. The Stump is opposite the Botanic Gardens entrance.

Public Meetings—In response to requests for information, meetings will be held at 17 Waymouth-street on Mondays, May 24, 31, and June 7. Questions and discussion will be included.

Divisional Meeting—For organising purposes, a general meeting of workers and supporters in the Adelaide Division and in Magill Sub-division will be held at 17 Waymouth-street at 8 p.m. on Thursday, May 27. This meeting will be an important one. We need to organise for social, financial and Campaign support. Every member can find a place in these fields of action.

The Electoral Campaign in a Nutshell - Two fundamentals for acceptance—namely: (1) That Members of Parliament are our servants and should do our will; (2) that there is a general inarticulate desire that poverty could and should be abolished. We offer a simple, yet certain, strategy which will (1) awaken and direct this desire; (2) invoke the sovereign power of the people; (3) demand the result wanted; and (4) bring irresistible pressure to bear on our M.P. to get that result. Then present the Demand Form and get the signature.

Co-operation of Other Organisations — There is a decided possibility of co-operation taking place between the member organisations of the Council of Churches and the Electoral Campaign body. From a number of the leading men in some of the Church denominations, and kindred bodies, we have received remarkable encouragement; and it is intended immediately to place the situation before the remaining religious bodies, so that they will be obliged to side with their more advanced friends and plainly and publicly state that they are in favour of the Abolition of Poverty. When these leading men put their name to a statement to that effect it means that this organisation has the moral support of a very large section of the community represented by these religious organisations.

Luncheon Address. — Mr. Stott, M.P., delivered the Luncheon Address at the Headquarters Rooms on Friday, May 14. In dealing with the work of the Civilian T.B. and Cancer Aid Society, on behalf of which Mr. Stott was speaking, he made it clear that in the last analysis the terrible effects of T.B., especially on the lives of the younger people of today, were due to poverty. While pointing out the very valuable work that the society had so far accomplished, Mr. Stott also made it clear that but for artificial restrictions a far greater result could be achieved. At the conclusion of the address many questions were asked, most of which were in the nature of inquiries as to whether the society had brought pressure to bear on the Government for assistance in such a valuable work. The president, Mr. C. L. Tucker, asked Mr. Stott if his society would cooperate with many

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

A HEADMASTER'S SCATHING ATTACK ON "OUR ROTTEN SOCIAL SYSTEM."

At a gathering of parents of students at the Tintern Church of England Girls' Grammar School recently, Mr. J. R. Darling, headmaster of the Geelong Grammar School, trenchantly criticised the social system which ordains that so many girls should be forced out into the business world at an age when they are becoming most capable of imbibing and assimilating the fruits of knowledge that our educational establishments are prepared to give. He said: "The years from 16 to 19 are all-important years. At 16 the girl has only just readied the stage when she can think for herself and is ready to be educated. And in those years she is sent into the business world, which, we know, is not the life that should be chosen for her, and where she is engaged because she is cheaper than a boy of the same age, and will ask less in the future from the firm that employs her. And it is a rotten social system which allows such things to be, and we are wrong to accept such conditions in what we call a true democracy."

In a striking passage, Mr. Darling went on to say: "We all have in our minds an ideal of happiness, and real education, which can be obtained at school only in the later years, and which should help the girls to attain not the independence derived from earning money for themselves, but that independence of spirit, that impregnability of soul, which enables them to face unshaken disaster, success, failure, even death itself, and which alone can lead to real happiness—to what may be called the 'peace of God that passeth understanding.'" Unless education of this kind is given in this immediate generation, and that succeeding it, we shall have no means by which to combat the state it is today, and save it from imminent disaster."

If a word of criticism might here be expressed, it is that it is difficult to conceive that the present financial system, which tyrannously dominates our social organisation, can possibly last until the succeeding generation appears.

During recent years, tens of thousands of girls and women have seen ideals shattered, have had to meet the disaster, failure, and hopelessness engendered by this iniquitous and "rotten social system" which Mr. Darling denounces, and it would be a triumph for unrighte-

other organisations in publicly stating that they demanded the Abolition of Poverty so that their own special work would not be hindered. Mr. Stott assured Mr. Tucker that that would be done.

Northern Trip. — One member of the executive lately visited the towns of Port Pirie, Kadina and Wallaroo, making a number of personal contacts with representative people. He found everywhere a readiness to hear, and expressions of interest and sympathy. To a Ministers' Fraternal Group at Port Pirie a simple outline was presented in a few minutes, after which a searching discussion on many aspects of the Campaign lasted for about an hour. No attempt was made to form organised Groups, but it is confidently expected that in each town some local spontaneous move will be made to arrange for the canvassing work.

Social Activities. — A dance (plain dress—not fancy, as previously announced) will be held at the Hansen-street Hall, near Wakefield-street, on Saturday, May 29, at 8 p.m. No admission charge; basket supper, one shilling. In aid of Campaign Funds. You can make it a success. A children's Party will be held at the Hansen Street Hall on Friday, May 21 from 3 to 5 p.m. Plain and fancy dress. Children and adults sixpence.

ousness if this immediate generation did not banish it from the earth.

Mr. Darling deserves the thanks of everyone in the community who has a spark of altruistic desire and who wishes to see the young people of this land given the opportunity to rise to the cultural and spiritual heights to which real education leads. The reason this opportunity is denied the vast majority is that our unchristian monetary system decrees that each succeeding generation of so-called freemen shall be in the bondage of financial servitude from the cradle to the grave.

Mr. W. Kent Hughes, in a letter commending Mr. Darling's address, states: "Education, as carried out by our public schools, is the best thing I know to discourage thirst for knowledge." Many other parents have expressed similar views, and it really seems that this criticism would also apply to education through Rhodes Scholarships. It is rather remarkable that a well-known political party which, in a Rhodes scholar, has one of its leading lights, has never shown any thirst for knowledge as to the reason why, in a land possessing abundant wealth for all, the majority of its inhabitants should be doomed to a life of insecurity and destitution.

There appears to be little hope of that party initiating any movement with the objective of loosening the stranglehold on our social system of the financial octopus, which incidentally is the cause of some 30,000 youths, products of our schools, going out annually on a hopeless search for an opening for their talents. To this feature Mr. Darling's strictures on our "rotten social system" apply with equal force, but until the State makes the financial system its servant instead of its master, it is misuse of words to claim either that we are a free people or a true democracy.

W. E. P.

CAPITAL FACILITIES AND PURCHASING POWER.

During the hearing of evidence in support of the unions' claim for an increase in the basic wage, Mr. P. J. Clarey pointed out that, from present indications, there is more money available for extending capital facilities than for purchasing power for consumable goods. Chief Judge Dethridge is reported to have said in reply "money spent on capital facilities must also be spent eventually on consumable goods."

This idea that capital investment becomes consumers' purchasing power is a half-truth, which needs more careful examination than it usually receives. Of course, the classical economists held that increases in capital investments and plant capacity were desirable. But

theirs was the economics of scarcity, when the world badly needed such increased facilities. Today the big problem is to find markets for consumable goods, which are available in such quantities, that they are difficult to sell at profitable prices because the people have not sufficient purchasing power to buy them.

Another factor, which the learned judge appears to have missed, is the disproportionate amount of overhead or capital charges (other than labour costs), which make up retail prices.

Modern machine methods have reduced the wage cost per unit of product, but in many cases the overhead capital costs have increased greatly. Thus, a reduction in labour cost per unit of up to 40 per cent. may result in a drop in the retail price of only 10 or 15 per cent. The difference is due to increased charges for machinery, interest, and (don't forget this) extra profit. For, in spite of difficult conditions, many large manufacturing concerns are making enormous profits, which are, in the main, re-invested ("reserves used in the business," etc.).

To assume that savings invested become purchasing power, since they are used to provide more capital equipment, is very natural. But it does not follow from this that they provide sufficient purchasing power. Invested savings, when they do ultimately, after a time lag, become consumers' purchasing power, may suffice to buy the consumable goods in respect of which they were originally issued (and saved); but what then happens to the investment? If I am paid £5 a week as a hand in a boot factory, this £5 must appear in the price of boots. If I save £1 and invest it in the expansion of the factory, it may ultimately be paid out through additions to plant, in which case it will suffice to buy such boots as had to remain unsold until then. But additions to plant must in turn be charged for in subsequent boots turned out, and how are they to be paid for? You cannot pay for £2 worth of costs with £1 of purchasing power, although both Judge Dethridge and Mr. Clarey seemed to think so.

ARIEL.

FEDERAL ELECTORATE OF INDI

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