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SHOULD WE PRAY FOR A DROUGHT?

Continuing its report, the *Sun* remarks "The Commonwealth Government, while realising the seriousness of the position, does not regard it as beyond recovery if a prompt, co-ordinated plan can be evolved."

"Sane" Finance

In conjunction with the above bright, bit of news, we read in the Melbourne *Argus* of last Friday's date "the meeting is being held to enable the Australian Governments to decide whether any official steps should be taken by Australia to help correct the world wheat position." The *Argus* then goes on to suggest that this correction might best be brought about by an extension of the principle of discontinuing production on marginal land, but adds that an immediate obstacle to the application of such a plan is that of compensating the wheatgrowers. The *Argus* then goes on to say that the trouble is that there is *no money* available to compensate those who must be thrown out of their homes and holdings because they are producing too much wealth.

We are, at the same time, asked to put our trust in the policy of "sane finance."

Mr. Bottomley said he was an admirer of Professor Murdoch, who was a writer of delightful essays, a lover of men, and a man of learning, but unpretentious; a democrat and a shrewd critic, and a teacher and writer who had lifted the study of literature out of dullness into brightness.

Prof. Murdoch's Dilemma

But Professor Murdoch, in the article above referred to, appeared to be in a dilemma. He claimed to be a pacifist, but believed that Australia must defend herself by force if the need should arise. As a lover of liberty, Professor Murdoch believed that a well meaning, but misguided, Government could very easily weaken the faith of Australians by doing undemocratic things, and suppressing freedom. "Any interference with our civil liberties—any hint of what we call Fascism in Government methods—will lead to disillusionment and scepticism and disunion and weakness: it will rob us of our most formidable weapon. Vigilance in defence of our civil liberties against the enemy within must be a part of any plan for the defence of Australia. It is no use asking men to fight for the preservation of freedom if, at the same time, you introduce into their minds a doubt whether they have any freedom to preserve."

Civil Liberties

But, Mr. Bottomley continued, did Professor Murdoch seriously

believe that any war could be prosecuted without interference with the civil liberties of the people? The first thing that would be demanded and enforced by the Government in the event of war would be the sacrifice of freedom. No nation could wage a war in these days without adopting some form of Fascism. The moment that Australia entered into war it would, for the period of the war at least, become a totalitarian State. Moreover, experience had proved that the civil liberties of which people were deprived during war were extremely hard to regain, for war destroyed the liberty-mindedness of Governments.

With the totalitarian countries driven to threats of armed force in order to gain access to the raw materials (such as WHEAT) they so urgently need; with hungry Australians often homeless and foodless, even rioting because they haven't means of subsistence (such as BREAD); with children, all over the world, suffering the effects of starvation and malnutrition (lack of BREAD, etc.), we read that the world "surplus" of WHEAT is causing the gravest concern to farmers. According to last Tuesday's Melbourne "Sun," Australia's policy regarding the problems of the increasing "over-production" of wheat is at present being discussed at Canberra.

Where is Sanity?

In view of all the circumstances, we may, perhaps, be justified in asking whether it is not only possible, but highly probable, that we might find a greater measure of sanity inside our lunatic asylums than outside. Even were the so-called surplus of wheat a *real surplus*, to the extent that all those people who are today in need of bread were so adequately supplied that it was unnecessary to grow so much wheat, surely the position would not create any very acute problem. Those growers of surplus wheat who so desired could easily be diverted to some more necessary productive work, and the fact that they were released for such other work (or for leisure) should obviously be reason for self-congratulation on the

part of those who are supposed to organise the country for the benefit of its inhabitants.

Our Mistake?

There is, of course, the possibility that *We* are mad. It might really be that from a sane and reasonable point of view it is eminently desirable that there be a shortage of this world's goods in order that vast numbers of poor shall be poor in the midst of poverty instead of, as at present, poor in the midst of an ever-increasing abundance. If that is so, we have made a mistake in accusing the powers-that-be of the criminal sabotage of the machinery of distribution. They are, then, making the best of a very difficult job in keeping us poor and, perhaps, virtuous. If such is the

case, we commend them on their skill and submit that the criminals must in reality be those scientists and inventors who have made this scandalous over-production possible.

The Menace of Science

We would therefore suggest that the Edisons, the Henry Fords and others of that ilk, whom we had previously considered to be among the world's benefactors, should have been at least imprisoned for life. By *that* same token, the original H. V. McKay, of harvester fame, has done more harm to the man-on-the-land than anyone else in the history of Australian development, for it must be the H. V. McKays of the world who are largely to blame for this present crisis in the wheat industry. In conclusion, it apparently behoves us, as patriotic Australians, to start praying for a *worldwide drought*, in the hope that it will last long enough to completely overcome the present crisis in the wheat industry.

Even so, there is the danger that exponents of hydroponics ("dirtless farming") might get loose in the world, obtain water by distilling seawater, and make the prayed-for drought abortive.

THE DILEMMA OF A PACIFIST

REV. W. BOTTOMLEY REPLIES TO PROFESSOR MURDOCH

On Sunday evening last, March 26, the Rev. W. Bottomley delivered an address at the Unitarian Church on "The Dilemma of a Pacifist," being a reply to an article by Professor Murdoch, which appeared in the Melbourne "Herald" on Saturday, March 18.

they were fighting for these things. In reality, they would be fighting for the possession of territory, for oil and minerals, for advantages and monopolies, and to satisfy the ambitions of men associated with power politics. The spiritual values would not be fought for in the war which now seemed imminent, except by those who renounced war completely, and who were willing to suffer all that men might do unto them for their faith.

Denial of Ideals
Professor Murdoch admitted himself that "war spells the denial of these ideals; for humaneness it substitutes brutality, for justice it substitutes the rule of the strong, and it suppresses freedom in the name of national emergency." This being so, how could Professor Murdoch expect that the pacifist's ideals could be realised by engaging in war? This was the dilemma from which it seemed to him Professor Murdoch would have extreme difficulty in extricating himself.

War—What For?

Then, again, the things which Professor Murdoch believed alone worth fighting for, what he called the "imponderables"—the ideals of justice, humaneness and freedom—were just the things that would be lost if war came. Actually, these would not be the things for which we fought, though thousands of men would ignorantly believe

But then the question was sure

to arise: Suppose they did nothing to resist, and were overrun by a nation which had no regard at all for humaneness, justice, and freedom? Suppose they lost what little freedom they now had, with no hope of Parliamentary democracy, would they not be sacrificing all hope of building a Christian civilisation in the future?

Spirit of Freedom in Men—Not Institutions

The answer to that was that spiritual values did not exist in institutions, but in human hearts, and the spirit of freedom could not finally be crushed by any despotic power. No military despotism could rob them of their right to be Christians, or prevent them from living Christian lives if they wanted to, for the power of God would enable them to live as Christians should, in any circumstances; it would enable them to die for their faith, too, if necessary; but not in the attempt to slaughter their enemy.

False Issues

Let them not be dragged into a war by false issues. The struggle between the powers at the present time was not a conflict of ideologies, but of competitive imperialistic interests; that was the realistic truth about the matter, and a war of that kind would plunge the world not only into material ruin, but into moral and spiritual darkness for generations to come. Not

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FOOLS AND KNAVES

"Fools' Harvest"

By LEONORA POLKINGHORNE

There is no more astounding illustration of how the knaves use the fools than the way they induce them to slaughter each other for some benefit to the knaves. The fools never seem to realise the glaring fact that it is always the knaves that make the wars, and the fools who fight them. Thus it has ever been, and at present we see every indication that it is shaping that way again.

If asked bluntly whether they would suffer and die for maintaining the power of the international bankers and the profits of the profiteers, for the machinations of politicians, for imperialism, how many would volunteer? So, of course, it is never put to them that way. In every war, there is always the "cause" which is put before the people, and the real reason known only to those who weave the webs behind the scenes.

After a lapse of time, the real reason often emerges, but the fools still do not wake up. War is always the fault of the dastardly enemy, who, we are constantly assured by a servile press, is a monster, almost subhuman, and capable of anything. No matter if previous to open hostilities we knew him, met him, travelled in his country, enjoyed his hospitality, read his books, liked them and him; the moment he becomes "the enemy," he loses all his amiable qualities and becomes a ravening beast. It was so in the Boer War—and continued to be so in the Great War. When the fuss is all over, we begin to like him again, and all is forgotten—until the next time.

It is the same on the other side, of course. In France we have been both "perfidious Albion" and "our noble ally," but we remain the same people, really. On the other hand, as Bertrand Russell points out, we do not refer to a Frenchman as a "froggy" since the *"entente cordiale"* was established. It is all so absurdly childish that it is almost beyond belief that the people of any nation in these days of quick transport and much travel, with such enlarged opportunities of knowing each other, can possibly fall into such folly—yet so it is.

Syndicated Hysteria

At the present time those who seek to keep us in bondage are using every possible means to bring us to the same state of hysteria into which a large number of us fell in 1914. The press and the radio are doing their utmost in that direction, but the latest device is so thinly veiled that it is worth commenting on. As most of us know, in addition to the usual attractions of the daily paper, a serial story has been added of late years. The centralised parsimonious policy of the Associated Press has sometimes occasioned them to use the same story for the papers in different States. I do not know whether that is the case in the instance I am about to quote, but as the scene opens in Sydney and I read it in the *Adelaide Advertiser*, it seems likely. It is called "Fool's Harvest," and it describes the sort of fate (in the form of fiction) that is going to fall on the Commonwealth and its people if they do not forsake every other consideration in favour of large-scale "defence."

The unexpected invasion is to take place this year, and owing to the misguided efforts of "pacifists, leftists, statesmen who permitted the establishment of small nations, and those who advocated a higher standard of living," it finds us unprepared, and after a wholesale destruction of buildings, bridges, and

the civil population, the vile "enemy"—who is, of course, Germany, thinly disguised as "Cambasia"—takes over the country, and we are all drafted off either into labour or concentration camps, where we work very hard on long hours for a pittance.

Press v. Progress

Germany, the story runs, has thrown over the rest of the axis, declared war on England, and sent her bombing planes out to destroy the cities of Australia. Now note. What sort of people have brought this tragedy on us? "Pacifists, leftists, those who believe in the independence of small nations and those who demand a higher standard of living." Now we are unmasked, the traitors that we are to the exalted system that holds with none of these things! "Leftists," I presume, are those who take up cudgels for the workers and attack the exploitation of the weak by the strong; or perhaps it just means plain democrats—those who believe that everyone has a right to live a decent life. *If this is not the most shameless admission of the side The Press and those behind it take, I don't know what it is. It is coming out into the open with a vengeance.*

Of course, it appears that we can repent while there is yet time. We can shout for compulsory military training (though we are asked to call it "universal" now, as compulsory has a nasty sound), we can clamour for conscription, we can have a "universal" enrolment of citizens that is *not* voluntary and set everyone to an allotted job. That superfluous element that is dreaming about poetry and art can be given some tough job that will take the nonsense out of them. Those who attack the *"status quo,"* especially those dangerous people who attack the banking system and force politicians to do their will by pressure of numbers, can either humbly recant their heresies, or take the consequences. Informers will spring up from every shelter, and in no time we will be as bullied, drilled and disciplined as are those countries which we are taught to hate and fear because *they* are so drilled and disciplined, and because they are taught the art of war.

Well, imitation is the sincerest form of flattery.

Women and War

And the women, where do they come in? Alas, folly is not confined to the allegedly warlike male. Women can be exploited and betrayed by their very instincts, their sense of duty, their desire to help, their

(Continued on page 8.)

THE AGE OF UNREASON

The "Encyclopedia Britannica 1938 Year Book" is a mine of interesting information. Here are some of the things it has to say.

"An expansion in world demand is not probable. But the acreage sown to wheat in the four exporting countries would, with normal harvests, have produced *greatly in excess of current demands.*

"It is sometimes suggested that an alternative market for wheat might be developed in the Far East. *But Japan has increased her wheat supply by 50 per cent, and has become self-sufficient.*"

And about wool.

"The policy of self-sufficiency adopted by them (i.e., the totalitarian countries) has led to the introduction of blood sheep stocks from Great Britain and the colonies into the U.S.S.R. and Manchukuo, and to the large-scale production of wool substitutes in Italy, Germany and Japan. As a result, these States are now less important internationally *as wool buyers.*

"Australia, the Argentine, New Zealand, and South Africa consume *only about five per cent, of their production.*

"Internal reconstruction by the process" of the buying and scrapping of redundant plant has resulted in British mills today being fewer and output smaller than the possible output of ten or fifteen years ago.

Under the heading of "Cotton" we are told:

"In 1937 the world produced and used more cotton than ever

ments and forty-three per cent, of raw materials.

Italy needs more wheat. "It is reckoned that for Italy to become self-sufficient in beef, the cattle population must be increased by eighteen per cent."

In the Irish Free State, "because of the curtailment of the export market for cattle and dairy produce, the wheat acreage has been expanded.

"In the Danubian countries, the problem of *agricultural over-production is now serious* and precludes improvement in farm technique."

If space permitted, many more quotations could be given, showing the plenitude of practically every commodity of which one has ever heard, which is commented on as an unmitigated misfortune in every case.

Yet—believe it or not—the same writer, when referring to potatoes (farmers in England are fined for growing too many), says:

"Research in connection with potatoes has produced some resistant to cold that can be cultivated successfully on the fringe of the Arctic, *which may open up vast new tracts of potato-growing land in, for instance, Siberia.*"

He also refers to Professor Giercke's "dirtless farming" in California by which method "amazing yields per plant have been obtained . . . which may ultimately prove to be the most important development in contemporary farming."

But the pearl of price occurs right at the end of the section on agriculture.

After the numberless lamentations about over-production, the gloomy prognostications that even those countries not yet self-sufficient will soon become so, with consequent damage to others' export trade, and that there is little or no hope of an expansion in world demand, he concludes with the following paragraph:

"In view of all this wealth of discovery, it may be wondered why *productive capacity does not increase more rapidly.*"

And reasoning capacity is actually *decreasing* with alarming rapidity!

The low purchasing power of the people is referred to as if it were a characteristic of the masses—as low stature is of the Japanese or a low temperature of the Arctic. Yet—accepting this inability to consume as something inevitable and unalterable—the speeding-up of productive capacity in a world whose problem is already one of over-production is assumed to be a desideratum.

The most urgent need of the present time is to enable the people to consume more; primarily for their own health and happiness, and, secondarily, in order to avert a war for "the capture of export markets."

The "Encyclopedia Britannica" is a standard work, and, in so far as it gives us facts, there is no doubt that those facts are carefully collated and can be relied on. But we should make our own deductions from those facts. What would any rational being deduce from the fact that the world is overflowing with plenty, but that people can only buy a fraction of it owing to low purchasing power? Is the remedy (a) to increase production, (b) to restrict production, or (c) to increase purchasing power?

—Dorothy Beamish, in an English contemporary.

Potatoes from Spain

Although it had been supposed that civil war in Spain might disturb her trade in fruit and vegetables with England, I find that it is still following a normal course, says the London *Daily Telegraph's* agricultural correspondent.

It can even be anticipated, he says, that the new potatoes now growing in Valencia and Catalonia, will be lifted and shipped to England in larger quantities than have been usual in recent years. The normal spring supply from Spain is about 30,000 tons.

In the first few weeks of this year approximately 500,000 cases of oranges, lemons and grapefruit were brought from Government Spain into the British markets.

before. The four largest manufacturing countries are the U.S.A., United Kingdom, India, and Japan. The United States and Japan export a large proportion of their output. U.S.A. production is mostly for home consumption. India was formerly in this category, but *latterly she has been able to increase her exports*, especially to British Colonies, and *now is looming large as a competitor of the United Kingdom.*

"France has for some years been self-sufficient in the principal food-stuffs: that is, reckoning on the North African Colonies. *Her problem is largely one of over-production.* The aim is to keep the wheat acreage down, and to prevent farmers sowing high yields of wheat.

"During the past three years the output of garden produce and livestock has increased, while consumption has been virtually stationary owing to *lock of purchasing power among the masses.*"

Germany is not quite self-supporting although, as far back as 1936, she was producing eighty-three per cent, of food require-

TO WOMEN

The forces mitigating against life today are strong. Destruction by war, waste of food and material, neglect of the soil, malnutrition, bad housing and unemployment—all these evils are reaping their toll in human life and happiness.

And this in a world which is potentially one of abundance, a world in which there is actually a reasonable prospect for everyone to live fully and happily.

What is the meaning of this dire assault against life, this suicidal tendency to disintegrate and destroy?

Thus writes Winifred Fish in a London journal. In the course of answering her own question she advances the following views:

There must be a deep human reason behind it all, but it is not to be found in papers and journals, nor in the Governments they write about. Dictators, Presidents, Prime Ministers and politicians do not consider anything so remote as causes. They are dealing with the complex effects and have no time or thought for anything else.

Still, all are human beings, even Governments, and human causes lie behind most problems. The present situation rests then on such causes that can be changed, and we can only alter them when we have discovered what they are—and why it is we are revolving in such a vicious circle of destructive tendencies.

MEN AND WOMEN

Behind all these events stand living men and women.

The ebb and flow of their temperamental differences, their reactions and actions, constitute social life, as we know it. If there is any special discrepancy in the relation of the sexes, if the balance of power in the world is too much in favour of one or the other, too much, the expression of the sphere of work peculiar to one sex, then a one-sided situation will make itself felt in the world as a whole, and be the cause of very serious trouble. I believe we can trace much of the present tragedy of life to such a situation.

Women know very well that their first interest in life lies with human beings, with personal human relationships and with the direct problems such interest and contact involves. They are bound to the common earth, and obliged by their function of motherhood to think of life in terms of immediate and practical necessity, of supporting children, and upholding life-values in every direction.

It is not so with men, for their creative work lies in the realm of contributory things and abstract thought.

I was once present in a cinema where a man displayed the improved mechanism of a rifle, his own invention. It had the merit of being able to kill and wound more people in a given time than any of its predecessors. The fact did not seem to affect this man; he only thought of the success of

his new invention, not of the victims.

Such an attitude of mind is impossible to most women. A woman's thoughts always centre round the ultimate use of things, and she does not appreciate inventions, which are merely destructive, however ingenious they may be.

Still, this special inborn and natural quality of function is no longer so apparent in woman, for she has entered the arena of man's work so thoroughly that her understanding of, and her tendency to strive for, the importance of life seems weakened: and, if she were to think about it, she would find she was actually upholding many things which run counter to her most fundamental instinct, because they are merely destructive and jeopardise the existence of life itself.

We need, then, to keep a balance between the distinct qualities of men and women, but at the present time our mutual affairs are heavily overweighed on the masculine side—in nature's scales the tension are unbalanced.

A REMARKABLE CHANGE

A remarkable change came into the lives of women at the outbreak of the Great War. The vote, after a long and painful struggle, was conceded to them in a moment of extreme national tension. *Their help was urgently needed and had to be ensured.*

A sudden tremendous extension of occupations was opened up. Formerly, woman's share in warfare had been almost entirely confined to nursing, the *saving of life*

wherever it was possible, but in 1914 she became a substantial aid in the course of actual destruction.

Girls from all classes worked in the munition factories, others took over men's work in many directions, thereby releasing thousands more for the front. Women were drilled and regimented; they wore uniforms, drove motors and lorries; in short, they did the work of men, and, because their wages are lower than men's (again, a "money," instead of a "life," standard of values), they have remained in their working-world ever since.

The makers of war hope to rely on their whole-hearted support now. The crisis of last September was only a fresh proof of it, and I believe it would be almost impossible to carry on modern warfare without the help of women.

Education, power, and freedom are as necessary for women as for men, but, in face of the natural differences of their temperaments, women should not use these advantages for the present unbalanced objective of sacrifice of life for inanimate things and abstract ideals, but rather the reverse.

Women seem rather to have forgotten how important these differences are.

WITHOUT VARNISH

In the Victorian age women envied men their privileges in life. They had not reached the point of desiring to do the same things, but they passionately longed for wider education and freedom. Florence Nightingale is a great example of the rebellion, which was stirring in women against the restrictions, and conventions of their time, but her energy was spent in the cause of life. *Had women only preserved this ideal in their subsequent struggle for emancipation, we should not be in the situation we are in now.*

Let us look at it without any varnish. We are actually living in a dying world, in which everything necessary to foster and support life is being deliberately frustrated. The world's housekeeping system is one colossal muddle, in which every constructive effort is held up for lack of money, whilst the good material things that money should represent and make available are destroyed.

War is aimed against civil populations now and every country is living in its shadow; some are already suffering its indescribable horrors, and all are involved indirectly in it. It is a disease, which, if not checked correctly, is bound to spread, and no country can claim immunity from its dreadful results. We know only too well what the experiences of the warring countries — China and Spain—are. Are we likely to escape as long as the false money-system we live under persists?

Surely women must say to themselves: "Where are our rights now? We cannot even save our children, for they are exposed more disastrously to the effects of war than the men in the trenches, and, even if they survive, what does life offer them?"

It is the negation of all the natural hopes of the young, and the frustration of all the sacred functions of motherhood.

UNLESS-----

These, then, are the facts of our daily life, *unless we move in action to alter them.* A few people control the lives of millions by aid of a money system which is obsolete in its functioning, which only operates to restrict the distribution of material wealth and keep everyone in a state of scarcity and servility. There is no individual freedom, no power of choice.

Let us remember Florence Nightingale's words: "We must create public opinion which will

MULES and MEN

Over the hill (so we read in *Kansas Business*) trailed a man behind a mule drawing a plow. Said the man to the mule: "Bill, you are a mule, the son of a jackass, and I am a man, made up in the image of God. Yet, here we work, hitched up together year in and year out. I often wonder if you work for me, or if I work for you. Verily, I think it a partnership between a mule and a fool, for surely I work as hard as you. Plowing, we cover the same distance, but you do it on four legs and I do it on two. I, therefore, do twice as much work per leg as you do. Soon we'll be preparing for a corn crop. When the crop is harvested, I give one-third to the landlord. One-third goes to you, and the balance is mine. You consume all of your portion except the cobs, while I divide mine among seven children, six hens, two ducks, and a banker. If we both need shoes, you get 'em. Bill, you are getting the

The Power to Withhold

Says the "City" expert of the *London Evening Standard*:

"The difficulties now being faced by municipalities in raising new loans is causing an unusual development. The poorer communities are borrowing short-term money from those who have surplus funds.

"The cause of this situation is that the banks are refusing to discount municipal bills, and, since the lukewarm reception of the highly-recommended Luton Loan, it has been most difficult to float new municipal issues at an economic price."

* * *

So, you see, the banks not only operate the racket of lending the public its own credit, but they choose to refuse even this when it suits them. The power to withhold! And yet papers talk of dictatorship *on the Continent!*

best of me. Is it fair for a mule, the son of a jackass, to swindle a man a lord of creation, out of his subsistence?

"Why, you only plow and help cultivate the ground, and I must cut, shock and husk the corn, while you look over the pasture fence and hee-haw at me.

"About the only time I am better than you is on election day, for I can vote and you can't. And, after election, I realise that I was fully as great a jackass as your papa.

"Tell me, Bill, considering these things, how can you keep a straight face and look so dumb and solemn?"

drive the Government." She spent her life in driving Governments, What one woman did, surely many women can do.

This is the darkest hour, but we can if we will UNITE and bring in the dawn.

ARTHUR W. JONES

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The Crisis is HERE

When things are happening that are about to affect the people in an unpleasant way our daily suppress does try to break the news gently, so that those who have been unable, or have refused to allow themselves to follow trends, will not be aroused with too great a shock. One rather doubts whether it is out of real consideration for the feelings of the people, however, that those who control the policy of our big dailies are careful not to provide the awakening with a metaphorical douche of cold water.

Actually one imagines that it is rather because a sudden awakening might be too complete.

Wednesday's Melbourne *Sun* and *Argus* combined to give us still further insight into the future. The *Argus* cartoon of that date depicted a tombstone, headed "HERE lies FEDERAL DEFICIT, Buried 1931," while out of the grave arises an out-at-elbows figure which obviously represents the last depression. Also included in both papers are charming portraits of the British Royal Family, which, according to the captions, "are released for publication today."

On the face of it, it might seem strange that two such widely divergent pictorial items, one extremely pleasing and the other quite the reverse, could both be taken as threats to the future comfort and well being of our nation. But, taken in conjunction with other matters, we can only conclude that the call to "patriotic" imperialism, for which the photograph is misused, is a further warning of the demands that are to be made on us very shortly, unless we wake up and do something about it, while the cartoon promises us a reversion to the dark days of the previous depression as an alternative to war.

Actually the crisis of 1939, of which the *New Times* has been warning its readers for the past twelve months, is upon us.

The alternatives, "War or Depression," are placed before us by those who are supposed to control the destinies of the nation for the benefit of its people.

It might be argued that the situation in Central Europe is such that the choice of war or peace

no longer rests with the so-called democracies, and that there is the possibility that it is now too late for us to do anything in the matter. The point we would make, however, is that even now, when the situation is said to be desperate, no real attempt is being made to bring about a more pacific spirit in the dictator countries. Attempts at conciliation by means of ambassadorial bouquets have been made, of course, but never have those bouquets been supported by anything more substantial than fair words and promises, which have so often been broken. In fact, at ambassador or trade delegate who made any attempt to placate a possibly belligerent country by urging on his Government any trade agreement that would necessitate unorthodox finance, would find himself in very hot water indeed. Again, then, we are likely to be asked, as we were in 1914, to sacrifice everything, in order that our children, if they survive, may be saddled with an interest bill that will inflict even greater misery on them than was inflicted on the people of our own generation as a result of the machinations of "sane finance" in relation to the 1914-1918 war.

While appeals are being made to the people of Australia to make sacrifices for the future defence of their country against some future enemy, the financiers of Australia are fighting tooth and nail for the purpose of maintaining their "right" to refrain from making any sacrifice whatsoever for the country which is to be asked to fight on their behalf.

In conjunction with the appeals of the finance-controlled Press and Government for the support of the

people in case of war, attempts are being made to arrange for more certain private control of the Commonwealth Bank, in order that there shall be no danger of private banks losing their "cut" of interest on the huge defence expenditure. In order that, should war and waste be avoided, peace and poverty will infallibly take its place, it is very necessary that the Commonwealth Bank Act Amending Bill go through. The recession plans of the private banks, which, as the Melbourne *Argus* cartoon warns us, are well under way, represent the type of security that we will be asked to fight for in case of war. War, should it come, will be a logical extension of the fallacious financial system. In such case, our sufferings will be due, in the last analysis, to those who "aren't interested in politics."

THE DILEMMA OF A PACIFIST

(Continued from page 1.)

only would millions of lives be sacrificed in vain, but it would mean the utter degradation of human life.

Now or Never

Professor Murdoch admitted that the absolute pacifist might, in the course of a few centuries, turn out to be absolutely right, but he could not agree that the absolute pacifist was right now. Well, it seemed to him (Mr. Bottomley) that the absolute pacifist was right now, or never would be and the time had come when men of humane ideals should stand firm in their conviction, and prove not only to themselves, but to the world, the validity of their faith.

ARE WE TO CLOSE DOWN?

YOUR DECISION IS REQUIRED

At present the circulation of the "New Times" is still insufficient to carry on without obtaining and spending capital. The Directors consider that this is most unsound and must be terminated.

WHAT WE MUST HAVE IMMEDIATELY!

- (1) An additional 1000 copies must be sold every week. We suggest that EVERY reader should, THIS week and each subsequent week, buy an additional copy to either re-sell or distribute to contacts. This may mean a shortage of copies at the newsagents'—but INSIST on your newsagent procuring the extra copies immediately.
- (2) As the benefit of this cannot be felt for some time, funds are urgently required to keep the paper running in the interim. If you, therefore, wish to see the continuance of the "New Times," you are asked to donate at least 1/- (£1 or more if you can) TODAY. Even 3000 shillings would mean £150.

THE DECISION IS IN YOUR HANDS

The preliminary response to this statement, which appeared last week, has been sufficiently promising to justify the Directors in publishing this issue.

BEWARE OF MR. BRUCE

(X.)

A Great "Confidence" Man

A Letter to the Editor from BRUCE H BROWN

Sir, —On March 23 a letter appeared in the Melbourne "Argus" calling for the retention of Mr. Bruce in Australia, "because of his experience of conditions in Europe and his knowledge of the state of preparedness of Great Britain," and it was stated that this knowledge "fits him better than any other man to take over the leadership of our Government and take whatever steps are necessary to put our house in order." It was also stated that "there is a feeling abroad that Mr. Bruce alone can give us confidence." The very next day it was announced that the High Commissioner had been requested to delay his departure indefinitely, "so that he may be available for consultation with the Commonwealth Government." All of us may, therefore, breathe freely in the knowledge that the great inspirer of confidence is not going away to leave us in the lurch. He has saved us so many times before.

A LEADER—OF A SORT

Now, as this man is still being held up to us as a "leader," there must be some accomplishments of the past on which the claim to leadership is based, even though it seems strange that it should be necessary to keep him away from the public platform, where he could be questioned face to face in the open. How any sane person could accept as a leader a man who has given such contradictory advice is beyond me. He has acted in his public capacity as though we can get out of debt by going further into it; as though the people will have more money if their incomes are reduced; and as though there will be better health and greater comfort if we reduce production of the things necessary for health and comfort. We have already seen that he betrayed the Commonwealth Bank to private interests and thus facilitated the imposition of a devastating depression in 1929 and subsequent years. Reference to official figures will also show that he placed Australia in pawn to London financiers at the rate of more than £30,000,000 a year, and even now he is actively engaged in getting us still further in pawn to the same unpatriotic shysters. This is the sort of "leadership" for which men would be shot in wartime.

TO HAVE MORE, PRODUCE LESS!

It is difficult to believe that a man who made the public declaration that unless the benefits of scientific discoveries and mechanical developments are made available to the people there will be a violent social upheaval, could come out here advocating the restriction of production. Yet that is what actually took place. In 1934 he was here at the instigation of the "City" of London, and with the approval of the British "Government," to bring about the restriction of production in Australia. He told us it was our only hope. Since then he has been a prominent figure at the League of Nations, and has been paraded to a somewhat sickening extent as a great world figure. If we can make the benefits of science available to the people by refusing to use the scientific discoveries, then, perhaps, Mr. Bruce IS a leader, and I apologise. It seems to me, however, that, in order to get the benefits referred to the people must have MONEY to claim them, and yet our High Commissioner has said nothing publicly about the impossibility of supplying the necessary money under the existing financial policy. Indeed, his every move has been designed to bring about a REDUCTION of the purchasing power of the great bulk of the population. His whole purpose hitherto appears to have been to tickle our ears with "high falutin" phrases about our virtues,

our great fortitude in bearing up under repeated thieving raids, called "sacrifices," and the urgent need for strengthening our defences. In other words, our minds are deliberately being focused on anything but the CAUSE of our difficulties.

SUBSTITUTE FOR SIR OTTO.

At the time of his visit in 1934 it was made clear by the press that he had come to the Commonwealth in a capacity somewhat similar to that of our old friend, Sir Otto Niemeyer—i.e., as an agent of international finance—to deliver an ultimatum to the people of Australia. He was here seeking to force us to do something, which was contrary to common sense, and apparently, doing it at the instigation of another Government. In these circumstances it was not surprising that the Melbourne Age asked: "Who is governing Australia?" That is a very pertinent question—Who is?

THE ONLY "SUITABLE" MAN

No one else, we were assured from London, would have suited the role. In fact one journal, *The Yorkshire Post*, went so far as to say, "it is remarkable that even he dared to make such proposals," and he had been here only a few days when the British press was already patting him on the back and saying that his advocacy of their ideas had exemplified his high prestige in Australia. In the name of England he was telling Australia that Britain could not continue to take our "surplus." He meant the surplus of things to eat, not the surplus of men, women, and children who were getting insufficient to eat. The *Argus* at that time was very guarded in its references to the proposals to interfere with our production, but let the cat right out of the bag when it admitted that in giving effect to the scheme it would be necessary for the Governments to combine with "the leaders of finance"!

SACRIFICE LIBERTY TO GAIN SECURITY

Details of the scheme then proposed were given in a leading article in the London *Times* of April 2, 1934 (and don't forget that the Governor of the Bank of England is one of the controllers of the London *Times*!). We were told that the Canadian farmers were sacrificing their liberty with the object of gaining security, and that Mr. Bruce's proposals would probably go further than those of Canada. We were expected to forget that we had been promised stability and security through the Premiers' Plan, and the latest fascistic ideas were being put forward to help us forget that promise. (In passing, it is worthy of note that the failure of the

Premiers' Plan had been publicly admitted by Professor Copland, one of its framers and Dr. G. L. Wood, of the Melbourne University.) The proposals, as given in the Melbourne press, were the establishment of Commonwealth and State Boards empowered to regulate production in accordance with economic conditions, and to prevent the over-supply of the markets. It was admitted by the newspapers "the proposed Boards' immediate action almost certainly would be the restriction of production."

GOD TOO GENEROUS

In plain language, this meant that we were to tell God that He had been far too good to us, and that we didn't want His bounty, even though hundreds of thousands of our kith and kin were poverty-stricken and undernourished. Less goods could not bring benefit to the hungry or increase the avenues of employment. On the contrary, it would accentuate the difficulties in both directions, but what is THAT compared with the financiers being able to rig a higher price per article, and thus extend the existing gap between themselves and the strugglers on the breadline or just over it? We have a system under which the distribution of God's gifts is determined by the amount of money possessed by individuals, and God has no part at all in the production of money. The money supply is in no way related to the true value or the volume of the gifts, and it is because of this that 90 per cent, of the people are obliged to go without, while the gifts of

Physical Jerks are no Substitute for Three Square Meals

The British Government recently announced that another £1,500,000 is to be devoted to the National Fitness Council. This makes £4,000,000 in all. Is this money given to people who need it to live? No, it is wasted on physical culture equipment, advertising, and general whitewash.

Meantime, half the population of Britain lacks proper nourishment.

God are sacrilegiously destroyed. Instead of advising us to amend the money system, which is the obvious solution, Mr. Bruce, for whom we are almost told to give thanks, was actually going up and down the country advising us to destroy more of the goods! And they call him a leader!

MR. MENZIES'S ADMISSION

It would be interesting to know what the Right Honourable Robert Gordon Menzies, P.C., K.C., M.P., really thought of this scheming. He is the gentleman about whom we thought last week, and who since then has made a call for Christian people to come together, because "the forces of barbarism are threatening the Christian religion." I dislike doubting his sincerity, but what else can we do in the face of the facts? He was a great supporter of the Premiers' Plan under which the community was robbed, but by 1934 had found it a hopeless failure. On April 5 of that year he received a deputation protesting against further dismissals from the Victorian railways, and, as Acting Premier, told the deputationists that things were anyhow. Read his significant confession for yourself, as follows:

"We are allowed this year a deficit of £800,000, and that is the only amount for which accommoda-

tion is arranged. The actual losses we are expecting are disturbing. How the deficit is to be brought within the allowed limits I do not see. Whatever might be the position about certain signs of recovery, the State has reached a crucial testing point. What the position will be next year I do not know, but today the department is not in a position to do anything but cut down."

Who was it that told the Victorian Government what would be "allowed," and under whose orders were they cutting everything down? That could hardly be blamed on to God or the producers, and the sovereign people had given no such directions. On the very next day the same professing Christian made the public statement that "There are some State financial problems which seem insoluble under existing conditions." Note particularly that he admitted the problems were of a financial character only, and yet, since then, he has been one of the outstanding servants of the very interests, which create the problems and deliberately manipulate finance so that they CANNOT be solved. Dismissals are again the order of the day in the railway services, but we hear not a word from this pious politician against this futile planning by men whose plans have always failed. Unfortunately, his words are invariably in their favour.

SUPPORTER OF BARBARISM

On July 28 last year he lunched with Dr. Schacht, in Berlin. Three other bank directors were present, and it was reported afterwards that he had been accorded a very friendly reception, and that his visit had been intensely interesting. A fortnight later, apparently with his full concurrence, Sir Earle Christmas Grafton Page, a fellow-member of the Australian Government, was in New York having "important conversations on Australian finances with leading bankers, notably Mr. J. Pierpont Morgan and the presidents of the National Bank and the National City Bank . . . The bankers expressed the greatest appreciation of the way Australia was solving her difficulties." In other words, they were pleased that we were cutting everything down to the limits they had prescribed! Notwithstanding these facts, Mr. Menzies supports Mr. Bruce's attempts to put us further in debt to the same bankers, and has the temerity to come out at a church function and refer to the forces of barbarism which are threatening the Christian religion. I charge him with being a supporter of those forces of barbarism, and with constantly having conferences with the persons who control such forces.

THE REAL PURPOSE

On the eve of our "Noblest Son's" departure in 1934, in headlines right across the front page, a section of the evening press greeted us with this: PRODUCE LESS—MR. BRUCE'S WARNING; and in another part of the same paper there were great headlines, also right across the page, RESTRICTION OF PRODUCTION NECESSARY. Two exceedingly important paragraphs appeared in the press at the same time, but on different pages. On one page Mr. Bruce's address at the Melbourne Chamber of Commerce luncheon was reported to have emphasised the need for co-operation among all sections TO ENABLE AUSTRALIA TO ENTER THE COMPETITIVE FIGHT FOR WORLD MARKETS. On the other page it was stated that Britain's representatives at the Disarmament discus-

(Continued on page 8.)

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(Continued on page 7.)

ADOLF HITLER, MILLIONAIRE

By LADISLAS FARAGO, in "Ken" (Chicago).

Der Fuehrer boasts of his impecuniosity, but the fact is that royalties from his book, "Mein Kampf" and investments in German real estate and industrial firms make him one of Germany's wealthiest men. This money is deposited throughout Europe in fifteen bank accounts under three names.

Three years ago I listened to Adolf Hitler score the greatest oratorical success of his life as he dramatically confessed to a deliriously cheering and heiling crowd overflowing Berlin's Sportpalast:

"I have remained a man of the people, a modest and poor fellow . . . I am, as a matter of fact, the only statesman in the world who has no bank account!"

And again, a few weeks ago, at the opening of his millennial edifice in the Wilhelmstrasse, he repeated part of that earlier speech, and said: "As a German comrade I am today exactly what I have always been—and I do not want to be any more!"

The Third Reich's Fuehrer is, indeed, a magnificent orator who does not hesitate to use Ersatz *for truth* whenever he needs another trick to hypnotise his audience. In three years of research I have ascertained that the "modest and poor fellow" is, in fact, one of the wealthiest men in Germany, whose money is kept in fifteen bank accounts both inside and outside the Reich.

Fortune via Politics

All of his fortune, one of Germany's largest, has been accumulated during his years as a politician. The bulk of it, however, has been garnered since, immediately after his assumption of power, he magnanimously relinquished the only legitimate salary of his life: the 48,000 marks the Reich pays its Chancellors annually. The bulk of his income comes from the royalties paid to him from *Mein Kampf*, which is today the best selling book in the world.

This book has its own story. During his first year in power there was still a regrettable lack of reader-interest in the Nazi Bible, and Hitler was dissatisfied. Max Amann, Hitler's personal fiscal agent since 1921, and business manager of the Nazi party since 1922, found ways and means to increase the book's sale. He suggested that the Fuehrer order it to be presented as a gift to every newly wed couple in Germany. The copies are now bought for cash, by the German State, with taxpayers' money and even without the usual trade discount for bulk purchase. Simultaneously he induced the Minister of Education to distribute the book free to children at the end of school terms; and to purchase a great number of copies for every school library.

In spite of its tremendous sale, the original price of 8.50 marks (3.40 dollars, a high price for Germany) was never reduced. Herr Hitler's royalty on each copy is 68 cents. In 1934 his income from royalties on copies distributed among newly-weds amounted to 503,200 dollars, and during 1937 it reached the fabulous sum of 700,000 dollars. Though figures for the total annual sale are lacking, his annual royalty can safely be estimated at 850,000 dollars.

Real Estate and Industrial Interests

By 1936 there was so much cash on hand, that Max Amann decided to manipulate Herr Hitler's vast fortune, and to invest his Fuehrer's accumulated wealth in sound securities. He purchased real estate in Munich, Berlin and Cologne, and enlarged the Franz Eher Verlag (the official publishing house of the Reich since the seizure of power) by "acquiring" other printing and publishing firms. First he bought Bavaria's largest printing house, M. Mueller and Sons, and several paper factories. Then he bought out the huge publishing house of Knorr and Hirth, and the Ullstein enterprises in Berlin. He secured a controlling interest in Haasenstein and Vogler, Germany's largest advertising agency. With the Ullstein concern, for which Amann paid a reputed five million marks of Hitler's money, he acquired several complete blocks of plants and tenement houses in almost every district of the German capital. In Munich he owns the greater part of the Triersch Strasse, and has large plots in the exclusive Maximilian Strasse as well. In 1937 Amann invested a considerable sum of Hitler's money in Field Marshal Goering's industrial enterprises, the Hermann Goering Works.

Today any one banking house is considered inadequate to hold all the earnings of Herr Hitler. Therefore, Amann has distributed his Fuehrer's savings among several banks. The largest sum in Hitler's own name is at the Bayerische Gemeindegeldbank, Girozentrale, Munich, almost next door to the Brown House. There are large deposits with the Bayerische Gemeinde und Wechselbank; the Munich branch of the Deutsche Bank and Disconto Gesellschaft; and in both the Berlin and Munich offices of the Bank of German Workers, a former Socialist Party institution seized by Nazis.

Deposits Outside Germany

Herr Amann does not feel quite satisfied with the safety and security of these German institutions. Therefore, a substantial part of Hitler's fortune is placed in several foreign countries. The largest sum was invested in Swiss francs and kept at the Swiss Bank Corporation in Switzerland, until 1937, when the franc was undervalued. To avoid the possibility of a further loss, Herr Amann instructed the bank to transfer the money to the West End branch of the Swiss Bank Corporation, 11c Regent-street, London, on whose books it now appears as a pound sterling deposit in the name of the Franz Eher Verlag, represented by Max Amann of Munich.

According to the records kept in Amann's auditing office, there are other deposits as well scattered in nine European countries under three different names. These accounts are as follows:

At Bern, Switzerland, at the Bundes Postscheckamt, account

number 111-7,205, in the name of Max Amann;

At Paris, France, at the Bureau Central des Cheques Postaux, rue des Favorites, account number 350,797, in the name of Amann;

At The Hague, Holland, at the Postcheque en Girodienst, Speeieplein, account number 211,846, in the name of Amann;

At Brussels, Belgium, at the office des Cheques Postaux, account number 350,797, in the name of Aman;

At Prague, Czechoslovakia, at Postovni, Sportelna, account number 77,303, in the name of Franz Eher Verlag;

At Warsaw, Poland, at Pocztaowa Kasa Oszczednosci, Jasna, account number 194,121, in the name of Franz Kher Verlag;

At Budapest, Hungary, at the Magyar Kiralyi Postalalarek-Penztar, account number 13,532, in the name of Philip Bouhler;

At Belgrade, Jugoslavia, at Cekodni Ured, account number 68,237, in the name of Philip Bouhler;

At Bucharest, Roumania, at Casa National de Economie ci Cecuri, account number 24,968, in the name of Bouhler, who is the trusted chief of Hitler's Personal Office.

The strict German exchange regulations decree that no private individual or business enterprise may keep bank accounts outside Germany without the specific permission of the Reichsbank. Moreover, all payments made into such accounts must be reported to the Reichsbank immediately, in order that the sums abroad may be utilised in the complicated German "clearing system." Hitler's accounts, however, are untouchable, and contain funds, which are not registered with the Reichsbank. Arnold Bernstein, president of a German-American steamship company, was sentenced to ten years' imprisonment last year for a similar "crime."

Another Significance

This clever scattering of funds in practically every European country has another, not so financial significance. Although the Nazis insist that their regime will last for at least a thousand years, Herr Amann wants to make sure that in case it should end before its first millennium and he and his Fuehrer be compelled to emigrate in a hurry, they would find money wherever they land. This explains why it is necessary to keep funds in places like Budapest, Bucharest and Belgrade, where local currency regulations make it impossible to withdraw sums except for domestic use.

Looking at Herr Hitler's financial policy from this political angle, one discovers a rather interesting fact; Herr Hitler keeps no money in Italy, which fact, in itself, rules out the possibility of his ever fleeing to the protective hospitality of Signor Mussolini, junior partner in the Rome-Berlin Axis. It seems that Herr Amann, the Fuehrer's omniscient business-brain, considers the Axis less secure than Herr Hitler wants the world to believe it is.



THE PROBLEM OF "TOO MUCH" WHEAT

While "Experts" Strive to Restrict Growth, Scientists Devise New Means of Increasing It

It really looks as if the restrictors will eventually be beaten in their desperate efforts to stem back the flood of nature's bounty, and then the only hope will be some such measure that people will be able to buy and enjoy the plenty that cannot be stopped.

How serious a "problem" has been created by "the excess world wheat output" in the past season (to quote the *Financial Times*) is shown by the fact that world consumption of wheat has been estimated by the International Wheat Advisory Committee at only 75 per cent, of the total wheat supplies in the year ending July, 1939. Last year the consumption was 84 per cent. (The *Times* of January 11 reports these figures.)

So it seems that all the carefully arranged restrictive schemes are not having the desired effect, and now Dr. L. A. Newman, the Dominion Cerealists of Canada, in a recent radio address, tells the story of Rustless Wheat, which will still further complicate the "problem."

WHEAT RUST

One of the first serious visitations of that dread disease known as wheat stem rust took place in 1904, since which time there have been several disastrous attacks. In 1935, the wheat crop of Western Canada was so badly damaged that thousands of acres were never harvested, but were burned or ploughed under. It was estimated that approximately 85,000,000 bushels less wheat were harvested than if there had been no rust. This loss in bushels, added to the loss in grade of what had been harvested, brought the total loss for the year to an astounding figure.

The situation, said Dr. Newman, was particularly disappointing and disheartening, in view of the fact that, at last, after several years of drought, the people, both on the farms and cities, who had been looking forward to what promised to be a bumper harvest, had their hopes dashed to the ground by the sudden appearance in June of rust. To many this epidemic was almost the last straw, but there was a ray of hope for the future.

RUSTLESS WHEAT.

For ten years a little group of scientists, centring very largely in the Dominion Rust Research Laboratory in Winnipeg, had been making heroic efforts to create new wheat, which would be capable of withstanding all attacks of rust, and so be able to utilise moisture when available. A number of rust-resistant types were created and were actually on test at the laboratory, as well as at the

Dominion Experimental Farms and University Farms throughout Western Canada. In answer to the deluge of questions from farmers as to when rust-resistant wheat would make its appearance, the reply was given that it was hoped that this new wheat, to which the name of Renown was given, would be available for distribution in quantities of from 4 to 8 bushels per farmer for seeding in the spring of 1937.

Fortunately, this hope was realised, and approximately 6000 bushels of Renown were distributed that spring to about 2000 farmers at a nominal price. This produced enough seed to sow a substantial acreage in the spring of 1938, and well over 1½ million bushels were realised—enough to sow a large percentage of the common wheat area of Manitoba in the spring of 1939.

In addition to Renown, two other rust-resistant wheats have been attracting favourable attention—namely, Thatcher and Apex. All the three varieties, Renown, Thatcher and Apex, are eligible for the Northern grades, as they have been officially declared to be the equal of Marquis in milling and baking value.

Another rust-resistant wheat, Coronation, which, like Renown, was produced by the Cereal Division located at the Dominion Rust Research Laboratory at Winnipeg, has given a remarkable account of itself in Eastern Canada, but is not admitted to the Northern grades because it has not proved to be fully equal to Marquis in certain milling and baking characteristics. Two other promising rust-resistant wheats produced at the Rust Laboratory, and designated R.L. 975 and R.L. 1097, are undergoing a final milling and baking test in England.

The significance of these new rust-resistant wheats is that 1938 is historic in that it is the first year that Western Canada has been spared a major catastrophe on account of rust. And that is not all; in 1939 and in each succeeding year, there will be seed of these types for every producer of spring wheat in Canada. Thus, what has been one of the greatest of all crop hazards will have passed into history.

"SURPLUS" A BURDEN!

Meantime, the restrictors are not being unduly discouraged. They are carefully reviewing the position with the intention of hav-

ing another attempt to restrict production. In a special article on "World Wheat Surplus Problems" the *Financial Times* recently wrote:

"The reappearance of a surplus, which again threatens to become a burden, and the fall in price—Liverpool March futures were 7/7 percent twelve months ago, and are about 4/8 at present—proves that the production problem remains as acute to-day as it was five years ago. On the other hand, a complicating factor, which had hardly then become important, is the intensification of the nationalistic ideal. This has caused importing countries especially to link production of wheat with the question of national security, and to increase their home growth of foodstuffs without regard to cost or standards of living."

"Germany, France, the United Kingdom, Czechoslovakia, and other countries all improved their 1938 output. The Northern Hemisphere production of about 105.6 million metric tons compares with 91.7 millions in 1937, and is only 3.4 millions behind the record yield for the whole world set up in 1928. Expressed in bushels, the current world production—leaving out the doubtful results achieved in Russia and China—is around 4345 millions. About 470 millions of the 510 millions increase on 1937 may be credited to countries north of the Equator.

"The world surplus, which had more than halved itself since 1934 by falling to 14.2 million tons in August, 1937, was estimated to have grown again to 16.2 millions by the end of the 1938 season." "The task of the International Wheat Committee is, therefore, to aim at securing agreement among the representatives of the 22 nations taking part, to a principle of regulation to meet average expectations, which they can with some confidence place before their Governments.

"The common ground between wheat importing and exporting countries is that uncontrolled output spells rubbish prices and general impoverishment. Industrial countries must especially suffer from such a situation in being unable to sell their goods. Nations in this category can, therefore, only pursue self-sufficiency at the cost of sacrificing the markets for their manufacturers.

"While it is unlikely that matters will proceed to complete deadlock in this sense, ameliorative measures taken now would restore confidence and lessen the prospect of disaster. It will not be lost on the Wheat Conference delegates that, by the exercise of goodwill, a not entirely dissimilar situation is being handled with reasonable success in the case of internationally circulating commodities, such as rubber, tea, and tin."

* * *

In other words, the delegates are encouraged not to be downhearted, in view of the success in the restriction of other commodities.

The only alternative to this destruction of the fruits of the earth is that the people should be enabled to buy them.

"Septimus," in an English contemporary.

C. FORD

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MELBOURNE (Cont.)

(Continued from page 6.)

ELSTERNWICK.

BRIDGE & SON, Men's and Boys' Wear. Opp. Station. Phone: L5383. RADIO & ELECT'L SERVICES. Mackintosh's, 72 Glenhuntingly Road. L 4588.

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BUTCHER, 93 Station Street. Arthur B. Heath Solicits Your Patronage.

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BOOT REPAIRS. A. A. Taylor. Station Ramp, While U Wait Service.

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OPTICIAN, W. W. Nicholls, 100 Glenferrie Road. Haw. 5845. SUITS to order from 70/-. H, 5813. A. Sutherland, 184 Glenferrie Road.

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BOOKSELLER, S. J. Endacott, 75 Hampton St., for all book needs. CHEMIST, Rod Burgess. 156a Hampton St. XW 2424. HAIRDRESSER, Ladies and Gents. R. STEWART, 68 Hampton St. TAILOR, R. W. Simpson, Railway Walk. Suits Hand Made from 95/-

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P. A. MORRIS & CO. PTY. LTD.

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UPHOLSTERER, Blinds and Bedding. Duke's, 111 H'berg Rd., Ivan. 626.

KEW.

ANDERSON'S, 141 High St. Authorised Newsagent. Haw. 1145. BUTCHER, S. Daw, High Street, Opp. Union St. Satisfaction, S'vice. C. KENNEDY, Grocer. Haw. 229. Opp. Cemetery Clock, Parkhill Rd. DRY CLEANING, Depot & Library A. I. Fraser, 182 High St. H.3733. E. WHITE, 109 High Street. Confectionery and Smokes. GIFTS, & All Jewellery Repairs. Old Gold Bought. Greaves, opp. Rialto. IMPERIAL DAIRY, R. H. Kent, 9 Brougham Street. Haw. 3243. M. J. MARTIN, 157 High St. Haw. 3794. Shoe Store, Shoe Repairs. MOTOR GARAGE, Kew Junction Service Station, Cr. High and Denmark Streets. Haw. 6457. RADIO EXPERT, J. G. Littlewood, 267 High St. Also Elec. Applncs.

MORELAND.

BOOT REPAIRS, J. T. Nolan, Holes St., 4 doors Moreland Rd.

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KEITH PARLON, The Fitzroy Tailor, 45 Best Street. JW1555.

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340 LITTLE COLLINS STREET,
MELBOURNE.
Open Friday Night, Phone ME1177.

FOOLS AND KNAVES

(Continued from page 2.)

sense of protectiveness, and whirled to the right about before they know where they are.

One, writing to the Adelaide press last week, had by specious propaganda even been brought to the point of suggesting that women should bear arms in "the coming conflict." Happily, the next day another wrote in strong opposition to the idea. Now we have the V.S.D., and very skilfully it has been put in motion. Mayors' wives have been asked to start branches in their suburbs, and all is going ahead at high tempo.

Of course, it will not harm women to learn how to fold bandages, drive lorries, and serve at canteens. This may be useful knowledge, even in peacetime. The danger lies in the dumb acquiescence in war, belief in its inevitability, and a desire to help it, instead of using every atom of energy in preventing it. In England, some years ago, a band of women headed by Dr. Maude Royden formed an association which pledged itself and all the women it could enlist to forswear all assistance to the war-makers—not to roll bandages not even to attend the wounded. It was expected that if women kept strictly aloof from all preparations for or participation in war, it might have a deterrent effect, but the web is too closely woven for that. The women in England will naturally ask, "Have the German women made the same vow, or will their soldiers be cared for, while ours die unattended?"

* * *

Meanwhile, that shadowy and mysterious figure, Montagu Collett Norman, has forsaken his sphinx-like silence and imperturbability, and through the B.B.C. is broadcasting "information" about the Bank of England to the Empire.

BEWARE OF MR. BRUCE

(Continued from page 5.)

sions warned the meeting that a new armaments race was beginning. And to think that the "competitive fight for world markets" is the CAUSE of war!

ANOTHER "FINANCIAL EMERGENCY"

These two announcements, following so closely on the decision of the leading political organisation in Australia that the unemployed should be called upon to join the militia up to an additional strength of 30,000, suggested that they were not merely coincidences, but that there was a definite connection between them of an alarming significance. I said so at the time, and pointed out that at that very moment powerful influences were at work to secure a heavy increase in the Defence Vote simultaneously with further concessions in taxation for the well-to-do, and that the same interests were also advocating unremitting economy in Government expenditure. A warning was also given that if Mr. Bruce's ideas were adopted, unemployment would increase, purchasing power would decline, additional expenditure would be imperative for unemployment relief, and that, with an increased Defence Vote, Government finance would again revert to the "emergency" stage. These things have happened, and have intensified the hopelessness of the outlook for an increasing number

ELECTORAL CAMPAIGN NOTES

VICTORIA

GOOD WORK. A correspondent writing in the Kyabram paper ably draws attention to the dangerous provisions embodied in the Commonwealth Bank Act Amending Bill, which the latest appointee to the Privy Council, Hon. R. G. Casey, is sponsoring in the House. (In the event of the Bill being passed, and Australia being in conflict with the debenture-holders at any time, probably the only Court of Appeal will be the Privy Council). After outlining the case clearly, the letter finishes by challenging Mr. McEwen, member for the electorate, to participate in a "Heckle Hour" debate, over the air, on the subject. This implies a splendid suggestion for others to challenge their member to state their case by public debate, preferably "over the air." Remember, the radio has an audience of many thousands.

PRESTON. — Mr. B. Strahan, 350 Gilbert Road, West Preston, calls all supporters within reach to meet at his home on Monday evening, April 3. There is work to be done, and Mr. Strahan wants your help. Now is the time to "get busy." Don't leave it until it's too late.

3DB HECKLE HOUR — For Easter Saturday evening, April 8, will be a debate on "Should State Parliaments be Retained?" Mr. Sanford will affirm that they should (under the existing system). Mr. O'Shannessy will say "No". Fifteen tickets are available at the U.E.A. office.

GET TOGETHER next Wednesday evening, April 5, in the Rooms, 5th Floor, McEwan House.

WOMEN'S SECTION—On Wednesday night last Mr. Keogh addressed the Women's Section on the Repeal of the Flour Tax Campaign. Members have decided to support this move, as it is one that vitally affects the housewife and the community generally.

YOUTH SECTION—Last Friday night the Youth Section addressed an enthusiastic open-air meeting at Camberwell. The speakers were in top form, holding a crowd of 150 to 200 people for two hours. It was found necessary to use the megaphone to keep the footpath and roadway clear, so that normal traffic could proceed. Eric Butler gave an excellent address—Norman Rolls, Bill and John Iggulden were the other speakers. The youth team is awakening interest, as 55 copies of the *New Times* were sold at this meeting.

Roll Up—If you want to help in this splendid way of reaching the people, turn up at Glenferrie Station tonight, Friday, March 31, at 8 o'clock. Speakers,

of citizens. But the same old "leaders" lead, the same old ideas are retailed, and the same old cry of "confidence" is shouted. "There is a feeling abroad that Mr. Bruce alone can give us confidence!" It is not confidence we need so much as recognition of realities, straightforwardness, and common sense, three essentials which so far have been entirely absent from Mr. Bruce's public activities. But, according to one of my friends, he "really is a charming man!"—Yours faithfully,

BRUCE H. BROWN.
(To be concluded.)

New Times sellers, and assistance in selling literature are wanted. This is your fight. Join in.

Dance. — The Youth Section spent an enjoyable evening at the Palais Royale on Tuesday last. The dance was a financial success, approximately 25/- being added to the funds; but it was complained that some members were conspicuous by their absence. Plans are in hand for the next dance. Watch the *New Times* for the date.

Wandong. — Two members of the Youth Team will address a meeting at Wandong on Saturday, April 1, at 8 p.m. Readers in that district are asked to support and advertise this meeting as much as possible.

General Meeting on Tuesday, April 4 at 8 p.m. This is the night for your suggestions, grouches and complaints. Come and make them; it is the only way to get anything done. One member complained that no notices of meetings had been sent out; however, it was said at the last general meeting that all meetings would be advertised in the *New Times*—which has been done.

Mordialloc. — A meeting will be held at Mordialloc on April 5. All youth members who are free on Sunday, April 2, are asked to join in a working-bee for distributing leaflets and *New Times*. When the work is done, play tennis or swim. Meet at 1 Albert Street, Mordialloc.

Speaker's Class—Next class on Tuesday evening April 11. A member of the class will address the general meeting on Tuesday next.

"NEW TIMES" CIRCULATION CAN, AND MUST, BE INCREASED!

What Three Supporters Did

In response to our appeal for immediate increase in the circulation of the *New Times*, and in order to prove that a little effort is worth more than all the good intentions, three supporters set out to show what can be done to "Save the People's Paper."

Miss J. Robinson and Messrs. Eric Butler and Norman Rolls commenced the drive on Elizabeth Street on Friday afternoon with 30 sales, and, with the assistance of helpers at the Camberwell open-air meeting, put on another 55 sales that night. On Saturday these three individuals sold a further 68 copies on Elizabeth Street, and Mr. Rolls followed it up with another seven copies outside Station 3DB at the conclusion of the "Heckle Hour," and in two hours sold a further two dozen on the St. Kilda jetty on Sunday afternoon.

This total of 184 was increased to 206 by Mr. Rolls on Tuesday evening, when he appeared again on Elizabeth Street, outside the G.P.O., wearing the full-dress, top-hat rig-out, complete with moustache and beard, of Montagu Norman. Unfortunately, Eric Butler was unable to be there, as a result of an accident during last weekend.

These determined workers requested that we publish these figures in order to show what can be done by a little effort, and to frankly challenge others to come into the fight to "save the people's paper."

Printed by H. E. Kuntzen, 143-151 a'Beckett Street, Melbourne, for New Times Limited, McEwan House, Melbourne.

"SAVE THE PEOPLE'S BANK" CAMPAIGN

Public Outcry Against Casey's Amending Bill Grows Daily

The latest report from the committee launching the above Campaign shows that the public demand for the non-passage of the Amending Bill to the Commonwealth Bank Act is increasing in intensity daily. The report reads thus:

"Communications coming in from all over Australia clearly indicate that the people are rapidly becoming aware of the serious position in which Australians will find themselves, if they fail to instruct their Parliamentary representatives to prevent the passage of this, the most anti-social, anti-democratic and dangerous Bill ever introduced into Parliament.

"Thanks to the timely action of the *New Times* in publishing warnings recently, and thanks also to the all-embracing non-party, non-sectarian, and non-sectional policy which it advocates, thinking people in all walks of life and in all sections of the community have been informed as to the real nature of the Bill, and are taking the only safe, positive, and democratic steps to fight against its adoption.

"In New South Wales, to our knowledge, four distinct campaigns have already sprung into being since the *New Times* took up the fight on behalf of the Australian people in its issue of February 24.

"Our Victorian committee has been dispatching literature at the rate of approximately 1000 pieces per day and enquiries are coming in from all parts of the State.

"In Queensland the Campaign has spread from Brisbane to Amiens, Longreach, Cloncurry, Cairns, and other centre.

"South Australia is also strongly co-operating in a number of important centres, and we are informed that two newspapers have reported the Campaign favourably, and that at least two big industrial unions have commenced a drive for signatures to demand forms.

"Campaigns in both North and South Tasmania are spreading the warning throughout the island and meeting with support from all classes of people and all shades of political thought, in their attempt to get an indisputable majority of the electors behind the expression of public opinion, before the second reading of the Bill takes place. Good work, Tasmanians!

"A drive with similar objectives has been started in West Australia by groups in Perth, Fremantle, Subiaco, Pingelly, and other country centres, and letters from this State are most encouraging, especially from new readers of the *New Times*, and persons unattached to any reform movement.

"Every Senator and every member of the House of Representatives is now under obligation to his electors to state whether he is *for* or *against* the Bill, and the various committees conducting the Campaign in each electorate await their personal replies. Already one Senator and three members of the House of Representatives have declared themselves *for* this Campaign and *against* the Bill, and there should be a most interesting report available next week.

"We believe that the 'Save the People's Bank' Campaign is to be the most all-embracing 'pressure politics versus party politics' move yet made in Australia, and it is highly encouraging to note that one of the first groups to join in our demand was a strong section of the U.A.P. in N.S.W. (*believe it or not!*)