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Vol. 3. No. 26.

MELBOURNE, FRIDAY, JUNE 25, 1937.

Every Friday 3d

The National Insurance Fraud

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More About Mr. Menzies' Directorships

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(Continued on page 3.)

The National Insurance Absurdity

Ince's Report Shows Futility of Present Schemes

The long-awaited report and suggestions on national insurance, prepared by the British "expert," Mr. G. H. Ince, and summarised in the press some days ago, should surely be enough to kill any chance of the Lyons Ministry getting back to office by trailing this red herring before the electors. To talk national insurance in the abstract might have served some purpose, but the details now revealed show all the worst elements of the dole without even its doubtful benefits. Summed up, the scheme may be described as one for robbing the lower paid workers while in employment, their "reward" being a short-term dole (paid out of their own meagre earnings) when they become unemployed. The "insurance" is merely one against outright starvation, and even this is not to be permanent at all

The Benefits

The benefits envisaged by the Ince proposals are as follow: — Males, 18 to 21 .. 13/6 a week Females, 18 to 21 .. 12/- a week Adult single males .. 15/- a week Adult single females.. 13/6 a week Married men .. 27/- a week dependent child (maximum, 4) .. 4/6 a week It will thus be seen that the amount to be drawn by a family consisting of man, wife and three children will be £2/0/6 per week, while, no matter how large the family may be, the absolute maximum benefit is not to exceed £2/5/- a week. Is this genuine insurance? But the time limit makes even this paltry provision still worse. Even where a contributor has qualified for the full benefit obtainable, he is limited to drawing the above amounts for a maximum of 26 consecutive weeks, and for a maximum of 34 weeks in all in any year.

The Contributions

To make the scheme feasible, it is proposed that equal contributions shall be made by employers, employees and Government - - the amount to be 9d a week from each in the case of adult males, ranging down to 7d in the case of females aged from 18 to 21. Taking the instance of the married man with three children, it will thus be seen that the total fund provided will be insufficient to furnish him with an average of three weeks' benefit per year—contributions for 49 weeks amounting to £5/10/3 and benefit for three weeks requiring £6/1/6. (It is not likely that any interest earned by investing the funds will exceed the costs of administration, especially in view of Mr. Ince's warning that benefits are to be paid "only to those involuntarily unemployed"—a fine field for administrative costs of sticky beaks.) Thus the greatest percentage of unemployment that could be financed even on this paltry scale would be about six per cent—whereas, even in these times of alleged prosperity, we are admitted to have about ten per cent, which everyone knows to be far below the real figure.

The Costs

Mr. Ince calculates the costs, basing his figures on last financial year's employment figures, as about £1,900,000 each for the Government, for employers and for employees. As employer, the Government will also have to find about £440,000, making its total share £2,340,000, and bringing down that of

private employers to a little below £1½ millions.

Whence does the Government propose to find the revenue that will enable it to make this contribution? And whence do employers propose to find their quota? It is perfectly clear that both will pass it on, the Government through taxation and the employers through prices. And, as taxation goes into prices, the consumer will have to bear the lot—especially the consumer of those things which have the biggest market, namely, food-stuffs and the cheaper types of clothing.

In this respect, while it is good to see the determined opposition now being offered by the trades unions and similar bodies to what they call

away with the unemployment tax and other taxes.

The Right Way

Is national insurance, then, impracticable? Of course it is not. But it will never become practicable until Governments and "experts" face up to the real problem before them. Six or seven years ago, when the present "trade cycle" was at its lowest point, and destitute unemployment at its highest, what was our position? Were, we producing any less of the necessities or amenities of life than we had been three or four years previously? On the contrary. We do not any longer have to insure ourselves to any extent against natural failures, since we have so greatly improved our methods of conservation as well as our methods of production. The idea of "saving" wool, or wheat, or such like, is therefore absurd. And the idea of saving money income as

insurance is equally so—in fact, it amounts to the same thing, since unspent money means unsold goods.

Just imagine that the process proposed today were to be reversed. Imagine the Government adding nine pence to the worker's pay envelope; subsidising industry, for a change, to the extent of nine pence per worker per week; and taking nine pence a week per worker off our taxes. Would the effect be good or bad? Any person of commonsense knows it would be good for every sort of business—except usury. Well, that is the sort of insurance scheme the Federal Government should be embarking on—not to the tune of nine pence per week, but right up to the limit of industry's capacity to deliver goods to those that wanted them.

The only form of financial insurance this community needs is insurance against unsold or unsaleable goods. And taking away part of our present paltry incomes is no help in that direction.

EXPERT EXPLANATIONS

By DYNAMICS

Those who appreciate the vein of humour, which runs through the lighter works of Stephen Leacock will, if they read it, enjoy a story called "My Fishpond" by that writer.

To what extent he consciously wished to "give away" the economists, amongst whom he classes himself, it is not easy to estimate, but if readers know of the story they may be able to form some opinion.

This pond was a fisherman's paradise in every respect, except that there were no fish in it to be caught. Only old hands were invited to try their skill. "If I took ordinary men, they would very likely notice that they got no fish. The expert doesn't, he knows trout fishing too well"—and so on, and so on in this vein, describing all the explanations and evasions of which the expert is aware, and all the pleasure to be had out of careful preparations and thorough-going professional handling of good tackle. "It's the idea of the thing that counts, not the reality; you don't need fish for fishing."

The present writer feels that he

owes a debt of gratitude to Stephen Leacock for his illuminating sidelight on the economists' outlook.

One was inclined, on noting the outward signs alone, to simply class economists as paid prevaricators, and leave it at that; but such a pronouncement, it can now be seen, lacks insight. These experts adopt their game as a means of displaying finesse in the use of useless formulae and artificial criteria.

Don't let us get wrathful at them; there is coming soon an age of leisure, and it will be a great pity if expertness in any form of harmless sport is lost to the world. Deprived of their entrancing pastime, these men will be like fish out of water, and if we have no time to bury them fast enough the air will be polluted. Let us be careful not to disturb them at their "work."

In every other realm we invariably recognise that experts are not really fulfilling a proper function unless they are in a position where responsibility for results expected of them is saddled upon them; but economists are the exceptions who attempt to disprove all the realistic rules.

BRITAIN'S INHERITANCE

In an article showing the economic progress of Britain in the last 100 years, the "Economist" gives the following relative figures of a century ago and of today: —

Table with 3 columns: Item, 1837, 1936. Rows include Population, Imports, Exports, Railway Mileage, Coal Output (tons), Shipping (tons), Taxation.

Population has not quite doubled. The output of real wealth has multiplied many times. AND TAXATION PER HEAD IS ALMOST NINE TIMES AS HEAVY.

Is it any wonder that the "Economist" observes: "Today, when we survey the inheritance our Victorian progenitors have bequeathed us, we have room for gratitude but little for complaisance. Within our own time, the course of trade has been partially choked again by restraints and restrictions all over the world. The cost of war challenges the cost of welfare in the national accounts. There are 1 ½ millions unemployed this Coronation time. The slums, mal-nutrition, Depressed Areas and destitution remain with us, even at the peak of current prosperity."

1937 AND ALL THAT

By YAFFLE, in "Reynolds News."

I note with surprise that there were only a few motor vehicles in the whole of the Coronation procession, and that the average speed over the whole course was less than two-and-two-thirds miles an hour. Further, the complete absence of stream-line in the design of the royal coach, together with its heavy and unscientific construction, rendered it utterly out of place in any exhibition of modern transport.

I take a serious view of this deliberate gesture of indifference towards scientific progress.

The whole Coronation proceedings were conducted in flagrant defiance of those paramount claims of speed, economy, and mechanical perfection, which together constitute the whole aim of modern civilisation, and should be the duty of this country to exemplify.

Such conduct must inevitably tend to encourage those reactionary elements in our midst, which, under the guise of tradition, sentiment, or humanitarianism, continually endeavour to sabotage the development of national efficiency by giving mankind an economically unwarranted breathing space.

Further, it was most unfortunate that, at the very time when the busmen are threatening the progress of civilisation by their protest against speed, the most important

It may be said, in defence, that there was no need to save time and energy, as the object in view was impressiveness and symbolism, not economy and efficiency.

I cannot admit this. It is officially stated that the Coronation was intended to symbolise the unity of heart and soul and the common hopes and aims of the British Empire. What, then, are these common hopes arid aspirations?

At all other times, when not actually engaged in crowning a King, we are told that our common object is to make the Empire supreme in military strength, commercial expansion, and scientific progress. What does this mean but that the aims in the pursuit of which the hearts of all British subjects beat as one are rearmament, mechanisation, and speed-up?

Yet, instead of symbolising this, the whole affair expressed the exact opposite. The soldiers wore no gas masks, the Abbey and the ceremony were mediaeval, and the procession went at a walk.

In short, on the one occasion when the Empire was called upon to speak with one voice, all it said could be summed up in the phrase "Go slow and be old-fashioned."

And, to make matters worse, this hitherto unexpressed popular revolt against progress was finally put into words by no less a personage than

Honoured Sir, —

Many flowers have flowed under honourable bridge and much water blown away on wind since last I have privilege of communicating with your disgraceful self. Have spent interim in perfecting knowledge of Australian language as recent exploit of H.M.A. (Paterson's) S. Larrakia clearly indicate forthwith and immediate conquest of Land of Rising Sun by land of Sitting Bull (here please see oblique reference to multitudinous speech of multifarious and nefarious Australian politician. No reference to late lamented and comparatively able Indian Chief). Have asked all Japanese lugger to refuse tow to Australian warship until mail delivered, so fully expect letter to reach revolting self and appear in ridiculous columns of *New Times*.

Whacko and big doings since last epistle. Japanese army have arose and put all Cabinet Minister and politician on spot. Since then country go ahead by leap

They insist on having stagecoaches and robins on their Christmas cards, instead of aeroplanes and cubist designs. Their conceptions of beauty and romance exclude any scenes, costumes, or architecture later than those of the eighteenth century. Left to themselves, the masses would rather gaze upon Westminster Abbey than upon the Battersea Power House, and one continually meets people who would rather see buttercups in a field than the concrete floor of an air-landing station.

So widespread and infectious is this revolt against progress that few are untaunted by it. Indeed, the other day I caught myself, in a moment of moral laxity, observing that such machinery as may be necessary should be hidden underground out of sight, like a sewage system, or anything else essential but unpleasant.

It is true I repented of it next minute, and burnt five candles before the photographs of Mr. H. G. Wells and the latest bomber. But one cannot unsay sinful words.

The least that can be done to repair the damage is that, when the King opens his first Parliament, the roof of Westminster Hall shall be removed, and replaced by a concrete landing stage.

This will enable the King to approach his Parliament in a manner more symbolical of the aims and aspirations of an enlightened and civilised people.

Is it true, Mr. Yaffle, that you were seen last night on a main country road riding an old bicycle, with a mudguard tied on with string?

True: but my progress was ceremonial, and designed to illustrate the need for national efficiency.

flowery speeches—and also as to the meaning of the word, "Minister." Every time an issue of importance to the people arises you become more and more dictatorial. When our overseas trade was in jeopardy a year ago, you told your masters to keep out of the ring. When the question arose in December as to who should be our constitutional sovereign, you said the position was too delicate for us even to express an opinion, much less make a decision for ourselves. When the liberty of the subject was at stake, you people—who have just been paying lip service in London to the term "British subject," as against "Australian citizen"—excluded a white British subject by blackguarding her character without giving her the opportunity to defend her reputation; and when you finally decided to let her into the country (thus tacitly abandoning your allegations), you had not the manliness to withdraw your aspersions. Now, having for years filched from us excessive sums through annual taxation and thus placed millions in so-called Defence Trust Funds, you have the hardihood to refuse to tell us how you have spent OUR money.

There is only one word, Sir, to apply to conduct of that sort coming from servants. The word is DISHONESTY.

THE NEW TIMES

AS OTHERS SEE US

Dear Editor: I forward herewith the last communication received by me from my Tokio correspondent, Soitchi Iturts. — W. Blackstone.

and two bounds. Earnestly hope to see Australian army trained in Japanese method, but same result of course too much to hope for, because nearly all Australian Cabinet Minister almost always away in England and H.M.A. (Paterson's) S. Larrakia could not travel so far without tow.

Have studied, with great closeness, doings (if any) of Imperial Conference, and highly delighted with result (if any). Consider attitude of Canada, South Africa, and New Zealand only too frightful. Extreme selfishness of Empire politician to be highly deplored. It would seem such gents not only unable to think imperially but too much concerned with welfare of own small portion of mighty empire on which sun not game to set in case further territory be pinched in dark. Attitude contrasted only too dismally with noble stand of Australian Joe who apparently prepared to pledge life of all Australians between age of twenty-one (years) and forty-five (years) in defence of diversified object such as Suez Canal, Jewish colony in Palestine, Air Force in Waziristan, oil wells in Persia, and large book debt to Bank of England. Only hope some Australian with mechanical knowledge left to assist with H.M.A. (Paterson's) S. Larrakia if further arrest of Japanese lugger imminent or advisable.

Very too much delighted to see announcement by Honorable Joe of impending visit to Australia of gracious Majesty George, King. Judicious handling by Murdoch, Keith, Sir, might convince boneheaded Australian public that all due to Honorable Joe: might, at pinch, supply Honorable Joe with election yell to serve in lieu of policy (being none). Offer above suggestion without fee.

Surely grave slip have occurred somewhere. Have read in Melbourne *Herald* how Spanish city of Bilbao have been entered by "rebel" forces and found intact. Same having been previously destroyed in *Herald* columns by (a) German airmen; (b) Moorish savages; (c) Mussolini's minions, must be found intact by mistake. Sincerely hope unfortunate lino-typer do not lose estimable job through perpetrating gross and obvious blunder.

Am closing in haste so that letter may arrive in time to appear on Thursday and then same may reach eye of all prosperous citizens on way to draw sustenance, invalid and old age pension. When on foreign sea on way to fight battle of Bank of England think delightfully of fact that empty place at your too desirable fireside will be filled by affectionate cobbler of boyhood youth who now subscribe himself

New Times SHOPPING GUIDE and Business Directory

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MELBOURNE (Cont.)

(Continued from page 2.)

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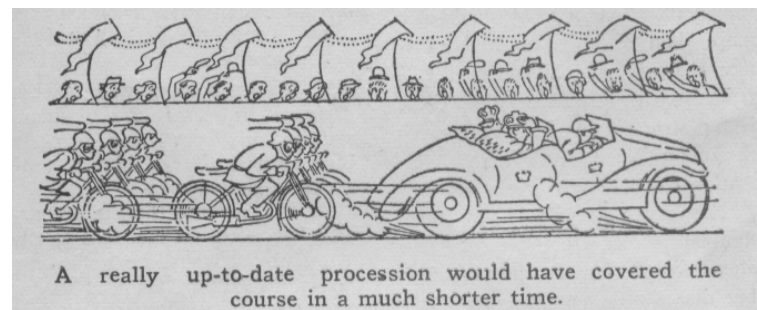
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 LADIES' Hairdresser. Haw. 5605. "Burnie Salon," 81 Cotham Rd.

(Continued on page 7.)



A really up-to-date procession would have covered the course in a much shorter time.

public demonstration of our time should be distinguished by the use of the slowest possible means of locomotion.

The only concession to modern speed-up methods was to cut down the Abbey service from its former six hours to three and a quarter hours.

This was trivial. In view of the fact that modern speed-up methods have reduced the time taken for industrial processes by several hundreds per cent, since the war, there is little merit in having reduced the time-schedule for king-crowning by a paltry 46 per cent, in 500 years.

In fact, it is clear from all accounts that the ceremony was conducted without any reference whatsoever to the principles of the Bedaux system. The persons concerned performed their functions in the longest and most uneconomical way, with no effort to avoid duplicated operation or economise in muscular energy.

Any factory conducting its business on the lines of the Coronation ceremony would lose its foreign markets in a week.

the Archbishop of Canterbury, who said the other day, "It is the very merit of the Coronation service that it is not, as we say, up to date."

Remembering other occasions in our history when an ecclesiastical dignitary has led a popular revolt, one can only regard the Archbishop's words as having a sinister revolutionary significance, if not actually designed to encourage the busmen.

The whole affair was most unfortunate. It was tantamount to an admission, on the part of the authorities, that at times of national importance the principles of modern science can be ignored.

It is hard enough as it is to keep the people up to date. They have a natural preference for old-fashioned things, which it is proving very difficult to stun them out of.

In matters of taste they always look backwards. They pay lip service to progress, but when they are not actually being told that they like it, they continually show they prefer the opposite.

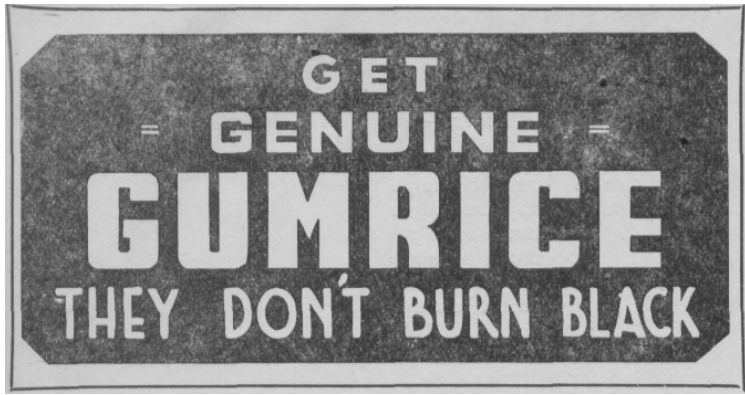
The Hon. H. V. C. Thorby, Acting Minister for Defence.

Dear Sir, —

It is reported in the daily press that the Leader of the Opposition asked in the House for information as to the value of munitions, arms and war materials imported into Australia during the past six years. The press goes on to say that on Friday your answer was that it was not in the public interest to make this information available, and that on Tuesday, when Mr. Curtin repeated his question, you replied that you were prepared to make the information and a good deal more available to the Leader of the Opposition, but that you could not see your way to make it public.

Why not, Mr. Thorby? Who are you, anyway, and who is Mr. Curtin? Are you not a pair of servants, engaged and paid by that public towards whom you, Sir, display so great a contempt? And who pays for the arms and other war materials of which you propose to keep the nature and the very price a secret? It is not the same long-suffering public?

It is high time, Mr. Thorby, that you and your fellow-Ministers did some solid thinking as to the meaning of that word "democracy"—about which the Attorney-General likes to make such



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FRIDAY, JUNE 25.

"At No Cost to the Trusts"

When commenting recently on the company directorships held by Mr. R. G. Menzies while acting as Federal Attorney-General, we noted his connection with National Reliance Investment Trust, Were's Investment Trust, Capel Court Investment Trust and the newly formed Jason Investment Trust.

Since then we have read the full text of the chairman's speech at the seventh annual meeting of National Reliance Investment Trust, to the newspaper report of which we made a brief reference in our former article. In this speech the chairman, Mr. Ricketson (partner in J. B. Were and Son and chairman of the *Argus*) made a most illuminating reference—and one that amply bears out what we said—when he admitted "the periodic visits of directors to other countries at no cost to the Trusts have been of great assistance." Mr. Menzies, of course, is one of those directors, and we presume his overseas visits are the ones principally referred to as having been undertaken at no cost to the Trusts (*you* paid for them).

In case readers unfamiliar with the domestic arrangements of these Trusts may wonder at the connection between their affairs and overseas visits, it may be added that Mr. Ricketson's speech showed the investments of National Reliance Investment Trust to be held as follows:—Australia and New Zealand, 65.9 per cent; England, 10.8; America, 14.8; Canada, 2.9; and "other countries," 5.6 per cent. So that over a third of National Reliance's funds are employed abroad. And presumably a similar policy is being followed in the case of the three sister trusts. As overseas funds proceed from the sale abroad of Australian produce, the effect of the policy being pursued by Mr.

Menzies and his co-directors is that Australian wealth is first sent out of this country; then the funds proceeding from its realisation are used to stimulate the industries of foreign countries. And at the same time Mr. Menzies' political cronies are crying out that we badly need capital from abroad to develop Australia.

Another point that appears from the report is that, of the investments of National Reliance, only one-tenth of one per cent, are in the form of Government securities. Hence, at the same time as Mr. R. G. Menzies, acting Federal Treasurer, was telling us a few weeks ago how attractive Federal loans were, and how as good Australians we should look upon it as our duty to subscribe, Mr. R. G. Menzies, trustee for enormous sums of small investors' savings, was making sure that only the one-thousandth part of such sums were applied to the purchase of Government securities.

On the question of the Trust's investments, still another point that emerges is that 14.6 per cent, were applied to shares in banks, insurance and finance companies ("hands off the banks"), and 17.3 per cent, to Barrier stocks and colliery companies—from which it will appear that the private interests of Mr. Menzies stand to gain by rearmament and also by the suppression of Victoria's State coal mine at Wonthaggi.

In noting these matters, we are making no insinuations against the Attorney General. We are merely remarking that his dual position recalls forcibly the Biblical saying that no man can serve two masters; and we think that if he wishes to withdraw from a false situation he should either retire from his company directorships or retire from the Ministry. Personally, we should much prefer the latter.

The Chain Store Goes T.P.

A fortnight ago it was remarked in these columns that the only two classes of shares lately showing signs of great prosperity are those dealing in monopolies, such as Australian Glass (which has since disclosed record profits), and those which depend for their prosperity upon the poverty of the community. As instances of the latter we named the chain store business of G. J. Coles and Co. and the time payment firm of Cox Bros.

During the past week, if further evidence of the increasing general poverty of the community were required, and of the opinion of shrewd businessmen that this poverty will increase rather than diminish, it has been supplied in the newspaper advertisements for an enterprise known as Highgates Ltd. This concern, floated with a nominal capital of half a million, of which £150,000 is offered for immediate public subscription, pro-

poses to go one better (or worse) than even the chain stores. It intends to put into operation the chain store business *on time payment*. In its own words: "The success of ordinary chain stores such as Woolworths, Coles, Selfridges and others is well known to the investing public. There are also numerous examples of the success of credit trading in Australia, but in most cases these businesses specialise in a limited variety of articles. . . . Thus it will be seen that the combination of the general merchandise store and the short-term controlled credit chain store offers enormous possibilities." The only thing wanting to complete the picture has been supplied by the company's issuing its shares in denominations of five shillings each, "to give the general public of Australia the opportunity of acquiring a holding in the company."

This is not written with any intention of criticising those associated with Highgates. On the contrary, as was said in connection with Coles and Cox Bros., the very success of such enterprises shows that the public, *as at present circumstanced*, appreciates the services they offer. What we complain of is that the public, in a land literally overflowing with *real* wealth, should, for lack of distributive tokens or ledger entries, be in such *financial* poverty as to make rosy the prospects of success of a nation-wide time-payment chain store—even if it does rejoice in such a high-sounding name as "the Highgate Short-term Controlled-credit System."

The Odds Against the Young Man

The June issue of *Rydge's* takes for the text of its editorial, "What Happens To The Young Man?" Beginning by saying that, "as far as I am aware no attempt has ever been made in Australia or New Zealand to trace the fortunes of the average young man setting out on a business career," the editor goes on to give some figures taken out in the United States, and based on Government statistics in that country.

Taking a hundred young men starting out in the world at 25, here is what the American figures reveal:—

At 35: Dead, 5; struggling, 38; in reasonable jobs, 37; in good jobs, 10; rich, 10.

At 45: Dead, 16; in poverty, 15; in routine jobs, 65; rich 4.

At 65: Dead, 36; without savings, 54; just getting along, 5; rich, 5.

"So," says *Rydge's*, "we see the record of the lives of the young men of America. What a tragedy! . . . This position is so important that the Commonwealth Government should attempt to obtain similar statistics for Australia, and the New Zealand Government should follow suit in New Zealand. Perhaps the position will be found to be much the same as in America—basically there is not that much difference between the countries. And if a similar state of affairs is revealed should not every effort be made to give the average young man a much better chance of a reasonable future? The world today is definitely individualistic. So the young man reading these remarks should not be pessimistic but should take to heart the real story they tell. That is, success does lie ahead for the few—the very few—who are prepared to put forward the extra effort necessary

to make something really worth while out of their lives."

One does not agree with *Rydge's* that getting into the class branded "rich" is the only way by which young men may "make something really worth while out of their lives," nor that even an "extra special effort" will gain this objective. And, as for Australian figures, we already have all the statistics we require. Without waiting for any hundred young men to be put under observation for another 40 years or so, here is the income position of any average 100 men in Australia, as revealed by the last census:—

Nil..... 12.5

Under £1 per week..... 24.7

£1 and under £2..... 16.7

£2 and under £3..... 11.8

£3 and under £4..... 11.5

£4 and under £5..... 9.6

£5 and over..... 13.3

These figures represent the average, as given in the current issue of the Commonwealth Year Book (page 432) of 2,367,780 male Australian breadwinners. Since the census was taken four years ago, there has doubtless been a slight upward tendency, especially in the lower grades of incomes, but even this has been largely offset by increasing commodity prices and rents. And the average standard of living in Australia, as has been shown from statistics by this paper more than once, is no higher today than it was 30 years ago—readers will remember this point being stressed by Mr. Crofts for the unions before the Federal Arbitration Court a few weeks since.

The real story told by such figures is not that success lies ahead for the few, or the very few, but that the money incomes of the overwhelming majority of our men, young or old—and the female breadwinners' figures are far worse—are ridiculously and tragically below what would be justified by our capacity and willingness to produce if only there were a "market"—a market, again, meaning people with money incomes to back up their needs and their desires.

If *Rydge's* would join in the demand for bigger effective incomes it would be performing a useful public service. Without this demand, the average young man will have no better prospect than in the past. In fact, the increasing use of machinery in industry will make more and more turn for economic security to crime—since the criminal in gaol has no economic worries—or, failing that, to the old age pension, if they can hang out long enough.

British By-Elections Give No-Confidence Votes to Parties

In a note on the results of British by-elections for 1935-37, the *Economist* of May 15 points out that although there has been a considerable falling-off in the Government vote, this has not gone to Labor.

Leaving out three University contests, the result of all by-elections has been a loss of votes to the Government, as compared with the 1935 general election, of 21.4 per cent. In 1935-36 Labor showed a gain of 2 per cent, but this year there has been a loss, so far, of 5 per cent., the total figures showing a net loss of 0.8 per cent since the general election.

The *Economist* draws this significant conclusion: "On balance, there does not seem to be much evidence that Labor is

sweeping the country. This lends additional point to the fact that four constituencies where a considerable turnover of votes has led to Government defeats—Derby, Oxford University, the Combined Universities and Central Wandsworth—are also the four constituencies in which a determined and successful attempt was made to organise what may be called the Opposition vote on non-party or inter-party lines."

This is the spirit of the electoral campaign—the demanding of results from Parliament irrespective of party ties, and the casting of votes to that purpose, as the *Economist* says, "on non-party or inter-party lines." Party government means government by finance, and the death-knell of the one will be the death-knell of the other.

WHY PEOPLE DON'T BUY RADIO SETS

Poser Set by Sydney Economist

A correspondent has sent us a copy of the *Radio Retailer of Australia* in which is contained the report of an address given last month to members of the Sydney RIF Club by Dr. E. Ronald Walker, M.A., Ph.D., lecturer in Economics and Acting Dean of the Faculty at Sydney University.

Dr. Walker's topic was, "Some Economic Problems of the Radio Industry," and the main problem which seemed to vex him is thus set out in the report:—

"Dr. Walker said that, in preparing a few notes for his talk to the RIF Club members, he looked up some information, but was rather appalled at the sparsity of any data in regard to radio in Australia. He found that about 33 per cent, of the population of New South Wales had no radio sets, and he wondered whether there was any scope for the industry to get together to solve this common problem; to conduct an economic research to find out why these 33 per cent, of the people have not got radio.

"He asked whether it would be worthwhile knowing such information. In his opinion it would be worthwhile, but he suggested to the trade that they should ask themselves.

"Dr. Walker suggested that a large number of this 33 per cent, of the people may not like programmes, and altogether there might be quite a number of reasons as to why they were holding out against buying."

There *might* be quite a number of reasons, but we venture to say that any one of his hearers could immediately have given the learned, Acting Dean of the Faculty of Economics the *only* reason why over 99 per cent, of those who are "holding out against buying" continue their sales resistance.

They *haven't* the money to buy a radio set. But that explanation, of course, would never occur to a Master of Arts and Doctor of Philosophy who is also a professional economist.

SOCIAL EVENING.

The Women of the Douglas Credit Movement will hold a Social Evening on Thursday, July 8, at 8 p.m., at the Centenary Club, Block Arcade, Elizabeth Street, City. Admission 1/-. Ladies are requested to bring refreshments.

COLD GLUES DEXTRINE PASTES AND GUMS INDUSTRIAL ADHESIVES PTY. LTD., 155 Yarra St. Abbotsford, No.9, Vic. Phone J 2478

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CHURCHIANITY, ECONOMICS AND CHRISTIANITY

A Remarkable Publication by the English Christian Social Council

(A Review by M. R. Wentworth Lee)

(The italics used in quotations are the reviewer's. —Ed.)

Perhaps it is safe to say that of all the criticism hurled by well-meaning people at other people concerning the cruelties of the present world condition, quite half of it is hurled at the Church. But listen to what the English Christian Social Council has to say, and then criticise, not the Church so much as those who would use the Church as a tool to control humanity. Not only the Church, but the whole world must be divided, parting the sheep from the goats by separating those who did it not unto the least of these, God's children, and those who did.

"*Religion and the Social Crisis*," a pamphlet by the Christian Social Council, gives us this: "The physical basis of the present crisis is the paradox of poverty in a time of unparalleled plenty and the crisis itself lies in the failure to remedy the situation in spite of an exceptional degree of goodwill." But, the report goes on to say, "this goodwill is paralysed in many directions. Accepted social policies in matter of housing, health and education are frustrated on grounds of alleged national poverty." Referring to the dilemmas that arise from these policies, it is stated that we see "the statesman involving his nation in economic war to safeguard its employment."

The crisis lies in the failure to accept the real economic facts of today. "More economic activity is being demanded of men before they can get the money they need to increase their share of the results of production." As a result of this "absurd frustration of human goodwill and reason," it is shown that, unless there is adopted some new principle of economic practice, there are two alternatives: (1), A continuance of our present trouble, which will enfeeble the mind and will of the community and produce a "corrosive effect on men's faith in God and man"; or (2), a tragic breakdown in the world's economic or political life, with colossal human suffering that would disrupt the whole civilisation.

Other Nations as Work-Providers

In attacking our system, it is stated that it "relentlessly sacrifices

The War in Waziristan

It is always a moot point when exactly a North-West Frontier skirmish becomes "one of England's little wars." But that stage certainly seems to have been passed in the present Waziristan disturbances. The original incident—the abduction of a Hindu girl by a Pa-than, her conversion to Islam and the decision of the appeal court to restore her to her parents—was a trivial spark which set alight a veritable magazine of latent violence. Today, some 30,000 British and Indian troops are engaged in fighting the Faquir of Ipi—the principal instigator of violence—and his friends. Hence the affair, whatever its outcome—and there are signs that casualties and attrition are already breaking down the morale of the tribesmen is a grave warning for the whole future of imperial defence.

- The "Economist".

the economic possibility of a rising standard of life for all classes of the community. . . . God is flouted by unnecessary poverty, waste, and discord between classes, who scramble for a share of His bounty which could be generously increased." And, "it allows the standards and habits of life of whole classes of the community to be subordinated to the blind rush of economic activity." It threatens us with financial monopoly and political collectivism; and dishonors man by the "mechanical role it assigns him"; it degrades him by enslaving him to "treadmill action." No matter how clever man may be, he must still keep "making work" so as to claim a little of the world's unsaleable surplus. Thus we have man a "means to production." "Whereas Labour and money should be for the sake of production, and production for the sake of consumption, and consumption for the sake of life, we have allowed the policy of economic life to be dominated by the requirement of achieving a purely financial result." The system also "defeats all will to peace among nations, for it impels each to regard others as convenient instruments for increasing its opportunities for work."

Economics and Morals

In a plea for economic sanity, it is very definitely stated "increased purchasing-power without the condition of extra work is the only way to get started sanely on any enterprise that is necessary." Here the council suggests it is time the Church, or, at least, the leaders of religious thought should refute the theory "that economic activity is a necessary instrument for moral constraint." Showing that there is ample scope for moral training in social life, it is also pointed out "social good is good because it has intrinsic value in the sight of God, and not because it provides opportunity for moral activity." "All efforts must be rejected as false, which impose unnecessary sacrifices by forcing upon men restrictions which are not demanded by the economic facts."

The Control Through Money

The Council's discussion of money is frank; the results are somewhat surprising. It is shown that there is a conflict between the interests of production, distribution and consumption on the one side, and the "interests which administer money" on the other. It is stated that money practice must be changed to make money reflect the truth regarding what there is to buy; and it is pointed out that to those who control the community's money, the gains are not so important as the power of control. Thus "it becomes imperative to seek for some new principles by which to regulate the influence of finance upon the peace and welfare of the different sections of the community." "The ability arbitrarily to diminish a nation's purchasing-power by an appreciable fraction is not one which should remain in private hands." Because of this latter fact "there is a large margin of potential wealth at present running to waste which an improved monetary system could conserve and distribute."

Referring to the increase of productivity, owing to technical achievements, we are reminded, "unless the technical success is to be frustrated, money incomes must be maintained in every section of the community." From this it is concluded that we must have a "distributions of money to willing buy-

ers as fast as it is justified by available production."

The Supreme Issue

The supreme issue facing the Christian Church today, the Council says, is the tendency to lift the State into a position of supreme authority—to make it totalitarian. Such a State regards man as merely existing for the State. "The State, besides being a policeman, becomes a nurse, a schoolmaster, an employer, an officer, an earthly providence, an object of worship—and a jealous human god." The policy adopted in totalitarian States is this: "Economic deprivation can be made bearable if you provide the people with a good big political 'myth'—whether it be the Classless Society or the Corporative State." But, "having divested society of any absolute standards, the allegedly democratic regimes allowed the direction of life to pass to the power of money"—and, hence, to the incipient totalitarian State.

Maybe it was that conclusion which convinced the Social Research Council of the strategy of "demanding results." "The Church's responsibility for the person must therefore be made clear," and it

A ROYAL PRINCE'S BIRTHDAY

23rd JUNE 1937.

Come; fill your cups and glasses, lads,

*And join with me I pray
To toast an English gentleman
On this his natal day.*

*A man who never bowed his head
Nor fawned to Money's priests
And scorned the canting hypocrites*

*Who sit at Mammon's feasts.
A man who loved his fellowman
Nor asked of him his creed,
A man who showed to all the world*

*That he was King in deed.
God save him, keep him, dower him*

*With blessings from above,
The man who, spite of slander's tongue,*

Still holds the people's love.

must "uphold the right to recognition of personal goals which transcend the achievement of politi-

cal order." Perceiving that "political issues are increasingly those of economic interests resisting collapse," the "Church's business" is to "present aims to society and to say that the State's business is to adjust the material and organisational means at its rightful disposal to those ends." While the Church claims no authority to demand the "practice of any political or economic programme to which some or many Christians may give allegiance, it is, however, ready to offer with authority the social aims which the State should pursue, and it presses upon the State the latter's responsibility to find the technical and administrative means for achieving these."

Social Rather Than Financial Reasons

The Church is to be encouraged to exert pressure on public opinion; but pressure is to be exerted elsewhere, also: "We should insist that in this age of plenty we can decide for social reasons rather than for economic and financial reasons, such things as the proper age of retirement. . . . We should demand a generous standard of life for all members of the community, independently of industry's need for their services. By releasing the dammed-up flood of production, the perishing bodies and withered spirits of men in need could be revived without any economic disaster to the rest of the community. Theories of stability which deny this possibility must be convicted of falsehood."

With perfect candour the Council confesses to a "penitential recognition that the State assumes absolute sovereignty because the Church has been concerned with its rights instead of its responsibility for the redemptions of society."

WOMEN AND "DEFENCE"

By LEONORA POLKINGHORNE

You will observe the inverted commas, as nowadays (and indeed at any time) no mortal can tell where defence ends and offence begins, but defence is a much better slogan with which to persuade the timid than any other. Let any of us suggest it is better to purchase butter than guns, that to prepare for life is much better than to prepare for death—and instantly the warmongers demand to know if you are willing to be slaughtered and have your country taken from you without making an effort to save yourself. It is not too much to say that these gentlemen are saying the same thing in pretty nearly every country in the world, certainly in those countries that we are most taught to fear. We are peaceful, they say; goodness knows we don't want war—but these other villains, you know we can't trust them; so we spend our borrowed millions, not on housing, adequate food supplies or more and better education, but on more and more weapons of destruction against that other country that is as ardently desiring peace as we are ourselves.

The wholesale exposure of the armament racketeers, the publishing of the facts of the life of the arch-criminal, Basil Zaharoff, the plain proofs that the armament ring sent their deputies to every disarmament conference with the purpose of wrecking it—all this has no weight with the hysterical "defence" protagonists. They are still willing to play the game of the murder brigade up to the hilt. Think how gleefully these gentry are rubbing their hands and collecting their dividends from our insanity!

Where Women Come In

Now where do women come in here?

Ruskin has said that our responsibility in this matter is great. He says that, though men are able to endure the thought of war, we should not be able to bear it; and if, therefore, we found ourselves quite unable to bear it, we should, by the weight of our numbers and the power of our influence, stop it.

Oliver Schreiner has said that when a city is sacked and beautiful works of art are destroyed, there is one man who cannot bear it, and that is the artist. When lovely sculptures are ruined, there is one man who will find that insupportable. He is the sculptor. So, when human beings are annihilated, there is one who cannot bear that, and it is the woman, for she is the creator of the human body. Why then do we permit war?

It is true that women are mostly pacifists. They must be so, since they are the civilisers, and civil and military mean two exactly opposite things. It is true that many millions of women all over the world have organised in the cause of peace. I do not know of any woman's organisation that has not international peace in the forefront of its programme. What, then, is wrong? Is Ruskin, in affirming that we could stop it if we wished?

Fear and Femininity

There are two reasons. First, it is this "defence" racket that always appeals to the timid, and although women have shown many times that they are capable of the most superb heroism, there are unfortunately many who have not emerged from the detestable tradition that to be brave is to be unfeminine, and that fear and cowardice are charming and lovable. Of course. That is not so. Cowardice is always despicable, no matter in whom. Men have contributed largely to this weakness in women, when, instead of showing their contempt at exhibitions of it, they have petted and flattered,

and generally given the women to understand that they adore them for it.

Some time ago, two women writing to the daily press stressed the need of "defence." I am pleased to say that instantly other women rushed in to tear their arguments in fragments, but it made one consider the strange anomaly of woman supporting the idea of huge sums of money being spent on armaments at a time when large numbers of children were suffering from malnutrition. Later, it appeared that one of them was the wife of a Brigadier - General, and was doubtless, like many others, anxious about her husband's job. The other was not traced, so it may be assumed that she was suffering from the fear complex that shouted out for a uniform and a big gun to hide behind.

Another woman correspondent suggested that if war came, and men were conscripted for it, women should not shrink from the same demand. That would, of course, be another story. Notably those who are not asked to face the firing line are most enthusiastic about sending others there. At the recent Imperial Conference it seems that our noble representatives were quite willing to pay for their entertainment by pledging our young men to the next scrap in the cause of "Empire Unity", the same thing that robbed us of 60,000 from 1914 to 1918, with no gain to anyone but the war-profiteers. It was good to notice that Mr. Mackenzie King refused to pledge the youth of Canada to any mess-up that might arise from blunders of diplomacy, Imperial ambitions, or the greed of vested interests. All those who went the whole way in supporting England in Egypt or any other trouble spot were, of course, over military age.

"Safeguarding the System"

The last reason why any woman can speak in favour of the "defence" racket is that she has failed to realise the cause of war. Low, the cartoonist, satirises Peace movements in his "Political Parade" by a number of men and women walking round in a circle holding an olive-branch in their hands, and wearing a smug expression. Low knows the real way to end war, as his other cartoons suggest. We should know, too. We need not cease from supporting those organisations which are all for peace, but we must do much more. We must demand the end of the conditions that breed war. In other words, we must join in the demand to abolish poverty. Only thus can we fulfill Ruskin's demands on us. I append a few lines of free verse from "Time and Tide":—

These are the men
these and the young ones
The boys arrow-limbed playing
the game for a dream that will
soon be shattered,—
These are the men we will ask to
make the last desperate
charge,
Storm the beaches, die on the
heights of the hill,
while we others are busy at
home
safeguarding the system.

The UNIVERSITY

should scrap for a while all teaching and research in all the present subjects and be

CONCENTRATING ON MONEY-

its origin, source, function and control,
or forever stop squealing about lack of money.

MILITARY OBJECTIVES IN SPAIN

The *New Times* has been asked for a note explaining the immediate purpose of the various military drives in Spain being undertaken by Franco's forces. Is the objective merely a military victory and the piecemeal breaking down of opposition, or are his forces, aided by the Germans and Italians, thrusting first at positions, which have a particular value in themselves?

The answer is given rather fully in an editorial article in the London *Economist* of May 15, which we reprint in full below.

Political and economic motives are inextricably mingled in all modern disputes—territorial or ideological—and the present war in Spain is no exception to the rule. It began as a well organized military rebellion, which, almost for the first time in the tangled history of Spain, failed to secure its immediate objective. It has become a contest in which great European nations have fed the contestants with men and material. Those who know Spain best believe most strongly that even if General Franco were eventually successful, the rank and file of Spaniards would never submit to a state of political dominance by Italy and Germany. On the economic side, however, the potentialities are very different. A Government placed (and probably maintained) in power by German and Italian bayonets and bombers would be in no position effectively to resist foreign encroachment on Spain's natural resources.

The nature of these resources, and their distribution within the territories at present controlled by the opposing forces in Spain, are shown by the map on this page. The economic significance of current military operations

rebel General with assets with which to purchase further external military assistance. Copper, pyrites and sulphur from the British-owned Rio Tinto mines have been requisitioned by the insurgents in substantial amounts, and despatched to other points in Spain, to Germany and to Italy.

Britain is the leading buyer of Spain's marmalade crop of bitter oranges, her sherry production and her tomato crop—which comes mostly from General Franco's territory. Under a clearing scheme, Nationalist Spain's exports to Britain would realise enough sterling to pay off the British owners of the Spanish mines and probably to settle other British "frozen" claims on Spain as well. Imports of Spanish iron ore into Germany alone increased from 37,210 tons last December to 206,707 tons in January and 91,596 tons in February.

Spain's proved iron ore reserves total 711 million tons, with an iron content of about 349 million tons, and her probable reserves are much larger. The ore reserves of Morocco are estimated at 25 million tons, the principal iron mines being situated from 15 to 20 miles from

Cartagena, Malaga, Linares, Jaen, Cordoba and Penarroya.

Almaden Mercury

The known and probable mercury reserves make the Almaden area the biggest mercury mine in the world. The output of quicksilver from Almaden between 1564 and 1907 totalled 169,000 tons, compared with a total from the Italian Idria mines, the next largest in the world, between 1525 and 1908, of 72,000 tons. The Spanish reserves are estimated to be sufficiently large to supply for more than 100 years the world's normal annual consumption of 100,000 flasks of mercury. The average content of the ore is 8 per cent, of which 6 per cent is recovered. Spain and Italy together provide nearly four-fifths of the world's production of mercury.

The Spanish potash basin lies forty miles north-west of Barcelona. It is 28 miles long and 10 miles wide, and is now recognised as rivaling in importance, and probably exceeding in richness, the German Stassfurt and French Alsatian deposits.

Mineral Production

Spain's production of leading minerals in recent years is given below:—

Iron ore	(1935)	2.7 million tons
Pyrites —		
Cupriferous	(1934)	0.6 "
Xon-cupriferous	(1934)	1.5 "
Copper ore	(1934)	20,610 tons
Mercury	(1934)	1,227 "
Tin	(1935)	250 "
Wolfram	(1935)	350 "
Manganese ore	(1935)	693 "
Coal and lignite	(1935)	7.3 million tons
Potash salts (as K.O)	(1935)	121,372 "
Sulphur	(1934)	31,130 tons

If General Franco is victorious, Italy and Germany will obviously obtain access to much-needed supplies of strategic minerals for their drive towards self-sufficiency in the face of exchange difficulties. New reserves of iron ore would greatly benefit the enlarged German and Italian iron and steel industries, which are both suffering from a serious shortage of supplies.

For Great Britain, on the other hand, the outcome would be definitely unfavourable, since she normally imports nearly a million tons of Spanish iron ore every year to supplement her comparatively low-grade domestic resources.

went against him, it was just too bad, but there can be no profit without risk.

When Knights Were Bold

For many centuries, war was the business of specialists called knights. The reason why they called themselves noble is that they worked only on horseback, where they were hard to reach, and, if reached, were so covered with sheet iron that the worst that could happen was a dent in their fenders.

When two knights had maltreated each other's hardware until one of them ran out of wind, the winded one was declared vanquished and held for ransom by the victor. Thereupon, word would be sent to his friends and relatives to bail him out or know the reason why. Killing knights was poor business, which explains why, after centuries of knightly warfare, descendants of these noble warriors are still littering up the earth.

War in those good old days was good honest business. Your opponent had something you wanted, and when you got your man you got what he had. There was no talk about national prestige, insult to the flag, or making the world safe for democracy, etc. This was so because the count who owned the country, or the king who owned the country, owned the people, too, so there was no need of fooling people who had nothing to say nohow.

"No Ruling Classes"

Well, the kings, knights, store raiders and robber barons no longer own and consequently rule, the earth. Their place has been taken by the so-called "capitalists," who are just like you and me. Now, all men are equal before the law. The capitalists select the people who make the law and enforce the law, while you and I obey the law. Outside of this and the minor fact that these people own all the things, without which the rest of us must die or croak, there is no difference between the citizens of democracies, such as ours, for instance. On other words, there are no ruling classes in democracies. There are only folks who own all and command, and folks who own nothing and obey.

But as there is nothing perfect in this imperfect world, democracy created new problems. One of them is how to make people who own nothing fight for something they haven't got and won't get if they win, and that's where patriotism comes in. Patriotism is the art of inducing people who own nothing at home to fight for the other fellow's interests abroad.

Oil Gushers in Mexico

For illustration, let's say a party whom you have never met, and wouldn't get a chance to chum with on a bet owns a string of oil gushers in Mexico. The only interest you have in oil is when you buy it by the gallon, using a potato for a stopper. When times are good, meaning when the kind of folks who own strings of oil gushers in Mexico let you work, you burn the oil and throw the potato away. When times are bad, you eat the potato and do without the oil. From this it may be reasoned that those oil gushers in Mexico are none of your concern. But wait a minute!

The cruel, hard-boiled and unscrupulous government of Mexico proceeds to tax the oil gushing from the string of gushers owned by the gentleman you never met, and what was "his'n" but yesterday is ours today. Our interests are menaced in Mexico. Our country must not tolerate interference with American rights in Mexico. Our prestige is at stake. Our flag is insulted. "We," "us" and "ours" gushes from every newspaper, billboard and four-minute speaker. Funny. Yesterday there was nothing of me, us, and ours about these oil gushers in Mexico. They were the safe, sacred and exclusive private property of the gentleman we never met.

For some reason the gentleman will not fight for his oil gushers in Mexico. Neither will he go down in his jeans and hire a private army to defend his property. The property is his. The profit is his. Up to yesterday it was all I, me and mine. Now it is all we, us and ours, and woe unto the oilcan plus potato stopper totter who is not willing to lay his life down for our country's interests, glory, prestige and foreign investments.

Our country, my eye. The bulk of us don't own enough of our country to be buried standing up in it. We work when its owners let us; quit when they tell us; give our lives in return for wooden crosses, peg legs and pewter medals while its real owners stay at home and make hay while it rains blood, gore and broken stove lids.

We saved our country during the World War, and, doing so, made 40,000 new millionaires. If anybody ever saw a Rockefeller, Carnegie, Morgan, Gould or Vanderbilt in a Veterans' Parade let him speak up or forever hold his peace. And if there was a millionaire's son among the killed, wounded or missing, we missed his name.

From the Angaston (South Aus.) "Leader" of June 18: "An electric ledger posting and accounting machine—the first installed in this State—has been put in at Yalumba Winery (Angaston), by Messrs. S. Smith and Son. Costing £600, it is entirely automatic, calculating to nine columns, adjusting debits and credits, and is powered by an eighth h.p. Electric motor."

As Yalumba manufactures wine and not money, it cannot give the displaced clerks the right to draw on the country's production as the private firm known as the Bank of England did when installed similar machines a year or two ago.

- G. K. T.

MONTAGU NORMAN, THE MORALIST

Once, amiably chatting with a banker friend, he listened imperviously to the argument that the gold standard would impoverish Britain in the long run. "Tell me," Norman is reported to have asked, "Do you think it better to be rich than to be poor?" His friend replied, "Well, I have been poor, and now I am fairly rich, and I hope to be richer." Norman replied that he was not sure, but that the countries, which were too rich, went to pieces; he pointed to the example of Periclean Athens and Imperial Rome. His friend did not reveal the substance of the conversation; the intimation that the governor of the Bank of England might consider it his duty to impoverish his country for the country's benefit would not have been too popular.

—John Gunther, "Inside Europe."

DON'T SPEND A PENNY—without consulting the "New Times" Shopping Guide.



may be readily appreciated. Valencia, the seat of the Republican Spanish Government, is clearly the objective of the Teruel offensive. The spearhead of the Cordoba thrust threatens the richest mineral area in Spain, including the ore-fields of Penarroya, Linares and Jaen. General Franco already commands Rio Tinto and Huelva, and the seizure of the Almaden mercury mines would give him the possession of the world's richest reserve for that heavy liquid metal.

Bilbao and Iron Ore

The Bilbao offensive has for its objective one of the most accessible and richest iron ore deposits in Europe. General Franco is naturally anxious to deprive the Spanish Government of its access to munition metals and sources of power. More generous ore supplies, moreover, would furnish the

the Port of Melilla, to which they are connected by a narrow-gauge railway. Manganese ores occur in association with iron ores in the Huelva district, at Rio Tinto, at Tharsis and near San Domingo. Deposits carrying wolframite with cassiterite are found at San Finx, Galicia, Montaro and Cordoba. It has been estimated that there are 2000 million tons of cupriferous pyrites in the Huelva Province, within a depth of 400 feet. Given a recovery of only 1 per cent, these reserves would be equivalent to 20 million tons of metallic copper. The output of cupriferous pyrites from about 50 mines in Huelva, operated by various companies between 1922 and 1931, totalled 30 million tons—equivalent of some 40,000 tons of copper. Lead ores, often argentiferous, and frequently associated with zinc ores, are found around Mazarron,

"INJUSTICE WITHIN THE LAW"

A Review by J.V.B.

Injustice Within the Law, a Study of the Case of the Dorsetshire Labourers by the Honourable Mr. Justice H. V. Evatt (Sydney, Law Book Company, 1937. Price 2/6).

This authoritative examination of the case of the Tolpuddle martyrs is from the pen of one of Australia's most distinguished jurists. Mr. Justice Evatt's scholastic attainments are of first eminence; when he was a busy King's Counsel at the N.S. Wales Bar his conspicuous forensic ability led to his appearance in most of the celebrated cases originating in that highly litigious State, and now that he is a member of the High Court Bench, lawyers find stimulus in his learned and vigorous judgments. It is a matter for satisfaction, therefore, that his wide erudition and realistic outlook are placed at the disposal of his fellow-Australians by channels other than the dry and rather uninviting pages of the law reports. His recent work, "The King and His Dominion Governors" (Oxford University Press, 1936), has been received by constitutional scholars throughout the world as a penetrating and invaluable contribution to the important problem of the reserve powers of the Crown in Great Britain and the Dominions, and to this reviewer his argument for the definition of those reserve powers is convincing. His review of Professor Ernest Scott's "Australia During the War" (Vol. XI of the Official History), which appeared in the Australian Quarterly for March, 1937, is a useful corrective to the Professor's survey of that period. Now he has given us this clear and documented study of a case in which, as Bishop Burgmann observes in the foreword, "the legal, political and clerical professions combined to do a cruel injustice."

In the thirties of the last century the rapacity of employers had driven agricultural labourers to form trade unions. Wages were reduced from 7/- to 6/- a week, and in 1833 the Dorsetshire labourers were forced to combine or perish. In November 1833, at Tolpuddle, two brothers named Loveless formed a Union called the Friendly Society of Agricultural Labourers. The object of the Society was to improve the economic conditions of members, and to place them in a position to indulge in some form of bargaining with their employers, so that thereby such improvement could be achieved. Violence was not contemplated; indeed, the rules forbade the countenancing of any violence or violation of the laws of the realm. But the procedure, upon initiation, provided for a rather pathetic form of ritual, which included the taking of an oath not to divulge the secrets of the society. It was upon this peg that the scandalous prosecutions were hung. The legal position at the time was obscure; but the best opinion is that, when the society was formed by the Loveless brothers, trade unions, which had as their object the raising of wages by legitimate means, were legal, but societies wherein members took secret or unauthorised oaths were not. This position resulted from the combined operation of two statutes of 1797 and 1799, for the Act of 1799 provided that any society by the rules of which persons were required to take an oath not required or authorised by law became an unlawful combination and conspiracy, and by the 1797 Act the administration

of an oath not to reveal any unlawful combination was a felony. It was under the 1797 Act the six Dorchester labourers, George Loveless, James Loveless, Thomas Stanfield, John Stanfield (son of Thomas), James Hammett and Joseph Brine, were charged.

The examination made by the learned author of the combination between Lord Melbourne and a Dorsetshire justice of the peace and landowner, named James Frampton, supplies one of the most interesting aspects of the case. From this examination it plainly appears that the object of the prosecution was to destroy trade unionism, that the proceedings which were instituted were deliberately brought under an Act the framers of which had not contemplated its application to such a situation, and that the form of the prosecution was so devised in order that the brutal sentence of seven years' transportation could be imposed for the terrorisation of the working classes. A neighbouring justice of the peace wrote to Frampton before the prosecution that "it seems to be desirable to expedite the blow and to allow it to come from the judges if possible at once." Thus was the role of assassin imposed on the

"POLITICIANS AND SOLDIERS"

After declaring that Australians are retarded by their "unhealthy and slavish copying of English outlook and culture," Mr. Arthur Lismer, the Canadian educational authority out here for next month's international conference on education, went on to say "Australia's Coronation contingent was another indication of a false attitude. It comprised politicians and soldiers—a very interesting index to Australian psychology."

judicial dispenser of his Majesty's even-handed justice!

The prisoners came for trial, and Baron Williams, the presiding judge, charged the jury upon the law so that the jury, carefully selected for its prejudices, returned the desired verdict of guilty. His Lordship, in imposing sentence of seven years' transportation, found it was necessary to do so as an example and a warning, so that the security of the country could be assured! Considerations of space prevent us from tracing the subsequent history of the Tolpuddle martyrs; readers will find it fully detailed in the work under review. It is with the lesson to be learnt from the case that we are mainly concerned. The complexion of laws, which govern a community, will always be determined by the requirements of the dominant class, and under existing conditions the class, which controls the instruments of production, is dominant. Not only will the complexion of the laws be so determined, but the application of those laws, in necessary emergencies, will be decided by like considerations. In the case of the Tolpuddle martyrs, the strict letter of the law was observed; yet, in the learned author's phrase, the case represented "the very coronation of injustice." The author is careful to correct errors, both of fact and opinion, which appeared in the volume entitled "The Martyrs of Tolpuddle," published on the centenary of the trial by the British Trades Union Congress, and his restrained and dispassionate exposition of the facts and the true legal position add greatly to the impressiveness

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

"DIRECTORS" OR "DICTATORS"?

In your issue of last week I read with great gusto the article on the British Commonwealth of Nations. I noticed particularly these words: "The Menzies would compensate themselves for the loss of their Privy Council fees by decorating themselves with a few more *dictatorships*." It merely goes to show what machinery can do.

I have no doubt that in your original article the word "dictatorships" appeared as "directorships." The printing machine apparently had a mind of its own and printed what was obviously the correct word.

It would seem, therefore, that science has now perfected a machine, which can think for it and is far ahead of that other machine, which we call "the working man."

"XERXES Q. SCHWEINHUND-WASCHER."

(Our correspondent is correct in his assumption that the word in our copy sent to the printer was "directorships."—Ed.)

CONCERNING BATTLESHIPS

In the *Age* last week appeared an article on the future defence of Australia. It stressed the necessity for larger warships than those we now possess, and contended that in case of another war our only hope of safety from attack lay in our possession of a battleship with heavy guns similar to the late H.M. A.S. Australia.

I am not competent to decide whether or not one large battleship (which can only be at one place at one time) is more valuable than a number of light cruisers or hundreds of aeroplanes. But before we spend the millions necessary to provide another battleship "to protect Australia," we should remember that in 1913 we bought from England a 20,000-ton battleship with 12-inch guns. The British Government had promised to provide a similar ship to be stationed in the East Indies, and New Zealand was to provide another to be attached to the China station. The three units (including, of course, numbers of smaller cruisers, destroyers and submarines) were to form the Pacific Fleet, as agreed at an Imperial Conference held in 1911.

However, the British Government did not keep its part of the agreement. Even while our battleship was being built in England, persistent attempts were made in 1912 to persuade us to let it remain in European waters. Similar persuasion was successful in regard to the ship New Zealand provided. The British Admiralty sent ships of an inferior kind to the China and East Indian stations, thus making the so-called "Pacific Fleet" an absurdity.

However, we persisted in getting what we were paying for, and our H.M.A.S. Australia arrived here in September 1913. In March 1914, First Lord of the Admiralty Churchill announced that vessels of such a type were not needed in the Pacific, and should be returned to European waters. Senator Millen, then Australia's Minister for Defence, challenged him, declaring that the Admiralty had broken the naval agreement, and demanded another conference. While negotiations were proceeding, war broke out in 1914.

After a few months of escort work between Australia, New Zealand and New Guinea, the of the study. We are indebted to him for this damning exposition of what was, in Lord Penzance's phrase, an instance of "Law triumphant and Justice prostrate."

British Admiralty sent the Australia to Fiji, then to Mexico, and then to England, where she served in the 2nd Battle Cruiser Squadron in the North Sea, 1915-1918. In 1919 she returned to Australia.

In consequence of the Washington Disarmament Conference of 1922, Great Britain had to limit the number of her battle-ships, and, so that England could keep one extra of hers, we were persuaded to destroy our only capital ship, and accordingly the Australia was sunk, with her 12-inch guns, in April, 1924.

Would the *Age* tell us: (a) Was its article politically inspired? Has Joe Lyons already promised that Australia will buy another 20,000-ton battleship?

(b) Will the British Government agree to let us keep it if there is a war?

(c) Will the agreement be observed? "PIECRUST."

CHARITY

The poor
Are crowding round the Sunday
School door
For clothing
That the rich would reject with
loathing.

The rich have already spurned
some of it—
What does it matter if it doesn't?
fit
The poor, whose duty
Is to take what is given and forfeit
beauty?

Beauty is forced to withhold her
graces—
See the haggard, indifferent faces!
The face of that baby, snuffling
with cold.
Is old!

"Here's half a crown,
To buy some luxuries, Mrs.
Brown."

A cotton blouse, a pint of milk;
(Shops displaying cream and silk);
A dozen bananas (grapes brought
by sea
For those who tire of luxury).
"Don't give Mrs. Black any money,
she might
Spend it on pictures." (*Opera
seats a guinea first night.*)

Go home to the slums, Mesdames
Brown and Black.
Where the front isn't quite so bad
as the back,
And don't go thinking such
thoughts as these—

There's a glut of fruit on Australia's
trees;
Her granaries are over-full;
There's an overflow of meat and
wool;
There's beauty for children and
haggard faces,
Beauty for clothing and ugly
places. . . .

Then why not accept this prosperity?
Well, paper notes are scarce, you
see.

—Irene Wilkinson.

"We view with sorrow and shame incidence of damaging and undeserved poverty in the community. Believing that without adequate and material sustenance, leisure and comfort it is difficult for people to live the life that God has intended, we call upon economists and politicians to seek a social order that shall not be dependent on the motive of self interest, and that shall secure a more humane distribution of the fruits of labour."
-Motion carried by Congregational Union of Western Australia at annual meeting. ("The Western Congregationalist," June 4.)

New Times SHOPPING GUIDE and Business Directory

PATRONISE THESE ADVERTISERS.
Their advertisement helps your paper. Say you saw it in the "New Times."
MELBOURNE (Cont.)
(Continued from page 3.)
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KEW EAST.
WATCH, CLOCK & JEWELLERY REPAIRS. I. Pink, 16 Oswin St. WICKER & Pram Repairs. L. Pavitt, 2 Hale St. Pick up and deliver.
MORELAND.
BOOT REPAIRS. J. T. Nolan, Holmes St., 4 drs. Moreland Rd.
NORTHCOTE.
GRAY & JOHNSON Pty. Ltd. Leading Land and Estate Agents. 742 High Street, Thornbury.

SANDRINGHAM.
A. R. RYAN. SHOE REPAIRS. Opp. Stn. Tennis Racquet Repairs
BIGGS & LOMAS, Tailors. First-class Workmanship. Suit Club.
CONFECTIONERY and SMOKES. Gibson's, Bay Rd., opp. Theatre.
GROCERS, McKAY & WHITE. Bay Rd., opp. Theatre. XW 1924.
HAIRDRESSER and Tobacconist, A. E. Giddings, 13 Station St.
HOME MADE CAKES.
F. TAYLOR. 21 Bay Rd. XW2048.
LIBRARY, 5000 BOOKS. COUTIE'S NEWSAGENCY.

PARKDALE.
RADIO REPAIRS AND SALES. C. Barnett, 19 Herbert St. XW2031.

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DAIRY, M. Bowler. Buckingham Ave.
R. MACKAY & SONS. General Storekeepers. UM 9269.

WILLIAMSTOWN.
DON B. FISKEN, Baker. 122 Douglas Parade.

DUNSTAN, DAIRYMAN. 28 Station Rd. Phone, W'town 124.
HAIRDRESSER and Tobacconist. C. Tomkins, 165 Nelson PL, 76 Ferguson St.

WINDSOR.
E. COOKE, 49 Chapel St. W. 8044. High Class Butcher (Cash).

Hitler says the Church has no right to attack the morals of the State.

It would be a great relief to me to find that a State had any to attack.

Hitler also says the Germans are "a people without space."

He should see ours in the Tubes. It's no use, Adolf. Take it from one who's got an Empire. Colonies don't give people any more room at home.

* * *

"At the Army Vocational Training Centre," says a newspaper, "the soldier undergoes a humanising process after the robot-life of the service . . . He is exempt from the call of the bugle. A factory whistle brings him to his workshop."

Away with the de-humanising trumpet! For the human note, give me a factory whistle calling to its young

* * *

Chairman of Public Assistance Committee, to applicant who has been out of work for four years: "How much money have you in the bank?"

"What?"
"How much money have you in the bank?"

"£20,000."
"Look here, my man, we want no nonsense here!"

"Well, you started it."
—"Reynolds."



ELECTORAL CAMPAIGN NOTES

VICTORIA.

The Electors'
CAMPAIGN TO ABOLISH
POVERTY

is simply what the title says.

The People (you and I) appoint men from their midst, and pay them handsome salaries, to represent in Parliament that which they wish to be carried out. Parliament is the people's institution to enact their will. Undoubtedly it is the will of the people that poverty be abolished from this land of abundance. This Campaign, which is being conducted in every State of the Commonwealth, is providing electors with the opportunity to convey to their parliamentary representatives their explicit instruction that it be the first business of Parliament to arrange that poverty be abolished. Politicians are servants of the people and must obey the commands and demands of the people.

For the benefit of those who have not got a clear conception of the work being carried out by the United Electors of Australia (non-party), Victorian Division, it may be stated that the U.E.A. is not an organisation in the accepted meaning of the word. Its main work is to place the idea of the Electoral Campaign before the electors, and it is then the electors themselves who bring the idea into fact. The procedure being carried out is, on broad lines, as follows:—A "live" citizen is contacted in a given suburb: The plan is discussed with him. He is asked to call a meeting, by invitation, of prominent citizens as a preliminary to the Town Hall meeting calling the citizens of the locality to gather at the Town Hall for the purpose of considering the abolition of the poverty which exists in this land of abundance. At the preliminary meeting a representative from the Head Office of the U.E.A. is present and outlines a procedure that can be used to make known the proposed Town Hall meeting. Workers are recruited and the arrangements for the meeting are left in the hands of the local citizens, assistance being given by headquarters where required. The Town Hall meeting having been arranged, a chosen speaker is made available for the occasion. The idea of the Campaign is then placed before the citizens (electors). When it is thoroughly explained, they are told that to put true Democracy into force and to

abolish poverty is now in their own hands.

A hall for a further meeting has been previously engaged and the date is announced to those present at the Town Hall, who are asked to assemble and form themselves into a Group to conduct the Campaign in their area. From start to finish this Campaign is purely a citizens' Campaign. The U.E.A. is YOU, is every individual elector—and the individual elector has to DO the job—no organisation, no one else can do it for him. There are no exceptions. If you think you are an exception, it is time you realised that you are not. You, you yourself, are the People, and it is the Voice of the People that must bring change to the dangerous state the world is in today.

Town Hall Meetings — The weather recently has not been favourable for meetings. Consequently the attendance has not kept to the remarkable numbers of Box Hill and Caulfield. However, the average of 200 or so attending the recent five Town Hall meetings is a natural draft of deep-thinking, earnest citizens—the type of citizen who readily assimilates the idea of the Campaign, and who willingly accepts responsibility to carry the message to his fellow-citizens.

St. Kilda. —The evening of the St. Kilda meeting (Monday, June 21) was exceptionally bitter, and yet, in face of the cold fog, 150 attended. The deep interest extended to the speaker was noticeable. There was no restlessness evidenced; in fact, there was a distinct feeling of prematureness when the chairman closed the meeting at 10.30—a second or two of silence, then a burst of acclamation as an expression of deep enthusiasm having been aroused.

A following meeting to enable citizens to form a Group was arranged to be held in St. Kilda Social Club Hall, Woodstock Street (off Carlisle Street, near Balaclava Station), on this Friday night, June 25 at 8 o'clock. It is expected that a very strong, enthusiastic Group will be formed.

Brighton Town Hall meeting was held on Tuesday, June 22. The same earnest atmosphere was perceptible at this meeting as was so pronounced at St. Kilda. Our good friend, Dr. John Dale, addressed the meeting. A creditable feature in regard to Brighton is that the activities are in the hands of young people. Youth is in full force in Brighton. They have already an active group of 25. The help forthcoming from the Town Hall meeting will place them in a position to conduct the Campaign with force and speed. Congratulations, Brighton!

The following meeting to consolidate the Town Hall meeting is to be held in the Small Hall, Brighton Town Hall, on Tuesday next, June 29, at 8 p.m.

Balaclava Electorate. — The Campaign Director is forming a Central Council. The St. Kilda and Brighton Meetings will complete the Divisional Group formation covering the whole electorate. Leaders of these Divisional Groups will form a Central Council.

Camberwell and Dandenong. — Arrangements are in hand for Town Hall meetings at both of these centres.

Yarra Bank. —One of the stalwarts of the Yarra Bank brigade was unable to attend last Sunday, but his place was filled by one of the feminine gender. The novelty of a lady speaking on the Yarra Bank had the effect of gathering a good crowd. The lady was no mean exponent of the art of public speaking. She is a great acquisition to our team of speakers.

Wangaratta. —A 'phone message called for a rush order for literature. "No trouble in getting Demands signed."

Head Office Address: McEwan House, Corner of Elizabeth and Little Collins Streets, 5th Floor, Rooms 8a and 9. Telephone, MU 2834.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

Adelaide Division. — No ammunition, no Electoral Campaign fight; and no money, no ammunition. "Where's the money coming from?"

NATIONAL
INSURANCE

Insurance for WHOM?

Insurance against WHAT?

Insurance with WHAT?

Answer these, and then you will see what humbugs, and worse, these National Insurance experts and advocates really are!

is a cry we've heard before; but it has had to be faced and answered without any references to technical methods. So we just demanded it through the columns of this paper and at meetings; and we have secured the desired results. We have now a regular income, admittedly small, but enough to pay our way at present. Our next need is more workers for the Campaign. These, and their active work, will call for a larger income, which we do not doubt will be forthcoming. The State Hon. Secretary and the Adelaide Divisional Supervisor have been meditating, independently, on the difference between the principles of democracy and of dictatorship. After discussion they have given us as a conclusion a useful slogan: "In a democracy you must get what you want; under a dictatorship you must want what you get." In which does freedom and rationality reside?

Grey Division. — The Port Lincoln Group are throwing all their weight, which is considerable, into the fight to win the whole of Eyre's Peninsula. The Campaign Director, Mr. T. Carey, is now concentrating on Tumbay Bay, which town is expected to fall before the onslaught of the E.G. brigade very shortly. Following this, preparations are under way for the attack on other important centres.

Boothby Division. — Owing to ill health the Boothby Supervisor, Mr. E. W. Elphick, has been compelled to relinquish his position. We regret that Mr. Elphick has been obliged to do this, and especially because of ill-health; and we should like to say a word of appreciation, having in mind the great effort he made when he took the job in hand, at a time when he was feeling fit for it. A Boothby meeting will be called shortly, when it is hoped that a successor to Mr. Elphick will be found.

Hindmarsh Division— Mr. C.

H. Allen, Director of Organisation at H.Q., is now working quietly in the Hindmarsh Division making contacts and drawing in the threads that will eventually make a pattern of E.G. divisional organisation. Mr. Allen is getting a good hearing.

Publicity. — The Publicity Fund is mounting up and up. Have you done your bit yet to put it £1 nearer the amount required? Have you realised that the press is a tremendous factor in educating the public? Have you heard it spoken of as "the servile press"? That means that it is being used by those who are using the people for their own ends—which do not coincide with the results demanded by you and me. Then why shouldn't we make the press our servant? Why not use it and educate the people to the E.G. ideal? It needs but a fund built up to cover a large advertisement, inserted at the psychological moment, and a big job of work will be done. We *must* get through to the general public somehow.

Campaign Competition. — Do not forget the competition for signatures. There are splendid little trophies for this, two of them being on show at H.Q. now. The sections are: (a) Greatest number of signatures from stated area; (b) highest percentage of signatures to electors in stated area; (c) greatest number of signatures obtained anywhere; (d) greatest number of associate members. Competition opens July 1.

Social Functions. — On Wednesday, June 30, there will be a Women's Discussion Afternoon. Special speaker. Afternoon tea. Collection.

Saturday, July 3, will be a Rally and Social, and farewell to the Rev. A. C. Stevens. Collection of shillings.

Saturday, July 10, at 3 p.m., Children's Peter Pan Party. Children, 6d; adults, 6d. To be held at Hanson Street Hall, five doors southwest of Wakefield Street.

Wednesday, July 14, Concert by pupils of Madame Callow, Miss Greta Callow, assisted by Mr. Howard Bauerochse, at Lady Colton Hall, Y.W.C.A., Hindmarsh Square. Tickets, 1/2, from Office or Mr. Brock.

Library. —We are still anxious to start a fiction library. Membership by subscription of book; charge of 2d per week per book. We have several promises of parcels of books, and a few to hand. Have you some that you would kindly spare for this new library?

The Club. —Annual Club subscriptions (5/-) are now due.

Please support these activities if it is within your power. The increased activities of the Women's Auxiliary in this social direction have already benefited the domestic

BATTLE SONG

By W. BLACKSTONE.

*At the Imperial Conference
Australia's Prime Minister attacked
those criticising Britain's
foreign policy. —News Item.*

Where Queenscliff's forts their vigil
keep
And Gabo's light shines o'er the
deep,
Whose tides will ever ebb and flow;
Where Sydney's hosts for conflict
band
And Brisbane's warriors line the
strand
A nation waits its foe.

The shearers on the eastern
coast,

The southern bloke whose proudest
boast
Relates to digging of the spud;
The wharfie and the bookie true,
The squatter and the jackaroo
Are out for foeman's blood.

Who is this foe our country waits
By Phillip Isle and Torres Straits?
By gosh, I do not know!
It's not the Japs, for if they tried
They'd take us quickly in their
stride;
We'll have to learn from Joe.

It may be we must get to work
And fight the battle of the Turk,
Or help old Stalin out;
We'll fight for Cross and Crescent,
too,
Though ne'er must it depress the
Jew
To hear our battle shout.

Now all our warriors are arrayed,
Equipped with rifle and grenade
To battle for the right;
Each heart with martial ardour
burns—

But we must wait till Joe returns
To hear of whom we fight.

We'll face our foeman grim and
game,
We'll win the next war just the
same
And pulverise the foe.
They'll hear our shout on battle
plain:
"The debt goes up some more
again,
We'll die for good old Joe."

Our blood we'll shed on foreign
fields,

And curses cry on him that yields
Or saves himself by flight.
God send our Joe may soon return
And let his yearning people learn
Who is the bloke they'll fight.

side of the Movement tremendously. Unless our domestic life is assisting us, we have nothing on which to go out and fight the larger battle.

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