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SIXPENCE WEEKLY

Financial Policy and Socialism

By ERIC D. BUTLER

A report in the Melbourne "Argus" of November 29 reveals that President Truman is in a dilemma over prices in America. In spite of the enormous quantity of food being exported, America is faced with the problem of "over-production." Already prices for farm production are dropping and President Truman is being called upon to keep faith with the millions of farmers who voted for him at the recent elections.

In order to try and deal with the problem, it is stated that President Truman's Administration may ask Congress "for even stronger programmes than those projected at present." This clearly indicates a further dose of Socialist planning. Already there is talk of acreage control by the Government. All reports coming to hand from America make it more and more obvious that Truman's election victory was an endorsement of centralised planning. In The New Republic, leading American Left Wing journal, the following comment was recently made:

Truman's Policy

"The American people elected a President and a Congress committed to the most radical programme presented by a major party in our lifetime. It provides for prompt enactment of legislation for control of inflation, low-cost public housing, and the enforcement of civil rights, for extended social security, compulsory health insurance, and Federal aid to education."

The above sounds very much like the policy of our Labour-Socialists. Unfortunately, however, the political opponents of the Labour-Socialists are apparently determined to redress the same policy in slightly different language and hope that the electors will accept it.

U.S. Demonstration

The American economy is demonstrating beyond all argument that unless the advocates of free enterprise are prepared to advocate a modification of the present financial rules they have no alternative but to adopt Socialist ideas. The sole purpose of production is consumption. Production policies should be controlled by consumers always having sufficient purchasing power to buy at a profitable price what free enterprise can provide. The American people are finding that their system of free enterprise does not automatically provide them with the purchasing power to buy their own production. Thus the dollar loans

for the great export drive which power-lusting international financiers seek to use to enslave the peoples of the rest of the world. Every country in the world is going progressively deeper into debt to the controllers of the American financial system.

"Over-Production"

However, it appears that even the export drive will not enable American producers to get rid of all their production—for example, farm production in other countries is increasing rapidly—and that other measures are also necessary to meet the situation. If production is not to be controlled by consumers who have adequate purchasing power, it is obvious that the only alternative is arbitrary Government control of production to ensure that there is no "over-production." Stubbornly refusing to admit the necessity for a change in financial policies, "anti-Socialists" in this and other countries are advocating various schemes for controlling production, particularly primary production. For example, the Playford Government in South Australia has, like the Victorian Liberal-Country Party Government, now endorsed a Potato Board to control potato production.

An Alternative

There can be no such thing as "over-production" in any country while people are prevented by lack of purchasing power from obtaining all the goods and services which their production system can provide. Electors should insist that their Governments implement a financial mechanism that will enable them to get the advantages of every improvement in production methods. If the American people had such a mechanism they would be able to produce all their requirements with progressively less working hours, and would have adequate purchasing power to buy at a profitable price what they had produced. Any genuine surpluses would be used in exchange for the surpluses of other countries.

Monopoly State

But this state of affairs would not suit the power-lusters controlling the American financial system. They are determined to pursue a policy of "full employment," which means that Americans must be kept hard at work under increasing centralised control. The controllers of the financial system are therefore fostering Socialist policies—the creation of the Monopoly State. Mr. Truman looks like being a suitable tool.

We again ask Australian advocates of free enterprise to have a look at developments in America, and then tell us if they still believe that all that is required to save us is increased production without any modifications in financial policies.

OUR POLICY

1 The preservation of Australia's sovereignty as a part of the British Empire and the exposure of all internal and external groups which attack that sovereignty.

2 The preservation and extension of genuine local government

3 The preservation and strengthening of all Constitutional safeguards in the purpose of protecting fundamental individual rights

4 The encouragement of all activity designed to bring Governments under more effective control by the electors.

5 The preservation and extension of genuine free, competitive enterprise and private ownership, and opposition to all Monopoly, whether it be "private" or State.

6 The support of a financial policy which will (a) permit free enterprise to make available to all individuals an increasing standard of living and greater leisure for cultural pursuits (b) result in no further increase in the community's indebtedness and the sound business practice of gradually reducing existing debt.

7 Recognising that the basis of any sound economy is agriculture, the encouragement of agricultural policies which will ensure the preservation and building up of soil fertility by organic farming and gardening; and the prevention of soil erosion and the protection of forests and watersheds.

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

NOTES ON THE NEWS

Just a little while back our political servants, without reference to their employers, the electors, substantially increased their salaries. Now they propose to rob their employers again by granting themselves a pension when their employers give them the sack. It is proposed, presumably for shame's sake, that politicians contribute a small premium, but the taxpayers will have to foot the bill for the rest. There is nothing wrong with pensions for politicians — provided, (1) they pay for it themselves, or, (2) they do the decent thing and have it approved by the people at election time.

Charitable Calls

For the first time the Lord Mayor's Fund for the "Silver Jubilee Appeal" has failed; and now there is a demand for a special tax to compel all to pay. The Lord Mayor expressed the opinion that the failure was due to high taxation, but other commentators inferred strongly that people would not give.

This is another illustration of vilifying a most generous public deluged with appeals to aid poverty and destitution in the midst of Chifley and Co.'s Golden Age. Victoria, and Melbourne in particular, must be by now equaling the Far East for its number of beggars.

If our people had a progressively improving purchasing power for their incomes, instead of the reverse, most of these appeals would be unnecessary.

Soviet Supplies

A Washington report of Nov. 10 reveals that Russia received 45,000 tons of rubber from Malaya for the three months ended September 30. This is 6,000 tons more than she imported during the whole of 1947. Russia is also reported to be buying unusually large quantities of wool from Australia and New Zealand. It is safe to say that these purchases are not for the benefit of the Proletarian Slaves. In the same Press issue we are also told that "Russia was included among countries to which Britain had supplied jet engines." Well! Well! We can be positive that these are not for the purpose of giving Russian workers joy rides.

The Excellent Foppery

. . . Another example cropped up on and after the announcement of the world food shortage. Government, Press, debates in the Commons, and casual comment were virtually unanimous in ascribing this catastrophe to the perversity of nature. Apart from the ravages of war, drought was the villain of the piece. The failure of crops over four continents was an Act of God, but in no sense the responsibility of man. The fact that modern droughts are by excessive deforestation almost entirely man-made, and the equally significant fact that any soil well fed with humus has a moisture content, which makes it resistant to drought, these were either unknown or ignored. The soils of the world are peculiarly vulnerable to drought in our time, because they have been relentlessly exploited and "mined" by bad farming methods at the dictation

Airway Antics

The three Government-controlled corporations which run all British Overseas Air Services in accordance with Socialist tradition made a loss of £10,700,000 on their last year's operations, despite the fact that passenger-miles flown have increased by 47% to 471 millions.

In Australia the Socialised T.A.A. is also living up to this tradition. The irony of this is that the workers, who seldom use the socialised airways, have to foot a large amount of the bill in taxes. Still they have the satisfaction of knowing that they own the airways even if they don't get a ride.

Construction Credit

During the war the Commonwealth Government backed an overdraft for approximately £1 million for a Sydney motor-body firm, and later acquired a majority of the £1 ordinary shares. Later still the Co. was reconstructed as the Commonwealth Engineering Co. Ltd. from which the Government is now drawing substantial dividends. In reply to a question from Mr. Lang on this deal Mr. Chifley replied: "The Government invested in the national interest, and now that it was a success it did not intend to hand it back to private enterprise, which had originally ruined it." Now all that the Government did was to make funds available; private manufacturers cannot create money, which is one of the prerogatives of the Federal Government. No brains or skill were provided by the Government, and fortunately no politicians took any part in administration; not even Mr. Chifley's skill as an engine driver was used. They just supplied the money. Private enterprise did the rest.

—O.B.H.

of a predatory economics. These have consistently violated biological laws, with the just consequence that the fertility of the whole earth has been seriously impoverished. But to confess to this does not square with the deterministic attitude, and so the responsibility for it is shouldered off upon an external agency. The words of Edmund in King Lear stretch much further than their context: "This is the excellent foppery of the world that . . . we make guilty of our disasters the sun, the moon, and the stars, as if we were villains by necessity, fools by heavenly compulsion, knaves, thieves, and teachers by spherical predominance."—H. J. Massingham, in *The Nineteenth Century*, Sept. 1946.

ERIC BUTLER AT WARRACKNABEAL

On Sunday, November 28, Mr. Eric Butler gave a special address to the Methodist Men's Club of Warracknabeal. The title of his address was: "Can our political and economic problems be solved by the application of Christian principles?"

The central theme of Mr. Butler's address was to make clear that the fundamental Christian philosophy was the very opposite of the various forms of collectivism being ruthlessly imposed upon Western Civilisation.

Mr. Butler said: "It is often contended by some people calling themselves Christians that Christ was really a Communist. This remarkable assumption is really very foolish when examined closely. If all property is to be 'commonly owned,' what is the sense of the injunction against stealing? How can one steal commonly owned property? It is also argued that the collectivists' arguments concerning equality are in line with Christian principles. But Christ said that 'He that would be the greatest among you let him to your servant.' The truth of the matter is that all policies based upon the Christian philosophy must lead to a greater flowering of individual personality; to more and more diversity."

Mr. Butler concluded his address by quoting the following statement by Major Douglas: "**The object of anti-Christ is to keep mankind in ever larger mobs, thus defeating the object of Christ, to permit the emergence of self-governing, self-conscious individuals, exercising free will, and choosing good because it is good. The energising factor is attraction-inducement.**"

Mr. Butler's address was very well received, and many of those present expressed a desire to hear Mr. Butler again as soon as possible. He expects to address a public meeting in Warracknabeal some time in the New Year.

Taxes Still Mounting

As we said when the last tax reductions were announced, actually taxes are going up.

That the somewhat epigrammatical statement was warranted is now revealed by the fact that for the first four months of the present tax year, that is, July to October inclusive, tax receipts came to £136,600,000, which was £8,800,000 more than for the same months of 1946-47. —L. Withall, *Canberra Letter*, Nov. 15.

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SHADES OF GOEBBELS?

We are indebted to the Sydney "Bulletin" of Nov. 24 for the following article on the totalitarian Bill before Federal Parliament to amend the Broadcasting Act.

The depths to which our community has sunk into Totalitarianism may be judged from the almost complete absence of any form of protest from the Daily Press and Commercial Broadcasting Stations. These two organisations are very closely allied, and we know that their present spineless attitude derives from a fear of reprisals in the threat of complete nationalisation of Broadcasting. We would remind them, in this connection, of the old adage of the young lady who went for a ride on the tiger. She returned inside the tiger's (Socialist) belly.

Further, we should have, but do not expect to see, an official statement from the Liberal-Country parties that, if returned at the next elections they will toss the Bill out, lock, stock and barrel.

—(Ed., "N.T.")

On the bill before the Federal Parliament to amend the Broadcasting Act by setting up Government control over all radio programmes, the name of the sponsor is Senator Cameron, the Postmaster-General. Nothing in the bill refutes a feeling that it could have been picked up in the shambles of Berlin where Goebbels and Hitler took poison.

A Blatant Attempt

The bill is nothing less than a blatant attempt to seize or control the choice, arrangement, and delivery of all radio programmes whatsoever by a gang committed to the establishment of one-party rule of the Commonwealth in perpetuity, and proposing by this legislation to silence all criticism of that plan. If the Australian people, quite apart from their sentiments as radio-listeners, tolerate this bid to turn even their leisure-time entertainment into Socialist propaganda, they will have held out their hands for the chains of the serf. The bill follows the lines of Hitler's own scheme for exalting the Nazi Party in Germany by extinguishing all freedom of thought, speech, and public debate. It makes political criticism of the party in power a crime punishable by elimination of the critic. Goebbels had the same idea . . .

By Hook or by Crook

. . . The Socialists are staking everything on retaining power at the next election. If they can contrive that, they hope to fasten an absolute single-party dictatorship on this country. The completion of their socialisation programme depends on it. By hook or by crook—especially by crook—they are out, therefore, to bulldoze for its eventual enslavement an electorate traditionally slow to wrath. This Broadcasting Bill proclaims their objective in every line. Freedom of speech and of opinion is to be destroyed.

Confirmed Hypocrites

And with their tongues in their cheeks Mr. Chifley and his Ministers take credit to the whole Government for the "efforts" of Dr. Evatt abroad to secure for a world sick of Fascism in all its forms freedom of thought and freedom of expression. The Chifley Government

demands that not only should guarantees of these "human rights" be written into the peace settlements with our late enemies, but that special courts should be established at which redress against denial of them can be sought. That is for show abroad. At home in Australia these hypocrites in high places believe in nothing of the sort. The incident of the "Manila Girls" has already exposed their complete indifference to any human rights. The Broadcasting Bill now confirms it. This is what the Chifley Government intends to do, denying to Parliament during what purports to be a deliberative debate any right to amend the thing: —

Powers of Board

To create a Control Board of three members to take complete control of all radio stations' equipment, programmes and speakers.

All three members will be appointed by the Government, which will name one of them as chairman.

The chairman and one other member shall be a quorum, and the chairman will have, if necessary, two votes.

That is to say, if, despite every care to choose as members faithful agents of this totalitarian Ministry, one of the members should reveal unexpected independence of mind, he can be sent on a holiday, and the chairman can then decide all that the Board does. The Board may delegate to any person anywhere any of its powers and functions, even those of the chairman.

This is what the control board is established to do, after the best Goebbels example: —

Lay down what programme services each radio station shall give, and when, as approved by the Minister.

Condemn, if so desired, any technical equipment or method of operation in any commercial station.

Declare whether any programme is in "the best interests of the general public."

Declare what is political or controversial matter and acquire "equitable facilities" for broadcasting of such matter.

Anything whatever it thinks fit, and its orders shall have the force of law.

Further, subject to any directions of the Minister (the slipshod drafting language no doubt means by the Minister), the Board can fix the situation and power of any radio station, the conditions on which a commercial station may broadcast any programme, and subsidise any commercial station if the Minister thinks it a deserving object of subsidy. What a grand time any station on the Government side is going to have!

Even after all this, the Socialists of Canberra deem it necessary to provide that only those competent in the opinion of the Board shall be allowed to operate any broadcasting equipment.

"Dramatisation"

In case there are unforeseen weaknesses anywhere in the foregoing, and so that one particular political critic of the Government may be tabbed for what Goebbels used to call "liquidation," there is clause 22 banning the broadcasting of "any dramatisation of any political matter which is then current or was current at any time during the last five preceding years." The one amendment of the bill in the Senate—brought down by P.M.G. Cameron himself, and hailed with delight by Information Minister Calwell—is to this same clause, and provides, by addition, that the A.B.C. (whose always-nebulous independence is now ended for certain) may determine to what extent and in what manner political or controversial matter may be broadcast at all.

Laws By Decree

Apart from the legal snags, such as construction of the phrase "the best interests of the general public," or the word "dramatisation" in radio delivery—which would cover every inflection of a voice—the general contempt for all political fair play, the creation of a body which will make laws by decree under direction from the Minister, and the obvious intention to prohibit any live political subject from radio debate even during an election, make this bill the most monstrous assault on free speech with which the people of this country has ever been threatened. During the Senate debate Government spokesmen gave up even pretending to disguise their object.

Which Minister is finally to be chosen to fill the role of Goebbels is not yet sure. He may even, according to Postmaster-General Cameron, be one, to be appointed, who will give his whole time to this propaganda portfolio. That will make the Goebbels parallel complete.

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FUNCTIONAL DISCIPLINE

From THE SOCIAL CREDITOR, Eng., Nov. 13.

We reprint on the next page one of those inimitable short articles by Major Douglas which both re-emphasises the fact that the clarity and sufficiency of vision which characterises the direction of the Social Credit movement is not a recent acquisition, and establishes the range of application of the writer's advice.

The article concludes with the observation that so far as we are concerned what matters is "only individual initiative submitting itself to functional discipline." If there isn't time to do what has to be done, there just isn't; but we do not and cannot know that there isn't, and any sensible person in such circumstances must presume the possibility of success (within, of course, reasonable limits). Those limits are not, certainly, the limits set by individual inertia and procrastination—we have not "plenty" of time in the sense that anything we might do can be put off until some other, preferably distant, time, though we may have a sufficiency, i.e., plenty of time in a just and Social Credit sense. Our attitude should be that if we haven't only God will ever know about it, and it will matter to us only in Heaven, which, in such a case, "were a place wherein I could not dwell."

Voluntary Obedience

Individual initiative in conjunction with functional discipline is the just admixture advocated by Marshal Foch in his treatise on the Art of War. He calls it "voluntary obedience." The voluntary part is the individual's identification of his will with the objective; the obedience lies in his recognition that Law rules the universe, including the means employable for the gaining, in the real world, of his objective. So a great deal of the history of the Social Credit movement is the story, more or

less plainly told, in deeds as much as in words, of the pertinacious training of a body of willing men in functional discipline. In many cases it has succeeded. In others, probably more numerous, it has failed. "My way" almost always means "not quite your policy either." (We adhere to the principle that choice of policy is within the right of every individual; that is, his power, to which responsibility should be, and in fact is, indissolubly attached, the Christian rule of Forgiveness alone standing in qualification.)

This functional discipline might be easier to bear submission might be easier, if its decrees were not so much left to individual ascertainment.

"Tell Me What To Do"

"Tell me what to do" is a question, which can be answered in varying degrees of detail. Foch emphasised that in modern warfare it was relatively useless, if not impossible, to give detailed instruction to higher officers. We have heard this principle called in question, it being asserted that, on the contrary, modern warfare was a matter of the most finished and detailed planning. If so, that might be one reason why modern wars take so long to finish and end so unsatisfactorily, all things considered. Perhaps, after all, the "right" side doesn't win, and isn't intended to win, and disregard of Foch's idea is contributory to this result. In any case, increasingly we cannot give detailed instructions to the troops the whole matter of functional discipline in our movement is inevitably a self-discipline, arising from instant and almost instantaneous perception of the grounds for action.

A contributor tells us that during the past week he has had two Constitutions constructed upon the now familiar decadent model of the disintegrating "British" Constitution submitted to him for his assent, and two agendas of the "framed" variety which he was expected to accept without demur. It would serve no useful purpose to disclose the occasion for so rich a harvest of opportunity. Some might say "how far-reaching and important," some might say "how trivial and beneath my notice." Nothing of this sort is trivial. Such opportunities and others widely different in character are wide open doors for the assertion of vitally important principles. Moreover, one alone will be found, in practice, to try the capacity of the most leisured and most resourceful. "Whether there is sufficient time, I do not know."

D.S.C.M. WOMEN'S GROUP

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"THESE LATTER HOURS"

By C.H. DOUGLAS, in THE FIG TREE for September 1936.

The nascent science of Social Dynamics presents many urgent problems for solution to its students, and perhaps one of the less understood is that of the distinction between Social Momentum and Applied Force.

There is an idea in the minds of many people, I think, that the world and the rulers of it are susceptible to some description of death-bed repentance, and that, in consequence, the penalty of their past policy can be averted. It is very doubtful, indeed, whether such an idea has any sound foundation. The prevention of a great war, for instance, in order to be effective, requires the removal or shutting off of forces, which lead to a great war, 15 or 20 years before the war will otherwise take place. It has always seemed to me that 1923 was the critical year in regard to the situation in the world today, and approximately the latest date at which the disasters which threaten us could have been avoided, although that is by no means to say that they cannot be mitigated. In 1923 it became obvious that bankers had learnt nothing and forgotten nothing, and, as Mr. Otto Kahn said at Ottawa, "They had been a little anxious, but now had the situation in hand."

Changed Conditions

The traditional success of British Governments in dealing with various situations that may confront them (which from one point of view has provoked the criticism, so universal on the Continent, that we have no policy other than expediency) is due, I think, to our concentration upon problems of momentum, rather than upon problems of original forces. When such momentum is comparatively small—as is the case where communications are slow, agriculture and small industry are primitive, the dissemination of news and propaganda is comparatively restricted, and in general the conditions are those which existed up to the beginning of the present century—the brake is a more effective and simpler mechanism than are the engine controls. When it is necessary to affect the judgment of only a small number of comparatively well-educated people, constantly in touch with each other and familiar with the practice and technique of governmental action, a change of policy is easy, and can be comparatively rapid. But such is not the case today. Political propaganda has reached dimensions previously unknown, by means of syndicated newspapers, broadcasting, motion pictures, and so forth, whilst the submission of large populations to a uniform economic system based upon finance, and producing parallel problems everywhere, has generated mass emotion on a scale which is reflected in the wars and revolutions contemporaneous with it.

Tremendous Forces

If the situation is looked at in this light, it must evoke even some sympathy for the unfortunate statesmen who are supposedly responsible. If we regard them as free agents with the best intentions, which is in most cases much

to assume, they are faced with the necessity for action along two distinct lines, both of them full of difficulty. In the first place, there is the reduction of the momentum towards disaster which has assumed such formidable proportions; and the difficulties which surround effective action of this nature—even the dangers of a directly opposite result to that which is desired—are exemplified by the breakdown of efforts at disarmament. But with the magnitude of modern social forces it is not much use applying the brake if the vehicle is still hell-bent to destruction on full throttle. The forces which make for destruction in the world today, which have produced the situation which is now so menacing, are more powerful than they were 25 years ago, and there seems to be little more prospect that their direction will be diverted.

An Analogy

Without pressing material analogies too far, it may be observed that the stored energy of matter in motion is proportional to mv . If we have a fly-wheel one ton in weight turning 100 revolutions per minute, it takes a great deal more to stop it if it is all in one piece than if it is split up to 20 fly-wheels, weighing 1cwt., and of correspondingly less diameter. The analogy is crude, but it is suggestive of what I am convinced is the truth, that dictatorships representing the power of many millions of people must be disastrous if the dictators are in control of policy. It is quite possible to have all the power of a unified dictatorship and yet to have control over it in such a manner that its policy can be rapidly changed, if it is recognised that the dictatorship is merely functional, and not one of initiative. Freedom is a real thing. It is the most important thing, which is at stake in the world today, and it is beyond all other things necessary that its nature should be understood. It is the power to choose or refuse one thing at a time. It is the power to choose whether you will play cricket or whether you will play golf, or whether you will play neither. Quite emphatically it is not the power on the part of the non-player to change the rules of cricket or golf; that is not freedom, it is oppression. As the freeman of Arbroath said to the Pope when he opposed the enthronement of Bruce: "It is not glory, it is not riches, neither is it honour, but it is liberty alone that we fight and contend for, which no honest man will lose but with his life."

Conflict Certain

The dictatorships of the world at the present time are slaveries, not because they dictate that their industries shall be carried on to certain programmes, but because they dictate that everyone shall - take part in them under either economic or administrative pressure.

(Continued on page 7)

The Works Of C. H. DOUGLAS

In a review of his latest full-length work, *The Brief for The Prosecution*, the *English Truth* states that C. H. Douglas is undoubtedly one of the greatest minds of this century. In his various works he has provided a penetrating analysis of finance, government, philosophy, constitutionalism, &c. Those responsible members of the community who are concerned with the present increasing plight of the world must study Douglas if they desire to know what must be done to save our civilisation.

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OUR RESPONSIBILITY

In another part of this paper we publish an editorial from "The Social Crediter" of Nov. 13, and a penetrating article by Major Douglas entitled "These Latter Hours," in the sure knowledge that our readers will give them particular and careful study.

For our part, we are convinced that properly understood, they hold the key to possible success in the tremendous struggle in which we are engaged.

It is essential that we expose and develop means of effectively controlling the forces that are giving momentum and impetus to the ideas that are driving us to the World Servile State.

If we agree on the above objective it then becomes imperative, if we are to have any chance of success, that we submit to a self-imposed functional discipline and agree to use our individual initiative within a framework of general directions. Only in this manner can we obtain the tremendous power inherent in the "increment of association."

To this end, therefore, it behoves every one of us to use every opportunity that presents itself to place before responsible individuals in military, judicial, political, economic, religious and educational organisations, the matters published in this and kindred journals.

Finally, neither we nor anyone else can guarantee success in this matter, but, if we, as free men and women, place any value on our souls an effort must be made—an effort quite possibly requiring some degree of personal sacrifice in the immediate future.

DAME ENID LYONS

A Sound Statement

Emphasising the injustice imposed on the people of Victoria by uniform taxation, Dame Enid Lyons reminded her audience that the people of Victoria were paying considerably more under uniform taxation than they would have been under the system of Federal and State taxation. Uniform taxation was introduced to help the prosecution of the war. It was for the duration of the war and one year after. But they were now three years at least beyond the war, and far from being a proposal from the Federal Government to hand back taxation powers to the States there was the completely adamant attitude of the Prime Minister (Mr. Chifley) that uniform taxation would remain.

"I put it to you that it was part of the plan from the beginning that it was to be a permanent arrangement, because it brought nearer the time that the Labour Party aimed at when all power would be placed in the hands of the Federal Parliament," Dame Enid Lyons said. "When elected five years ago I was one who thought that the Federal Parliament should have more power, but the more I see of the working of the Federal system, and the men-

ace of the future, the more convinced I am that we must at all costs maintain the Federal system by upholding the authority and powers of the State Governments.

History had shown, Dame Enid Lyons continued, that freedom perished when power was concentrated in the hands of a few. Power had corrupted the mind of Labour today, and that was what we had to combat at all costs. That was in the mind of the Federal Government and its Department of Postwar Reconstruction. A person had come to her who had been refused permission to take up a certain course just because, in the opinion of the Minister, that profession was sufficiently provided with practitioners. It meant that everyone would have to submit their will to that of the Government.

"Every waterside worker in this country today is in effect an industrial conscript," Dame Enid Lyons said. "He can be sent from Geelong to Townsville if the Stevedoring Commission thinks there are not enough watersiders at Townsville, and too many at Geelong. That is the power that is now in the Act. The day is coming when a similar system is going to be applied throughout industry and the whole community in various ways."—Geelong Advertiser, Nov. 6.

MORE CENTRALISATION

According to the *Sun* (17/11/48), the Town and Country Planning Board reports that Melbourne's "outward sprawl" is adding to the cost of living, etc., and that "scattered development also increases fatigue and is isolating many people from relatives and friends." Here again we have the Socialist lust for planning and the insane idea of making everything conform to the money system. Most citizens of Melbourne consider that we need more roads, but these planners say waste is caused by "too great a proportion of the areas being used for roads," and that the allotments vary in size. &c.

Apparently the homebuilder will soon lose the right to choose where he shall build and the size and type of his building, etc. The Board says Melbourne's gross density is only 9.2 persons to the acre against London's recommended density of 60.

The fact that the Jewish Minister for Town Planning (Mr. Silkin) wants to crowd 60 persons to every acre in London is no reason why we should be herded together like a lot of sheep out here when we have plenty of space and plenty of material for services, etc. Under Mr. Silkin the Britisher has lost the right to develop or redevelop his property as he wishes. Citizens should oppose this Town and Country Planning Board for what it really is—a subtle, socialistic move to eventually destroy local government and councils.—H.G.

Radio In The Servile State

The Broadcasting Control Bill creates all the machinery necessary for Dictatorship of the Air.

The Postmaster-General, Senator Cameron, made no effort to disguise the intention to control all broadcasting activities.

The old pretence that the Australian Broadcasting Commission is an autonomous body free of political domination has been jettisoned. It must be regarded as a "Government instrumentality," said the Senator. Most of us were already aware that this was fast becoming the case.

Commercial stations are to operate under orders issued by the Board, and the express provision in the Act banning contemporary political plays demonstrates the political purposes of the legislation.

One of the Board's main functions will be "to ensure the provision of services in accordance with plans approved by the Government." Thus as a vehicle for the expression of speech the radio is to be made the servant of the political masters of the day.

Dr. Goebels had similar ideas and for a few years was able to give effect to them.

—L. WITHALL, *Canberra Letter*, Nov. 15.

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DEPRESSION COMPLEX

We publish below an article from "The Mail" Adelaide's Saturday evening paper, because of its clear statement of a major problem to be faced, if we are to get adequate production to meet the genuine requirements of individuals.

While the writer does make clear that it is in the field of distribution or financial technique that we must look for an answer to this problem, he does not make clear the vital point that credit power must be decentralised back to the individual, so that, through his money vote, he can control the programme of production in his own interests. For instance, Central Bank credit could be used for a large public works programme, which would distribute enough additional purchasing power to take up available goods. This would progressively enslave the individual, as he in order to get adequate claims to goods and services, would be compelled to work on such projects, whether he wanted them or not. INDIVIDUAL CONTROL OF POLICY is the key to the future society of free men and women:

Capably, Mr. William Queale discussed some aspects of boosting Australia's production ("The Mail," 23/10/48). But he left the picture incomplete. He failed to stress the equally important fact production, without reference to distribution, spells disaster.

Present shortages will soon be ironed out. What then? Does a return to economic normality mean the prewar condition of more men than jobs?

Depression Fears

Stated bluntly, fear of a depression worries the man in the street far more than the inconvenience of today's shortages. Security of employment is one of his prized assets.

Every section of the community wants to avoid the effects of a business slump. With businessmen the necessity to build up reserves against future recessions often outweighs the importance of current needs.

Our farmers, in accepting the recent wheat stabilisation scheme, showed fears for the future. A poll in the workshop would reveal 80 percent, of employees held similar ideas. Long experience has shown every boom is followed by a "bust."

Are good intentions and hard toil sufficient to avoid this? All evidence says No. From a study of the economic his-

tory of our capitalist economy over the past century the conclusion is utterly inescapable that we are tied to the "business cycle."

A business cycle in plain terms is the economists' title for the periodic and relentless seesawing of business conditions between the heights of booms and the depths of depressions.

This almost rhythmic recurrence of boom and depression is one of phenomena of the business world. The social upsets left in its wake are too well known.

In war bravery was not enough; in peace, hard work is not enough. The economic process involves two elements — production of goods AND THEIR DISTRIBUTION.

The Greatest Paradox

The problem of production was solved years ago by the white races.

Each day science creates fresh productive miracles. Our present shortages are temporary, and arise from man-made dislocations such as war.

It is the greatest paradox of all time that depressions are marked not by shortages but by a glut of goods. In 1930 warehouses bulged with goods, primary products had to be destroyed in the fields, 33 percent, of wage-earners were jobless, the record wheat harvest

of 1931 brought 1/10 per bushel, and bankruptcy to our farmers.

Here was poverty amid plenty. But production did not break down; it was defective distribution.

Fear of repeating these follies of the past is bogging down production. And in truth the short-term view that things are booming and a slump might never happen anyway is sheer nonsense.

Economic crises have occurred at least once each generation for the past 100 years. Are we trying to remove the cause of our fears by constructive action, or are we again asking the community to rely on the same blind optimism that failed our fathers and grandfathers?

Remove depression fears and the production drive will succeed splendidly.

The Problem Neglected

The problem of distribution, too long neglected, must be tackled earnestly by our leaders. Any depression is only the result of a breakdown in getting goods into the hands of the consumer.

Besides producing goods, we must sell them. This is possible only when the public has sufficient purchasing power to do so.

Fear of a slump can be removed only when this problem is recognised, tackled, and solved. The task is too large for private enterprise, however good intentioned, to handle alone.

All politics aside, industry and Government must meet amicably to evolve some measure of planning, co-ordination, or control (call it what you will). The most fruitful avenue appears to be through control of the nation's credit, as suggested by the 1937 Royal Commission on Banking. This does not necessarily involve either nationalisation or socialisation.

Private enterprise is still Australia's main productive factor; business ability is still a valuable commodity. Both should be encouraged. Capitalism has solved the question of production; it has failed badly with distribution. Whatever the outcome, it is inevitable our prewar economy must undergo some face lifting.

Unless the depression complex can be eradicated, production drives will chase their own tails, and men will continue to fear "working themselves out of a job."

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"THESE LATTER DAYS"

(Continued from page 5)

And this is just as true of Fascism as it is of so-called Communism as practised in Russia today. The fact that such dictatorships may be for a time functionally efficient is quite irrelevant. The more efficient they are under conditions which remove the power of initiative from the individual, the more certain it is that they must come into conflict with each other and produce a world catastrophe.

How much time is required, both to apply the brake and reverse the engine, and whether there is sufficient time, I do not know; but only individual initiative submitting itself to functional discipline for the purpose of reaching that objective can have any success.

IN FEDERAL PARLIAMENT

JEWISH IMMIGRATION

Mr. LANG: Has the Minister for Immigration yet decided what action he proposes to take concerning Mr. Roth, of the Janus Trading Company, who admitted, when giving evidence on oath in a Sydney court, that he had collected £1,300 for landing permits from refugees who have come to Australia from Shanghai?

Is he aware that Roth also admitted that he had paid over half the money to the representatives of the Jewish Welfare Society?

In view of the allegations made, is the Minister still giving special privileges to the representatives of the Jewish Welfare Society?

Have these representatives been given access to any papers or reports concerning refugees from Shanghai?

Will the Minister table the report made by the honourable member for Parkes concerning migrants from Shanghai?

Mr. CALWELL: As soon as I read the Press report that a Mr. Walter Roth had sworn on oath that he had received £1,300 from persons who had arrived in Australia on landing permits about which he had made representations, I asked my officers, and those of other Commonwealth departments, to make an immediate investigation.

So far I have ascertained that £600 of the sum collected was paid over to the Australian Jewish Welfare Society in Melbourne.

However, there is no evidence of the existence of a bargain between the Jewish migrants who have arrived in this

country and the members of the controlling body of the Jewish immigration organisation.

On the surface their payments would appear to be in the nature of thanksgiving offerings for having arrived in such a fine country made by people who wanted the organisation to continue its humanitarian work.

I was concerned about that portion of Mr. Roth's evidence in which he stated that he paid his wife £600 in order that her father might be repaid a debt which one of the nominees owed him in Austria before Hitler descended on that country. Officers of my department are still pursuing their investigations in that matter, and I do not want to say anything further about it at this stage. Neither the Jewish Welfare Society nor any other body that is not a Commonwealth authority has access to any records in the Department of Immigration, which makes no records available to anybody except those entitled to see them.

I have received a very helpful report from the honourable member for Parkes (Mr. Haylen), who visited Shanghai, at my request, to investigate the situation there. He was accompanied by Mr. Penhalluriak, the Commonwealth migration officer of Melbourne; Mr. C. W. Fuhrmann, the Australian Consul-General in Shanghai, and certain other people. As a result of that report, for which I thank the honourable member, I propose to ask Mr. Penhalluriak to go back to Shanghai and deal with the situation there.

He will probably be stationed at Shanghai for six months, and having been there once, and seen the files, and discussed the matter with other people, he should then be in a better position to make decisions as to which persons should get landing permits to come to Australia. Following receipt of Mr. Haylen's report, I arranged for the secretary of the department, Mr. Heyes, to call a conference of officers of the Department of Immigration, Military Intelligence, and Commonwealth Investigation Service. As a result of recommendations made to me by that depart-

mental sub-committee, I am in a better position now to direct Mr. Penhalluriak in the work, which awaits him when he returns to Shanghai.

Mr. Lang: Will the Minister table the report?

Mr. CALWELL. —I do not propose to table any report. It is not the usual practice to do so. The matter is confidential, and I see no reason why I should table it.

MOST INTERESTING

CANBERRA, Friday. — No action is likely to be taken by the Liberal Party against Mr. Cameron (Lib, S.A.) for voting with the Government in support of the second reading of the Broadcasting Bill.

Mr. Cameron said today he voted for the bill because it was basically the same legislation, which had been prepared when non-Labour Governments were in office. —Melbourne *Herald*, Nov. 26.

While we are surprised at Mr. Cameron supporting such a totalitarian measure, what does interest us is his reported reason for his action. If true, and we presume it is, it is another proof of our contention that in the field of action in relation to fundamental principles the difference between the Government and Opposition is that of Tweedledum and Tweedledee.



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CON-LIB-LAB SOCIALISM

Sir EARLE PAGE. —The British Labour Government frankly admits that the present development in Great Britain began with the introduction of the National Insurance Act by the Liberal Government and Mr. Lloyd George in 1911.

The scheme is on a contributory basis. Contributions by employees and employers, supplemented by contributions from the Exchequer, were used to build up two funds to meet the cost of benefits.

That principle has been applied up to the present day. The only significant change has been the raising of the upper income limit of non-manual workers, first in 1919, and again in 1942.

In 1925 a Conservative Government supplemented the provisions of the Old-age Pensions Act. Pensions were provided for widows, orphans of men who had been covered, and all persons over 65 years of age insured under the 1911 act, without the application of any means test.

The unemployment insurance scheme also was improved.

Then in 1941, when Great Britain was facing the greatest crisis in its history, the coalition National Government, con-

sisting of Conservative, Labour, and Liberal parties, submitted the whole matter of social services to Sir William, now Lord, Beveridge, and asked him to prepare a report and make recommendations as to what should be done after the war had terminated. The report, published in 1942, has been accepted by practically all-political parties in Great Britain.

INSIDE RED RUSSIA

By J. J. Maloney, M.L.C.

The author of this revealing book was Australian Minister to Moscow from 1943 to 1945. He saw Russia as an Australian Labour man officially visiting a Socialist State. He was horrified at what he saw. He has outlined in detail a record of tyranny, which must be given the widest possible distribution throughout Australia.

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THE FLIGHT FROM THE LAND

1947 Census Figures Show Alarming Trend

(From. "Freedom News-Weekly" (Melb.), Nov. 24)

Disquieting conclusions emerge from a study of 1947 census figures for rural and metropolitan populations in Australia.

Although not apparent from a casual glance at these figures, a closer study reveals the alarming fact that of Australia's definitely rural areas, roughly two-thirds have lost, on an average, about one-sixth of their population by migration in the 14 years between 1933 and 1947.

A statistically accurate picture of the drift of Australia's rural population to the cities cannot be obtained from a casual glance at census tables. A number of other factors have to be taken into consideration before this can be done.

The figures of the flight from the land must be seen not as an isolated phenomenon, but as part of the general picture of the disintegration of the land in its social, economic, and cultural aspects and as an ill-omen of an impending national tragedy.

Facts and Figures

Let us take a look at the facts. Judging from the 1947 census figures, it would appear that the increase or decreases of rural population in the various States between 1933 and 1947, together with the percentage increase or decreases could be tabulated as follows:

N.S.W.....	+34,910	+4.4
Vic.....	-35,640	-5.7
Q'land.....	- 1,494	- .3
S.A.....	-18,763	-8.7
W.A.....	- 8,214	-4.5
Tas.....	- 3,402	-3.1

Rural
Population,
Gain (+) Or
Loss (-).
Percentage
Gain (+)
Or Loss (-).

These figures, however, do not accurately represent a true picture of the actual drift from country to city areas and vice-versa. As mentioned previously, other factors must be taken into consideration.

FIRST, when these figures were issued the Commonwealth Statistician gave a warning that any interpretation placed on them must take account of sundry changes in local government areas since the preceding census.

SECOND, the natural increase (excess of births over deaths) for the 14 years

between 1933 and 1947 must be taken into consideration.

In N.S.W., for example, the rural gain was due mainly to the transfer since 1933 of some 20 municipalities, with a total population of nearly 30,000 persons into shire administrations.

In Victoria, on the other hand, one of the reasons for the loss shown in the rural population is due to the fact that urban portions of non-metropolitan areas, previously termed "rural," were transferred to the metropolis of Greater Melbourne.

Taking these two factors into consideration, we find that in N.S.W. the full net migration loss for rural shires and rural unincorporated areas since the 1933 census was some 185,000 persons.

Of Australia's definitely rural areas, roughly two-thirds have lost, on the average, about one-sixth of their population by migration in the 14 years between 1933 and 1947.

To this must be added the substantial natural increase for the same period. These losses appear to be proportionately greatest in Western Australia, followed by South Australia, Victoria, and New South Wales in that order, and least in Tasmania and Queensland.

These figures prove conclusively that Australia's urban districts are becoming increasingly more dense at the expense of her rural population. This is nothing short of a national tragedy.

National Tragedy

The undesirable effects of this drift could hardly be exaggerated. Of late, in view of the ever-increasing fear of atomic warfare, much has been said of the undesirability of densely populated cities and centralised industrial centres from a defence point of view. The existence of sparsely populated areas, on the other hand, has caused grave concern to those whose duty it has been to guard Australia's shores from invasion.

Prominent figures in the community are beginning to realise the stupidity of

our overpopulated cities and our under populated countryside.

Mr. Lienhop, Minister for Electrical Undertakings and Mines, said recently that Victoria had 1,140,000 people jammed within 13 miles of the G.P.O. and only 830,000 in the rest of the State.

Melbourne's congestion had produced all sorts of planners for subways, overhead railways, and rooftop parking. The real cure was decentralisation. Primary industries now on the decline should receive more consideration.

Yet another disquieting feature of the depopulation of the countryside and the consequent disintegration of rural life is the fact that there is an intimate connection between the strength of rural life and the stability of the democratic system.

In a world in which free institutions were constantly being restricted before the seemingly relentless march of the twin forces of anarchy and totalitarianism, this connection between a stable rural civilisation and basic human freedom could not be ignored. Every thinker from Cicero to Thomas Jefferson and Abraham Lincoln has given testimony to this inseparable union. It was no accident that tyrants of different political colour—Hitler, on the one hand, and Stalin on the other—had not been able to rivet their dictatorial regimes upon their unfortunate peoples except through the blood of numberless farming communities destroyed by the power of the State.

Perhaps the most undesirable feature of all resulting from the disintegration of Australian rural life is the fact that it is only the country (in which are included regional towns as well as rural districts proper), which can furnish Australia with a reservoir of increasing population.

Australia needs 365 children to every 1,000 women in the community at any particular time, simply to maintain a stationary population. The greater metropolitan cities—Melbourne and Sydney—produce only 290. Provincial cities produce 420. But the only real natural increase comes from rural areas, which, by producing 520, constitute the only real reservoir of population.

If the Australian population is dying through failure to reproduce itself, it is the great industrial cities, which are the real tombs of the people.

The Cause

No remedy will be found for the rural crisis, which, like a malignant cancer, afflicts the Australian body, until the

causes of the disease are properly analysed, and, just as certainly, the causes of the flight from the land will not be found in one thing only. As with most diseases, the causes are complex and mysterious until threads are unravelled. It is many years now since the first symptoms of the disintegration of rural life made their appearance in Australia. The breakdown of the life on the land was indeed endemic in the foundation of Australian agriculture, for the commercial tradition, which gave it birth was one which contained the seed of its own destruction.

Commercial Traditions

Although there are other contributing factors to the break-up of rural life, in which might be included

- (1) The lack of local industries, and
- (2) the lack of adequate facilities for secondary education,

the main cause is that the principles, which underlie the agrarian policies of our nation, are fundamentally unsound.

The principles chosen are commercial principles, and because of them farming is regarded simply as an industry, and as an industry which must adjust itself to what are considered natural economic laws.

It is impossible here to examine in detail all the reasons why our commercial tradition of farming has led to the disintegration of rural life, but some of the more obvious reasons can be mentioned.

In keeping with commercial principles it was logical to suppose that if the farmer was to be "efficient," if he was to respond to "low cost of production" ideas, it was necessary for him to make economies somewhere.

It was generally considered necessary, therefore, to increase the size of farms until they were large enough to warrant mechanisation, which would facilitate low cost of production and at the same time give reasonable returns to those who worked them.

It is dangerous to generalise on the implications of an increase in the average size of farm holdings. But taken by and large the tendency has been an evil one in this Commonwealth, for it has worked towards the concentration of many estates in the hands of a few owners, and the families who previously lived from the land, finding the financial returns as farm labourers unremunerative, have left the farm for the city.

Because of the large initial outlay needed for this type of farming, many would-be farmers have to content themselves with becoming farm labourers or joining the drift to the cities. Under this system those already owning or obtaining farms find themselves dependent on financial institutions, and soon become victims of the national institution of the Farm Mortgage,

Soil Erosion

Since everything is judged in the light of financial returns, it is natural that it has been the tradition in Australia to look on the land as an exploitable commodity. This merciless exploitation of the soil, with its consequent soil depletion, has been responsible in great part for our national problem of soil erosion.

From its own standpoint of financial returns, commercial farming has proved a complete and miserable failure.

One might rejoice at the revelation of its futility, were it not for the fact that as long as it continues it is working directly not only for the bankruptcy of farmers but for the destruction of the soil itself.

The Remedy

The stable agricultures of the Western world are to be found in the peasant holdings of Scandinavia, the Low Countries, France, Germany, and Northern and Central Italy. Here it is no uncommon thing for farms still to be tilled by the same families as those who had held the land 1,000 years ago in the time of Charlemagne.

This type of agriculture has withstood the cataclysms and disasters of 1,000 years, 10 centuries. The principles underlying it are of the utmost importance for all those who wish to re-establish the land on a firm basis in any country in the world.

The principles are four:

- (1) Mixed farming, with the primary accent on domestic self-sufficiency;
- (2) Co-operatives in all their myriad forms;
- (3) A proper system of rural education, in which the technical and the cultural are properly blended;
- (4) The conscious creation of a community life around the structure of the village or the township.

The history of the Western peoples, and the obvious failure of any alternative system, proves conclusively that it is impossible to create a permanent agriculture on any other basis.

If Australia is to survive, it is imperative that a complete, logical, and far-reaching agrarian policy based on the above principles be adopted by those engaged in agriculture in this country.

While farming is looked upon as a commercial enterprise, and while men holding the foremost positions of public

responsibility look on rural questions as something of interest only to the farmer, it is impossible to expect any serious step to be undertaken to defend and extend our rural culture, nor can it be expected that a step will be taken to stem the alarming drift to the cities. And the longer we delay the day when this step is taken the slimmer become our chances of national survival.

Developing S.A. Desert

From a letter to the *Leader* (Vic):

Sir, —In the *Leader*, November 10, the article headed "90-Mile Desert Converted into Gilt-edged Security by Science" really looks as though it is rather a case of "90-Mile Desert Exploited by Science."

A little while ago the *Leader* published an article by Professor Leeper, in which he claimed phenomenal results from applying fertilisers to the 90-Mile Desert.

The C.S. and I.R. Bulletin 234, "Mineral Deficiency in Plants or the Soils of the 90-Mile Plain in South Australia," makes no mention of the organic matter content of the soil, no investigation of this fundamental factor has been made. Yet scientists tell us that arid soils are richer in organic matter than soils under humid conditions.

What the applications of trace or minor elements, such as zinc and copper, do is to allow the plants to make use of the fertility released by the decomposition of the organic matter. The super supplies a mineral deficiency, which further exploits the other elements, which plants must have to complete their balanced nutrition; whichever mineral is at a minimum in relation to this balance is the limiting. By applying one you will sooner or later create a deficiency of another. So it goes on; decaying organic matter or humus, as Professor Leeper admits, is a "universal plant nutrient."

Professor Wakeman tells us in "Humus" that "With all the progress made in fertiliser application man still depends upon the soil humus for the major part of the nutrient requirements of his crops. In humus nature has provided a food granary upon which to draw for countless crops; one cannot afford, however, to rob the soil too much of its humus, otherwise not only will the granary become exhausted but the soil will be ruined as a medium of crop growth."

It is interesting to note the interest being taken by the A.M.P. in this project. Will their business acumen make the society realise that humus (decomposing organic matter) is soil capital? —Yours, &c.,

HAROLD F. WHITE.
Bald Blair, Guyra (N.S.W.).

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ARAB REFUGEES Zionist Aggression

The world has become so accustomed in recent years to the existence of vast numbers of displaced persons that the catastrophe, which has overwhelmed the Arabs of Palestine, has passed comparatively unnoticed. What has happened in the areas occupied by the Jews is virtually a wholesale expulsion of the

native population. It is true that the Zionists profess to regard the Arabs' flight as "voluntary," but, in fact, every sort of pressure was put upon them to leave. For example, on the pretext that snipers were active in Arab villages and that the work of evicting them by ordinary police methods would be too involved, the Zionists resorted to shelling, and the Arabs were faced with the alternative of extermination or flight. Arab farms and villages have now been occupied by the Zionists, who are reported to be willing to assist in settling the refugees in Transjordan, but in any case refuse to consider their return unless the Arab States or other sources are prepared to make a substantial payment for their resettlement. In other words, everything is being done by the Zionists to make permanent the migrations they have themselves engineered.

Magnitude Of Disaster

Some idea of the scale of the disaster, which has befallen the Arabs, is given by figures, which the Israeli Director of Arab Affairs in the Foreign Ministry recently released. According to him, between fifty and seventy thousand have fled to the Lebanon; between eighty and a hundred thousand to Syria, and a similar number to Transjordan; twenty thousand to Egypt, and nine thousand to Iraq—in all about 350,000 persons. A mere tenth of that number of Arabs now remain in areas controlled by the Zionists. The Arab States have wholly inadequate resources to deal with the flood of refugees who have poured across their borders, and disease is already becoming rife among them. Many of them are Christians, among them a large proportion of Catholics, and the Galilee diocese, for example, is now virtually depopulated. Too little sympathy has been extended to these latest victims of racial and religious persecution. Their fate, which should have starred the conscience of the world, is hardly known.

—*The Tablet*, Eng., Sept. 11.

Business Burdens

About 500 top business executives have applied for admission to the Institute of Industrial Management, presumably to learn how to conduct business undertakings. According to the manager, Mr. A. Stanley Ridley, the job is to calculate and organise for "good times," which, he says, "do not steal up on business." He might also have said, "Neither did bad times," but he left that to the imagination of his listeners.

The sooner this body and others learn that good and bad business is determined by the purchasing power of the money votes in the people's purses the sooner they will get somewhere. If they studied the existing system of injecting money into the people's purses and how it is extracted therefrom, this body might be of some use. Unless they do this they will in the main be wasting their members' time. A suitable subject for discussion which ought to set them on the right track is: "That no industry distributes sufficient purchasing power in the form of wages, salaries, and dividends to liquidate its costs." —O.B.H.

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