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Now, when our land to ruin's brink is verging,
In God's name, let us speak while there is time!
Now, when the padlocks for our lips are forging,
Silence is crime.
Whittier (1807-1892).

Paltry Pensions and Politicians' Promises

Electors Can Save Returned Men From Bankers' Blitz

While various politicians are loud in their promises of what they will do for our fighting men after the war, there is growing concern about the treatment of those men who have ALREADY been discharged from the services. Some ugly facts were mentioned at a big meeting of soldier-pensioners held in Sydney in January. If these men, comparatively small in number, cannot obtain adequate economic security NOW, how can any honest public man talk about such security for ALL soldier-pensioners AFTER THE WAR—unless the policy of money-scarcity is abandoned?

The problem is one of money; not of real wealth. Even now, with the war making big PHYSICAL demands upon the whole community, there is no reason why ANYONE should be going short of the essentials of life.

One of the most glaring examples of the treatment of discharged men from this war is mentioned in a recent press report. Flight-Sergeant Hannah, youngest winner of the Victoria Cross in this war, has been forced to take a stage job in London because his pension was insufficient to keep his wife and child. He had been forced to draw on his small savings in order to live.

This and similar easily avoidable incidents are more damaging to morale than all the propaganda of Dr. Goebbels. Consequently, many people are cynical about the Government's promises. They have heard what happened after the last war; they recall similar promises of security being given to all fighting men. There was, for example, Mr. Lloyd George's famous manifesto to the British nation in September, 1919.

"Millions of gallant young men have

fought for the New World. Hundreds of thousands died to establish it. If we fail to honour the promise given to them we dishonour ourselves. What does a new world mean? What was the old world like? It was a world where toil for myriads of honest workers, men and women, purchased nothing better than squalor, penury, anxiety and wretchedness—a world scarred by slums and disgraced by sweating, where unemployment through the vicissitudes of industry brought despair to multitudes of humble homes, a world where, side by side with want, there was waste of the inexhaustible riches of the earth.

Mr. Lloyd George went on to say that the "new world" must come. But it didn't! The Great Depression came, creating poverty and misery on a scale hitherto undreamt of. Men who were promised a "new deal" were walking the streets. Mr. Lloyd George, in "Britain's New Order," has told us WHY these men didn't get the security which he and others promised:

"The unfortunate financial policy dominated our trade and restricted our pro-

duction for the whole of the period which elapsed between the two wars. The need for every kind of goods was clamant. The labour and material for supplying them were OVERFLOWING.

"But the means of payment were deliberately pinched to suit a narrow doctrine adapted only to the exigencies of the stock exchange and of a sterilising banking system. Money, not means, ruled the economy of the nations.

"An effort was made by some of us to induce the Government to employ the credit of the State for supplying the crying needs of the country; the construction of roads to meet the growing demand of our rapidly increasing motor traffic—the reconditioning of our decaying agriculture, and the regeneration of the countryside—the provision of cheap electricity for light and power throughout the land—the provision of cheap telephones—the development of our canals—with a multitude of other projects designed to equip and enrich the country. But Mammon was on the throne and ruled all these schemes out. To-day we are suffering from the consequences of this policy."

It is obvious from Mr. Lloyd George's admissions, that he and the other "representatives" of the people were forced to ACT (whatever they SAID) contrary to the interests of the people. The bankers dictated their money-scarcity policy and the Members of Parliament did as they ordered.

Why? Because there was no concrete backing of Members by the people. If the people want the "new world" that they are entitled to after this war, they must start demanding, in black and white, NOW, that "Mammon" be removed from his "throne." Failure to act along these lines (indicated week after week in this journal) will mean another betrayal similar to the one mentioned by Mr. Lloyd George. Let us face up to that, instead of imitating the proverbial ostrich. We don't want to see any more V.C. winners reduced to penury because of OUR political apathy. Write, address and stamp a letter for real victory—Tonight! And don't forget to urge your friends to do likewise!

—Eric D. Butler.

Mayor Suspects Black Sheep In Sheepskins-For-Russia Appeal

Following upon the Aid to Russia balance-sheet surprises in N.S.W., comes startling news from a Melbourne suburb—namely, Footscray. The following report is reprinted from the Footscray "Advertiser" of March 20, and it is surprising that the daily press has refrained from comment on the matter:—

The Mayor (Cr. McDonald) is so dissatisfied with some of the financial transactions associated with the recent Sheepskins-for-Russia Patriotic Carnival held outside the Western Oval last month that he has commandeered the books and had them locked in the Town Hall strongroom pending check by a Government auditor.

In a progress report to the council on Monday he said receipts totalled £2360, and expenses £1300, leaving a balance of £1060 to be divided between the two funds.

He took exception, however, to the payment of £197 (half the proceeds of £394 received from lucky envelopes) to an L. Currier, whom none of the carnival committee had seen, but who, he understood, was a starting-price bookmaker at Fitzroy.

He said indications were that there was some underhand work, and his endeavour would be to sift matters to remove any stigma from the many volunteers who had worked so hard.

In answer to Cr. Beaton, the Mayor said

he understood that permission to run the carnival was obtained by the Central Executive of the Sheepskins-For-Russia Appeal and that was why the Footscray Patriotic Efforts Committee had not been notified to keep a check on the workings. The council agreed to the Mayor's request that the matter be referred to the Patriotic Efforts Committee.

During the week the Mayor stated there were other features which gave rise to suspicion. One was a suggestion that a sum near £50 be put down under "advertising" instead of under its correct heading.

In addition, report has it that a number of helpers received tributes for "services rendered." They were told, so the story goes, that parcels were awaiting them, and on taking them home found sheepskin rugs, dolls similar to those given as prizes on the wheels, etc., enclosed.

The public of Footscray, who gave so generously, await with interest further details of the Mayor's investigation.

NOTES ON THE NEWS

Criticising the slow response to the current loan, Mr. Curtin said that the contention that the present taxation was preventing subscriptions was incorrect. He evidently thinks that you CAN have your cake and eat it. He also said that "the loan represents a transfer of earning capacity from civilians to the fighting forces." Well, as the fighting forces are also heavily taxed, perhaps we can assume that their taxes represent a transfer of "learning capacity" BACK TO CIVILIANS?

POWERS BILL: In a circular to members of the Associated Chambers of Manufacturers, it is reported that the Federal Government's "Powers Bill" is doomed—which would be a relief to all who are opposed to National Socialism. "That may be correct; but, just the same, those who perceive the international financier's hand behind the move will need to remain on their guard against the plot to further centralise power at Canberra. The scheme is almost certain to be resurrected—most likely in another form.

NATIONAL INSURANCE: At the next session of Federal Parliament another effort is to be made to impose the rejected National Insurance plan to level-DOWN living standards—as a palliative to minimise the demand for fundamental and worthwhile economic security, which is only possible with a monetary system that provides adequate income for each individual, as an inalienable right. The proposed scheme is falsely stated to be non-contributory. Actually, the money will be taken from the people in advance by taxation. On this account it is more dishonest than the rejected scheme. The "National Welfare" fund, from which the benefits are to be provided, is to be built-up from taxation now, and will, of course, be spent on the war—then it will have to be re-built continuously by more taxation!

MONEY MYSTERY: The following official figures, taken from trading-bank returns published in the Melbourne "Sun" of April 2, illustrate just how "sound" the banking

system is, and partly indicate the extent to which private bankers have created hundreds of millions of "fountain-pen money" on a small basis of legal tender: Excluding small-change silver and bronze, the total legal tender in Australia is £131 millions. Cash held by the nine trading banks is £40 millions. Deposit liabilities of the said banks are £441 millions (eleven times greater than cash-in-hand). Smart Work!

CHURCHILL'S CHATTER: The end of Hitler (not Hitlerism) will probably come next year, and a post-war depression must not happen again, said Mr. Churchill in his recent speech. He also said: "His Majesty's Government must not be coerced into binding themselves or their unknown successors into new expenditure on the State" (this referred to the Beveridge plan). He also objected to the pledge-bound Party politicians, but approved the similarly pledge-bound "All-Party Government."

INSURANCE AND INFLATION: The chairman of the National Mutual Insurance Assn. (Sir Harold Luxton), speaking at the annual meeting, engaged in a subtle plea for non-interference with this branch of the Money Monopoly. He is reported as saying: "New business" (new life-insurance policies) "helped to counteract inflation, and should be encouraged." Perhaps he thinks that by playing up to the bankers' inflation propaganda—which is, of course, Government policy—the manpower authorities will not interfere any more with insurance-selling staffs. The next step along this line of reasoning would be to hold back payments of claims—also as a safeguard against inflation! This idea could be carried a long way. For instance, each citizen could refuse to pay his debts—in order to prevent inflation. Quite a cute idea!

CURTIN'S CAPERS: The latest improvement in our democracy, suggested Mr. Curtin, is to disfranchise strikers. This super-democrat has certainly done Big Things to our democracy—by conscription, regimentation of industry, labour-camps, etc., etc. It is to be hoped—for Curtin's sake—that the electors of Fremantle (or at least the bare 200 that elected him) will take a tolerant view of these matters when election-day comes along.

GOLD GOSSIP: Latest report of the bankers' frantic race to impose the gold standard on an unsuspecting world states that "while Britain favours an Anglo-

(Continued on page 4)

Outburst In N.Z. Parliament

The following interesting report is from the Auckland "Herald" of March 6

WELLINGTON.

Applause from a number of Government members was forthcoming at the conclusion of a speech delivered in the House of Representatives last night by Mr. Langstone (Government, Waimarino), who said he regretted that the Labour Party's policy of control of banking and credit had not been implemented.

It was his first speech in the House since he returned from Ottawa and resigned from the Ministry. He devoted only passing reference to his resignation as New Zealand High Commissioner in Canada.

Mr. Langstone said he would like to talk on the reason why he was back in New Zealand, but possibly that could come at some other time. Speaking with considerable vigour, Mr. Langstone said that many of the things the Government had done successfully could have been done much more easily if the right method had been adopted.

By that he was referring to the taking over of the banking institutions, and the use of national credit in the way it should have been used.

After dealing with banking in detail, Mr. Langstone declared that the woolgrowers were entitled to their extra £2,000,000. It was humbug to take 15 per cent, away from them. (Opposition "Hear, hears.")

In the past the Labour Party had pledged itself to take complete control of banking and credit, but, for some reason, it was impossible to get that great policy implemented. The people of New Zealand were becoming more conscious of the money factor, and were not going to stand for long for private manipulation and exploitation through the private banking institutions.

He added that local bodies, too, were being exploited financially in the same manner. About the only day on which they were financial was when the rates were paid.

Price control, said Mr. Langstone, was only being dealt with in a tiddly-winking way. He believed that with subsidies it was possible to keep prices down so that the wage-earners' cost of living was maintained at a level where there would not be continual rowing and wrangling for increased wages.

The people of New Zealand had been asking and wondering why there had been dodging and hedging on the all-important financial question.

L. H. Hollins to Debate Party Advocate

Next Wednesday, April 14, at 8 p.m., a debate of exceptional interest will take place at the Hawthorn Hall (corner of Burwood-road and Launder-street, near Hawthorn, Town Hall).

The subject will be: "Should Party Politics Be Abolished?"

Mr. L. H. Hollins, M.L.A. for Hawthorn, will affirm that they should, and Mr. L. A. Chisholm, L.L.B. (endorsed U.A.P. candidate for Hawthorn in the forthcoming State elections) will argue that they should not.

The debate, which has been arranged by the Hawthorn group of the N.W.R.M., will be conducted on "Heckle Hour" lines, and promises to be a worthy sequel to the recent debate between Mr. Bruce H. Brown and Mr. Adams of the "Sound Finance" League, which took place in the same hall.

It CAN Happen Here

The first mass man-power check in New South Wales was carried out to-day at the City Fish Markets, when a raiding squad, under the N.S.W. Man-power Director, checked the identity cards of all present. . . . To-day's raid was the forerunner of other man-power comb-outs in places of public activity, such as restaurants, Mr. Bellemore announced. All doors and entrances to the market were locked and guarded for an hour while the investigation was in progress. . . . The man-power officers, assisted by two uniformed police, soon had the entire gathering queued up on one side of the market area, and every man was then interrogated. . . .

—Melbourne "Herald," March 25

"FOOTLE" WRITES AGAIN—ON GIBLIN'S GIBBERISH, AND A HUNGRY HERO

It is so long since I had the pleasure of talking to my friends through these columns that I fear I may be regarded as a stranger and a gate-crasher. But perhaps it is no great matter, as any renewal of acquaintance is likely to be sketchy and intermittent—possibly to the relief of all concerned, including the editor.

I don't intend to moralise or explain what part in the war has occasioned my long absence, but will content myself by saying that I am in the homecoming mood, eager to see what has changed and what has not. In the matter of what has not changed, I find my newspaper a great help. In the same issue—namely, that of March 12, I was presented with two samples—two very hardy perennials—to wit, "What do we do with our heroes?" and "Social Security" as envisaged by our old friend, Prof. Giblin.

To take the latter item first—it being apropos of the Beveridge plan, so often proposed and so seldom propounded—I quote: "The professor has his own original views on the subject, and he is not so sure that economic security is altogether desirable." The professor's views, may, of course, have struck the reporter as original. That poor wight may have had the plebeian outlook and regarded social insecurity as undesirable per se, but I can assure him that a careful study of economists and their utterances would cure him of any such naivete.

It is usual for economists to be dazzled by the beauties of insecurity. This may be a facet of the immutable law of cussedness—the law which makes us prefer winter in the height of summer and vice-versa, which makes us thirstiest when there is nothing to drink, which makes us long for the rough lap of mother Nature when we are snug, and yell for a mattress a foot thick when we are not. It may therefore well be the law which makes economists disgusted with their immunity from worldly care. The only thing in this connection which surprises me is that I have never seen an economist—or at least a government economist—in relief queue. I should like to very much.

This, however, may be the wrong angle on the subject, for the professor proceeds: "What people want is not security, but life—intensity of living." There is no doubt that cutting off supplies at the source might easily lead to intensity, but I do not share the professor's optimistic view that this intensity could properly be called "intensive living." History suggests that it is more liable to lead to homicidal mania in a big way and a lot of intensive dying. And here again the economists have not been wont to share in this exaltation of death. Which I think is a shame and a very poor example.

The professor expounds further: "What they (the people) are most afraid of is boredom." Mr. Giblin has every right to say that. His experience of it must have been bad and first-hand. I doubt whether any person encounters so much boredom as an economist. That is only natural. Anyone who gets a whacking good salary for explaining to people what they ought to want, can produce the effect of boredom merely by warning the multitude not to be deceived by obvious abundance, but to search diligently in dustbins for "intensive living" and assist the war effort by rattling the baby's money box.

I have no doubt whatever that Prof. Giblin has discovered what everything is all about. But I am not blessed with his vision. I cannot follow in his footsteps, for he appears to me to be walking in something that smells. But never mind my ineptitude. Let us consider this pearl of Giblin wisdom: "Whilst the basic wage should be the highest that our productive capacity could afford, unemployment relief must be substantially less than the basic wage. It should be fixed in relation to the basic wage and not to minimum needs."

That, of course, is easy enough to understand. Human needs must not be allowed to obtrude in this scientific business. But I am a poor sort of bloke. It may not matter very much to professors whether I sink or swim or merely collapse, but it does appear to matter to me. I look askance, therefore, at that strange marriage of ideas which produces in the mind of Prof. Giblin the notion that a basic wage which has hitherto meant the least a worker may reasonably be expected to accept, now becomes "the highest that our productive capacity can afford." Acceding that the professor is saying what he thinks, but remembering also our experience of economists, we must conclude that Prof. Giblin has formed a very poor idea of our productive capacity. He refuses to be impressed by our stupendous war effort. So don't build your hopes on a ten-roomed house and a silent straight-eight car.

What is it that makes economists so optimistic about the capacity of the human race to suffer and so pessimistic about the prospect of providing for ourselves in a scientific age? Can it be that they, too, have given hostages to fortune by acquiring family and other responsibilities which prevent a public avowal of the fact that financing and counterfeiting are becoming synonymous?

However that may be, I wish the Professor wouldn't smack his lips so audibly in suggesting that having discovered our MINIMUM need, he is going to see to it that we shall be forced to accept something less than that once this hero business is over and done with.

The only example I can conjure from the past which was concerned with an endeavour to get a living creature to subsist on less than subsistence is that of the ancient Greek chappie who reckoned you could feed a horse on nothing if you re-

duced the ration slowly enough. The matter was never settled, because the horse died before the experiment was complete. So I don't really know what the professor is going on.

He certainly is a brave man. Not even "Dowb, the first of all his race," the blighter mentioned by Kipling, who "ate the quarry others slew, pinched the steadiest canoe," and so on, not even he, I repeat, would have dared to say to his tribe, "My savage brothers, now that we have meat for many moons I shall not

GROUP OFFICER CLAIRE STEVENSON, INTELLIGENCE TESTS AND ALL THAT

(A Letter to the Editor from BRUCE H. BROWN.)

Sir.—Who is Group Officer Claire Stevenson? She is described in the Melbourne "Argus" of Monday, March 29, as "Director of W.A.A.A.F.", and as one of the speakers at "Saturday night's session of the education conference at the University, organised by the Assistant Mistresses' Association." The paper did not say how she came to be "selected" for the position of Director of the W.A.A.A.F., or how she herself would stand up to a few simple questions far more vital than those she had put to others.

According to the "Argus" (the paper which is "in the place where it is demanded of conscience to speak the truth, and therefore the truth it speaks, impugn it whoso list"), Group Officer Stevenson said this:

"Recently I attempted to give intelligence tests to girls who came to me for training as officers in the W.A.A.A.F. I tried them on cultural questions—who were Massine, van Gogh, Toscanini? They didn't know. I tried topical questions about the Women's Employment Board, Sir Samuel Hoare, Anthony Eden—most knew nothing about them. Then I tried scientific questions, and, as a last resort, I asked them who won the last Melbourne Cup—they didn't even know that! You are the teachers who have produced such people. I hope you are glad about it. Even so, those same girls are doing a fine job as W.A.A.A.F. officers, in spite of the limitations imposed upon them by the educational system of this State. On Friday I watched a parade of 2000 women passed as medically fit as they marched down Collins-street. In many of them one shoulder was higher than the other, their 'tummies' protruded, their heads were poked forward. So, you have not even given them good bodies! 'What father says must be right,' was the dominant note in most homes, but it was time women were equipped to play their own individual part in life, not rely on family guidance too much."

Four declarations emerge from all this. The first is that it was the teachers who produced "such people"; the second, that these "such people" are doing a fine job, despite their deplorable ignorance of cultural, topical, scientific and turf questions; the third, that these limitations were im-

War Loans and Savings Bank Deposits

(To the Editor.)

Sir.—Luke Mr. Curtin, I am gravely concerned in regard to the problem of meeting the growing war expenditure. The Prime Minister has expressed keen disappointment at the response to the current loan appeal, and has threatened to take drastic steps if there is not a speedy increase in subscriptions.

Sir Keith Murdoch's mouthpiece, the Melbourne "Herald," has repeatedly advocated a system of compulsory war loans, and on Saturday last significantly stated: "There are over £300,000,000 in deposits in the savings banks. . . . A third of that amount would fill the loan, and it could be subscribed without a pinch. It is to the man with a savings bank account that the Government must look to fill this loan." A very little reflection should convince the Government, and the "Herald," that this expedient would provide no satisfactory solution of war-finance difficulties.

The Government's plan appears to be to float a £100,000,000 loan every three months, and therefore three "appeals" would completely exhaust this source, leaving savings-banks' depositors with scarcely a feather to fly with.

If drastic taxation is then resorted to in order to finance further needs, how are these "plucked" savings-bank depositors going to meet the Government's demands?

Incidentally, it should be noted that the people who deposited that £300,000,000 could not have saved this amount and at the same time have caused inflation by competing with the Government in purchasing goods. It seems clear that grabbing savings-bank deposits affords no permanent solution of war-finance problems, and that other means must be found.—Yours etc., "W.P.," Sandringham.

require ye to hunt. But mark this well since ye are not required to hunt, neither shall ye eat." Of course, he wouldn't have dared; so maybe the savage brothers weren't so dumb as it comforts us to think.

Dash! I mentioned two news items, and here I am, almost at the end of my allotted space without bringing in the second. Fortunately, I don't need to make much comment upon it. This is it: "Mr. Collins, in the House of Representatives to-day, said that a V.C. winner from the last war was walking around New South Wales country towns recently begging for food. He was in financial difficulties owing to impaired health."

Ah, well! He's probably a cantankerous cove, anyway. Most other people get into impaired health owing to financial difficulties. Besides, what good can a chap like that be to our economic system? And, how do I know he hasn't been reading Prof. Giblin in his spare time and is merely out for a spot of "intense living"—an escape from boredom?

He may be looking for the Professor this minute.

By golly! I hope he is.

—"Footle."

A HIGHLIGHT FROM "HANSARD"

BANKING.

Purchase of Treasury-Bills—Surplus Deposits.

Senator Darcey asked the Minister representing the Treasurer, upon notice—

1 Is it a fact that the private banks are allowed to purchase treasury-bills to the amount represented by their drop in advances to customers?

2 Is it a fact that the surplus deposits which they have lodged with the Commonwealth Bank, and which are returning them 15s. per cent, interest, cannot be used in anyway by the Government?

3 Is it a fact that a statement appeared in the press saying that these surplus deposits could have been loaned to customers at from 5 per cent, to 7 per cent.?

4 If so, and if these deposits are stated to be cash, are not people thus led to believe that this action of the private banks is helping the war effort?

Senator Keane.—The Treasurer has supplied the following answers—

1 No. But it is the Commonwealth Bank's established practice at its discretion to sell treasury-bills to the private banks when the latter have funds available to pay for them.

2 No. Through the Commonwealth Bank the moneys have been made available for use for national purposes.

3 I have no knowledge of the statement referred to. Under the War-time Banking Control Regulations the advances of the private banks are controlled by the Commonwealth Bank to ensure that advances are made only for purposes essential to the national welfare, and at a rate not exceeding 5 per cent.

4 See answer to 3.

—"Hansard" for March 18.

COMMUNIST MYSTERY

(To the Editor.)

Sir.—Remembering all the appeals for help for our Russian allies, the activities of the Friends of the Soviet Union, the advocacy by Australian "Communists" of the Soviet system for Australia, and, finally, their sudden change from anti-conscription to pro-conscription immediately Russia was forced to defend herself, I naturally looked for a stirring welcome from these people to the large body of Russian officials who recently arrived here to represent Russia. I read several Communist publications, including the "Ironworker," but to date I have failed to see any mention of such a welcome. Perhaps some of your readers could tell me when and where such a welcome was given, or, if no such welcome was given, why it wasn't? Surely it cannot be that their policies differ? Or do they?—Yours, etc., F. C. PAICE.

AN ACTIONIST SPEAKS

The following extracts from a letter to the United Electors of Australia are published as an inspiration to those who incorrectly assume that they, as individuals, are helpless. It should galvanise passive supporters into action:—

. . . You will be pleased to learn that the Marketing Board 'Letter Forms' have been well received, and have been instrumental in interesting many people in our general objectives. I have also got 40 Anti-Conscription Forms signed, and can manage another 100 if you send them along.

. . . If I could leave my business and meet more people I could win many more supporters to our cause. . . . I enclose two more paid-up subscriptions to the 'New Times,' for you to hand on. There are two more in the offing. Could you put supporters around this district in touch with me? If so, I am sure that in association we could spread our ideas more rapidly and effectively. We could also help you with finance. . . . Events are moving rapidly in the world-planners' favour, but we have at least thrown a few spanners into their plot for Federal Union via the Powers Bill—and, believe me, we can do much more if the supporters around here will lend a hand.—Yours faithfully, N. McDONALD, 'Capital Cafe,' Orbst, Vic. [U.E.A. Headquarters strongly urge all supporters around Orbst to contact Mr. McDonald, and assist this worthy secretary of the Orbst U.E.A. Branch.]

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officer who regards a company of W.A.A.A.F. girls as so many "bodies," and one of whose first questions when girls present themselves to her is a pre-empt "How are your morals?" If so, it would be more fitting for her to address a few realistic questions to herself than to indulge in cheap sneers about the influence of fathers in our homes. It would be tragic if home influence were weakened any further.

It is to be hoped that readers of the "New Times" will see that this letter is circulated amongst the girls in the W.A.A.A.F.—Yours sincerely, Bruce H. Brown, 189 Hotham-street, East Melbourne, April 4, 1943

Is Group Officer Stevenson the sort of

" THE GREAT BETRAYAL " -A PARABLE

Now in the days when the fifth George was King, the multitude in the land of Aus arose, saying, "The draft and the press-gang and the levy are abominations of the Philistines and stink in our nostrils." And the elders said: "These devices may indeed be lawful for wars within our borders; but, as for wars beyond the coasts of Aus, who shall say whether they be not waged for gold and silver and precious stones, or for the oppression of the peoples? Therefore, let no man be bound, but go freely." The King's Ministers said, therefore: "This is the law of the making of wars that no man shall be forced except within our borders, and this shall be for a birthright unto the people." And they set landmarks along the borders.

Now it came to pass that the Conscriptors and the Fad-Huzies came before the people and said, "We will not add unto the word of the Law neither diminish aught from it."

But there arose up one of the elders whose name was Surtir, sometimes called John, and he swore an oath to bind his soul, and his companions also, that one jot or one tittle should in no wise pass from the Law, but that it should be verily as the laws of the Medes and Persians, neither should any landmark be moved even by a hair's breadth.

Now, the multitude believed that the Conscriptors and Fad-Huzies spake with double tongues, and they cast them nigh unto outer darkness. But Surtir was revered and sat upon the highest seat in the courts because he had sworn a mightier oath.

And he blew his trumpet loudly, and behold, hosts of men, apt for war and chariots and horses, rose up, and each man cried: "Here am I, send me." And they went freely into a far country.

And it came to pass that the Captains of the Hosts spake into the ears of Surtir, and the Prince of the Heralds sometimes spat upon him, and at other times made unto him offerings of milk and wild honey.

Then it was that one of the inner Council, named Sword, arose and said: "Lo! there are men enough and to spare for wars beyond the coasts of Aus."

And even while he yet spake, Surtir went out immediately, and communed with stewards who were supposed to hold in custody the workers' birthright. And he covenanted with certain of them who

were unjust. And they said: "Behold, the draft and the levy and the press-gang are good, and not evil. Whereas yesterday they were corrupt and stank in the nostrils, to-day they smell sweetly of incorruption. And as for the people; what are they better than sheep and goats? Wherefore should we appeal unto them?" And they conspired to alter the law and remove the ancient landmarks. "For," said they, "the sun rises high in the heavens in the land of the heathen. Let us therefore cast him out from his borders and set therein new landmarks where no shadow falls in the midst of the noonday."

And Surtir returned to Yassom and Canborrow.

Now, if peradventure there had been fifty righteous in Yassom and Canborrow, the birthright of the people had been in jeopardy not one hour. But there were not even fifty. The rulers met together, therefore, even as the cock crew, and the law no longer was as the laws of the Medes and Persians, and its pots and its titles were skittled and the ancient landmarks vanished.

And, in that same hour, there arose a darkness over all the land, and the temple of Liberty was rent in twain as by an earthquake, for a corner-stone had been broken away. Mighty oaths also had become as scraps of paper.

But as for the Prince of the Heralds, and the Conscriptors, and the Fad-Huzies, they wagged their heads and said "Ha, Ha! This man hath done what we fain would have done but dared not, and not a hair hath fallen from the heads of any of us." And they gave thanks.

The prophets of Staalim and Moscow-

A BRITISH M.P.'s DILEMMA

By NORMAN F. WEBB, in the "Social Creditor," England.
(Continued from last issue.)

"As far as I can gather from them" (the planners), "their idea of a revolution is simply . . . exchanging the tyranny of wealth which exists at the present moment, for the tyranny of the frozen hell of Socialism."

—Mr. Arthur Hopkinson (M.P. for Mossley).

If you study Mr. Hopkinson's speeches carefully (and they are worth study for their own sake), you will see that with him it goes something like this. Because in the "frozen hell of Socialism," all the emphasis is on security, safety and plenty at any price—"any price" being the Socialist terms of the Slave State; and since by the employment of propaganda and word-manipulation these two things (the abundant life and Socialism) have been identified and made to appear inseparable, Mr. Hopkinson, though like all decent men he repudiates the terms, not being as yet entirely free from the hypnotic influence, is forced to accept (as it was intended he should) this picture of Socialism at its face value. He has been duped (there is no other word for it) into confusing (identifying) Socialism, or Dialectical Materialism, to give it its ugly but comprehensive title, with a high standard of living,

since he is not sufficiently familiar with the hypnotist's tricks: the art of associating naturally quite unconnected facts, by means of words (symbols), for purposes of his own which are entirely distinct from any truth or reality inherent in them. In-so-far as he has not seen this he has swallowed the hypnotist's bait, and is therefore mentally compelled to see Materialism's opposite, which he correctly identifies as the Christianity he is seeking to define, as an association of the opposite facts; as a low standard of living, even insecurity and danger and want (the things we all naturally dislike), to be embraced as the only visible terms on which the frozen hell of the Planners may be avoided—though he knows quite well that the Christian formula is that "man does not live by bread alone," with the emphasis on the last word.

In short, Mr. Hopkinson's opponents have got him where they wanted—playing with the sun in his eyes. He is at such a disadvantage that he can be made to appear as the enemy of a decent standard of comfort for everybody except himself and his classmates, by those who don't possess a fraction of his humanity and compassion. Without a shadow of doubt low living, even insecurity, is better than slavery. But who has made low living and Christianity inter-dependent? Is there a "natural" affinity between them, or only one created by Black Magic, by word-juggling and suggestion? Mr. Hopkinson as an old Parliamentarian, can appreciate the fact that he has been handed a banner incapable of rallying anything but a party of dyspeptic misanthropes.

rath, living in the land of Aus, also did cut themselves after their manner with knives and lancets, and said: "Nothing matters but to gain the whole world, and in exchange for this we will give our very souls."

Others, scoffing, said: "Do our rulers perchance worship the sun? For they would set new landmarks where he casteth no shadow at noonday. What if other rulers arise to set landmarks to the moon, which they worship, and which to-day lieth on her back and anon on her belly, and, in the end, vanisheth before the rising sun?"

But the common people were amazed, and they murmured, saying: "His name shall no longer be Surtir, but Deserter." Others said: "Even the Fad-Huzies did aforesaid appeal unto the people and keep their covenant; but are not these our rulers arrayed like the Hittites and the Nazireans in all their fury? Verily, worse shall befall us."

And it was so; for all the hired men feared the press-gang, and their unjust stewards confused them, crying unity where there could be no unity. They were called no longer "man" but each was surnamed "power," and became as the oxen. Centurions also said to this one, "Go!" and he went, and to another, "Do this!" and he did it.

The Pharisees likewise and the money-changers reviled those whose surname was "power," because some fell by the wayside, or murmured because of the heat and burden of the day.

Then arose leaders in the market place and in the King's Domain, crying: "Are the common people worms that never turn, or are they dead and their bones dried up? Awake, ye, for the day of reckoning is nigh."

And there was a noise, and behold, a shaking of the dry bones of the common people, and their sinews quickened, and their breath came from the four winds, so that they stood boldly on their feet and cried, "Repent, ye unjust stewards, and make your paths straight." For we shall be masters in our own land and not bow down to nor appease the Conscriptors or the money-changers or the powers beyond our coasts. And set ye again the landmarks around this, our heritage, and restore to us our birthright. For our hearts are not waxed gross, and our eyes they are not closed, and we shall be free to decide where our duty calls, and not be sold into slavery.

—P.R.L.

ROOSEVELT'S SIGNIFICANT ADMISSION

By ERIC D. BUTLER.

Anyone familiar with the history of Mr. Roosevelt knows that that very astute politician has somehow failed to seriously challenge certain immensely powerful interests in America, which are not only anti-American, but are anti the people of every country of the world. I refer to the International Bankers. Unfortunately, too, the Roosevelt Administration has indicated quite clearly that it is going to help the attempt to introduce some form of central world government after the war. In fact, it seems that some "leaders" in America think they have been divinely ordained to keep world-peace after the war.

Fortunately, the latest information from America reveals a growing body of opinion which believes that America should concentrate on solving her OWN problems and forget all about "internationalism."

But Mr. Roosevelt, speaking, consciously or unconsciously, in favour of the bankers' programme, made some significant admissions in a speech delivered on November 25 of last year. Answering those who said that America must first solve her own problems after the war, Mr. Roosevelt said that America must also "rehabilitate" abroad, "not only for humanitarian reasons, but also from the standpoint of America's own interest: For it will mean better purchasing-power ABROAD for American products . . ." There was no mention of better purchasing-power for Americans to buy more American products.

In other words, Americans, instead of enjoying the fruits of their own production, are to try and export their so-called "surplus" goods to other countries, because of a shortage of purchasing power in U.S.A. Further, the International Bankers (whose world headquarters are now in Wall Street, New York), propose to use the American Government to finance the "building up" of other countries. This will mean that the "rehabilitated" countries will be hopelessly pawned to the International Bankers, who will have obtained a perpetual lien over them by that well-known confidence trick of manufacturing money at practically no cost and lending it as a perpetual interest-bearing debt to Governments and individuals.

Mr. Roosevelt, speaking of the bankers' proposed policy after the war, said that his New Deal had increased purchasing-power in South American States by "agricultural rehabilitation." But he didn't mention that the "rehabilitation" was carried out by increasing the indebtedness of the South American States to the Wall Street bankers. Interest bills must be paid, and this means increasing taxation. And anyone who talks about refusing to pay interest bills to the International Bankers might recall some incidents in history which it is not appropriate to mention just now.

The following item in the Melbourne "Herald" of February 13 was interesting: "After the war the United States would have to supply a major part of the military power needed to enforce peace against any aggressors; in addition, the U.S. must contribute greatly to the establishment of an economic system which would permit backward, undeveloped peoples to raise their living standards and share in the prosperity of a world free from the threat of aggression." (Speech by Colonel Knox, Secretary of American Navy.)

Would Colonel Knox regard some nation, whose people suddenly refused to pay perpetual interest bills on costlessly-created money, as an "aggressor"? There is really no need for the Roosevelt Ad-

ministration to worry too much about the rehabilitation of other countries after this war. If its own performances in America before the war are any criterion, it will have its hands full solving America's own problems.

France, for example, will be rebuilt, principally, by French labour and French materials. The French should see that sufficient money is made available by the French Government to ensure that there is no hold-up in reconstruction. There is no need for the nation's rebuilding to be written up as a debt owing to overseas bankers who only "contribute" costlessly-created money. Should France—or any other nation—be temporarily short of foodstuffs, countries such as America and Australia could assist without allowing the machinations of international bankers to enter into the transactions. That is, of course, providing that Americans and Australians obtain control of their respective national governments and demand that all the money required shall be issued debt-free against the real credit of the nation.

Australia can solve her own problems in her own way without any "help" from "Wall Street" or from any International Government.

ANTI-CONSCRIPTION ACTIVITIES

Mr. Maurice Blackburn, M.H.R., will be the principal speaker at a big No Conscription rally to be held next Monday night, April 12, at 8 p.m., in the Richmond Town Hall, Bridge-road, Richmond, Melbourne.

In the course of his address, Mr. Blackburn will give a progress report of the campaign for the repeal of the Militia Act.

The Melbourne No-Conscription Campaign Committee announces that it will forward, free of charge, a parcel containing a quantity of "demand-forms," copies of Maurice Blackburn's pamphlet, "Against Conscription—Forty Questions Answered," and other literature, to anyone sending in his (or her) name and address. The committee appeals to all lovers of individual freedom to "lend a hand" NOW in this or any other way. They point out that it is useless to sit back smugly and "leave it to the committee." Our forefathers did not gain liberties as easily as that, and we cannot retain them as easily as that. Widespread Individual Action is needed. (That doesn't mean "the other fellows"; it means YOU.) The Secretary of the Campaign is particularly anxious to get in touch with more individuals who are willing to assist in organising activities in their own districts. Donations of money are also helpful. All communications should be addressed to: The Secretary, No Conscription Campaign, Room 4, Temperance Hall, 172 Russell Street, Melbourne.

WORLD BANK IMMORAL

A London cable states:

"It means treating human beings primarily as instruments of production, which is simply immoral," said the Archbishop of Canterbury (Dr. Temple), addressing the Bank Officers' Guild, when discussing an American plan for a world bank to control world credit.

Dr. Temple added:—"So far as I know, such a bank will be responsible to nobody. We have not got anything like a world government, and plainly we are not going to have it for some time to come. I have been further assured that this scheme contemplates absolute fluidity of labour, by which people may be transferred not only from one part of their own country to another, but from one country to another."

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THAT "MATERIALISTIC" GIBE

The following is a free rendering into English of an article by Jean Genier in the French-Canadian paper, "Vers Demain":—

Some people, who want to discredit Social Credit ideas, say that, because money comes into the argument, the movement must be materialistic. Especially now, when much more war money is in circulation, they turn to us and point out that as a community we are no happier because of the extra money; and they trot out the old suggestion about a "change of heart" being a first necessity.

If one finds that faulty foundations under a house are a source of trouble, one does not lose faith in the use of foundations generally. Similarly, the unhappy experience of extra money under one system does not prove that extra money under other conditions would not be satisfactory to the people of the community generally.

The war-time "boom" not only brings no happiness, it causes the gravest alarm to those who think out the consequences. The new money puts us further into pawn to the banking institutions, and this time not for constructive purposes, but for destructive purposes. Moreover, when the war spurt is over we will be faced with a bill for interest payments, which we seem to have no possible hope of meeting.

If we retain the orthodox framework, we inevitably increase enslavement conditions, for the following reasons:

(1) Incomes all come directly or indirectly from industry [unless extra new money is spent on public works or war], but the expansion of production does not bring expansion of total incomes as fast as the expansion of total prices of commodities.

(2) Mechanised processes obviously increase output, while they decrease wages, etc.

(3) New money spent on "capital-expansion" (or on public-works or engines of war) increases wages, etc., but puts no consumable goods on the market—in general parlance there is "inflation" [if the process is continued far enough and fast enough].

(4) When factories, etc. (capital) begin to pour out wanted consumable goods, then goods begin to pile up in the shops, etc., without the people having the equivalent purchasing-power; in general parlance there is "deflation" [unless sufficient new debt-money is issued through public-works or further "capital expansion"].

(5) Family life in the old-fashioned and healthy sense becomes almost impossible because "employment" continues as the only principal means of distributing money incomes. During war especially, children become almost orphans in the home, because all the adults are caught-up in the business of war work.

Social creditors claim that the solution lies, not in a mere increase in the amount of money, but in having a healthy and sensible method of increasing the money.

Human beings are not mere animals, and fullness of contentment can only come to each human being if the fullest freedom is granted to allow him to expand and extend his own faculties and intelligence in a community where economic security is guaranteed to everyone. Did not Pope Leo XIII., in his "Rerum Novarum," set out this idea?

"For man, comprehending by the power of his reason things innumerable, and joining the future with the present—being, moreover, the master of his own acts—governs himself by the foresight of his counsel, under the eternal law and the power of God, whose providence governs all things. Wherefore it is in his power to exercise his choice not only on things which regard his present welfare, but also on those which will be for his advantage in time to come."

Economic security only becomes a reality when each individual is able to choose the things which he himself wants, and the width of his choice must correspond, not with the amount of labour expended, but with the abundance of goods available. National Dividends, we suggest, provide the way to accomplish this. Thus the money incomes of a family would increase with the size of the family, and its members would be under no compulsion to break away from home to maintain economic security. The proviso must

be made that this extra money must be created without debt [or price-inflation]. It is consumer-money, to make sure that CONSUMERS decide what production shall be stimulated. All men are consumers, and thus we can move towards a democratic state of affairs in which all human beings are free, just because they are human beings.

If we think carefully on these lines we will come to the conclusion that it is the present system which is grossly materialistic, whereas Social Crediters propose "the life abundant" as the lot of all those who are willing to reach for it. Physical aptitudes and spiritual faculties could thus be both developed to the fullest extent. Before anyone under-rates the Social Credit Philosophy let him take the trouble to comprehend it in all its aspects. (Translation by K.B. and C.H.A.)

JUGGLING WITH DYNAMITE

(A commentary on the Slaght-Ilsley debate in the Canadian House of Commons.)

(Continued from last issue.)

Had there been any desire on the part of the Government to restore to Parliament the sovereign right to control the issue of money (which the Prime Minister, in one of his moments of oratorical exuberance, described as its most sacred responsibility), there would have been no difficulty in carrying it out in one of several ways. And, no doubt, at least one of these would occur to its advisers (who now seem so supinely helpless to do anything about the matter), were they confronted with the alternative of either getting the job done or being dismissed as incompetent.

For the benefit of those interested in the technical aspects of the matter, here are two very obvious methods by which the Government could gain the necessary control and use this to issue the money required to finance the war effort without piling up huge interest-bearing debts to the banks:

(1) By an amendment of the Bank Act, the Chartered Banks would be prohibited from holding any bond or other security except as agents for the Bank of Canada, and would be required to maintain against all deposits an equivalent amount of cash, or in lieu thereof, National Credit Certificates issued by the Bank of Canada. Banks would obtain such credit certificates against existing deposits by (a) surrendering to the Bank of Canada any securities held by them, which would be thereupon cancelled; and (b) transferring their interest in all mortgages, liens and other securities to the Bank of Canada for whom they would act as agents in all future transactions. An appropriate allocation of National Credit Certificates would be made to provide for unsecured overdrafts. Banks could obtain cash for credit certificates as required, and would be authorised to make an equitable charge for their services.

Under such an arrangement Mr. Slaght's suggestion would present no difficulty, because the Government would be virtually the issuing authority for all money.

(2) Alternatively, without amending the Bank Act, the Government could pass an Order in Council under the War Measures Act requiring banks to make loans, on equitable terms, to firms having war contracts, against reasonable security to ensure that such contracts will be carried out satisfactorily. The Banks would be provided, by the Bank of Canada, with a cash reserve of 10 per cent, against all such loans. On delivery of the goods to the Government department concerned, the firms in question would not be paid, but would obtain a receipt authorising the banks to cancel their loans and the cash reserves would be reduced accordingly. The effect would be the same as the Government issuing the money.

In both instances surplus purchasing power would be withdrawn by an equitable system of taxation. However, two factors are involved. In the first place, a proper system of accounting would have to be established, so that the national monetary authority would know at all times the total price value of the consumer goods coming on the market and the corresponding purchasing power available to buy them. Secondly, appropriate arrangements should be made for ensuring that all purchasing power which is withdrawn from individuals by means of taxation will be returned to them after the war.

* * * * *

The real lesson brought out by the debate is that the necessary reforms in our monetary system will not be achieved by any process of reasoned discussion in

ERIC BUTLER'S BOOKS

(Obtainable from New Times Limited Box 1226, G.P.O., Melbourne.)

"THE ENEMY WITHIN THE EMPIRE," A short history of the Bank of England Price, 6d. Postage 1½d. (4/- per dozen, post free.)

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THE "TALMUD" TEACHINGS

By BORGE JENSEN, in the "Social Crediter," England.

(Continued from last issue.)

At the opening of our Era there were two schools of legal thought, or "parties," contending for supremacy among the Jews; the Sadducees, adhering, strictly, and contentedly, to the Mosaic Law, can be likened to our Conservatives, while the Pharisees, who pretended to be modern and interpreted the law to suit their needs with the result that their interpretations produced still more "law," can be compared to our Socialists. They were, of course, directed from the same source, and furthered identical policies. Jesus made no distinction between them. Mr. Lionel Curtis, a life-long supporter of "Federalism," in describing Jesus's conflict with Judaism, writes:

"Unlike Paul thirty years later He refrained from any attempt to conciliate the Pharisees or enlist their support in His struggle with the priests. Their blind attachment to the principle of authority and the rigid legalism of their scribes was a worse, because less obvious, evil than the greed and corruption of the hierarchy." . . . "The Sadducees at any rate were content with those [rules] embodied in the law which Moses was held to have received from God. But the Pharisee scribes had deduced from the written code a body of minute and trivial rules, which people were taught to regard as their necessary guide in every detail of life. The system is one which destroys all power of initiative and capacity for accepting responsibility in those who live under it."

Dr. Cohen, on the other hand, feels that the Sadducean method of interpreting the original Mosaic injunctions to fit a present case has "served a vital purpose, which was to make the Torah a practical guide of life of everlasting validity. The Torah could never grow old as long as it was capable of re-interpretation to comply with new contingencies."

His chapters on Jurisprudence show that there was no contingency in the daily life of the Jew to which the Talmud did not provide a card-index answer. It has been pointed out that the Talmud contains everything except an index, and as the original consisted of some 12 volumes, it is clear that what we would call a "higher" education was necessary to train the men who were to have all the answers at their fingers' end. From the welter of Rabbinical dicta I shall only cite one which will indicate the policy served by the mechanism of Talmudic prescriptions:

"He who is good towards God and his fellow-men is the righteous man who is good. He who is good towards God and evil towards his fellow-men is a righteous man who is not good."

The policy is obviously one of division, and points straight to the central doctrine of Judaism: the Unity of God. For a definition of Judaism let us turn to the "Jewish Encyclopaedia":

"Judaism is above all the religion of pure monotheism. . . . Judaism protested at all times against any infringement of its pure monotheistic doctrine." . . . "Indeed every contact with other systems of thought or belief served only to put Judaism on its guard lest the spirituality of God be marred by ascribing to Him human forms."

We have already touched upon the division between man (material) and God (spiritual). Quite easily the idea of the Oneness of God, which Louis Golding, in his fevered apologia calls the great contribution of the Jews to Mankind, leads to the "separateness" of God. God is as high above, and separate from man, as God's Chosen people is superior to, and separate from, the rest of the world. The "Jewish Encyclopaedia" says: "God is one, and so should Israel of all nations be the one vouching for His pure worship . . . as soon as the Jewish people were scattered among the nations and thereby found opportunity of drawing comparisons between other beliefs and their own, it was inevitable that they should be so impressed with the superiority of their own faith as to look forward with perfect confidence to its ultimate triumph, like Abraham, conscious of their mission to proclaim the only God everywhere." †

*Louis Golding: "The Jewish Problem," Penguin books, 6s.

†The article on Judaism also contains this passage: "Judaism at the very outset was a declaration of war against all other Gods: Against all the Gods of Egypt I will execute judgment: I am the Lord."

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN NOTES

(From THE UNITED DEMOCRATS, of 17 Waymouth Street, Adelaide.)

The "Y" Group: It is some time since we have referred to the activities of this Group. That is not to say they are defunct. On the other hand, we have had handed to us a very nicely presented syllabus for 1943. This covers a very wide range of subjects, among which are: "Life in our Slums," "Science and Human Welfare," "Democracy and Commerce." One might suggest to this energetic group that when they have dealt with this great variety of topics, and really discovered what it is they want, and how to get it, their abundant vitality will soon bring results. The Group meets at 17 Waymouth-street, Monday nights.

—M. R. W. LEE, Hon. Secretary.

WAGE SLAVERY WITHOUT END?

Commander S. King-Hall, M.P., editor of the "National News Letter" (Eng.), has issued a "Charter for the New Britain." Part I. of this Charter reads: "It shall be the first charge on the nation's economic resources to provide work for its citizens at a wage."

The gallant Commander thus believes that the first object of an economic system is to provide "Work-for-the-sake-of-work, the mere production of goods and services (by machines) being presumably a minor consideration."

Is he aware that those who shout for work shout for war? Is he aware that the Work State is the Hitler State? We begin to pick up sides—the Workhouse State versus the Leisure State—Hitlerism v. Social Credit. There are no alternatives.

—Hargrave's "Information Sheet," London

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NOTES ON THE NEWS

(Continued from page 1.)

American agency to stabilise world currency, U.S. prefers the inclusion of other countries," and suggests that the "Bancor" scheme, proposed by Keynes, is an inferior substitute for the gold standard. The international bankers' dual post-war plots, Federal Union and the Gold Standard, are being pushed so hard that it's hard to say which is in front. But one thing is certain—namely, that if electors don't get busy on their Federal Members, and insist that Australia shall not be committed to these schemes, we are "in for" a post-war nightmare which won't be a dream.

TAX TRICKERY: Arising from the existing position (under which taxpayers cannot obtain refunds on overpaid taxes unless a claim is made) arrogant "civil"-servant L. S. Jackson is reported as making this threat: "If the Government has not the legal right to withhold refunds when claims are delayed, the law will be changed to give the department this authority." The only inference to be drawn from this dictatorial threat is that the bankers' collection-agency can "fix" the laws.

—O.B.H.