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NEWSAGENTS

THE NEW TIMES

THE CHICKENS
COME HOME
TO ROOST
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A NON-PARTY, NON-SECTARIAN, WEEKLY NEWSPAPER EXPOSING THE CAUSES, THE INSTITUTIONS AND
THE INDIVIDUALS THAT KEEP US POOR IN THE MIDST OF PLENTY

Vol. 4. No 12

MELBOURNE, FRIDAY, MARCH 25, 1938.

Every Friday, 3d

BRITISH EMPIRE DOOMED?

Body Blow To Party Govern- ment In South Australia

An M.H.R. Doubts Democracy

Mrs. Soong and Mrs. Chow

New Times SHOPPING GUIDE and Business Directory

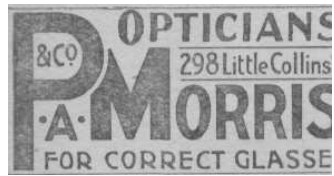
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THE CHICKENS COME HOME TO ROOST

To view, in anything like its true perspective, the present situation in what, until recently, was Austria, it is necessary to return to the years long before the World War of 1914-1919.

During the whole of the nineteenth century, Britain was practically the only thoroughly industrialised country. She was "the workshop of the world," and compensated by an enormous export trade for the chronic inability, through shortage of money, of her own citizens to buy the whole of her output. The Threadneedle Street gentry were willing to create money against goods sent out of the country and services rendered to foreign peoples. The recipients of these goods and services went into debt to the City to the extent of over £4000 millions during the nineteenth century. By virtue of the debt money thus made available in Britain, British workers were kept in employment, and British citizens were enabled to purchase products remaining in the country. The period seemed, to the unthinking, to be one of unexampled prosperity, expansion and progress. And so it was a period of progress in the physical sense. Productive capacity and human knowledge of process and the utilisation of power had increased enormously. But financial access to the fruits of that increase had largely been denied to the people.

The British Lion

In the sphere of foreign and imperial affairs Britain made great strides. If it was desired to annex a part of Africa, India, or somewhere else, it was simply annexed, and that was that. As the matter has been expressed in "1066 and All That": "War with the Zulus. Zulus exterminated. Peace with the Zulus." If a Continental country gave trouble, a British naval display quickly had the desired result. If the Chinese would not buy opium, they very well had it forced upon them.

In short, Britain did all those things, which Japan, Italy and Germany (the so-called gangster nations) are now criticised for. The century of pillage culminated with the seizure for the City of London of the South African gold mines.

Britain did not feel particularly guilty about the century's achievements. She accepted her financial system without question, and it was a logical outcome of that system that she should behave as she did, and pillage the world and herself for the City's benefit. The system left no other alternative.

Other Nations Follow Suit

Britain not only exported consumable goods. She exported machines as well, and taught other peoples how to use them. Other countries copied not only her mechanisation, but also her money system. They proved apt pupils. And then the inevitable race for markets, raw material, and domination began. Germany quickly became the most successful of Britain's challengers.

The First World War of 1914-19 ensued. It did not happen "out of a blue sky" or as the result of sheer wanton militarism. It was the only possible outcome of the system in operation.

The Peace (?) of Versailles

After four and a half years of the slaughter, destruction, misery, starvation, disease and appalling emotional upset of modern warfare, one would have expected an eager and widespread searching after fundamental causes to have accompanied the resolution, "Never Again!" When an engineer, or a scientist, or a tennis player finds that the methods he is using have landed

him in a mess, he pursues different methods. But not so the old men of Europe, who met at Versailles, and their banking mentors. They solemnly decided to stick to the methods, which had caused the whole trouble, and endeavoured to keep the peace by emasculating Germany and Austria—both as to territory and economic resources. They displayed a woeful or willful lack of knowledge of the money system in operation in all countries, by solemnly affirming that the defeated countries should pay for the war. And this after a fight to stop Germany from exporting more than she imported!

The only possible way for Germany to pay for the war was to achieve a substantial surplus in exported goods and services. Other nations were impelled by their do-

HUMOURS OF FINANCE

Mr. Van Zeeland's Proposals

Mr. Van Zeeland's proposals (like all the resolutions, agreements, pacts, and formulae with which the world has been bemused since the Armistice) amount to a plan on which ten hungry men may portion out a quarter-pound of steak in equitable proportions. Underlying this plan is the tacit assumption, characteristic of financial wisdom, that a just portion is a full ration.

Even if this assumption were advanced as a proposition, people would buy it, because, with the revenge-complex permeating political thinking, anybody considers his ration satisfying so long as some other fellow covets it. It is as if the glare of covetous eyes engendered vitamins in the coveted scrap of meat.

The piece of steak is not designated as such in the plan—this Carving Plan. No; it is to be understood inferentially as "World Trade," or the "World Market." The "World Market" is vaguely conceived as being a cosmic moneybox in which is to be found all the cash missing from the moneyboxes of the several insolvent nations. Yet there is no such box and no such cash. The missing national ration must, in the end, come out of the national moneybox from which it is missing. Got that? Then you will now be able to appreciate the value of Mr. Van Zeeland's proposals.

—"The New Age."

mestic lack of purchasing power to exclude these goods and services by tariff barriers, quotas, prohibitions and what-nots.

The old men went home from Versailles. Austria started experimenting with a home-brew of credit expansion to finance consumption; and the bankers, through the League, stepped in and led Austria forcibly back to "sound-finance" and misery. And so Austria has remained until last week.

Germany, shorn of territories and people, already more than half-starved, was brought to the depths of degradation by a deliberately engineered administration of orthodox inflation. Our papers even now sneer that Germans do not know the taste of butter on their bread.

In the economic scramble for markets and undeveloped areas, the larger allied powers even had the criminal folly to leave Italy out in the cold in the distribution of spoils.

Is it any wonder that the Italians and Germans hailed as their saviours the first strong men

Who offered to restore to them their self-respect and power? Is it any wonder that they surrendered their "freedom" and degradation in return for bread? They were ripe prey for the emotional appeals of dictators.

A Hitler or a Mussolini cannot rise to power in a community of economically secure and free people. They will not, and cannot, be dictated to.

Britain's Heavy Responsibilities

Britain cannot escape her responsibility for present world unrest. She set the example to all nations before the Great War. It is true that she might then have pleaded ignorance. But she cannot plead ignorance now.

It was in 1919 that there appeared in the noted English weekly paper, *The New Age*, a series of articles exposing the mechanical error of the financial system, and setting forth principles of reform. The author and the editor of *The New Age*, a pair of patriotic Britons, with faith in their country and its leaders, stumped the country to expand their discoveries to those leaders.

But the death-like hand of finance, with its control of publicity and the destinies of public men, was reached forth to stultify their efforts and to distort their teachings.

Britain continued along the bad old ways of debt-finance and monetary shortage, and other nations continued to follow her example. The scramble for markets and employment continued, and each nation therefore remained possessed of the very strongest urge to cut the throats of its fellow-nations.

The horror of politicians and financiers for the war, which must ultimately spring from this seedbed of cutthroat competition, is great and real, but it is not equal to the power-lust, which drives the bankers to hang on to control of the money system at all cost.

No Orthodox Way Out

If the twenty post-war years have demonstrated one thing more clearly than another, it is that there is no way out of the present mess along orthodox financial lines. Inflation, deflation, reflation, recession, disarmament, rearmament, boom, depression, collective bargaining, individual bargaining, treaties, conferences, and so on have all been tried, and all have failed, and must continue to fail in the face of domestic shortage of money.

If production is slowed down there is immediately a formidable problem of unemployment (i.e., large numbers of men without pay). The inevitable outcome is revolution and strife. If production is speeded up there is a general rise of prices and also a fiercer and fiercer external competition to export. The inevitable outcome of that situation is war; there is no other outcome.

Britain's alleged statesmen, her bankers and large industrialists, and her elderly patriots can only talk the twaddle of "compulsory national service," of incurring further debts and taxes for defence, and, in short, all the dangerous clap-trap which preceded the 1914 conflagration.

Australia's politicians and "business" men, notably those hoary gentlemen of the Chambers of Commerce, back them up nobly. One would almost think that they are spoiling for a fight, and so they are—provided that someone else does the fighting.

High Treason

The attitude and conduct of our leaders amounts to treason, and should be indictable as such. There may have been some excuse for wars in the old

Days of all-pervading scarcity. The possible alternatives facing nations might then have been starvation or acquisition by aggression.

But now there is more than enough for everyone. The problem of scarcity has been solved. The situation is one of glut, and the glut is only a problem because no country has enough money to buy its own production. If British and Australian statesmen will recognise this plain, simple, but nevertheless vital, fact, and take domestic action to give their citizens more money, they will find their troubles at an end.

This is the only way to end daily recurring internal and external crises. On this point of crisis, just go to your basement or wherever you store your old newspapers, and just see if there is not a crisis reported in every issue you can lay hands on.

The cure could be applied overnight. It is required simply that our Governments should reassert sovereign control of our money system, issue ample credits for desired production, and see that those credits are not returned for final cancellation until the goods and services produced have passed over the counter to consumers.

Finance Cripples Our Fighting Power

Other countries would quickly follow suit. But assuming that they did not, and that their threatening behaviour arises not from economic compulsion, as we have suggested, but from innate vice and a desire for world domination. What then?

Here again we hold all the trump cards, for at present, Britain and Australia can only rearm as fast as the bankers let them. They have to pawn their countries and pledge the incomes of their citizens in perpetuity.

If rearmament is really the only way out, if war is inevitable, if our industries must be strengthened and made more efficient, then it is essential that the debt-money swindle worked by our bankers must be stopped, and stopped immediately. The citizens of Australia fully and finally pay for rearmament, *physically speaking* (in energy and materials used) *at the time* of manufacture of arms and munitions. Finance must be made to reflect that fact, and there must be no further millstone of debt lung round our necks.

Our present financial system stands condemned both as the major cause of modern warfare and as a hampering influence in the conduct of war, if war should break out. Its inefficiencies are patent in time of war and in time of peace.

The system must be changed, and it is the task of Australian citizens to force their servants in Parliament to institute the necessary measures.

Action is required BEFORE IT IS TOO LATE!

PROGRESS!

In savage tribes where skulls are thick

And primal passions rage,
They have a system, sure and quick,

To cure the blight of age.
For when a native's youth has fled,
And years have sapped his vim,
They simply knock him on the head,

And that's the end of him.
But we in this enlightened age
Are built of nobler stuff;
And so we look with righteous rage
On deeds so harsh and rough.
For when a man grows old and grey,

And weak and short of breath;
We simply take his job away,
And let him starve to death.

ON MIXING WITH FOREIGNERS

By YAFFLE, in "Reynolds News."

The question before the British public is: Which side shall we take in the present international disputes—inside or outside?

Let us regard the various foreign nations with a dispassionate eye. Let us place them, so to speak, before us for inspection. Viewing them thus, so different, so un-English, so incurably alien, we shall find, I venture to say, that we cannot with profit have much to do with any of them.

The Germans are Nazis and therefore have no manners. The French are immoral, as may be judged by the fact that they have no closing hours and play games on Sundays. The Italians make war on smaller nations, which only we have the right to do. The Russians are Communists—I need say no more.

In my opinion there is only one condition on which we can intervene in European affairs, and that is as referee.

I do not see why the foreigners should object to that. Surely, it is generally acknowledged that the British are the only race with a sense of fair play. Moreover, we are further ahead of the others in moral development; the sins they are committing now, such as pinching black people's countries, and what not, we did a long time ago and are now forgiving ourselves for.

As a first step to this, I would suggest that there should be an international army, composed exclusively of British, along the frontiers between all the European countries.

Failing that, we must dissociate ourselves entirely from foreign affairs. After all, as a nation of gentlemen, must we be continually mixing with our inferiors?

You say we must trade with them. True, but that is no reason for recognising them socially. I trade with the grocer. I carry on transactions with him during which I maintain that unvarying courtesy which I always show to tradesmen, manual workers and the lesser vertebra.

Nevertheless, I do not know him socially. If I met him in the street I should look right through him, as a gentleman must. I grant his establishment the prestige of my patronage; sometimes I even pay him cash. And that is all he asks. Each realises that pretence of social equality would only embarrass the other.

It should be the same between

Britain and foreign nations. It is a sign of our decline in independence and self-respect that we are mixing in international affairs.

In the days of our greatness, Englishmen were experts at not noticing inferiors. My great-uncle, the fifth earl, once walked on to a football field while a match was in progress, and began to practise putts. The players being common people, he thought he had the place to himself. It was a matter of birth and breeding rather than bad eyesight.

In those days Englishmen never noticed foreigners. When travelling, they maintained the same splendid isolation, and made it a point of honour never to know anything about the countries they visited except that the natives were all dirty and dishonest and did not know how to make tea.

Some Englishmen even died an honourable death in foreign cities because they could not recognise the right of foreign traffic policemen to dictate their progress.

The most characteristic example of splendid isolation is the story I made up myself about a British Ambassador being sent to a foreign country, staying there for years and coming home without knowing which country he had been in.

Of late years, we have mixed more and more with the vulgar crowd. It started with the League of Nations. It is true that at the first meeting one British Minister, entering the hall and seeing it filled with strange and obviously inferior people, went up on to the platform by force of habit and announced the bazaar open. But he was the last of the old tradition.

I do not regret the attempt to form the League. Our intention was to mingle more freely with foreigners in the hope that a closer observation of our behaviour might induce them to improve their own morals and manners. As an extension of our work for Foreign Missions it was a laudable effort.

But the foreigners misinterpreted our intention, and took advantage of it to behave as if they were our equals. So the attempt failed.

It is therefore a waste of time to try and form more than a merely business relationship with those who live on the less respectable side of the Channel. As Dean Inge once said, when proving the futility of trying to educate the

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN ELECTIONS

Important Lessons to be Learned

By LEONORA POLKINGHORNE.

Although the count is not complete at the moment of writing, it is certain that the Butler Government has received a lesson in democracy that should prove extremely salutary to it. What we should learn is, that no matter what obstacles are thrown in its way, the will of the people, if firmly expressed, must prevail. The Butler Government tried to force a Five-Year Parliament upon an unwilling and protesting people, and the answer they received was the entry into the political arena of 53 independents, of whom 11 are already returned, and 13 estimated as successful contestants.

Difficulties and Successes of Independents

When one considers how difficult it is for an Independent to climb over the various obstacles purposely placed in his way, these figures are very significant indeed. In the first place, a lone Independent has no party funds, no party backing, no party preferences. He has, "off his own bat," to find £25 for the deposit; he has to bear alone all the expenses of hiring halls and advertising. The radio outlet, which the national stations offer free to the parties, must be paid for by him on the commercial stations at a very heavy cost. Then, finally, if he is to beat the Senate system of voting, he must score a tremendous majority of first preference votes. Yet 13 (probably) of them did all this successfully on Saturday last. We heard a lot about the apathy of the voters; yet, in spite of the fact that voting was not compulsory, there was a record poll. This was a clear voice from the people on the subject of Five-Year Parliaments. All the Independents opposed what has been sarcastically called the "Five-Year Plan."

The "Five Year Plan"

All along Mr. Butler, the Premier, has contended that he had a "mandate from the people"

masses, "You cannot make a silk purse out of a sow's ear."

In the same way, you cannot make an English gentleman out of a foreigner.

for a five-year term. This the people flatly denied on Saturday last in the most effective way. As a matter of fact, this Government went in on a 34 per cent, of first preference votes, and had very little to say on the hustings on the subject of the "Five-Year Plan." The people did not wake up to what was contemplated till it was a "fait accompli." The Opposition declared against it, but, owing to our beautiful electoral system, introduced after the war by William Morris Hughes for the express purpose of defeating the will of the people, it was in a bad minority. The Bill was carried. Roars of rage arose from the people in both town and country. Indignation meetings broke out all over the place and denunciatory resolutions were passed. The daily press overflowed with letters of protest. The Government sat back and smiled, banking on the short memories of voters and the fact that people get used to everything in time. It crowned its first arrogant step by then making the five-year term permanent. In the first instance, it was to be only for the present Parliament.

The People Did Not Forget

The people did not forget. Long-sitting members, who had looked to death only as the conclusion of their term of office, were ruthlessly thrown out by Independents, and not all the expensive propaganda nor the devious tricks employed sufficed to prevent it. Mr. Thorby came over for the express purpose of helping Mr. Butler, and denounced in round terms the impudence of all those who sought to overthrow the party system. No language was sharp enough for the Independents. They were "mere opportunists." They were a mischievous political force, destined to wreck Parliament, etc. Even the gerrymandering of the electorates failed to win the expected victory for the L.C.L. The successful institution of single electorates (called by the press "electoral reform") had only to be seen on the map to convince the initiated how skilfully the Liberals had contrived to hold on to power.

The Press and Other Obstacles

The daily press in South Australia is a monopoly, in the hands of the Australian Associated Press, and it was wholly behind the Government. Indeed, as Election Day drew near, the "Advertiser" became almost hysterical in its appeals to the electors to keep the Butler Government in at any cost. The latest leader began with the international situation and worked down from that to the immense importance of returning Mr. Butler to power. Apparently, if that were done, no further fears need be entertained about what Hitler or Mussolini might do. "Butler's in power. All's right with the world." And yet, in spite of a powerful monopolistic press, in spite of great financial difficulties, in spite of a misrepresentative electoral system, in spite of gerrymandered districts, against all the well-organised power of a powerful and wealthy party, the will of the people prevailed. Does that not give us encouragement? We are up against wealth, political power, and strong vested interests. There are times when the task seems almost impossible of accomplishment, but it is not so. There is just that one thing (Continued on page 7)

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MELBOURNE (Cont.)

(Continued from page 2.)

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The Council for Civil Liberties, Melbourne.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

You have arrogated to yourselves the above high-sounding title, and we presume that you are desirous of having your self-bestowed appellation regarded by the humble citizens of Australia as a description of the attitude you take on matters appertaining to the liberty of the subject, and as an indication of your willingness and ability to fight for those of our rights which are, or may be, seriously menaced. Do you think you have merited the right to apply this name to your society or organisation, or whatever you like to call it?

We are prepared to admit that at a time when there was some trouble between the Commonwealth and certain Communist organisations you made a great song about the Commonwealth Crimes Act, and, as a result of the efforts of yourselves and a vast number of others, Bob Menzies withdrew the prosecutions instituted against the individuals concerned. The fact that similar obnoxious provisions were already in existence in Commonwealth legislation (such as the Customs and Immigration Acts) seems to have escaped your notice. The vastly more onerous provisions of the Bankruptcy Act were recently strongly criticised by the High Court, but somehow the weighty pronouncements thereupon by body never reached the press.

Lately you have come into the limelight again when you got all hot and bothered over an alleged assault on an Italian citizen perpetuated by other Italian citizens on Italian territory—namely, the Italian cruiser that was visiting our shores.

What that incident has to do with Australians is a question that you might find difficult to answer.

You chose to ignore two occurrences of about the same date. One was the injury sustained by an Australian constable at the hands of an American sailor, whom the constable prevented from molesting an Australian girl on Australian territory. The second was the case of a young man who was brutally assaulted in Melbourne because of his reasonable interjections during the course of several speeches made at a Communist meeting.

Throughout the Anglo-Saxon world there are organisations, which have adopted the same high-sounding title that you have bestowed upon yourselves. The English body has (we must admit) done something to deserve its title by pointing out the gross abuse of liberty embodied in the Civil Authorities (Special Powers) Act, at present in force in Northern Ireland.

Despite this there is a feeling abroad that your organisation and similar ones with the same name comprise well-meaning ladies and gentlemen who are the unfortunate dupes of Communist propaganda. We are unwilling to believe it, and we think that you might still earn our respect by putting up a real fight for our liberties. If you could only realise that the particular class of liberty that has been most encroached upon is that liberty of the community to control its own credit, and that no citizen of Australia can have complete liberty while his country is in pawn to a pack of financial gangsters, we think that your strenuous efforts so stupidly directed towards irrelevant matters might will be utilised for the benefit of your fellow citizens. We might then be prepared to concede to you the right to use the high sounding title you have already bestowed upon yourselves.

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Is It the End of the British Empire?

Thinking men and women are wondering whether they are witnessing the beginning of the end of the great British Empire. We hope that such is not the case, but facts are stronger than fiction. A few years ago practically every British newspaper was filled with anti-Communist propaganda designed to herd the people into hating Russia. Later, it was anti-German propaganda. Then it was anti-Italy during the Abyssinian incident. Now it is anti-Japan in the China incident. Notwithstanding this, our English "leaders" are wondering why they are unable to get Russia to help pull the British chestnuts out of the fire, and why they find Italy and Germany not entirely sympathetic. Russia told Britain that she would not be drawn into a war merely to save British possessions, and things are so serious in the European position that England cannot get any of the other Powers to play themselves off one against the other, as they have done in the days gone by. It really seems that these countries have wakened up.

With the Mediterranean Sea practically closed against Britain in wartime, if Italy says "No," India and Australia are already isolated. As if this were not bad enough, our newspapers, following the insane "trade diversion" action of the Federal Government last year, are leading the people into a frame of mind antagonistic to Japan, first, with the pearling lugger confiscation, and then the refusal to load goods for that country.

We should realise that Japan is a cultured, educated and powerful modern nation, perfectly willing to continue being friends with us, and seeking only the arrangement of fair and square trade and reciprocity. Argument is not necessary to show what a powerful friend she *could* be, and what a powerful enemy she *would* be. It will be later on that we shall most need Japan to be friendly, and it is the height of folly to be continuing and extending this anti-Russia, anti-Italy, anti-German campaign. If we do, it is almost certain that we shall find ourselves in the soup when, by friendly action now, we can have the

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Japanese as friends at the critical time.

Instead of upholding the cause of a few piratical war-lord bandits, who have been chopping off the heads of the Chinese populace and robbing and plundering them for thousands of years, we should be asking, "What are our 'leaders' doing about this poisonous propaganda of a prostituted press?" The Chinese masses have become so used to poverty and insecurity, under Chinese rulers, that they are now, in many cases, pro-Japan, and our advices indicate that they are seeking by tens of thousands to pour into Manchukuo, which is controlled by Japan, where they know they can get some measure of peace and security following their labour.

The present turmoil was distinctly foretold by C. H. Douglas nearly twenty years ago, and he pointed out that the difficulties would be the inevitable result of our unsound financial system in relation to the increasing ability of industry to produce goods. In the intervening years we have been reiterating to a mentally dead populace the same error in our economic system, and, while we may excuse the mental lifelessness of the people at large, who have never been encouraged to take an interest in the subject, we find the greatest difficulty in understanding why those three pillars which support high finance—namely, the Jewish Church, the Christian Church and the Freemasons—do not wake up to the fact that this new, powerful and growing movement in Europe will ultimately destroy them. Each of these organisations is activated, by the ancient Hebrew philosophy of rank and power on the one hand, and work, wages, hire and taxation on the other hand. This, doubtless, was a good philosophy in the times of scarcity, but in these times of mechanised plenty it is economically and financially ruinous. If the three bodies mentioned would use their power to rectify the error in our present financial system, they still have the chance to save themselves and the British Empire. Particularly in Australia is their chance unequalled, even at this late hour, for here we have an uncrowded continent, which produces abundantly, and to align our money system to our productive system needs only the application of the intellectual honesty of these three important bodies.

Are they *for* the British Empire or *against* it?

Mrs. Soong and Mrs. Chow

The average Chinese citizen of the type we meet in Australia is the soul of honour and is by nature peaceful, industrious and law-abiding. But there are over 400 million people in China, consisting of different races and speaking different tongues. They are not all of the type who sell us ginger, China tea and vegetables, a type which most emphatically did not inspire the immortal verse: -
"For ways that are dark
And tricks that are vain,
The heathen Chinese is peculiar."

Mrs. Soong and Mrs. Chow have visited us for the purpose of raising funds "for refugees," and for the purpose of stirring up feeling against Japan. They represent not the Chinese who grow cabbages superlatively well, but the warlord, ruling class of China.

Much of their propaganda has consisted of broadcasts, and of informal meetings, even of cookery and art demonstrations and the like. Admission has usually been free, but collections have resulted in a slight increase in China's reserve of foreign credit.

It is really strange when one comes to think of it how readily our wireless stations are able to give time to appeals for refugees in other countries, but have never been able to concern themselves with the existence and cause of poverty in Australia.

We have not been able to lay hands on the complete programme of Mrs. Elsie Lee Soong and Mrs. Fabian Chow, but they were on the air on both 3AR ("A" class) and 3AW ("B" class) on February 23. On February 27 they went over the top at 3LO and 3UZ, another happy blending of the national and the commercial networks.

On February 25 both ladies attended a meeting arranged by the International Peace Council. Some gentlemen were present who had not been willing to allow the inspired press to mould their opinions on the Sino-Japanese conflict. The first question put by one of these to Mrs. Chow elicited the information that Mrs. Soong's husband had close business relationships with the banker Soong family. Mrs. Chow was then asked whether, in light of the fact that, prior to their marriages, the wives of Premier Kung, General Chiang-Kai-Shek and the late Dr. Sun-Yat-Sen had been Misses Soong, and that two other Soongs practically control the Bank of China; it would not be a fair inference that the Soong family ruled China. Mrs. Chow answered, "Yes." But she declined to answer the next question—namely: "Would it not, then, be correct to say that Japan is fighting the Soong family, and not the Chinese people?"

She told of Japanese aggression, and even went so far as to allege that Japan's next stopping place would be Australia.

The whole available evidence is that Japan merely wishes friendly trade relationships with Australia. If she had entertained territorial ambitions in the past she could have satisfied them long ago.

Japan was our protector during the war of 1914-1919, and yet our press, our politicians, and our national and commercial broadcasting stations vie with each other in insulting Japan, and allowing Japan's enemies to foment hatred in this country.

If we continue on these lines we shall eventually invite notice of the wrong kind from Japan.

Mrs Soong and Mrs. Chow should long ago have been politely and firmly told to cease their anti-Japanese propaganda in this country. What, after all, does the Soong

family stand for in China? Merely that form of parasitism and exploitation so shamelessly practised in this country by families like the Baillieus—the credit-bandits, whose depredations are far more severe than those of the bandits whose weapons are firearms.

A farewell public meeting will be held on March 27, at the Capitol Theatre, "to enable Melbourne people to say farewell to Mrs. Fabian Chow and Mrs. Elsie Lee Soong." A collection will, as usual, be taken up to swell the funds to aid the refugees in China. Our Oriental visitors will then, presumably, return to China with a sum of money, possibly a few hundreds of pounds, in excess of the cost of their trip. Almost, one would think, enough to buy one cigarette or one fill of opium each for a small proportion of the refugees, whom we are told to be so numerous.

But it is not a dividend of money that is sought. It is a dividend of hatred against Japan. And Japan is being given no opportunity by official or commercial Australia to state her case in reply.

It is unfortunate to have to encourage rudeness to foreign lady visitors, but we feel that it would be salutary if it could be made quite clear by Australian citizens at the farewell meeting on March 27 that Australia is not the place to disseminate anti-Japanese propaganda, and that Australia has far more pressing problems to attend to than the relief of refugees in distant lands. All Australians are refugees from the effects of their own economic system, and their one real and pressing problem is to alter that system, here and now, at home, and without diverting their attention to the ends of the earth.

Economy!

Economy! The watchword" of our Lyonses, Coplands, chairmen of bank boards, and all those who uphold the present order of "sane finance." And yet the most outstanding feature of our economic system is *waste*. Although the merest trickle of consumable goods reaches consumers, the amount of our real wealth dissipated and wasted in the process is colossal. It is not only that we have redundant factories and capital works, but we deliberately engage in the production of things which never can be consumed by individuals. In the short space of a year or so Britain intends to spend £1500 millions on armaments. Iron ore and other raw materials will be converted into an essentially useless form, and the resulting arms will have to go to the scrap heap, in any event, in less than twenty years' time, through obsolescence—that is, assuming that they are not blown to the winds before then. This production for waste involves an immediate loss of energy, the loss of potentially useful products, and an eventual loss of valuable raw materials. It is true that matter is indestructible, but it can be dispersed in a way, which makes it in future difficult to recover, and it may be put into forms

which render it difficult to adapt to any other use. It is doubtful whether mining for iron, manganese, etc., on the French battlefields would be very productive.

An economic system based on the "work or starve" philosophy, which now prevails, and on a cost-accountancy system which is not self-liquidating, renders it inevitable that enormous waste should take place. The capitalisation of waste is necessary to ensure payment of incomes to people.

After years of wastage of Australia's resources of iron ore (and it must be remembered that certain large monopolies have made spectacular profits in the process), the Commonwealth Government is suddenly becoming aware that there may not be enough left to allow exploitation to continue at the same rate.

But it does not intend to take steps to institute a money system, which will allow us to conserve our raw materials and use them wisely. It proposes merely to impose an export embargo, and so effectively to stop the State Governments concerned from granting leases to Japanese or other overseas interests. As a necessary outcome of present financial rules this will work a financial detriment to the State Governments, particularly to Western Australia, the State, which has already threatened secession from Federation.

It is quite certain that the Federal Government will, however, do nothing inimical to the interests of the Broken Hill metal monopoly. On the contrary, those interests will be protected, as overseas competition will be kept out and the monopoly given a free hand.



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BLAHRION!

By "GRANNY."

To Arms! To Arms! The enemy is at the gates. The Germans are coming. The Italians are coming. The Japs, are coming. The Chinese, the Patagorians, the Eskimos and the Wild Men of Borneo are not far behind; so gird up your loins, hitch up your trousers, get into your jackboots and do your stuff, you lazy, carefree, contented Australian loafers. Drugged with the dope of economic security and drunk with the wine of prosperity, you dream the happy hours away, heeding not the roll of the distant drum, the roar of the alien aeroplane or the writing on the wall.

Sons of the Southern Cross, lads of the land of the brave and the home of the free counter-lunch, give ear, while there is yet time, to the words of your Granny. Are you going to sit idly by while everything you hold dear is ruthlessly destroyed by the oncoming hosts of the foe? What about your savings, your time-payment furniture, your job? What about the interest on the mortgage, the final notices for the income tax, the land tax, the dog tax and the water rates? What about your—Oh, what's the use of talking? Can't you, or won't you, see that every precious thing that makes life worth living in this sunlit country of milk and honey, apple pies, songs round the piano, and half-starved children, will be swept away at one fell blow of the sword of the hated enemy?

But no, I cannot believe that you are so patriotically dead that you will allow these calamities to befall the land you love. I like to think that you are just teasing me, and that when the hour strikes you will rally to the colours as your fathers did in the brave days of old. Of course, I can't tell you just yet which hour has been chosen for the great event. It is in a sealed envelope, locked away in a safe in Collins House, and when the word "Go" is cabled from London, Mr. Lyons will open the envelope at a grand dinner, Mr. Menzies will sing "Wrap me up in my old khaki jacket," the clock will strike, and off we go; or, rather, off you go.

That's all very simple, isn't it? And everything has been so well arranged that you will find your path smoothed out for you wherever you go. You will have an abundance of the best of food and clothing (this will feel strange to many of you at first, but you'll soon get used to it), and, as for guns and shells and bombs and tanks and aeroplanes and all that, there will simply be lashings of them. These things, as you know, are mostly made of metal and chemicals, and—would you believe it?—The gentlemen who are supplying the metal and all that are making no profit from the sale; they are supplying everything at cost price, as a gesture that they are doing their bit for king and country. Some of these gentlemen live in London, and some of them, between trips, live in Australia. And, my word, we should be thankful that we have such men. They're so clever, so versatile, that they can do almost anything. They can manage banks and armament factories and mines and spinning mills and steel-making plants. They can manufacture cars and aeroplanes and machinery of all kinds: in fact, it may be said that they have their eight fingers in every pie. And, although they can pull out a plum every time, they are no Simple Simons, believe me. Nearly every one of them has a title of some sort, and, when they meet in their oak-paneled board-rooms, they call

themselves the Knights of the Sound (Finance) Table. So you see, lads, how grateful we should be that our country is in such safe hands. Of course, I don't mean that the country is governed by these gentlemen, because, as you know, the seat of government is at Canberra.

This is no time for shilly-shallying. Every right thinking citizen who has the interests of his country at heart must be up and doing. Party differences, political opinions, sectional interests, and all factors, which tend to divide the people, must be wiped out and forgotten in the great common cause of showing a united front to the enemies of democracy. Let nothing stand in the way, not even finance. Money must and will be found. The shadow of depression has left us, and the sunshine of prosperity is here, so let there be no talk of cost in this more-than-urgent emergency.

And now I must apologise for my somewhat unladylike remarks at the beginning of this little talk. You know how one gets worked up at a time like this. Let there be confidence all round and our gigantic task will become easy; confidence in our sound Government, confidence in our technical and financial advisers, and, above all, confidence in ourselves. At this far-flung outpost of our glorious Empire, let us demonstrate to the world, as we did before, that "Australia will be there."

Sundry Reactions

Dere Granny, —Wot's the matter with yer? Shakin' yer petticoats and shoutin' yerself hoarse and gettin' red in the face. A woman o' your are oughter be careful. You'll be gettin' apple-plexity or sumthing. Anyway, wot's it all about? I can't hear no drums nor enemy airypalanes, and, as for the writin' on the wall, take my tip and 'ave a look at the writin' on yer own wall. It don't look too good to me.

A FRIEND.

Dear Granny, Whatever would we do without you? Once again you have raised your clarion voice in the cause of Australia and the grand old Empire. Let us hope your call will be heeded while there is yet time. At any moment the envious nations of the world may close in upon us. Are we ready? Are we prepared? Are we awake? The people owe you a debt, which they can never repay, and it occurs to me that you, like many another brave soul, may be carrying on your good work under severe stress and saying nothing about it. I have, therefore, taken the liberty of inaugurating a "Granny Testimonial Fund," and have headed the list with a modest shilling. I only wish it were one-and-six.

DILLIE PERSON.

(My grateful thanks for your kindly thought. —Granny.)

Dear Granny, - - After the strafe is over—then what?

DESTITUTE DIGGER.

Dear Granny, —You certainly rose to the occasion, but just a word in your ear about those gentlemen who are supplying the war materials: Don't waste your time blowing the trumpet for the Collins House Money-Metals - Munitions Monopoly. They're no friends of yours. If you passed out tomorrow they would dance on your grave.

WAKE UP.

Dear Granny, If, as you say, prosperity is here, why are you sacking people right and

left and why don't you pay some dividends?

NOSEY PARKER.

(I am simply releasing a number of men so that they may be free to serve their country. As for dividends, I don't believe in them. Dividends are simply an example of the "something for nothing" doctrine, which I have vigorously opposed ever since I was a girl. —Granny.)

* * *

Dear Granny, —You say "every right-thinking citizen who has the interests of his country at heart must be up and doing." Whose "interests"? Whose "country"? You know very well that the real wealth of this country is mortgaged for all time to the credit monopoly. If the gallant dead, who fought in the war-to-end-all-peace, could return today, the inhuman system of debt finance, which is driving the whole world mad, and all those who support it, including hypocrites like you, would be wiped off the face of the earth.

DISILLUSIONED DIGGER.

* * *

Dear Granny, —You have excelled yourself. And, for once, you didn't say, "Where is the money to come from?" Instead, you declare, "Money must and will be found." Can you tell me why it cannot be found for the abolition of the poverty, which is the direct cause of slums, malnutrition, and most of the social evils of our time? Think of the appeals you yourself are constantly making—appeals for blankets and old clothes and milk and after-care homes and hospitals and books and toys and a hundred other things. Think of all the comforts and blessings which science and invention have brought to the world, but which are denied to ninety per cent, of the people, because "there is no money." The people ask for bread and they are given gas masks. "What would I do if the air were filled with poison gas tomorrow?" said a down-and-out the other day, "I would go out and take a good, long breath." Quit your hysterics, Granny. They cut no ice.

PLAIN JANE.

Dear Granny, —Come down from your soapbox, you silly old woman, and do some thinking. The people are all right; they'll never let Australia down. But they object most emphatically to all that hooley of yours about prosperity and finance. You've simply got to realise, whether you like it or not, that things are not as they were in the bad old days. The people are wise to the money swindle, and they'll never be deceived again. You know as well as I do that the dreadful state of the world today is directly due to the inhuman economic system under which mankind is forced to exist. But what you don't seem to realise is that the whole crazy structure of international debt finance is toppling to its doom, at this very minute. Can't you feel it yourself? Changes, so tremendous that they can hardly be visualised, are already looming on the horizon, and my advice to you is "Get in first." Come out on the side of the people. Leave privilege to fight its own losing battle, and come out fearlessly as an advocate of the new economics of the age of plenty. It may hurt your pride at first, but that will soon pass, and you will find yourself taking on a new lease of life. "Sound Finance" and all its mumbo-jumbo has been no good to you, and you know it. Be the people's friend and you're on a winner. Stick to the old order and your days are numbered. Your friends at the other end of the city are quietly preparing for the change, although they're not saying anything about it. Be wise, and beat them to it.

FORELOCK.

BABBLE

By S.R., in the "New Age."

And the whole earth was of one language, and of one speech. . . .

They began to build the Tower of Babel, whose top was to reach unto Heaven. But the Lord would not have that, just as He would not allow Adam and Eve to dwell in the Garden after "the eyes of them both were opened."

The Lord came down to see the tower, and as He watched He said to Himself: "Behold, the people is one, and they have all one language; and this they begin to do; and now nothing will be restrained from them, which they have imagined to do;" just as before, when He cast out Adam and Eve, He said: "Behold, the man is become one of us, to know good and evil;" and so, lest he put forth his hand, and take also of the Tree of Life, and eat, and live for ever, the Lord sent him and the woman forth from the Garden.

And now mankind was trying to build a tower that should reach up to Heaven. Always and always trying to become "one of us"—if not God, a god or godlike. That is *tabu*. Gods can become men, but men must not be allowed to become gods. That had to be stopped: must always be stopped. You must not ask why.

So the Lord scattered them abroad from thence upon the face of all the earth; and they left off building. Therefore the name of the place is called Babel; because the Lord did there confound the language of all the earth.

Which only shows you! And neither Esperanto nor Volapuk nor Basic English has yet overcome that confusion. Instead, a far worse confusion has come about; for not only is mankind not one people, having all one language, but the languages used by the fully industrialised peoples are still further confounded by the use of words and word-patterns that have no exact meaning.

This is especially so in all matters to do with art, philosophy, ethics, religion, and—social-economics. At least 50 per cent of the words used in speaking or writing about these things are mere "babble" (Babel).

"Mr. Anslem Slogg seems to manifest a penetrative texture of thought in the plane-forms of his more tentative expressions, as in his 'Girl in Black' (No. 32) and 'Rot-ten Tomatoes' (No. 104); but in his other work we detect a lack of all the secondary and indirect dimensional colour-digressions so absolutely essential in building up tone-values beyond the merely intrinsic."

And art critics get paid for writing this babble! So do book reviewers, musical critics, and a whole horde of others, not to mention book writers, journalists, and reporters. And poets. But it is when you come to economics, and the writings and speaking of economists and economic students that the babble is not just ordinary babble-babble, but hellishly dangerous babble. It stops us from getting food, warmth, shelter!

Someone starts talking about "credit" (book-entry figures) and in two ticks he is using the words "currency," "cash," "money," and even "tick" (ticket)—the kind of "credit" one used to be able to get from one's tailor—to mean "credit" (book-entry figures)! Someone else chips in about "the balance of trade," and you find he doesn't mean any sort of balance at all, but the supposed necessity of having a greater flow-out of exports than the flow-in of imports: which clearly is not a balance, but a disequilibrium. "If I pay £100 for a new motor car to X, and he pays for a new bookcase, it is obvious that the amount of cash in circulation..." "Oh, dear!...don't we all know these never-ending babblings? "Cash"? In all probability

he will pay the £100 for a car by cheque, which is not *cash*. And so on.

But what about the word "value"? It can, and does, just mean anything you choose. I challenge anyone to tell me in terms that have any real meaning—i.e., terms that refer to some logical system of calculation—what the "value" of anything is. Is the "value" of the pen I am now using to write these words the fact that I can use it, or is it the "financial value" that had to be paid for it—or both? If both, "value" has two meanings at least: use-value and price-value. In the present system, what is the connection between these two quite different kinds of "Value"? (No need to answer. I happen to know. The connection is "work"—for if I cannot get work I cannot get the "money" with which to cover the price-value of the pen; and if I cannot have the pen its use-value does not exist for me, even if the Pen Shops are stacked with pens.)

And "capital"? What is "capital"? How many kinds of "capital" are there? Is a pen or a typewriter "capital" when used by a professional writer? Yes—no? What is a "capital asset"? Anybody know? Are the documents of share-capital "capital assets"? Is a river that is of no special industrial or agricultural "use" a "capital asset"? Suppose all rivers dried up; would that be a loss of "capital assets"? If so, would that apply also to the sudden swallowing up of the Pennine Chain? If not, why not? Was Shakespeare a "capital asset"?

What is meant, exactly, by "consumable goods"? Are they goods upon which no further work is done? Coal burning in my fire-place is "consumable goods"? Coal being consumed in the gas company's works is not? But the gas is when I use it in the gas-stove? How would you classify a sewing machine used by a woman in her own home for making clothes, which she sells to other people? Is it to be classed under "capital goods" or "consumable goods"? If she uses it also for making a dress for herself, how should it be classified during that productive process?

Is a musical composition "capital" when the composer has finished the score, or does it only become "capital" after he has managed to sell the performing rights? If he can't sell it, is it "frozen capital," or what?

I have the idea that "tin shows signs of weakening," but "copper has made a steady recovery,"—so what?

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

"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 has been reprinted by the "New Times" as an eight-page brochure.

Copies may be ordered from NEW TIMES LTD., Box 1226, G.P.O., Melbourne.

PLENTY OF CONCEIT BUT NO CONSCIENCE

Mr. J. V. Fairbairn's Vanity Upset

A Letter to the Editor from BRUCE H BROWN

Sir,

A glaring piece of political effrontery was staged by Mr. J. V. Fairbairn, M.H.R., at Dandenong on March 8. He gave a dinner at the Dandenong Town Hall to the municipal councillors of the Flinders electorate, and, according to press reports, he said this to them:—

"The average Australian seems to think there is no lower form of life than a municipal councillor, unless it is a State or a Federal Member of Parliament. If the parliamentary system is to succeed, the people of Australia must support it. Having seen Nazi Germany and Fascist Italy, I am very doubtful whether Democracy is the most efficient government. I am not advocating either of these forms, but I am doubtful, thanks to the irresponsible way voters look on the parliamentary system, whether any Ministry, irrespective of party, can give its best."

His reference to municipal councillors suggests that he has been mixing with the wrong people.

Who is Mr. Fairbairn?

But before we look at his remarks we should inform ourselves about the man who made them. He is a member of the Fairbairn family, who is among the leading beneficiaries of the Overseas Landed Group, and have lived largely on the work of other people for generations. That is to say, they do no "work" as the term is usually understood, but nevertheless receive plenty of money for doing nothing. Their "interests" include land holdings on a large scale, international shipping, mortgages over primary producers, insurance societies, and banks.

Through interlocking directorates they are connected up with banks domiciled in England, and also with the Baillieus, the Caseys, the Cohens, the Clarkes, the Cur-

ries, the Armytages, the Knoxes, the Horderns, and several others who get a great deal for nothing. They help control the main primary sources of wealth, the main secondary sources of investment, the main insurance and trustee societies—and the banks, which control the lot.

Mr. J. V. Fairbairn is himself a bank director, and, as a director of the Union Trustees, sits side by side with Sir James Elder, of the National Bank, and Alex. Bell, of the Commonwealth Bank Board.

Suits and Dresses to Match

From this brief outline we get an idea how it is that a man who takes no active part at all in production can give dinners on a large scale, can buy aeroplanes for his private use, can tour the world in style whenever he feels inclined, can attend all the leading social functions, can have a home in the city as well as in the country, and can even dress to harmonise with the clothes worn by his wife. This last reference is not intended to reflect in any way upon Mrs. Fairbairn, who is not responsible for the silly talk of her husband, and who is evidently both attractive and charming. The comment is prompted by the photograph in the Melbourne Herald of 23/10/37 showing Mr. and Mrs. Fairbairn at the Moonee Valley races, and at the bottom these words, "Mr. and Mrs. Fairbairn wore matching suits—grey with white stripes."

Why He Can, and Others Can't

The reason for bringing this forward is not to offer objection that Mr. Fairbairn is in the position to swank in this fashion (even though he was born into it and did not earn it), but to point out that he can do it merely because his income is large, and that so many others cannot do it because their incomes are too small. He knows this already, but seems to forget it when offering comment on public questions.

He also knows that if his income were suddenly stopped he would find the world a far different place to live in. Despite this, and while himself living on the fat of the land, he has done nothing whatever to meet the increasing

menace of multitudes of growing citizens who, since 1929, have been seriously undernourished, and, as they grew, deprived of an opportunity to find a proper place in society.

Juveniles and Females in Factories

So far as I can find out he has not uttered a word against the conditions, which are forcing factory-owners to look increasingly to juveniles and females to provide the labour required in factories. He can see the employer fighting the worker, the worker fighting the employer, and the Arbitration Court trying to palaver between the two, but no beneficial results accruing to any of them. He knows that they will never secure any benefit until they attack and defeat the money swindle, but as he is a beneficiary of that very swindle he says nothing calculated to put the people on the right track. And yet he is in the place where he should be doing it.

Was It Merely Coincidence?

If he really thinks what he said at Dandenong, why did he enter Parliament in the first place, and why has he sought re-election since? He did not need it as a livelihood, and the people of Flinders did not chase him. Was it merely a coincidence that he went in to replace Mr. S. M. Bruce, a fellow-beneficiary of the same monopoly? And was it merely a coincidence that he and one of his near relatives were at that time fellow-members with Mr. Bruce at the Melbourne Club?

Would I be doing him an injustice if I said he was put into the Federal Parliament to look after the interests of the money monopolists, and not with any idea at all of improving the living conditions of the people who actually voted to put him there? Can you, Mr. Editor, or anyone else, quote any action on his part since he became the member for Flinders designed to raise the living standards of the people? If no such action can be named, why should he squeal because he is despised by thinking people who take their civic responsibilities seriously?

Bread and Jam Diet

As an influential member of the Federal Parliament, he has had exceptional opportunities to do something worthwhile for his country, but so far has shown concern only for himself and his friends. I wonder if he ever sees the *Women's Journal*, which recently said that "low wages keep Australians on bread and jam diet", and that "they are not getting a sufficiency of nourishing food"? It further described this as "a truly alarming state of affairs that should stir the placid indifference of governments and force them to a realisation that to a great extent this is due to an inadequate living wage." The particular article referred to went on to show in a manner that left no room for doubt that the diet available to the great bulk of our people is such as to produce tooth-decay, catarrhal diseases, respiratory diseases, gastric ulcer, and cancer. "Thousands of young Australians", it said, "are being penalised for their parents' poverty—penalised with the burden of ill-health and disease."

Perhaps it is too much to expect Mr. Fairbairn to understand this, for he was wise enough to select for himself parents who were not poverty-stricken. That is where so many of us failed. But he does know that the poverty of the parents is due to lack of income, and that income is nothing more than tickets or symbols representing financial figures, or if he doesn't know this he certainly should know it.

Are We Exempt from Starvation?

It may be, of course, that he has overlooked the important fact that

people in Australia are just as likely to die without food as people anywhere else. In 1934 he was actually approached by one of the progress associations with the object of meeting the very position mentioned by the *Women's Journal*. The Progress Association expressed the conviction that "humanity is to a large degree being prevented from enjoying as much as it might by a defective money system", and that finance should be placed in its proper relation to production.

What Prosperity Depends On

In the course of his reply he said this: "The British and Australian banking systems have weathered the storm better than any other banking systems in the world. I fully realise the very great difficulties that we are still up against in finding markets for our potential production. This difficulty, however, is caused by international circumstances rather than any fault in our own economic structure. Our prosperity depends upon world circumstances, and, unfortunately, with the present wave of economic nationalism that has passed over the world, our markets have been steadily shrinking. Our best way to combat this difficulty will be by negotiating trade treaties with all countries capable of and willing to buy our exportable commodities." After signing his name to that tommyrot he professes surprise that we show little respect for him!

The Great Storm

What sort of a storm did our banking system weather, and who brought it about? Nothing had gone wrong with production, and everything physically necessary to higher standards was available in abundance. Where, then, did the breakdown occur, and why? How could there be "very great difficulties" in finding something that had never been lost? As the *Women's Journal* has shown, the most important market in the world for us is right here in Australia, and all the people need to make it a thoroughly effective market is Australian money made in Australia. How does the supply of Australian money depend on world circumstances, and why? The empty stomachs are in Australia, the food is in Australia, and the Australian money system is supposed to be operating for the benefit of the Australian people. So how do "world circumstances" come into it, and what are they?

The Great "Wave"

And this "wave of economic nationalism that has passed over the world." Where did it come from, what did it look like, where has it gone, and why did it come and go? Note also the reference to "our markets" steadily shrinking. Since when did we acquire the right to call the markets in other countries "our markets"? Does not the English market belong to the people of England? And if the best way to combat "this difficulty" was the negotiation of trade treaties, why did Sir Henry Gullett fail so signally in his worldwide search for countries "capable of and willing to buy"? Was it that he searched the wrong planet?

You Do Not Count!

This Mr. Fairbairn is the gentleman who, on the occasion of the recent Federal elections, said that he did not believe members of Parliament were elected to carry out the directions given by the people, but were there to exercise their own judgment. Now he moans to the Municipal Councillors that Parliament, consisting of men exercising their own judgment and showing no concern for the welfare of the people, is not receiving sufficient support from the electors, whose requirements are brushed aside as though they were of no moment. Parliament will succeed when it consists of members who are

representing the will of the electors, but it cannot succeed while it consists of men like Mr. Fairbairn, who represent only vested interests.

Without intending to do so, he publicly admitted that he knows nothing at all about democracy. How can he know whether democracy is the most efficient government or not when it has never been tried? His words suggested that he was comparing democratic Australia with Nazi Germany and Fascist Italy, whereas the fact is that there is no such thing as democracy in Australia.

This Is Not Democracy

If we had democratic government we would have government for the people, and the conditions round about us would be the conditions the people want. They do not want - slums, malnutrition, disease, lack of hospitals, roads, bridges, schools, libraries, and so on. Every physical thing necessary to provide the very opposite of these is available in plenty, but the Government is not able to make use of them because it exercises no control over finance. For this reason Parliament is in the hand; of those who do control finance and all talk of democracy is dishonest. It is more dishonest for Mr. Fairbairn to speak of Australian democracy than for most other men to do so; because he is one of those who exercise control over finance and actually help to prevent the practice of democracy. Like Mr. Casey, he is one of the inner gang, and like him also, that seems to be the main reason why he is in Parliament. For us, the electors, to require our servant to carry out our orders is to take far too much for granted, and shows our irresponsibility!

When he says we do not respect him as a politician he is right, and our reason for this attitude is that his personal vanity and selfishness have outgrown his public conscience, and that he does not recognise the first reason for the existence of Parliament.

Yours faithfully,

BRUCE H BROWN

EGGS AND FRUIT-FOOD FOR THOUGH!

During 1936-37 5,128,705 dozen eggs were exported from Victoria. Roughly speaking, if each individual of the Victorian population had consumed an extra five dozen eggs, the whole of the egg production of Victoria would have been consumed locally. It is not extravagant to say that most housewives could use a dozen extra a week, or 52 dozen for the year, if they had the money with which to obtain them. . . . Victorian Dried Fruits Board announces the quotas for currants, for home consumption, to be 15 per cent, and sultanas 12½ per cent., of production. So there is no lack of these wholesome foods produced—what a pity that housewives cannot buy them. . . . The Minister for the Interior (Mr. McEwen) told Mr. Palmer, Canadian Trade Commissioner, that the orchard area and cannery in Shepparton represented only a few thousand acres, and the untapped potentialities of the district were far greater. . . . Mr. J. G. B. McDonald, M.L.A., said that he estimated that only 5 per cent of the irrigable land in the Goulburn Valley electorate was being exploited. Mr. Palmer said that Canada wanted Australian canned fruits, but at present did not have the means to buy them.

Curiously enough, Australians also want Australian canned fruits, but have not the money with which to buy them. So the position is that the fruit grower is nearly starving because he cannot sell his fruit, and the public is nearly starving because it cannot buy the fruit grower's fruit. Same re eggs. Silly isn't it?

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TODAY-MONEY IS POWER

Tomorrow—Mankind Will Control It

By NORMAN JAKQUES, M.P. (Social Credit Member in the Canadian House of Commons), in "Today and Tomorrow," Alberta.

In these days we hear a great deal about liberty and dictatorship — that we are in danger of losing the former and of gaining the latter. But already we are under a dictatorship - - of Finance, more powerful than any in the past and more dangerous because more subtle. "Banks control the policies of governments and hold in the hollow of their hands the destinies of the people." So says the biggest banker in the Empire.

No man can live without money; if he cannot earn it, and millions are prevented from doing so, he must beg, borrow or steal it. The life of each of us, his family, his business, his pleasures are controlled by, and for, private corporations, responsible to none but themselves. Whether we are to have "good times" or "bad times" is determined by those who ultimately control finance. They decide whether we shall have plenty, or a scarcity, of money— inflation or deflation, and, make no mistake about it, finance always wins. Credit is extended freely in good times and security of real wealth is given for its use. In deflation credit is called in, or restricted, and is not reissued, the amount of money decreases, prices fall, and borrowers cannot repay—they cannot realise enough on their securities or sell their produce at remunerative prices—more money, higher prices, less money, lower prices—they pay what they can. Finance obtains title to their real wealth. In the past ten years how much life insurance has lapsed? How many savings have disappeared?

Depression runs its course, "the sponge is squeezed," "the cow is stripped." There follows a period of "reflation" such as this one, credit money is increased, prices rise and the securities are unloaded upon a grateful public at reflation prices, until it is time to "milk" again. Individuals may beat the game, just as individuals may "beat the bank at Monte Carlo," but in both cases the other players 'pay the shot.' The bank puts up nothing and collects a percent of every stake, and every now and then the ball drops into the zero of the roulette wheel and the bank collects all the stakes on the table.

And in the business world individuals can profit at one another's expense, but every so often "zero" (depression) turns up, and those who have "played the bank" lose their stakes.

Jefferson, author of the "Declaration of Independence," realised the truth in 1790, when he said, if we allow the banks to control prices, first by inflation and then by deflation, our children will wake up to find themselves homeless in the land their fathers conquered. I believe banking institutions are more dangerous to our liberties than standing armies. Already they have raised up a monied aristocracy that has set the government at defiance. The issuing power should be taken from the banks and restored to the people to whom it properly belongs." And who is a better judge of liberty—the author of the Declaration of Independence or the paid advocate of Finance? And was Jefferson right? Seventy-five per cent, of Western farms mortgaged, and a million dollars a day interest on national debt paid by the people of Canada. The Right Hon. Mackenzie King said: "The new Parliament is faced with a great fight between the money power and the people. Until the control of credit is restored to government all talk of democracy is idle and futile." Is there a fight at Ottawa-no. In Alberta-yes!

Mr. King spoke the truth, but he failed to implement his promises. The creation, control and issue of

money by private corporations is the greatest racket in all history. The rulers of the Roman Empire are blamed for "farming out" the taxes to private individuals, but at least the government controlled and issued the money.

We reverse the process by farming out the money creation and issue to private individuals while governments merely act as tax collectors for the Banks. Rome fell, and democratic government has fallen in the greater part of the world—as consequence. Consider what it means—a sovereign people not permitted to create and issue its own money for its own purposes of public services, but compelled to borrow from money lenders on their terms, which money they create on the security of the people as a whole. Think—they create on the security of the people as a whole. Think of it—a handful of men, answerable to none but themselves — controlling the well-being of the nation, determining "good times," "bad times," employment, unemployment, high prices, low prices; and, as a result, able to intimidate, corrupt, and control the support necessary for the continued existence of the racket and to suppress and destroy all means of expressive opposition. Their paid agents have the effrontery to deny the most obvious facts of money creation admitted by all honest and competent authorities, including bankers, and the mendacity to hold up their paymasters as great benefactors.

Truth Will Prevail

You cannot base anything worthwhile on a lie—evil begets evil. The case for the private control of credit is based on a lie, the denial that banks create money, an assertion that I have heard the governor of the Bank of Canada himself deny. The facts and the fictions of finance are so obscured by the upholders of the system that people hesitate to believe them when pointed out. But the truth is spreading, and will continue to spread. Finance is on the defensive; it has yielded ground, and will continue to yield ground. The "mumbo-jumbo" of orthodox finance—"sound money" designed to confuse and exploit the public, will give place to a money system based on scientific truth that will reflect facts, just as astrology gave way to astronomy and alchemy to chemistry. Today, only what is financially desirable is allowed to be physically possible. Tomorrow, what is physically possible, and desirable, will, without question, become financially possible. Today, men are idle, hungry and miserable, not because there is no more to be done, but because, forsooth, we are told we cannot afford—have no money—to pay them the wages to produce and consume what they lack to cure their hunger, idleness and misery. We cannot, at times, even afford to consume what we do produce; wealth is destroyed and nearly always restricted.

Only in time of war, when necessity knows no law—economic or otherwise—can we "afford" to produce—and consume—to the limits of our desires or abilities.

Today a Prime Minister can order us to work harder and tighten our belts—to produce more and to consume less—in the interests of finance. He would not dare so to order us in time of war nor will he dare, or desire to do so in tomorrow's time of peace.

Today money is master. We all desire permanent peace and plenty? Then we must make money our servant, otherwise we can have neither. Do not be deceived by the paid advocates of "sound money," remember the warning of the author of the Declaration of Independence.

YOU—AND THE OTHER MAN

By W.W., in "Social Credit." We all want to be free. That is good. But there are some who want more than personal freedom. They assume the right to accept or reject things, not only for themselves, but also for other people. You have met the fellow who says, "What's the use of giving men a shorter working week? They will only loiter their time away at street corners." Or "What's the use of a national dividend? People will only spend the money on drink."

Whether they intend it or not, such people are aiding and abetting the cause of the Hidden Enemy. By trying to dictate what others should or should not do they are standing in the light of their own freedom as well as everybody else's.

Do not be beguiled by their easy assumption that "present company is excepted." Once your back is turned, you become "the other man" in the argument.

Ask yourself, given extra leisure hours, would you spend them leaning against walls? Given extra money, would you spend it exclusively on beer?

And, anyway, whose business is it how you choose to spend your time and money? There's no shortage of walls or beer.

Christ had an answer to the busybodies who saw only the shortcomings of other people. "Judge not that ye be not judged."

The moralists have condemned humanity without giving it a trial. To forbid people the free use of their own goods and services because some might use it unwisely is about as just—and about as sensible—as it would be to close down Piccadilly because some men are snatch and grab raiders.

You know that there is an abundance of everything. You know that this abundance is being wilfully destroyed with no other object than that of preventing people like yourself from being free.

Nothing will be done until the people join in demanding their heritage.

LETTER TO EDITOR

REV. BOTTOMLEY'S BROADCAST

I listened with great pleasure to the address of Rev. Bottomley, as broadcast over 3AR last Sunday morning—and would like to have it placed on record as one of the most able and courageous talks that I have heard. It is rather unfortunate that when world affairs are at such a critical period, the majority of our clergymen apparently lack the "intestinal strength" to give a lead towards a saner state of society—but not so Rev. Bottomley. That this address has caused widespread comment there is little doubt, as I can say from the remarks I have heard while touring. I would suggest that it may be possible to obtain a copy of this broadcast and have it published in the *New Times* for the benefit of readers. Several readers have expressed this view to me, and, as a personal admirer of Rev. Bottomley, I also would like to see this done.

ERIC BUTLER.

Mr. King and Mr. Aberhart both promised to do the same thing—to restore the control of credit to the people. Mr. Aberhart is doing his best to fulfill his promise. Back him up! Mr. King is not keeping his promise. Remind him of it. There cannot be any real quarrel between the two men. I you do not believe that success is possible provincially, don't fight Aberhart-insist that King carries out his pre-election promise to fight and defeat the money power.

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN ELECTIONS

(Continued from page 3.)

be done. Rally the people into a single demand, and not all the powers of all the world can prevail against that demand.

Monetary Reform Candidates and Red Herrings

Other interesting features of the South Australian election were the large number of votes given to those who stood for monetary reform. Will T. Duggan seems to have a good chance, and Clarence Goode, warmly supported by the United Democrats in Mitcham, though he impressed himself very favourably on the district, failed to beat the system. Mr. Goode, too, was hindered by the usual red herrings drawn across the path, such as betting, the drink question and Bible-reading in State schools. Mr. Goode, though neither a gambler nor a drinker, but a man of the strictest moral principles, absolutely refused to accept these things as election issues. He stood firm on the belief that these matters were subjects for private choice rather than public legislation, and concentrated on the need for economic security and freedom.

That being accomplished, he contended that all the others would fall into their right perspective. To implement them by force was, in his opinion, the denial of freedom. There is no doubt that this adherence to principle lost Mr. Goode many votes, for the Social Reform League, instead of admiring him for his courage, put him last on their cards. Knowing Mr. Goode, however, as we do, we feel sure that this circumstance will not cause him the least regret.

Democracy Not Dead

At any rate, even though we must record losses like these, we can rejoice that the desire for democracy, though it has received some hard blows, is not dead. The Premier, who stated on several occasions that "Parliament was supreme" and that "the five-year term was necessary to remove Parliament from the control of the people," is, now faced with the fact that he can do nothing without the help of the Independents. He is optimistic enough now to declare that he can rely on the help of these outcasts, whom both he and Mr. Thorby (who was called in to get rid of them), denounced as dangerous and mischievous, and actuated only by the basest motives of self-interest!

Meanwhile, let all reformers take note: the people can be organised to defend their own interests.

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ELECTORAL CAMPAIGN NOTES

VICTORIA

DO YOU WANT
PEACE AND PLENTY,

which science, invention, and the progress of the ages are holding out for the taking? Do you want the leisure, which the machine has made possible? Do you want a share of the prodigious production of the nation—a share that assures economic security?

OR—

DO YOU WANT THE
HORRORS OF CHAOS AND WAR,

which is the world's state to-day? In this fair land, chaos is taking toll of innocent life by malnutrition, suicide, bankruptcy and nervous breakdown. Are you content to live in poverty, or the fear of it, when everything needed to provide a life of full and plenty for all is at hand? Do you intend to allow the machinations of an abominable "system" which forbids a nation access to its own production to deny you the right to life and to drive you into the unimaginable horrors of war, when Parliament would obey a command from a majority of electors to end the criminal absurdities that are crashing civilisation?

* * * * *

Parliament exists for no other purpose than to bring into effect what the people want.

Parliamentary Representatives are paid for the specific service of carrying the people's orders to Parliament.

Give your instructions to your servant (per the Elector's Demand and Undertaking form) to carry your orders to Parliament that it set all other law-making aside until Poverty is banished from this land of abundance.

Head Office: United Electors of Australia (Non-Party), McEwan House, 343 Little Collins Street, Melbourne, C.1.

ERIC BUTLER reports that he held a very successful meeting at Swan Hill on March 18. After the meeting a Group of the U.E.A. was formed, with an initial membership of 16 persons, who intimated that numbers would soon be added and that good results could be expected from this Group. From Swan Hill Eric journeyed to Donald, to address a meeting on March 21; and from there to Murrayville, where he will give an address on the 24th. On the road to Swan Hill Eric arranged the following meetings:—Dingee, April 6; Hume Vale, April 12. These meetings have been confirmed, and tentative arrangements have been made for Whittlesea, Wallan, Mitiamo and Lockington; the dates will be announced later. Eric is very impressed with the interest being shown by the younger folk.

WEST BRUNSWICK PROGRESS ASSOCIATION.—This body of public-minded men listened attentively to an address given by a representative of the U.E.A. They received the idea of the Campaign with enthusiasm, and expressed their intention of actively propagating the Campaign. This means that they will advise kindred associations to receive a speaker, and otherwise assist in every possible way. The Member for Brunswick, Mr. Jewell, was present. This meeting will have far-reaching influence, and is an example of the usefulness of this type of publicity. Supporters are urged to make every effort to introduce speakers to organisations.

YOUTH MEETING held in the Rooms on Monday evening, March 21, was an inspiration to older folk. The earnestness with which young folk are reviewing the existing social order leaves no doubt that they are thinking: When decision on action is released, things will happen. Careful, serious contemplation of activities to pursue was a marked feature of their discussions. Much can be expected from these young people. Their first effort is to build up their numerical strength, and all supporters are asked to assist them in this by persuading their young friends to be at the next meeting in the Rooms, on Monday, April 4.

HOME MEETING was held in Malvern on Tuesday evening, March 22. Although it was only a small gathering of five, it served its purpose—as well as providing an interesting and pleasurable evening. Have you had one in your Home yet?

WRITE TO YOUR MEMBER and ask him to voice your opinion in Parliament that a special wavelength be allotted to broadcasting parliamentary debates while Parliament is in session. This suggestion was brought up at the Youth Meeting last Monday evening, and is

**"BAND TOGETHER
AND DEMAND
RESULTS"**

In the course of an address at Cathedral Hall, Brunswick-street, Fitzroy, the Very Rev. Dr. Ryan, of Belfast, said (referring to the abolition of poverty): "We must band together and demand results."

worthy of following up. Electors should be provided with the opportunity of hearing, first hand, exactly how their representatives are handling the affairs of the country. This is being done in New Zealand, and, ironically enough, in Germany.

SPEAKERS' CLASS on Wednesday evening, March 30, in the Rooms, McEwan House, 343 Little Collins-street, City. Practiced speakers are wanted, as well as those wishing to learn. This class also provides the opportunity of meeting interested persons and discussing the Campaign. Come along.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

C.S.O. MEETING.—A meeting of the "Committee Working for a Christian Social Order" met at the rooms on Monday week last, at 10 a.m., to form a "Society Working for a Christian Social Order." Consideration was given to the question as to whether we should define "A Christian Social Order." The secretary's suggestion that "A Christian Social Order is a state of society wherein each individual would be free to live according to Christian principles," was accepted, and therefore becomes the objective. A membership form has been drafted, and is in the hands of the printers.

THE STATE ELECTIONS.—The Abolition of Betting Shops, Liquor Permits, and Bible Reading in Schools have been made election issues by many of the Churches—without, of course, first finding out whether the majority of electors desire those things. Getting the true democratic idea into the minds of some people is a very slow process.

SPEAKERS' CLASS.—It is desired to again draw the attention of members to the Speakers' Class, held every second Wednesday, from March 16. Some of the members are making great headway indeed. Why not come along and help?

FINANCE CLASS.—Mr. Amos is still conducting his class on Monday nights. This is a wonderful opportunity to gain knowledge of our financial system and the simplicity of reforming it. This is an opportunity for those who ask: "How might it be done?"

THE WOMEN'S DIVISION is still providing the cheapest lunches in town, but the ladies would be greatly cheered to see more people dropping in between 12 a.m. and 2 p.m. Those who do so are never disappointed.

WEST AUSTRALIA

CAPTAIN JAMES ILL.—It is with the deepest regret that we have to record the illness of one of the best-known and most ardent supporters Captain James. Captain James is at present confined to his bed at the Perth Hospital, suffering from a severe illness that may well prove to be the result of a condition brought about during his services in the Great War. All those Campaigners who have had the pleasure of meeting Captain James will remember him for his enthusiastic and untiring efforts to spread and promote the ideals of the Electoral Campaign, both before, during his term as Director of the Campaign, and after, when his failing health forced him to relinquish his official position. All Campaigners now send their greetings and wishes for his speedy and complete recovery, and trust that it will not be long before he is back on the job again.

LOCAL OBJECTIVE.—Are you doing your bit in this Campaign? This matter of demanding that Perth should be provided with a hospital, large enough, efficient enough, and modern enough to serve its needs, concerns every citizen, rich or poor. In these days of high-speed motor traffic no person can say, once they leave their home, whether he or she will return there unscathed. Should, some day, an ambulance convey you, as the victim of a street accident, to the Perth Hospital, and the inadequacy of its size or the insufficiency of its staff and equipment be the cause of you failing to receive the proper treatment that may then be vital to you, it will then be too late to complain. The time to act is now, when you are not needing it. You can do this by writing to your local Member of Parliament, demanding that he give his immediate attention to this urgent public necessity, and getting other members of your family, as well as your friends, to do likewise.

HOW CAN POVERTY-STRICKEN
HOMES FAIL TO WARP CHILDREN?

By G. W. L. DAY, in "Social Credit."

Two old ladies who had just seen a performance of "Antony and Cleopatra" in the 'Eighties were coming out of the theatre.

"A most remarkable performance," said one.

"Yes," said the other. "But how different from the home life of our own dear Queen."

The Victorians thought a great deal of their home life. They were a little too consciously virtuous about it, perhaps; and much has been written about the stern Victorian Papa and the awful repressions he created in his children.

**N.Z. GOVERNMENT
TACKLES MONEY
PROBLEM****Prime Minister Speaks**

"I will let you into a secret," said Mr. Savage at Tauherinikua on Saturday last.

"We're not running away from the Money Bugs.

"Money has ruled this country long enough. . . . It is just about time the People's representatives took it upon themselves to govern money instead of allowing money to govern them."

—New Zealand "Standard," March 3, 1938.

Yet most of the elderly people I know seem to have enjoyed their childhood, and they say they owe a lot to their parents.

Today we rather smile at the virtues of home life, and I have even read articles by people of apparent sanity proposing that all babies should be taken away from their parents and placed in State nurseries, which would bring them up scientifically and train them as ideal citizens.

In Russia, of course, this sort of thing is actually done; but oh, the bleak, inhuman atmosphere there is in the descriptive novels of the Bolsheviks!

I admit that writers who want the State to go in for mother craft have a certain show of reason on their side. After observing my next-door neighbours bringing up

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EXPERIENCE YOUR TEACHER.—Before the advent of the last depression many thousands of people had no conception of what a depression was like, but since then, much to their sorrow, they have had first-hand experience. Unless those same people want a repeat performance of that depression they will demand now that their servants, the politicians, remove the economic disease that causes depressions, by calling in economic doctors who are capable of doing so. The best way of issuing this demand is through the electoral campaign, so let experience be your teacher, and demand through this organisation that in this country of superabundance of all necessary goods you will not, in the future, have to tolerate the dreadful insecurity and/or poverty that was your lot in the past.

their youngest child, I once wrote an article: "Are Babies Foolproof?" (Since most of the papers depend upon feminine readers, it was not published.)

Nevertheless, I believe it is better to risk being dropped downstairs once a week and to grow up bow-legged than to forego the warm companionship of a normal family life.

A family seems to be the natural unit of human society, just as a molecule is the natural unit of matter. If you break up molecules you produce a radical change, and so it is if you break up families.

This brings me to what is happening in this country today. According to a just-published Home Office report, it is the broken home, which is doing so much to fill the courts with juvenile offenders.

It suggests that the home, which is not a home, is the biggest single factor in the manufacture of crime.

Of course, some of the cases investigated in the report concerned thoroughly bad parents; all the same, taking the country as a whole, the greatest disruptive force in the home is certainly unemployment and poverty.

"Love on the Dole" showed what many an unemployed home is like. Can you wonder if unpleasant characteristics in the parents appear in conditions like these?

Some of us, I expect, know how trying even "Love in a Cottage" can be; but it is really terrible to think of "Love on the Dole." Better even the antiseptic State Nursery than a home festering with hideous emotions arising from forced inaction and a starvation diet.

Another report, that of the Consultative Committee on the Homeless Poor, draws attention to the large numbers of homeless youths of under 21 who are applying for assistance in London.

Among the reasons why these lads take to the road, says the report, are domestic quarrels and a lack of normal family ties. Out of the cases dealt with, over 80 percent, came from places outside London.

As a corollary to this, a third report, by the L.C.C. Education Committee, says, "There are children attending elementary schools in London who are unable, by reason of

**"SURPRISED TO
LEARN"**

At the 34th birthday party of the Australian Women's National League on Monday afternoon, March 21, Mr. Casey is reported by the "Sun" to have said:—"I was surprised to learn that although Australians are supposed to be a healthy nation, out of 2,000,000 residents in Victoria, 350,000 people had hospital treatment in twelve months."

RIP VAN WINKLE —
OR HYPOCRITE?

of lack of food, to take full advantage of the education provided for them."

How can homes where the breadwinner wins no bread and chafes miserably against the cruelty of his lot fail to warp a child?

While he stays at home he feels infected with the general despair of his family. His only chance is to get out of it, and so he takes to the road, and perhaps drifts to London, where before long he is applying for relief.

It is this disintegration of families, which is the sign of the times and a sure proof that the rot has set in. The remedy for it is the integration of people with common aims and desires, and the necessary grit to push their claims.