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KEEP US POOR IN THE MIDST OF PLENTY

Vol. 3. NO. 39.

MELBOURNE, FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 1937.

Every Friday, 3

Labor and Defence



Caesar Before God



How the Dailies Suppress the News



'Investors Are Shy'

New Times SHOPPING GUIDE and Business Directory

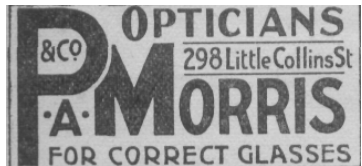
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(Continued on page 3.)

LABOR AND DEFENCE SHOULD THE PEOPLE BE CONSULTED?

As has been anticipated for some time past, the Great Red Herring of the Federal elections is apparently to be the defence issue, and particularly the "defence" of Australia outside Australia. But it is a red herring only in the realistic sense that Australia has no visible or probable enemy who is likely to contemplate making an armed attack on us at any time in the near future. In the sense, however, that a scheme may be afoot to embroil Australians abroad at any tick of the clock, the issue is one, which may prove both vital and urgent. For the most precious possession any of us can have—and in too many cases almost the only worthwhile possession we actually have—is our life.

The attitude of the Lyons Ministry, although its policy speech has not yet been made, is clear. According to Messrs. Lyons, Menzies, and other armchair warriors, Australia is bound to help Britain in any emergency, whatever its cause. This was evidenced in the Abyssinian incident, when Australian ships were sent to the Mediterranean and we were all ordered by Mr. Lyons to keep out of the ring. (Not that he wanted it cleared so that he could do our fighting for us.) And over and over again we have been told that Britain's safety is our safety that the Empire must stand or fall together, that the King of England cannot be at war and the King of Australia at peace, and so on ad nauseam.

The Constitutional Issue

Just what is the constitutional power of the Federal Parliament in the matter seems, like other constitutional powers, rather obscure. Part V. of the Constitution, under the heading, "Powers of the Parliament," Section 51, says that, "The Parliament shall, subject to this Constitution, have power to make laws for the peace, order, and good government of the Commonwealth with respect to— . . . (vi.) The naval and military defence of the Commonwealth and of the several States, and the control of the forces to execute and maintain the laws of the Commonwealth." The only thing that would seem definite from that is that the Commonwealth Parliament has no power over air defence, any more than over civil aviation (as was recently shown in the Goya Henry case). But what of its power to conscript young men for military service? It seems apparent that it has such power, as far as service within Australia is concerned. Whether or not the same power extends to service outside Australia (without a referendum, of course) would appear to depend upon the interpretation put upon the word "defence." When Mr. Menzies was asked a question of this nature on one of his recent trips to England, his answer, if we remember aright, was that he would not like to give an answer offhand. Nevertheless we have not much doubt as to what his answer would be if he happened to be Federal Attorney-General in a U.A.P. Ministry, which wanted war—provided always that he thought he could get away with it. It is highly desirable, therefore, unless and until the constitutional position is cleared up, that each of the parliamentary parties should he made clearly to express its views and to commit itself to the electors on the whole issue of our participation in any war outside Australia's shores.

Labor's Attitude

In fairness to the Labor party, it must be said that it has stated its position in such a way as to leave no room for doubt. In his policy speech on Monday night Mr. Curtin said:— "The safety of Australia and the

peace of the nation being our fundamental obligation, we insist that the country shall not be committed to warlike activities outside Australia without the absolute and established consent of the Australian people."

This statement, as would be expected, has been greeted with howls of indignation and of attempted derision from the jingo press. "The people are asked to elect next month," said the *Argus*, "a Government which before it attains office says that it will cease to govern in the hour of crisis if it becomes necessary to move men out of Australia in order to defend Australia." The *Argus*, you see, has no doubt about the Government's power to conscript for overseas service without a referendum. It continued: "It will shirk the first task of a Government—to defend the country it governs; it will thrust the responsibility upon the people."

Do you notice what a fine idea of democracy the *Argus* has? It is all right to have a referendum upon some comparatively trivial matter on which a State Upper House may be in conflict with the State Lower House, as witness its attitude in the present Victorian election campaign. It is unthinkable

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able that a (non-U.A.P.) Ministry should pass any laws or make even any unofficial party alliances on which the people have not been directly consulted, as witness again its attitude towards the Dunstan Ministry. But it is anathema that a Government should be unable to act on its own initiative and should have to "trust the responsibility upon the people" of declaring whether or no they wish to spill their blood upon some foreign shore!

If the people are not to be consulted upon whether they wish to risk their all in a war outside Australia, then, in Heaven's name, upon what *should* they be consulted? Without this, why keep up the farcical pretence of democracy at all?

Is a Referendum Practicable?

The plea is put up that a referendum would be impracticable. "Effective defence," said the *Herald*, "may require that we meet an invader before he reaches our coasts. By the time Mr. Curtin had taken his referendum or ascertained each person's opinion by some other unknown means, the enemy would have had ample time to bring Australia into foreign subjugation."

Did you ever read worse rubbish than that? Upon such a

simple issue, we should say, an emergency referendum could be taken, and the opinion of at least ninety per cent, of the people ascertained, within a few days. There would not, of course, be time for political speechifying, but that would be no loss. And what would we lose by the delay?

Minister for Customs White has drawn a terrible picture of Japan ("only two days away by air from Australia") bombing defenceless Chinese cities, and asks whether we are to await a similar fate while a referendum is being taken. What irresponsible, mischievous nonsense! By what right does Mr. White, make such inferences against a friendly Power? But even supposing his bogey scare had any foundation, what does Mr. White propose we should do? Should we, on the first indication of trouble with Japan, send the whole of our mighty air force to bomb the Japanese cities? What a picnic the poor handful of lads would have!

Leaving aside dreams and dealing with actualities, would it have seriously interfered with the part we played in the last war had Australia's declaration been delayed a week or two? Had there been a general flare-up over Abyssinia, would a similar delay have mattered? Is it likely that it would matter in any practical case that we can at present conceive? Apart from the possibility of sending a few planes to drop a few bombs—which would have no serious effect on any major war—would it not take us far longer than the time required for finding out the people's will before we could send any material assistance whatever out of Australia? Japan started her war against China weeks ago. She had presumably made pretty complete preparations for it. She has army, navy, air force, transport, and all war-making facilities. And she is only a hop, step and jump from the scene of the campaign. And yet the war can hardly be said to have started properly yet.

"A Hallowed Cause"

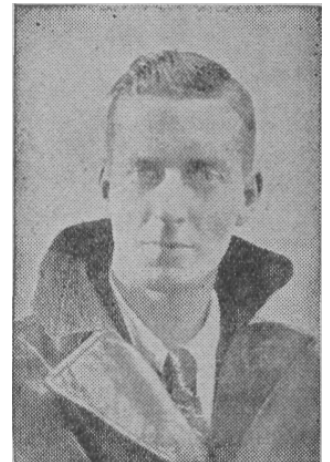
It comes to this, that all this talk of the need for sudden, swift action in striking a blow to defend Australia *outside* Australia is so much eyewash designed to enable jingoistic politicians to shove Australia into another overseas war on behalf of international financiers before the Australian people have time to stop them. We know the steps: A sudden declaration of war, then a military censorship over speech and press, with Defence of the Realm Regulations and War Precautions Acts mercilessly applied, and the life literally choked out of anyone who dared raise a word of protest. The *Argus* gave the game away on Tuesday when, protesting against the taking of a referendum, it said: "A

campaign would be entered upon, bringing into activity the now futile enemies of the Empire and exposing a hallowed cause to the gibes and sneers of foes within our own household."

How pathetic! But does it not prove our contention? Empire, Empire all the time, and Australia nowhere. And don't ever forget that this Empire to which we Australians are supposed to pay unquestioning allegiance does not mean our kinsmen in England, in Scotland, or in Ireland, North or South. Neither does it mean the whites in the other Dominions. Empire means the "investments" of certain gentlemen in London, largely of foreign and often of Asiatic extraction—investments in China, in Iraq, in Iran, in Africa, in South America, in every corner of the world where people can be found who are prepared to pay interest on debt. This is what the *Argus* means when it speaks of "exposing a hallowed cause to the gibes and sneers of foes within our own household."

If the Labor party were prepared in all matters to display as much responsibility to its masters, the electors, as it is in this, we should have little criticism to offer against it. For it is here saying that Parliament exists to carry out the policy of the electors, not to foist a policy upon the electors.

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"WHAT I THINK OF THE CHURCHES TODAY"

The above article by Mr. W. Macmahon Ball, which appeared in the "New Times" of September 17, has elicited so much comment and brought so many requests for a reprint that it is now being published by the "New Times" as an eight-page brochure.

Copies may be ordered from New Times Ltd., Box 1226, G.P.O., Melbourne. Price, one penny per copy. Postage, one penny on single copies; on orders for six or more copies, to be posted in bulk, no charge for postage will be made.

GROUSE ARE NOT SPORTSMEN

By YAFFLE, in "Reynolds News."

"August 12. Grouse-shooting begins."

To all true Englishmen this announcement comes as a clarion call, uplifting the drooping spirit, and stirring the soul to new aspirations.

For months, life has been intolerable, without point or purpose for the sportsman who can't kill anything. Day after dreary day the useless sun has set upon a bloodless landscape, while birds and beasts wandered with insolent freedom across the field of vision, exasperatingly intact.

Who shall measure his anguish as he drags through empty weeks of apathy and aimlessness, drinking endless doubles with the dull despair of a man whose strongest impulses are frustrated, and passing through successive stages of ennui, until he reaches the Positive Pip?

But now deliverance is come. The dawn of slaughter ends the night of boredom, and a glad song echoes throughout the land, from the drawing-room to the butler's pantry—"England, arise! The long close-season's over!"

Nevertheless, this year a note of sadness mingles with the song of joy. There is a bad season in prospect. "The Mystery of the Vanished Game," say the headlines. "Gamekeepers Baffled."

In many Scottish counties, I read, gamekeepers have been startled by the unprecedented scarcity of birds. In one district, in spite of perfect feeding and breeding conditions, only two coveys were raised on grounds, which formerly provided 500 brace.

This state of affairs is bringing the country face to face with a grave crisis. It is, indeed, only an extension of a problem which has been baffling politicians, as well as gamekeepers.

On the one hand, we have grouse refusing to come and be shot at in sufficient numbers, in spite of good breeding conditions. On the other hand, in spite of new housing schemes providing better breeding conditions than ever before, the human birthrate continually declines, and army recruiting is in a serious position.

Everything is being done to improve the situation. The Government has promised the soldiers higher pay, more liberty, and better status, while never before have grouse been promised

such perfectly balanced hammerless ejector twin-barrelled shot-guns, with such high power and easy swing.

Yet still they refuse to come in sufficient numbers to the recruiting stations and the butts, while their families grow smaller and fewer.

There is no doubt at all that parent birds are refusing to hatch because they object to their chicks being used for gun-fodder.

Some of you are unmoved by this crisis. Many of you even do not like shooting birds. You think it is inconsistent



that a magistrate can have a small boy chastised for causing a cat physical discomfort, and the next day may himself go out with a gun, blow the wing off a bird, and pass on his way unbirched.

Foreigners, too, are puzzled as to why the English are famous both for loving animals and for killing them. They do not see the deep significance of our popular poem:—

"I never loved a dear gazelle,
But it was sure to die."

Let us, therefore, clarify your minds and enable you to see the difference between healthy sport and cruelty to animals.

The Sporting Instinct ranks with rheumatism as being one of the most serious diseases common to the English people for which no cure has yet been discovered.

It is a mental complaint, or "neurosis," resulting from suppression. You see, the English are a gentle and kindly race world-famous for just laws and orderly public behaviour. They are tender to dumb animals, and even half-starve themselves rather than hurt the feelings of economists by pointing out that their ideas are all bunk.

The result is they are afflicted with a permanent sub-conscious desire to compensate for their gentlemanliness by killing or hurting something. If we do not

A VOTER?

By J. M. ATKINSON. (Independent Candidate for Balaclava.)

An elector is one who votes for a successful candidate, a voter is one who votes for a defeated candidate. For the Senate at last elections 47 per cent, of the first choice votes were cast for successful candidates, whilst 53 per cent, were cast for defeated candidates. Here are the figures:

	Votes for Successful Candidates	Votes for Defeated Candidates
N.S.W.	683,038	590,662
Vic.	367,586	580,435
Q'ld.	232,137	257,140
S.A.	150,311	132,957
W.A.	97,878	92,069
Tas.	27,577	76,041
	1,558,527	1,729,304

It will be noted that in Victoria, Queensland and Tasmania

provide them with certain specified animals to kill, they would probably have a civil war, or break out in spots, or pelt an Archbishop with peanuts, or something.

A propaganda committee must therefore be formed to devise means of persuading the grouse that it is their duty, in the national interest, to provide more offspring.

It should be pointed out to them that it is a great honour and privilege, shared by few other feathered bipeds, to be chosen for the task of saving sportsmen from going off their onions, and thus liberating the complexes of democracy.

It gives them a higher status in the feathered world. It puts them in the enviable position of being able to say to any passing crow, sparrow, tomtit, or great crested grebe, in a tone of superior contempt, "What did you do in the shooting season, Daddy?"

We will add to our persuasion by promising the grouse concrete benefits. We will follow the example of the Fascist Governments and encourage a higher rate of gun-fodder production by offering family bonuses to every brace that produces the statutory quota of offspring.

We will go further, and promise to erect on the moors, at the close of every shooting season, shoot memorials to the grouse who made the great sacrifice.

And if that doesn't fetch 'em, we shall have to chase mice.

the successful candidates were in a minority on the first preferences. But by means of compulsory preferences the U.A.P. groups secured all the seats. The same thing happened at the 1931 election, except in one State—Queensland—where Labor won the three Senate seats. In the last Parliament the Senate seats were occupied by 33 Government supporters and three Labor senators

After the last Senate election even Mr. Lyons said, "There can be no excuse for allowing such a voting system to remain if it is possible to devise a better one." Yet, three years have gone by, and nothing has been done about it. Mr. Lyons, being a Tasmanian, should know that Proportional Representation has been in operation for Tasmanian House of Assembly elections since 1907. And it has given fair and just results at every election.

Not only am I in favour of Proportional Representation for the Senate, but also for the House of Representatives and all elections.

Single member districts cannot give fair representation to the people. In no district are the voters unanimous. If a member represents one section, he misrepresents the rest.

At the last Federal Elections in Victoria for the Representatives 54 per cent, of first choice votes were cast for successful candidates and 46 per cent for defeated candidates. That is, 46 voters out of every 100 were virtually disfranchised, because their votes failed to give them representation.

Of the 54 per cent, who secured representation, I suggest that very few were satisfied with the men who got into the House.

With Proportional Representation voters would have a much wider choice, because electorates would be larger and return three or more members. To apply this reform to the House of Representatives, several districts would be joined, and Victoria's twenty representatives would be returned by, say, four electorates of five members each.

At last election 62 candidates stood for the 20 seats. With only four electorates under Proportional Representation, voters would have the choice of about 15 candidates, instead of two or three as now.

We would find men and women of principle would offer their services and be true to the electors, rather than to Party. Then the voter would become an elector, because his vote would help to elect some member he really wants. There are practically no waste votes with Proportional Representation; nearly every voter secures representation with his first or second choice.

Proportional Representation ensures majority rule, and, at the same time, gives representation to minorities in proportion to their voting strength.

In the words of Ernest Naville, the Swiss publicist: "In a democratic government the right of DECISION belongs to the majority, but the right of REPRESENTATION belongs to all."

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(Continued from page 2.)
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(Continued on page 7.)

The Rt. Hon. W. M. Hughes, Canberra.

Dear Sir, —

As one of the senior Labor rats in the Federal House, you should surely realise that you ought also to be one of the last men to throw mud at a policy which is still substantially the same as that which lifted you from obscurity to the Prime Ministership and a gratuity of £25,000. On reading press reports of your attempt at criticising Labor leader Curtin's policy speech, one encounters first a meaningless jumble of heavy attempts at the use of imaginative figures of speech. Admittedly there was a time, years ago, when you had a capacity for dodging real issues by your memory for picturesque phrases, but with the rapid advance of dotage that capacity appears to have followed whatever of real ability you once possessed.

To refer to Labor's programme as something which reminds you of a dreamer surrounded by delightful hours, or of gorgeous tropical sunsets encountered on an equatorial voyage, or of a ghostly skyscraper floating on clouds, may bring you a little adulation from newspaper reporters (until they leave your presence and laugh at you behind your back), but it is no contribution to practical politics. And the people of Australia today are in no humour to be decoyed by hours—or by Welsh wizards, either.

As far as we could make out from your welter of words, you offered only one remark by way of really criticising what Mr. Curtin said on behalf of his party, and that was in the form of the question; "I would ask the people to ask themselves where the millions Mr. Curtin has promised are to come from."

Even that remark was not one, which dealt with realities. Had you asked whence would come the goods, the real wealth, necessary to supply the standard of living which Mr. Curtin claimed (and rightly) should be enjoyed by the least citizen of this country, you might have been putting a practical question. Even to that the answer would not have been too hard, since it would merely have required a marshalling of Australia's present and its still greater potential capacity. But to talk of where are the millions to come from! Millions of what? Of paper notes, of silver and bronze tokens, of entries in bank ledgers—and mainly the latter.

You know perfectly well that when you were the "Digger" wartime Prime Minister—another of your mountebank poses—entries representing millions; tens of millions, and hundreds of millions were made in financial ledgers as required by the necessities of the people. And so you must know that similar entries could be made now, if required, and if only we had a Cabinet prepared to carry out its duties to our people. You know also that the war-time ledger entries to which you were a party, and which carried a needless toll of interest on behalf of the class of people who suitably rewarded you shortly afterwards, could just as easily have been made in such a way as to be free of interest. And so we can only conclude that your attempt to drag this antiquated herring across the track arose from your desire to resurrect the equally outworn bogey that someone is going to "confiscate the people's savings."

Not again, Father William! All these vogues have their day — just as you have had yours.

THE NEW TIMES

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FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 1937

"Investors Are Shy"

Investors, the financial writers tell us, are again displaying signs of shyness. Bearing this out, the New York Stock Exchange, world leader in every move for inflation and deflation, has recorded sensational collapses in security prices during this month. American railroads, which are privately owned, dropped from an index figure of 48.21 on September 1 to 41.80 on September 18, while industrial shares during the same period fell from 173.08 to 157.83. This collapse in the market quotation for shares has followed upon a steady decline for months past, to which attention has already been drawn in these columns.

In Australia the fall has not been so marked. One reason for this is the passing prosperity—in some cases of record-breaking proportions—which has been enjoyed on account of war preparations overseas and their reflection here. Last season's wool prices had a great effect in bolstering up market quotes in Australia. The high prices ruling for base metals abroad, as a result of armament orders, resulted in high prices for metals in Australia, and marvellous profits for the Broken Hill group of industries. Nevertheless, a marked decline in Australian quotations has taken place during the past few weeks, the *Argus* index on Monday showing a drop in industrials from 50.55 to 48.61 for the previous month, and a drop in silver-lead shares from 223.06 to 195.56. With present highly discouraging wool reports, there is every indication that Stock Exchange quotations will drop still more rapidly in the near future.

That business in ordinary industry is not nearly so rosy as it has been painted was instanced some days ago by the annual report of Waldas Shoes Ltd., shoe manufacturers and proprietors of the retail Clyde Booteries. Two years ago this company was able to sell a fresh issue of £1 ordinary shares at a premium of 15/- a share. At the weekend sellers were trying to unload their holdings at 12/6 a share. Accounts for the year show that profits have fallen by more than half as against the previous year, and that the company will pay no ordinary dividend. For the last three years it paid 15 per cent.

The directors state that de-

crease in profits is due to higher costs in production, combined with inability to pass on full costs in prices, owing to keen competition. This is highly significant, and we suggest that, but for their monopolistic nature, the experience of Waldas Shoes would have been paralleled by many other enterprises which have still managed to present reports of a (to shareholders) satisfactory nature. For the plain fact is, as we have over and over again stressed, that the public, as consumers, are not provided with enough money to enable them to buy what, as producers, they turn out. The monopoly, because it has a monopoly, may carry on for a time. But in the long run industry goes bankrupt, goes deeper and deeper into debt, or writes off part of its shareholders' capital and licks its wounds as gracefully as it can.

Those who look back on the years following 1929 will perhaps remember that the shoe trade was one of the first and heaviest sufferers in the crash. And it seems that history is about to repeat itself. For our financial barometer in Australia is indicating the stormiest of weather. It is only when huge capital expenditure or heavy Government borrowing ekes out the money paid to the public that we have our passing phases of prosperity. And there is no present prospect of either in the immediate future. The bankers have cut down upon the Loan Council's borrowing programme for 1937-38, and it is no secret that they are heavily pruning private applications for fresh overdrafts. Even our "defence loan" is to be spent in London and not in Australia, so there will be no relief from that source. Our only prospect is heavier taxes and less income—for, as we pointed out last week, our wage increases have already been outstripped by rises in prices.

There are two moves now left on the chessboard. One is the reckless expenditure of war, if you want that, with its consequent day of reckoning. The other is to take a firm grip of our monetary arrangements and to make them reflect realities. In this case the realities are the greatest factors for potential prosperity and peace that mankind has ever known.

Which of these two alternatives will be chosen is now in the hands of electors. If they demand realism in our political and financial arrangements, they will get it; if they don't, they will get what they deserve.

Labor Candidate Nash and the U.E.A.

As far as we are aware, the first of the aspirants for Federal honours to issue a printed attack on the United Electors of Australia—there have been verbal attacks for such as Minister for Customs White—is Mr. P. Nash, the selected Labor candidate for Balaclava. Mr. Nash has just issued a leaflet "warning" the electors against the U.E.A. After conceding that the U.E.A. began as the result of "a move by a group of well-meaning persons"—"well-meaning in this instance being somewhat akin to

"irresponsible" —Mr. Nash proceeds to set out what *he* declares are the U.E.A.'s demands. Having done so, he adds: "In all these demands Labor concurs. In fact, these demands are a few of the many that Labor will, if put into power, strive to the utmost to fulfill."

On reading this, one would naturally expect that Mr. Nash would ally himself wholeheartedly with the U.E.A., the more especially as the latter has itself no party aspirations. Unfortunately, however, Mr. Nash was not quite frank when he purported to set out the demands of the U.E.A. He overlooked one very, very important demand, which is that the member of Parliament shall at all times hold himself responsible to his constituents, and to his constituents alone. And in this is to be found the explanation of his hostility to the U.E.A. For Mr. Nash says "Parties and Parliamentary Government are complementary. Neither exists without the other." And he is quite definite that he will not pay his first allegiance to his constituents. In a letter to the U.E.A., which we quoted in our issue of 10th inst., he wrote: "I am prepared to represent the views of any body of electors *in so far as those views can be reconciled with the Labor platform*. Further, if the electors of Balaclava care to set up an Electors' Association I am prepared to report to them at three monthly intervals of my stewardship, *and to accept direction and advice in so far as such direction and advice is consistent with the Labor platform*."

"Parties and Parliamentary Government are complementary," said Mr. Nash. "Neither exists without the other." He gave us a fine example of this in his printed Election Manifesto, wherein, in the course of an attack on the Lyons Ministry, he said this: "The Lyons Government came into being to carry on the 'Premiers' Plan,' which, under the catch cry of 'Equality of Sacrifice,' reduced wages by 10 per cent., cut pensions and social services, etc., but left the profits of the factory owners, bankers and bondholders intact." Mr. Nash seems to have a bad memory for dates. The last Labor Government, the Scullin Ministry, held office from October 22, 1929, to January 6, 1932. Sir Otto Niemeyer, of the Bank of England, and sponsor of deflation, visited Australia in July-August, 1930, *at the invitation of the Scullin Labor Government*. The Premiers' Plan was adopted on June 10, 1931, *under the Scullin Labor Government*. And the 10 per cent cut in real wages was announced by the Arbitration Court on January 22, 1931, *under the Scullin Labor Government*.

What a sham fight, then, Mr. Nash is waging when he attacks the Lyons Ministry for carrying on the Premiers' Plan. What a sham fight is this whole sorry business of "complementary" party politics, which at best only gives the electors the opportunity, every three years or so, of declaring under which form of irresponsible tyranny they will elect to exist.

We believe there are individuals in all parties who are sincerely desirous of improving the lot of our people. We certainly do not question Mr. Nash's own sincerity in this respect (although he has got it in for factory owners and others).

We believe, moreover, that the Labor party men are gradually getting nearer and nearer to the nigger in the financial woodpile.

But we do not believe that, whether as individuals or as members of a political organisation, these men will render true or substantial service to the people until they are ready to take their orders direct from the people, whose views they are supposed to *re-present*. Unless and until they do so we shall certainly not have even a pretence of democracy. And in this sense the Labor party is very clearly undemocratic, as Mr. Nash's own words already quoted prove.

Hence we have already urged all electors of Balaclava to vote for J. M. Atkinson, the only candidate for their suffrages who has unequivocally stated that he will at all times regard himself as the servant of the electorate and be prepared to carry out the instructions, not of an outside party machine, but of his masters, the electors.

Letting Loose the Dogs of War

Mr. Holt, M.H.R., has again been making martial noises before his usual audience of admirers, the Australian Women's National League. Speaking at Windsor on Monday, he is reported as saying that in proposing a policy of isolation in international affairs the Labor party was playing the role of an ostrich. It was inconceivable that a country like Australia, inheriting British traditions and institutions, should agree to remain aloof if other parts of the Empire were threatened. Moreover, Australia's future depended upon international trade, but without the security of trade routes, which could be preserved only by Britain's naval supremacy, its overseas markets would be cut off.

Are we to infer from this that Mr. Holt deems it our duty to go to war if Waziristan or similar parts of "the Empire" are endangered, or if, say, Germany threatens those colonies, which were transferred from her to "the Empire" as the result of the war to save democracy and the rights of small nations? As for our future in international trade, it ill becomes a supporter of a Government, which has done its best (or its worst) to wreck our international wool trade to talk of the British navy and our trade routes. Have we the British navy to thank for the "preservation" of our trade with Japan? As we have pointed out before, Australia's sales of her products to overseas customers are nearly all made in Australia; those customers bring their own ships here (thanks to Mr. Holt's party, there are no ships on the high seas flying the Australian flag); and they are only too anxious, to bring us their goods in exchange. So talk of preserving "our" trade routes is so much undiluted bunkum.

Turning to Mr. Holt himself, his own limbs and energy are just at a suitable age for making a target for poison gases and high explosives. But Mr. Holt, while ready to soothe on other young men to their death in the cause of Empire and the All-Red Route, does not conceive it as part of his own duty to join them. Some time ago, it will be remembered, when faced with the question of what he personally would do in the event of the outbreak of war, he decided to follow the brilliant example set by R. G. Menzies in the last war, and announced that he thought his services would be more valuable at home. Fancy Mr. Holt trying to persuade us that his re-

cord as a legislator is of sufficient importance to entitle him to a badge of indispensability! Wouldn't the electors of Fawkner—and the A.W.N.L.—spare him, even for the sake of the Empire?

If there is one law which Australia needs more badly than another just now, it is an enactment providing that any person, lay or clerical, who acts as a war urger should automatically be conscripted for the front line trenches immediately hostilities begin. And there should be neither age limit nor sex qualification.

When a Man Bites a Dog ---

When a dog bites a man, as the *Argus* is so fond of telling us, that is not news; but when a man bites a dog ----. Have you noticed the manner in which the press has been faithfully carrying out its duty of giving us the news, and the manner in which it has treated the relative importance of that news?

From the material point of view, the most important item of Australian news these last few weeks has been the collapse in the wool market. But, reading most of our papers, would you guess there had been any collapse at all? It is not that the news has been absolutely suppressed; but it has been reported in such a way, and given such a position that those readers who are not immediately interested in wool realisation have hardly a suspicion that anything is amiss. One week's report—generally tucked away towards the tail end of the country news section—will tell us how bidding in certain lines was brisk, and in others irregular; and that prices for such and such lines were from five to fifteen per cent, lower than the rates ruling at the previous week's sales. Next week we get something of the same sort; but again—and this is the significant manner in which news is at the same time given and withheld—the comparison of prices is with *the week immediately preceding*. Rarely do we get such a comparison as that with, say, last year's rates.

Here is a typical example: The "new" *Argus* last Tuesday reported Sydney's Monday wool sales on page 13, after all its local and overseas news, its women's section, its finance, commerce, shipping, leaders, and court news. And even on the page on which the report did appear, the item selected for insertion, as a special panel was an account of how some turkeys at Narbethong had their heads bitten off by foxes. When a fox bites a turkey, that's news!

Here is the report itself: "Sydney, Monday. Prices at the wool sales today, compared with closing rates at the previous Sydney series, were from par to 5 per cent, lower. Best descriptions were most affected by irregularity. There was still evidence of competition, mainly from Yorkshire and the Continent. The selection was average. The of-

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fering was 8,418 bales, of which 5,580 were sold and an additional 955 disposed of privately." Would you mind reading that over again, slowly, and then asking yourself whether or not its importance as a news item is in accord with the position in the paper we have described. Remember in doing so that this is not the tail end of a season, but the opening of a new season, and that Australian wool last season realised somewhere about £60 millions. And after you have read the report, what idea have you as to how much the wool sold fetched? Or whether the offerings, of which over 22 per cent, remained unsold, represented the usual amount put up for auction at this time, or a much less amount? Or, in fact, did you get any useful information at all from the report, except that things are so bad that it has to be noted there "was still evidence of competition"?

The reason for all this, of course, which is not confined only to *Argus* Reports, is that the public must not be allowed to realise, with Federal elections looming, what a fake are all the Lyons reports of prosperity and rehabilitation.

To Melbourne readers, the most important non-material news item at present is that dealing with the infantile paralysis epidemic. We had a good deal to say about this in our issue of 10th inst., so we need not dilate upon it now. It may be noted, however, that the *Herald's* policy of not upsetting big advertisers whose sales may be interfered with has spread to the other Melbourne papers, and also to the broadcasting stations controlled by them. The epidemic has broken all records. It is spreading more widely than ever. And it is now being disclosed that cases are not being reported immediately, thus giving foundation for the popular belief that the number of cases is being deliberately minimised, and that there is a concealment of those being treated in their own homes.

Tuesday's *Sun* had the lying four-column headline, "Infantile Paralysis Epidemic On The Wane?" with the sub-head, "More Schools To Open." Yet, hidden away in another part, below the item, "Capone Gunman Found Dead", it disclosed that ten fresh cases had been reported to the Health Department on the previous day. With this number of cases, following a heavy weekend list, and with new cases appearing in districts which were thought to have been cleaned up, how can the *Sun* attempt to justify its suggestion that the epidemic is on the wane?

We talk of our democracy and our free press. In theory we may have both; but in practice can we wonder if Hitler and Mussolini make rude remarks about us?

CHEMISTRY WRECKS THE FARM

"The threat of scarcity has been overcome, but the problem of social control has hardly begun."

(From the American "Reader's Digest.")

Agriculture, the nation's largest single business still remaining in the hands of private citizens, is in the midst of a scientific revolution. The farm is being wrecked by deadly frontal attacks from chemistry and technology. First, intensive mechanised farming, with synthetic fertilisers, is progressing to such an extent that a mere fraction of the present farmland would suffice to produce all foodstuffs and raiment we need. Second, chemistry is duplicating and taking out of cultivation many staple farm products, manufacturing them synthetically and uniformly. Third, the world tendency toward national self-sufficiency is cutting the heart out of world agricultural trade permanently. Foreign markets for agricultural products in any material degree are gone forever.

What has already happened is clearly shown in farm statistics. In 1790, 90 per cent, of our population was engaged in agriculture. In 1930 this ratio had fallen to 20 per cent.

But not even that 20 per cent, of the population is needed. The Department of Agriculture in one of its unheralded but significant reports shows that 85 per cent of all agricultural products entering trade are produced by half the farmers of the country. Half our farm population, by slightly increasing their efficiency of operation (an extremely simple matter), could produce 100 per cent, of all agricultural products now entering trade. We often think of America as still predominantly agricultural, but the experts know that if the present knowledge of farm operation were properly applied, the 1930 crops could be produced by only 5 per cent, of the population.

Aside from the inroads of the chemical revolution, other factors are playing leading roles in this historic transition. One is the decline in the growth of population in the United States, pointing toward a levelling off in half a century or less, and making unnecessary any considerable expansion of enterprise. Another is the mechanisation of agriculture and transportation, displacing hundreds of thousands of workers. Furthermore, the elimination of the horse by the gasoline engine has reduced the consumption of food as sharply as if 40,000,000 persons had stopped eating. Even the substitution of motor transportation for walking is estimated to have so reduced the energy requirements of the population that the consumption of meat decreased by 15 per cent, during the decade 1920-30. The 10,000,000 head of cattle that this reduction represents would have consumed as much food as 50,000,000 per-

sons. The demand for agricultural products as a whole declined 17 per cent, during that decade. All of these factors contribute to the immediate farm crisis, and to the long-term problem.

The idea that the farmer is a subservient caretaker of God's handiwork, and thus quite helpless to alter the age-old cycle of the rain, wind, and sun, has persisted through the centuries. Only in recent years have there been signs of fundamental changes.

Changing Poor Land into the Best

The belief also has been prevalent that an acre of land could produce just so much corn or wheat or cotton and no more. The agrobiologist is changing this idea by demonstrating that poor land can be changed into the best by the application of intensive farming methods. This intensive farming, despite the increased costs of fertilisers and water control, is more economical in the long run than extensive farming; hence the forward trend is toward growing larger crop yields on smaller areas of land because the crop is likely to be of better quality, with less labour cost, and less taxes or rent.

American agriculture, says Dr. O. M. Willcox, agrobiologist, in his "Reshaping Agriculture," is only 11.3 per cent, efficient today on the scale of the most efficient methods. If the farmer is even now able to produce enormous surpluses, what will happen when the efficiency level is doubled? "Let the co-efficient of 11.3 be doubled—brought up to a mere 22.6, which is still below the co-efficient of most European agricultures—and the social-economic destruction along the marginal lines of our farmers would be catastrophic," Dr. Willcox asserts.

This threat of catastrophe is not far-fetched. The average acre yield of corn in this country, for example, is 25.5 bushels. The agrobiologist maintains that the calculated maximum yield of corn is 225 bushels an acre, and as a matter of record this yield has actually been reached. The average yield of cotton is 0.32 bale an acre; but the agrobiologist says we can raise 4.6 bales an acre, and points to known maximum yields of 3.5 bales an acre. The present-day yield of wheat is only 8.4 per cent, of the calculated possible yield if the best practices were used. And so it goes with all the major crops. On the basis of *known* maximum yield per acre we could grow the 1930 actual harvest of eight major crops on the farms of Colorado alone.

Crops Without Soil

But if intensive farming means increased production on less land, what is the problem raised by controlled agriculture, which uses no land at all, and yet opens the way to fresh crops every few weeks all the year round? Since soil is almost useless anyway, the plants are grown without it in metal trays in oven like cabinets. The plants supply their own heat, and only a few hours of work daily are needed to supply water to the trays in which have been placed a few ounces of chemical food, there being a different chemical food for each kind of crop.

These cabinets, each containing ten trays providing a fresh crop every day with a ten-day rotation, are finding increased popularity on farms in England, Denmark, and Germany, where they are used for growing fodder crops for cattle and poultry.

Only one cabinet has been brought to America and is supplying fodder for cows on a dairy farm near Summit, N.J., while secret tests are being conducted on its efficiency. The crop grows miraculously. A tray of seed corn begins to sprout within a few hours and in ten days is a foot high. The seed germinated is said to produce five times the volume of seed planted in the ground. Dairy farms find the process economical.

Experiments are being conducted in England in the growing of fresh vegetables, with the prediction that the time is not far away when the householder can grow his own year-round supply of greenstuffs in his kitchen or basement in a cabinet resembling an icebox. This stage of agriculture is still in its infancy, but its revolutionary implications are obvious.

Synthetics

The most amazing strides in the agricultural enterprise have been made in the realm of synthetics. Synthetic production of agricultural products began 75 years ago, when the chemist found that he could completely eliminate the cultivation of natural dyes by synthetic production in factories. As a result, more acreage in indigo over the world disappeared than we need to grow cotton in this country today. The growing of vast quantities of madder also stopped within a few years. The synthetic industries have already broken numerous monopolies held by one or two countries. Dyes and perfumes have largely been eliminated from foreign trade. Nitrate-fixation processes broke the Chilean monopoly of nitrates. The Japanese monopoly of camphor was broken by German synthetics. Synthetic rubber will break the Dutch and British monopolies.

The second spectacular invasion was the entry of rayon into the textile industry. Although rayon has not altogether replaced natural fibres (about 75 per cent, of its composition is cotton linters—the short, poor cotton—and 25 per cent, is wood pulp), it nevertheless has played hob with the textile industry and the production of natural silk.

The chemist found that the common base of cellulose for all textiles is obtainable, not only from certain trees and plants, but from virtually all fibrous growth, including even weeds and cornstalks. The laboratories are only now struggling with the cellulose problem, but the strides made in artificial textiles have opened the way for a myriad of other products, for the cellulose base can be used for plastics in housing, interior finishings, enamels, laminated plastic tiling, and a host of other items. Not only have the chemists made it virtually certain that cotton, silk, and wool will be largely dominated by synthetics in the future, but certain large industrial interests are almost ready to venture into large-scale production of houses with plastics as the key material. Fine lumber becomes unnecessary when any kind of fibrous material, even weeds, is suitable as a base for plastic houses.

The synthetic-rubber industry has moved forward and is bound to supplant the market now occupied by the natural product. Perfumes once supported a vast agricultural population, but today the bulk of perfumes are synthetic. To produce a pound of Bulgarian rose oil requires from 250,000 to 750,000 roses. The chemist produces unlimited quantities of synthetic rose oil at a fraction of the cost of the natural. Natural leather is disappearing under the strain of competition with substitutes. And the paint and varnish industry has been trans-

formed by synthesis.

Not the least important invasion of chemistry into agriculture is in foodstuffs. Virtually all foods, from wheat and corn to beans, can be made in the laboratory. One of the outstanding achievements to date has been the manufacture of butter substitutes.

Milk Without a Cow

The matter of synthetic foodstuffs is often misunderstood. There is little immediate prospect of being served concentrated pellets of chemical elements as our main diet. But there is a prospect that a large variety of new foods will be produced in the laboratory. Factory production of milk—a purer and more healthful beverage—is sure to come, and at cheaper prices. Milk is 87 per cent water, anyway, and it will be relatively easy to substitute a machine for the cow as the agent for converting cellulose (grass) and such into a liquid we call milk.

Only a few months ago the first two "synthetic" sheep in the history of the world were slaughtered with appropriate academic ceremony at Cornell University. These two sheep had never tasted a blade of grass or a kernel of grain. They were weaned from their mothers early and placed on a diet of a synthetic mixture of casein, cellulose, starch, vitamin concentrates, and salts. They grew to maturity rapidly; they were beautiful sheep, their wool was excellent, and they were free from a parasite found in most sheep in the region. It would seem obvious that the chemical revolution is only beginning to open up a new and bewildering world.

The development of synthetics will not necessarily mean complete replacement of natural products, but it will mean sharp adjustments, often affecting millions of acres of land and the livelihood of hundreds of thousands of persons. Gone now is the old economics of Ricardo and Malthus, which maintained that good land is getting scarcer and scarcer, and that population is overtaking the food supply. The perfection in Germany in 1913 of the process of nitrate fixation ended forever the threat of diminishing fertility of the soils. Now, with the development of intensive agriculture and synthetics, both the land and food problems that tormented the 19th century economists have been solved.

It seems clear from the evidence that, far from being in a temporary crisis, which can be adjusted by slight reductions in acreages and manipulation of prices such as the Agricultural Adjustment Act has attempted, agriculture has entered a physical revolution of significant proportions. As intensive agriculture advances and as the synthetic industry moves more and more products from soil to factory, hundreds of millions of acres will have to go out of cultivation. The problem of redistributing population will increasingly be a paramount task of the central government. The threat of scarcity has been overcome, but the problem of social control has hardly begun.

WATCH FOR NEXT WEEK'S ISSUE

Next week's issue of the "New Times" will be devoted exclusively to a critical examination of the promises and performances of the Lyons Ministry.

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CAESAR BEFORE GOD!

A Letter to the Editor from BRUCE H BROWN

Sir, -

What are we to say of a man who, under the cloak of religion, advocates robbery? That is what Archbishop Head has done. At the recent Anglican Synod he not only advocated additional taxation for armaments, but actually said it is our duty to submit to it. *And taxation is robbery!*

When a man holding such an influential and sacred position so flagrantly misuses it, then we should express the strongest disapproval and give our reasons. I therefore express the conviction that the remarks of Dr. F. W. Head, Anglican Archbishop of Melbourne, as reported in the *Argus* on September 4, constituted the prostitution of his religious office and placed him in a position comparable with the leaders of established religion who took such an unworthy part in the events which led up to the crucifixion of Jesus. In this respect, it should also be placed on record that the same Dr. Head, under the guise of a bogus religious movement called the Christian Crusaders, had given his public support and blessing to the events, which led up to the crucifixion of the Australian community through the swindle known as the "depression."

A Modern Pilate

Those who are familiar with the records of what happened at the time of the crucifixion in A.D. 33 will recall that Pilate was anxious to release Jesus and told the persecutors that their accusations had not been sustained. Repeatedly he said to them, "I find no fault in Him," and there was growing alarm amongst the conspirators at the prospect of seeing the failure of their plans and the liberation of Jesus.

It was at this point that one of the mob yelled at Pilate: "If you let this man go, you are no friend of Caesar's." What a change took place then! Pilate knew that the least breath of suspicion in Rome regarding his loyalty to Caesar would mean displacement from office, and that consequently he had, there and then, to choose between sacrificing Jesus and retaining his job. He chose the job. Loyalty to Empire, regardless of truth and justice, had prevailed.

Archbishop Head is a present-day representative of the same type, and would sacrifice Jesus to similar influences. Because of this he is a terrific handicap to the success of the Church and the establishment of the Kingdom of Heaven on the earth. Please permit me to emphasise that my criticism applies only to Dr. Head and

is in no way directed against the Anglican Church, whose Primate, Dr. Le Fanu, I hold in the highest respect and for whose work I have the greatest admiration.

If the *Argus* report of September 14 is correct (and there has been no denial or correction), then Dr. Head has invited the charge that in the name of religion, he has—

- (a) Misled the people regarding the nature of true democracy;
- (b) Advocated robbery through taxation and thus lent the name of the Church to the perpetration and perpetuation of a swindle; and
- (c) Improperly used his high office in the interests of a political party.

Standing Behind the Rulers

Speaking to the Synod in St. Paul's Cathedral, Melbourne, on September 13, he is reported to have said this: "It is the duty of the Church to stand behind the rulers in Australia and the Motherland in their policy of a strong Empire, maintained by the necessary increase in taxation, and secured by the willing service of young men as volunteers. In the forthcoming elections, it is the duty of the people to vote for the men who will rule as Christian leaders. . . . It is a Christian duty to stand for the decisions of the Arbitration Court . . ."

One of my friends often tells me I am wasting my time, and that so long as the people submit themselves so unintelligently to the money mesmerists and the religious hypnotists there is no hope. When I read those utterances from Dr. Head I confess that my mind immediately turned to the words of my friend, as follows: "It's no use my boy. There is no hope for the people until they have got rid of the Church with its promises of reward and threats of punishment, its doctrine of an inhuman and hideous hell such as we would not commit the least of our animals to, its preaching of work for work's sake, its pious exhortation to patient suffering when suffering in most cases is not necessary at all, its callous assertion that poverty must necessarily be with us always, its criminal silence while the people at large are being openly swindled by a fraudulent money system, and its suggestion that God sends His wonderful bounty merely to mock us."

Now, if clergymen like Dr. Head did represent "the Church" there would undoubtedly be some force in my friend's attitude, but from the Pope's Encyclicals and the outspoken words and writings of other

Church dignitaries we know that he is *not* a true representative. As Mr. Macmahon Ball reminded us last week (and H. G. Wells has said the same thing), Jesus was put to death as the enemy of established institutions, whereas Dr. Head is the friend and defender of institutions, which are immoral, dishonest, oppressive and altogether tyrannical. We must therefore be careful not to confuse Christianity with the ideas and behaviour of some of the persons who are supposed to represent it. They misrepresent it. I believe that the day is not far distant when we shall see these false servants thoroughly routed and the Church assume her proper place as the genuine mouthpiece of true Christianity—when the Church shall be an inspiring leader in the type of righteousness, which exalteth a nation. For that reason I am putting my confidence in the rank and file of the clergy and maintaining my active connection with the Church.

Dr. Head said it is the *duty* of the Church to stand behind the rulers in Australia and the Motherland in their policy of a strong Empire. What does he mean by the term "rulers"? Are we not a democracy in which there is government by the people for the people? And if we are ruling ourselves where is the need to tell us that it is our duty to stand behind ourselves? Evidently he is aware that someone has supplanted the people in the "ruling" business and is acting as the agent of the supplanter to secure acceptance and obedience on the part of the poor fools who have been supplanted!

Who Rules Us?

Who does rule Australia? If it were the people, then the conditions round about us would be the conditions the people want, but there is a general outcry against such conditions, which shows that the people do not want them. Hundreds of deputations have waited upon Ministers of the Crown urging better schools, more hospitals, improved roads, greater care of children, and hosts of other things for the material improvement of our community life, but all governments have made the same reply. They admit the necessity for these things and the right of the people to demand them, but say there is no money. Obviously, therefore, whoever controls the money supply rules the country, and this supply is *not* controlled by the people or by their parliaments.

Most of your readers will remember that at the last Federal elections one of the outstanding items in the Government's policy was that if returned it would immediately put the uniform railway gauge work in hand, thus providing employment for a great number of men for a lengthy period. The people re-elected the Government and thus expressed themselves in favour of the work being proceeded with. But what did that matter? Immediately after the election the Government officially announced that it would be impossible to carry out its promise regarding the railway gauge because "funds" would not be made available. You see, the controllers of "funds" are greater than the people or the people's Parliament, and it is they who do the "ruling." It is no part of our place to tell them what we want them to do, but according to Dr. Head it is their place to tell us what they want *us* to do. All of which is a travesty of democracy.

From this it stands to reason that when Dr. Head tells us it is our *duty* to stand behind the rulers, he is telling us we must stand behind the bankers, the agents of the false god Mammon, and has the impudence to do it in the name of Jesus, Who said: "Ye *cannot* serve God and Mammon"! Instead of demanding the establishment of true democracy, in which Parliament would exist to carry out the expressed will of the people, this man has allied himself with the enemies of society who wish to

continue the fraudulent arrangement under which Parliament exists only to carry out the will of a private financial oligarchy.

Why Taxation is Robbery

On the second point, i.e., the advocacy of robbery through taxation, the position is that when the community realises the true reason for taxation there will be a revolt against it. The Taxation Office is nothing but the extortion department of the banking system and is entirely deflationary in its intent. It is necessary only because the control of our money mechanism has been traitorously surrendered to private interests, who have thus usurped the function of creating, issuing and cancelling the nation's money. If money were created and issued as the property of the whole community there would be no national debt and no need to tax the people to the extent of a million pounds a week for interest on it, but we are required to submit to the robbery because our money is issued as debt to the banking system. Archbishop Head says we should accept the continuance of this counterfeiting and that it is our *duty* to pay out more and more of our inadequate incomes by way of tribute to a gang of pretenders.

Governments never borrow legal tender money. The only kind of money they borrow is money, which consists of figures entered in a bank ledger and a slip of paper indicating what the figures are. The entry of the figures and the preparation of the cheque cost practically nothing; yet the figures are entered in the books as debt against the community and give the banks claim to heavy interest payments forever. This is the only sort of money that is being used for the armaments expansion and for which the Archbishop has the effrontery to say we should gladly submit to heavier taxation burdens. It is an outrageous and wicked swindle, and only an agent of Satan would knowingly support it. If it were not for the fraudulent public debt we could immediately cancel the whole of our direct taxation, including Income Tax, Land Tax, Probate Tax, Sales Tax, Unemployment Tax, Motor Tax and Entertainments Tax, for the Government pays out, *for interest alone*, more than it collects from all those taxes, and yet Archbishop Head has advocated an increase in the fictitious debt with its additional burden of interest. And he professed to do it in the name of Jesus!

Prostituting Religion

On the third point, i.e., using his religious office in the interests of a political party, his public utterances in 1931, and particularly his association with the Christian Crusaders, left no room for doubt regarding the men for whom he considered we should cast our votes. It was not then a question of having men who would rule as "Christian leaders," but of preventing the return of a government, which would attack the fraudulent financial system. He was openly alarmed lest the community might get what he saw fit to call "Something for nothing," and was most insistent that the labouring class should get nothing unless they "worked," and worked hard, for it. The fact that no one wanted their "work" was conveniently disregarded. Mr. Editor, you should have heard his Lunch-hour address in the Auditorium. It would have remained in your memory forever. Doubtless he believed he was doing the right thing, but oh! what ignorance he displayed about the actual facts of the situation and the *cause* of the difficulties! He was campaigning at that time for the All for Australia League, whose originators were largely responsible for the people's distress. Many of us took his advice on that occasion, but can anyone truthfully say we have had men who ruled since then as Christian leaders? The very conditions round about us

give the lie direct to any such claim.

Dr. Head is on the same stunt again, but this time he seems to be doing it more by inference. He does not give us the names of the men who *would* rule as Christian leaders, or say which of the men offering are of such a type as could honestly be placed in that class.

And when he says it is a Christian duty to stand for the decisions of the Arbitration Court he reveals himself incompetent to define either a Christian duty or a Christian leader. The Arbitration Court decided that the workers were to get an extra 6/- a week as their share of the current "prosperity," but the employers immediately announced that it would be necessary to increase prices, and so the cost of living went up and absorbed all the workers' share of the prosperity. Not a word have we seen from Dr. Head in denunciation of this state of affairs, nor of the decision of some of the employers to close down rather than submit to the award; but when the Court cut the basic wage in January, 1931, against the expressed wish of the Government of the day, he was not slow to exhort the workers to bear their share of the "sacrifices" cheerfully, and with Christian fortitude, even though the idea of sacrifices in a land of material abundance was at variance with sanity. In these circumstances I fully subscribe to your comment last week: "What a man! What a Christian! What a steward of Christ's Gospel!"

There is only one way of escape for the people from all this hypocritical humbug, and that is to join together and vote only for men pledged to take immediate steps in Parliament to have our production effectively distributed to all our people, thus making poverty and malnutrition things of the past. —Yours faithfully,

BRUCE H BROWN

"Ain't It Funny?"

(By "The Office Boy," in "Social Credit Campaigner.")

Now isn't it funny,
You must have some money
If you'd continue to live;
Tho' life is a gift,
You get no other "lift,"
The hard world has nothing
to give.

If you haven't the money
There's no milk and honey,
And if there's no work you
must die.

No work, there's no money,
To me it seems funny,
You cannot get work if you
try.

As a matter of fact,
I think we're all cracked,
As there's more than enough
to go round;
There is plenty to eat,
But no money, no meat,
And giving you money's not
"sound."

It's all very silly,
We're here willy-nilly,
And find we're not wanted at
all.
And the price of your life
Is to join in the strife,
And fight with your back to the
wall.

If I were a dog,
A cat or a hog,
I'd be given the best of good
cheer.
And if not treated well,
Some kind heart would tell,
And the S.P.C.A. would soon
hear.

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WEST AUSTRALIA GOES ON WITH ITS CAMPAIGN TO BRING M.P.'S TO HEEL

In our last issue we gave an account of a letter written to Mr. Gregory, the West Australian M.H.R., by the crew of the m.v. Koolinda on the subject of national insurance in particular and the abolition of poverty in general, together with that gentleman's impudent reply, in which he suggested that his correspondents should "learn that when you are writing to a Member of Parliament it is much better to make requests than to make demands."

We have since received copies of the answers to the same letter from other West Australian members of the Federal House, which, in response to requests from West Australian readers, we reproduce below.

Mr. W. M. Nairn, Member for Perth:

Only yesterday I received your letter dated 29th June on the subjects of abolition of poverty and national insurance.

I had given considerable time to national insurance and had come to the conclusion that it was good—not that it would abolish poverty, but that it would be a useful contribution towards improving the outlook and the lot of people. Thrift is good so long as savings are put into circulation and not hoarded.

There is misunderstanding as to the "taxation" proposal under national insurance. What is intended is something in addition to existing social services. For instance, the present old age pensions are not to be touched. Ultimately it is hoped to include old age with sickness and unemployment, but the contribution of the Government (that is, from taxation) will be larger rather than smaller at present. At any rate that would be part of any scheme that I would support.

I am inclined to think that your objection is not so much to national insurance as such—because it is better than nothing—but rather you consider that national insurance does not meet the position, and that to put it forward as a substitute would divert attention from the complete remedy. In other words, you consider the remedy for poverty is to use the public credit (as experts may advise).

My own opinion is that the causes of poverty are infinite and that the best Governments (or individuals) can do is to keep improving at every point they can.

Monetary Reform offers, I believe, the widest field for reform; but economic, social and educational improvements all have their parts.

Mr. J. Curtin, Leader of the Opposition and Member for Fremantle:

In reply to your letter of the 29th June, which has been forwarded on to me from Canberra, no bill has yet been introduced dealing with national insurance, and until the precise nature of the Government's proposal is made known the Federal Parliamentary Labor Party will not give any decision in the matter.

You make take it for certain, however, that it will not support a poverty stricken scheme.

Senator Sir George Pearce:

I have your letter of 29th June 1937, in which you inform me of a resolution passed by the members of the m.v. Koolinda regarding national insurance and other matters, the terms of which I have noted.

Mr. A. E. Green, Member for Kalgoorlie:

I have to acknowledge your letter of the 29th June, in which you advise me that the workers of the different departments on the Koolinda had a meeting, at which they protested against the members of the Federal Labor Party supporting a measure such as the National Insurance Bill.

I presume you refer to the proposals set out in the report of

Mr. Ince, who was selected by the Lyons Government to come to Australia for that purpose. The Lyons Government have not yet indicated if they are bringing in a national insurance bill at all, and I doubt very much if they will do so. However, national insurance is a plank in the Labor Party's platform, and if we obtain power we would be considering a measure of that kind from the Labor point of view.

I am sending your letter to the secretary of the Parliamentary Labor Party.

Senator A. N. MacDonald:

On my return from Canberra I received your letter of the 29th June, which had been redirected back to me from Canberra. I have noted what you say with regard to the proposed scheme for national insurance, which may come before the Federal Parliament at some future date. No such Bill has yet been presented to us and will not be until such time as the report is received from London on the whole question of national insurance in Australia, recently reviewed and to be reported on by Sir Walter Kinnear, the head of the British National Insurance Department.

There is, however, an urgent necessity for some such proposal to cope with the fluctuating phases of unemployment, old age and sickness in Australia, and if we had some stable scheme to embrace these three problems this would go a long way towards coping with any poverty existing in Australia.

Senator E. B. Johnston:

I beg to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 29th ult., advising me that at the meeting of the members drawn from all departments of the m.v. Koolinda, a resolution was carried protesting against the National Insurance Bill on the grounds that it is another shrewd method of taxing the community.

In reply I beg to inform you that National Insurance is a plank on the platform of all political parties.

However, I do not know when the Government proposes to bring proposals on the subject before the Senate, but I can assure you that whatever proposals are brought forward to operate National Insurance will have my most careful consideration and scrutiny.

I will give careful consideration to the resolution from the Koolinda when proposals for National Insurance are brought before the Federal Parliament.

Senator H. B. Collett:

I am in receipt of your letter of the 29th June and regret indeed that I cannot concur in the terms of a resolution, which has, I am afraid, been agreed to without a full appreciation of actual conditions.

The opinion I hold is that the present system of providing for unemployment, sickness, invalidity and old age is not only wasteful and ineffective, but also submits the poorer people to hardships and indignities from which they should be protected. For these reasons I am most strongly in favour of a comprehensive system of national insurance, and will support any government that legislates soundly on such lines.

"Politicians, Our Incompetent Servants"

The *West Australian Wheat-grower*, which is the principal press organ in the West advocating the abolition of poverty and the bringing of M.P.'s into subjection to their constituents, features, in its issue of September 16, an article under the above heading by Mr. A.E. Greenwood, a well-known Perth Businessman, who has been in the forefront of the campaign

since its inception. Mr. Greenwood deals with the defence put up on behalf of Mr. Gregory, M.H.R., that he has been a good friend of the wheatgrowers in his advocacy of reduced tariffs, and that therefore they should not dump him at the coming elections.

Mr. Greenwood says:—Under the following headings—"FEDERAL POLITICS: Mr. Gregory and the Wheatgrowers" the *West Australian* of Wednesday, 1st September, 1937, published a letter written by E. J. Craigie, Parliament House, Adelaide, condemning the present attitude of the West Australian Wheatgrowers' Union towards Mr. H. Gregory, M.H.R.

Following this, the *West Australian*, in its leading article of Friday, 3rd September, also attacks the Wheatgrowers' Union and its President, Mr. T. W. Powell. In this article it is stated, "the Wheatgrowers' Union section, by an almost incredible act of stupidity, is being asked to combine with Labor to defeat Country Party candidates at the approaching Federal elections."

Then H. J. Prater, General Secretary of the Primary Producers' Association of W.A. (Inc.), in Saturday, 4th, issue of the *West Australian*, adds his quota to the controversy supporting Mr. Gregory and castigating Mr. Powell.

To use the words in the above referred to leader, "by almost incredible acts of stupidity" these Labors and the leading article appeared in the *West Australian* which (like Craigie and Prater) does not appear to be able to learn anything by the passage of time, but "sits like an owl on some dead branch of the tree of knowledge and hoots the same old hoots which have been hooted for decades."

The red herring drawn across the trail by the propagandists for Mr. Gregory and the Country Party is the old bogey "high tariffs." Because Mr. Gregory "has been consistently endeavouring to obtain reductions in the tariff" he should, according to his apologists, be further supported by primary producers. The contention obviously is that high tariffs increase the cost of production to wheat farmers and other primary producers to a point where it is impossible to compete with overseas producers in the world's markets; that the high tariff imposts are charged into the prices of farmers' requisites of all kinds used or consumed in the process of producing wheat or other products—in other words, that prices, including the high tariffs, are fixed against the primary producer for the things he buys, whereas there is no fixed price for the product he sells.

A Superficial Analysis

Admitting that this disadvantages the primary producer, it is nevertheless a superficial analysis of the case. It presupposes that in our present economy the industry of growing wheat, for instance, is self-liquidating under a fiscal policy of free trade. It postulates that a redistribution of the money now available from time to time would solve the economic problems of the primary producer, which is an entire delusion.

It does not go to the root of the problem—to the fundamental cause of the farmer's dilemma, but attempts to deal with effects.

The truth is that the unfortunate position of the wheatgrowers is due to the fact that it is a physical and a mathematical impossibility to recover in prices the financial cost of that which they are producing due to lack of purchasing power in the hands of ultimate consumers, which in its turn is due to a false money system as carried on by private companies called Associated Banks.

Now the wheat industry (and the same analysis applies to all industries, primary or secondary) besides its physical or economic function of growing wheat also has a financial aspect. It generates

costs to be recovered in prices and also distributes the money in wages, commissions, dividends, etc., with which the product shall be purchased. The aggregate amount, therefore, which the wheatgrowers must receive at any given moment if they are to remain solvent by recovering their financial costs plus profit (their wages), is greater than the amounts paid out by them. Dr. Rugg, of Columbia University, speaking recently at the Educational Congress in Sydney, put it this way: "Unless the rank and file can get enough money to buy back the goods produced by them, our independent, fragile economic system cannot last long." In consequence of this money shortage most of the wheatgrowers, in common with the great majority of the community, are suffering hardships and carry on by getting further into debt. And this money shortage culminates in what is now known throughout the Western world as Poverty amidst Plenty.

From this very brief analysis it should be apparent that the problem, which confronts the wheat-growers and others, is a money problem. It is, therefore, necessary to turn our attention to the money system. To look elsewhere is waste of time.

The Money Problem

Now, it cannot be too often repeated that 99 per cent, of the money used in money transactions is bank-created credit or financial credit issued by the banks against the community's real wealth or real credit by the simple process of making book entries—pen and ink money—operated on by cheque, i.e., cheque currency. This cheque currency is limited by and issued up to ten times (now in Australia about fifteen times) the cash reserves or legal tender held by the banks. A further point to note is that it is issued as producer credit in the form of debt repayable or deemed to be repayable at some future date, plus interest. This debt money is then distributed through industry as before mentioned, with the inevitable result that there is always a shortage of money or purchasing power in the hands of the people. Space does not permit a more detailed outline of the technique, but all those interested are recommended to obtain and read such books and booklets as "The Money Trick Exposed," "The Money Spider's Web," "The Miracle of the Machine," "Need We Repudiate."

But apart from technique, a short survey of the facts as they exist today should convince any thinking person.

The primary producers of Australia owe £500,000,000 of which the wheatgrowers alone owe £150,000,000. To whom is it owed? To the banks mostly, i.e., the issuers of the debt money. This colossal sum can never be paid under present financial policy. In addition, the people of Australia owe what is called our national debt—internally and externally—expressed in Australian money, £1,400,000,000 or thereabouts. The private debts of Australians total probably not less than another £500,000,000 and tens of millions more are due by municipal councils, shire councils, road boards and local governing bodies. The annual interest bill on all these debts, due mainly to the banks or money monopolists and their interlocking monopolies, must be not less than £100,000,000, which comes out of our national income. It will, therefore, be seen that the wheatgrowers and all primary producers, the key men of Australia, are weighed down with an intolerable burden of debt and interest. It is estimated that included in the cost of growing a bushel of wheat is 1/6 interest.

No Prosperity in Free Trade Countries

If a lower tariff or free trade will solve the farmers' troubles, why is it that in free trade countries like England the primary producers are in

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MELBOURNE (Cont.)

(Continued from page 3.)

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DRY CLEANING, Depot & Library A. I. Fraser, 182 High St. H. 3733.

E. WHITE, 109 High St. Confectionery and Smokes.

FLORIST, "Mayfair," Haw. 1452 Cotham Rd., near Glenferrie Rd

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DON B. FISKEN, Baker. 122 Douglas Parade.

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a similar plight to those in Australia?

In free trade England, where we look for our principal market for our primary production, the consumers are poverty stricken. Twenty-two and a half millions of the people of England have 8/- per week or less with which to buy food, and four and a half millions of that number have only 4/- per week to spend on food. In consequence of this poverty England's manhood has been reduced to a C3 class.

Free trade is only possible under a sane monetary system.

(Continued on page 8.)

(Continued from page 7.)

In that event exports could be subsidised or financed without inflicting hardships on the rest of the community. It would be done with drafts of new money. Farmers and other primary producers could operate under guaranteed prices.

Apart from the tariff bogey, all sorts of bogeys are put up. The manufacturers contend that trade unions, reduced hours of labour, taxation and other hampering conditions are frustrating their efforts. The single taxers—followers of Henry George—are positive that the private ownership of land is the cause of our economic ills. There is the politician who expounds on the effect of international affairs and human elements. The employer imagines that if the wages can be reduced all will be well, and the employee struggles for increased wages. And so the bogeys could be multiplied. For be it noted that that section of the community which Mr. Gregory is supposed to, but does not represent, is not alone in its distress and, appalling as the conditions are on the land in Western Australia and elsewhere, they are as bad, if not worse, in the cities of Australia.

It is known to an increasing body of public opinion that Mr. Gregory and his Federal colleagues, Prowse, Naim, McDonald, Lynch, Collett & Co., "by almost incredible acts of continuing stupidity" have refused and resolutely refuse to make any attempt to alter the swindling money system. Indeed, it is doubtful if any of them understand the money trick of orthodoxy. If any one of them does know, he has succeeded so far in keeping it a close secret.

The people of Western Australia would be ill advised to place any further confidence in our Federal members of the kindergarten class—in Gregory, Prowse & Co.—and the Wheatgrowers' Union is to be congratulated on its determination to sack such hopelessly incompetent servants.

'To Everyone's Astonishment'

From A. P. Herbert, in London Punch:—

In 1937 was a rumour going round
That Income Tax was soon to be
six shillings in the pound.
The cost of education every season
seemed to swell
And to everyone's astonishment
the population fell.

They pulled down all the houses
where the children used to
crowd
And built delightful blocks of flats
where children weren't allowed.
And if father got a job there
wasn't anywhere to dwell,
But to everyone's astonishment
the population fell.

Five hundred brand-new motor
cars each morning rode the
roads
And flashed about like comets or
sat motionless as toads,
Whichever course they took they
made the public highway hell
And to everyone's astonishment
the population fell.

Abroad, to show that everyone was
passionate for peace,
All children under seven joined
the army of police,
The babies studied musketry while
mother filled a shell
And all the nations wondered why
the population fell.

The world, in short, which never
was extravagantly sane,
Developed all the sings of
inflammation of the brain.
The past was not encouraging, the
future none could tell,
And some of us were not surprised
the population fell.

ELECTORAL CAMPAIGN NOTES

VICTORIA

Party Government cannot give the people what they want. It cannot even give that section which is most strongly represented in the Government, what it wants; for the simple reason that other parties won't permit it to do so. Ultimately, one Party will reach ascendancy, but will only retain that position by force—by the regimentation and subjection of the whole community, thus losing its own identity in Dictatorship. It does not matter which Party wins; the end is inevitable, with the possibility of a prefatory revolution. The Party System of Government is purely and simply the poisonous creed of envy and greed—the jungle law of tooth and claw, a shame that must be erased from the body politic. This can be done by the people establishing true democratic government by the exercise of their citizen rights to instruct Parliament in what they want. The United Electors of Australia has come into being to provide the means whereby the electors can convey to Parliament, through their parliamentary representatives, that which they require Parliament to bring about—in this instance, the Abolition of Poverty. The Movement is essentially a people's movement; in actuality it is the people working for an expression of public opinion, made manifest by resolutions passed at public meetings and also in documentary manner by signatures to prescribed demands set out on a Demand and Undertaking form. On learning of the objective of the Movement, the individual automatically becomes a member, and it is his or her part to spread the idea of the Campaign, and to see that friends and acquaintances sign the Demand form. In this way the people themselves are restoring Parliament to their control, and destroying the dangerous, conflicting Party System. You and I are the People! Your office is in McEwan House, 343 Little Collins-street.

Balaclava. —Two meetings a week is the schedule for the Campaign in Balaclava. The first three have taken place, the leaflets for four more are printed, and arrangements for others are being made. The final big rally will be held in the Dorchester Hall, near the Elsternwick railway station. These meetings cover every section of the electorate. The handbills advertising them are placed in prominent and permanent places, as well as in letterboxes, so that the whole electorate will be literally plastered with "Abolish Poverty." In addition, there will be several thousand miniature coloured posters featuring "Abolish Poverty." Also a special leaflet will be placed in 28,000 homes. Effect is already being made manifest by the fear and defence of two candidates, reference to which is found elsewhere in this issue.

Groups are advised to arrange meetings in every corner of the Electorate, so as to get as much coverage as possible.

Mr. Butler's Tour —Eric Butler reports that the country districts are very keen about the Campaign, and that great enthusiasm is prevailing at various centres. The local supporters at Kyabram, Tongala and Stanhope are organising meetings for Eric to address. Meetings are fixed for the following centres:—Wangaratta, Thursday, September 23; Benalla, September 27; Stanhope, September 28; Kyabram, September 29; Tongala, September 30; Shepparton, October 1. So Eric is having a busy time. He will next visit Rochester and Lockington, and thence to

Nathalia, Yarrowonga, and Rutherglen. Supporters at these centres are asked to be ready to give him as much help as possible. It looks as if it will be some time before he can extend to the western portion of the State. But, be ready! The pace he has set is, to put it mildly, terrific.

Thorpdale—Mr. H. A. Hotchkin reports that work has started in earnest in his district. He has contracted with the *Gippsland News* for insertions of propaganda matter, and also the Demand and Undertaking form. Mr. Hotchkin is donating his whole time for a period, and it is also costing him considerable personal expenditure. Although he has received a certain amount of financial contributions, he would be glad of greater help in this regard, so as to continue the work in the press, and for printed material. Local supporters are urged to give him every help in their power. He will gladly undertake the lion's share of work, but must have your moral and financial backing.

Brighter Times Club—It is gratifying to the organisers of the St. Patrick's Hall dance to know that it is an assured sue-

MARKETS OF DEATH

In his new book, "The Profits of War," Richard Lewinsohn gives an account of the debates that took place in the League of Nations Assembly on the proposal that all armament manufacture should be nationalised. It was eloquently urged, he says, that this "would operate harshly against the States with no means of manufacturing their own munition supplies; but in pressing the justice of this objection THE GREAT MANUFACTURING AND EXPORTING COUNTRIES DISPLAYED FAR MORE CONCERN THAN THOSE FOR WHOM THE MUNITIONS WERE SUPPOSED TO BE NEEDED."

When you have stopped laughing, think it over. It gives one more idea of the real nature of the international problem today than a week of elaborate explanation could do.

—"Why," N.Z.

cess. Only a few tickets remain unsold. Next Tuesday evening, St. Patrick's Hall, 470 Bourke-street. Novelties, Monte Carlo, supper. Subscription 2/2 (includes tax).

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Adelaide Division—On Wednesday, September 15, a "local objective" was achieved, when a picnic for children of unemployed and distressed families in the eastern half of the city was held. Mrs. Brown, Director of Social Activities, East Adelaide Unemployed and Distressed Association, was personally responsible. With a small band of workers she secured the co-operation of trades people, financial supporters and voluntary workers for the occasion. The programme consisted of a march through part of the city by 300 children carrying banners, a free picture show (donated), luncheon in the Exhibition Building, sports on the oval, return to the Building for a liberal distribution of ice-cream. At 4 p.m. the Lord Mayor, Councillor C. F. Lloyd, and press representatives attended. Prizes were distributed by the Lord Mayor, followed by tea and a distribution of sweets and fruit.

Mr. Dodd's Return — We are

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

FINANCIAL EMERGENCY ACTS

I have read with interest the letters on the above subject, which have been appearing in various recent issues of the Melbourne daily press, but I do not think that any of the correspondents have approached the problem from the right angle.

The preamble to the 1931 Act states that its objective (inter alia) is "restoring industrial and general prosperity by means involving a common sacrifice," and I think that objective has been entirely overlooked in all the correspondence.

When the depression came upon us unannounced in 1929 we were all stunned and unable to think clearly, and imagined in a dull kind of way that the End of the World had arrived, but after years of investigation and research we now know, and the fact is largely recognised among increasing numbers of thoughtful people, that it was deliberately engineered by the international banking and financial system—via the calling in of overdrafts and the cancellation of credit throughout the world at the same time—with the object of bringing down prices without any regard to the ruinous effect of such a policy upon the great mass of the people.

It was not an act of God, but an act of the King's enemies, originating apparently in Wall Street, New York. What a wonderful invention is the "Power of the Bank Overdraft"!

It does seem a remarkable thing that the only asset you have which has not fallen in value as a result of the depression (per se) is your book debt, i.e., what someone else owes you; e.g., mortgage debt, bond, time-payment and cash order agreement, etc., etc.

Mortgages should not be sacred, but should drop in value the same as other assets, and the mortgaged properties should be revalued.

I therefore consider that the solution of the problem which our Governments tinker with each year

pleased to welcome Mr. Dodd back again and to know that he had had very fine experiences in the Eastern States. The few words, which he has so far been able to pass on to us, have shown what great work is being done there.

Grey Division—To show that the headquarters of Grey is very much alive we have the evidence of a telephone message from their leader asking for a speaker to tour an extensive district. It is now nearly 12 months since Mr. Hergstrom spent a week or so on Eyre Peninsula, breaking them into the then comparatively new idea of the Electoral Campaign. A few months ago Mr. Brock made a flying visit and left a very vivid and lasting impression. Now the workers on the West Coast are so enthusiastic that they are sending an urgent appeal for a further speaker. We are doing our best to meet them in this regard.

Women's Afternoon —At the last Women's Afternoon Mrs. N. Hopgood addressed the ladies, dealing with women's place in present-day affairs. In a very forceful way Mrs. Hopgood made out a strong case. As one who has long been an enthusiastic worker in those things, which are of interest to us all, it was very pleasing to hear Mrs. Hopgood put up such a fighting speech.

Boothby Council—On Thursday, October 7, the Boothby Council are holding an important meeting. All the members of this council are particularly asked to attend as the business is urgent. We understand that Boothby has something big in view for the near future.

by continuing temporarily the emergency and moratorium legislation lies in the following suggestions:

1. A Mortgage Adjustment Board should be set up on some what similar lines to the Farmers' Debt Adjustment Board.

2. All mortgaged properties should be revalued and the mortgage principal reduced to accord with such revaluation—thus carrying out the intentions of Parliament, as expressed in the preamble.

3. The personal covenant should be deleted from all mortgages and the mortgagee compelled to rely on the security of the mortgaged property.

4. Interest should be compulsorily reduced and strictly limited and all penal interest rates abolished.

As it is utterly impossible, on account of the drop in values, to obtain new mortgages to pay off existing loans, thousands of people will lose their homes and face bankruptcy and ruin when the Emergency Act lapses, unless such a scheme as indicated is adopted. It must not be forgotten that most of the money lent on existing mortgages is the proceeds of the sale of properties in the "post-war boom" and was *inflated money* when borrowed and its repayment is being demanded in present-day money, which is *deflated money*.

It may be objected that such a drastic scheme would react against future borrowers, and that mortgage money would not be obtainable from banks and financial institutions and private lenders, but if Government mortgage corporations were set up, as proposed by the Banking Commission, such a situation would not arise, but instead there would be competition to lend, as financial institutions cannot function if no borrowers can be obtained for their funds. "MORTGAGOR AND

MORTGAGEE."
Melbourne.

MR. DALZIEL KELLY —THEN AND NOW

Now—

Weakness in recent wool sales had been psychological, said the president of the Graziers' Association of Victoria (Mr. G. Dalziel Kelly) at the annual meeting yesterday . . .

The difficulties of successful marketing of the large increase had been added to by international trade restrictions, internal financial difficulties, and lack of foreign credits of some of the countries, which were Australia's best customers.

These factors were a barrier to the easy flow of trade, and it was generally agreed that until these complications and difficulties were removed, or simplified, international trade would remain in a more or less unsatisfactory condition. No nation appeared, however, to be able to make the first step for their removal.

The unsatisfactory condition of the wool trade with Japan, which was causing a great deal of concern and engaging earnest attention, was largely due to these causes.

—Argus, Sept. 22, 1937.

Then—

"Australia has older customers than Japan on which she could rely, and Japan must have the quantity and quality of wool that only Australia can supply. It would be far better to sell to a number of competitive countries than to one, which dominates the market. If the duty is imposed it will make little difference to the grower."

— Mr. Dalziel Kelly in the Melbourne Herald, May 1, 1936, (Three weeks before the anti-Japanese tariff was imposed.)

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