



The SHEFFIELD CO-OPERATOR



No. 104.

DECEMBER, 1932.

GUARANTEED CIRCULATION, 30,000 COPIES.

THE "DOCTOR'S MANDATE." CUT - CUT - CUT. TORY ECONOMISERS' PROPOSALS. Sheffield Members on the Economy Committee.

WHEN Mr. MacDonald appealed for his National Government last year by asking for a "Doctor's Mandate," our readers are familiar with the economies already obtained under this heading, but the Premier's Tory supporters are now demanding many further cuts. The "Doctor's Mandate" is to be used not for a simple remedial operation, but for serious amputations on the body-politic.

Retrospection.

The Report of the Private Members of the House of Commons Economy Committee, just published, has created consternation in the ranks of the Tory Party. This committee, presided over by Sir Germaine Rentoul, was set up last June "to inquire into the whole field of national expenditure, and to suggest broad lines of policy for effecting maximum economies without curtailing efficiency." Various sub-committees were appointed to draw up a list of economies, and the following are among the bright ideas produced in the Report:—

— Abolish all housing subsidies; give State guarantees to loans secured by building societies; advance local Authorities to sell their houses where possible; tenants who are unable to pay an economic rent should not be relieved by Public Assistance and should not receive a special form of subsidy as municipal tenants; and that the Minister of Health should have power to relieve Local Authorities of the restrictions on rents imposed by the Housing Act, 1924.

The Report lays down the principle that "in housing policy must be directed to meeting family liabilities and, as far as possible, winding up a business to suit a way as to cut losses and clear the way for a revival of private enterprise in the building and owning of houses."

Pauperisation of Tenants of Corporation Houses.

Let us take first of all the advice to local authorities to sell their houses where possible. Every municipal tenant would thereby become subject to the ordinary private landlord. There would then be no limits to the rents imposed by private landlords upon municipal tenants.

Where, however, houses are not sold the proposal is that tenants who are unable to pay an economic rent should be relieved by the Public Assistance Committee. In other words, every municipal tenant would be subject to still another Means Test, and were his circumstances of such a nature as to necessitate application for relief, he would become a pauper by the simple process of occupying a municipal house.

Education Economies.

Having solved the housing problem on Tory "economy" lines, the Report makes recommendations in regard to education. It suggests that the Board of Education should review the whole subject of secondary and elementary education with a view to fixing standard scales of cost for comparable areas, and that "the standard of gross cost should be considerably lower than the average which now prevails." Among other recommendations under this heading are:—

Increase the number of pupils per class in elementary and secondary schools; economise on teachers' training colleges; reduce the salaries of teachers; and that "any reduction in teachers' salaries might well be accompanied by a comprehensive reduction of salaries in local government services."

On the educational proposals it should be remembered that progressive authorities like Sheffield have persistently increased secondary school accommodation; and given facilities for poor parents to send their children to the training colleges. Every one of these proposals, therefore, is designed to economise at the expense of the working class.

Another proposed "economy" is that "expenditure on further education can be reduced in classes which are not part of a considered scheme of industrial or professional training."

In other words, unless this further education is merely to make obedient industrial machines of our boys and girls, it must be denied to those who cannot afford to pay for it in the ordinary commercial way.

On the school medical service the Economy Report says: "We consider that the cost of the present service is too high."

The Economy Committee summarised their recommendations on education by saying: "In our opinion the recommendations should allow of a minimum reduction of £5,000,000 and as much as £1,000,000 if all the recommendations are fully accepted."

Old-Age Pensions.

Then came under consideration the Old-Age and Blind Persons' Pensions (Non-contributory). This, of course, is the pension granted to blind people and to persons over seventy years of age who have not been normally insured under the Health Insurance Act.

"If these were reduced by 2s. a week," say the Economy Committee, "a saving of approximately £3,000,000 a year to the Exchequer would result. . . . Furthermore, consideration had to be given to the possible effect that any such reduction might have upon the pensioners in causing them to seek Poor-Law relief in substitution. . . . It is evident, therefore, that a considerable number of pensioners are living on the border line, and that any reduction would have a cause them to seek this source of relief (that is, Poor-Law), in which event the estimate would have to be considerably adjusted."

The Economy Committee very kindly wound up this section by saying: "We feel that if any reduction in the pension rate has to be made, it should only be as part of a general and wider scheme of sacrifice all round."

Widows and Orphans.

Regarding the Widows', Orphans', and Old-Age Pensions (Contributory), the Report states: "There can be no doubt that, if any effective economy is to be made, it must be along the lines of reduced pensions" (rather than increased contributions).

"If the widows' pensions were reduced by 2s. a week (i.e., from 10s. to 8s.) and the children's allowances left unaltered, a saving in the pensions account of approximately £2,500,000 would result. This would involve some small savings to the Exchequer. Without, therefore, a substantial reduction in the rates of pension being made, it is evident that no large saving would accrue to the Exchequer."

This section of the Report concludes with the remark: "We cannot too strongly urge on the Government the necessity of refraining from such legislation as it is likely to involve the country in fresh financial obligations."

In other words, whilst we dare not recommend reductions in pensions unless they are large reductions, we do recommend that on no possible consideration must there be an increase of pensions.

Road Fund to be Abolished.

The Ministry of Transport and the Department of Overseas Trade are recommending for extinction, and the Road Fund is to go, the maximum of expenditure on roads and transport to be reduced by one-third. Grants to Local Authorities under the Local Government Act, 1929, are marked down for substantial cuts.

The Report also recommends that the fighting services should be encouraged to effect savings, and that in view of this recommendation on the vital matter of what is to happen to the dockyard workers and their families!

An Attempt to Stop Publication.

Sir Germaine Rentoul explains that it was not possible for the various sub-committees to confer together or arrive at joint conclusions, and that it was not practicable to submit the report to the main committee for endorsement. But this explanation did not appease the committee, who, and the Sheriffess of the Report, was rushed into print and the drastic nature of the "economies" was made public. Having failed to prevent publication, a number of them hastened to disclaim responsibility for the Report.

The fact remains that the recommendations in the Report were drawn up by sub-committees composed almost entirely of Tory M.P.s who were anxious to press them on the Government.

These Tory "economisers" are frightened by the result of their zeal for their constituencies and defend such a Report. Though willing to wound, they are afraid of the bag.

The Report is a public document, which can be bought for a shilling. It has been presented to the Chancellor of the Exchequer for his consideration, and it remains to be seen how far he will go in the direction indicated in this Tory rank-and-file attempt to cripple the life of the nation by their "economies" in the aspects of Housing, Education, and other essential services.

Sheffield Members of the Committee.

The Report says that "the following members of Parliament served on one or other of the above committees and took an active part in our investigations." Amongst the names given are two Sheffield members—Mr. W. W. Boulton (representing the Central Division) and Mr. J. Cursey (representing the Hillsborough Division).

THE RT. HON. A. V.

ALEXANDER

will address PUBLIC MEETINGS,
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 9th.

Wisewood Council School, Longley Council School,
Bun Lane, 7-30 p.m.,
Chairman: Mr. A. WALLIS. Mr. H. G. McNEEL will J.P.

ALL ELECTORS CORDIALLY INVITED.

SWAPPING THE HORSES.

THE CITY COUNCIL MEETING ON
NOVEMBER 9th.

NOVEMBER 9th is an important day in all the large towns and cities of the kingdom. On that day Mayors and Lord Mayors retire from a year's festivity and ceremonial attendance at functions to the quiet of almost a private life. The quiet of almost a private life. The quiet of almost a private life. The quiet of almost a private life. The quiet of almost a private life.

suppose they are waiting to see which way the cat will jump. If they can shelve it indefinitely, they will; if at volume of protest and opposition is all threatening they will accept it, but with minor alterations to details, just to show how efficient they are! The rasicals! Councillor Minshall worked hard and long at the scheme and the Progressive did their level best to scotch it before they got a majority.

Water.
Through no fault whatever of the Labour Council in its years of office, but for certain reasons well enough known to have happened before 1926, very expensive repairs are required to the Ewden reservoir.

Anyway, the Water "Rate" is to be increased. Yet it should be clearly stated that it is not a rate, but a "charge," and the following proposals embodied in the minutes of the City Council will show how much better it is to buy through Rates than by special charges.

The proposed new charges are:—

For a House with a Rateable Value (or Net Annual Value of).	Amount of Rate.
£ 8 0 0	£ 8 0 0
7 0 0	2 17 0
30 0 0	4 11 0
50 0 0	6 2 0
100 0 0	9 0 0

New let us say at once that this hits the poor classes of the community very badly. If Water were charged in the General Rate, the Water "Rate" would come to an end, and the General Rate would go up. But mark how it would go up; if a man in a £100 house paid 19, then a Man Would pay instead of in a £ s. d. £ s. d.

Clearly, if a man in a £100 house pays £9, a man who occupies a £50 house would, under the normal rating system, be asked for £4, 10s.—and he is going to be asked for 19 2s.

And then there are people who can't see that to buy through the rates is a better way than having separate and individual charges!

As a matter of fact, it is time we went more on rates—which help to even out to some extent the bad distribution of purchasing p-wer.

SHEFFIELD AND ECCLESALL SOCIETY'S QUARTER'S FIGURES.

MAINTAINING an average of over one hundred new members per week, the Sheffield and Ecclesall Co-operative Society Limited reports a satisfactory capital increase for the historic weeks ended October 29th, 1932. The actual number of members admitted for the period is 1,499, and results in a membership of 48,115.

Sales for the quarter amounted to £372,015, producing an annual business figure of £1,081,553. Members' share capital has increased by £17,185 since the beginning of the quarter, and now amounts to £554,355, while £55,375 stands to the credit of £1,052 deposits in the penny bank.

The Society's Death Benefit Scheme has met 151 claims during the period, with payments amounting to £287, the total amount now paid is close on £45,000.

Sales of pasteurised milk for the quarter total 218,295 gallons, and show an increase of 28,129 gallons on the figure of a year ago, the present weekly output being 149,992 pint bottles.

More than £50,000 was recently repaid to 12,080 members of the society's great 3rd Thrift Club. The quarterly meeting will be held in the Cemetery-road Vestry Hall on Tuesday, December 6th, at 7.30 p.m.



3 Special Attractions!

at Th: Ar-ads.

BETTER THAN EVER,

will be your verdict after a visit to The Arcade, for there's something for everyone. Jolly times for the Barges, and for grown-ups, too, in **TOPSY TURVY LAND**, and endless pleasure in gift choosing in the Drapery Department's various sections.

'Topsy Turvy' Land

is a feast of laughs and thrills for the children. Father Christmas himself will hand to every child a lovely prizing gift.

Children's Gift Tickets, 6d. each. Adults, Free.

AN INNOVATION. Even the adults have not been forgotten, for we have set aside a portion of the best floor for the display of the very latest devices to entertain the grown-ups, and intending home and business should pay a visit. **EVERYTHING TO AMUSE YOUR HOUSE PARTY.**

PRESENTS galore! await your selection in an enchanting display, yet you will find them all most inexpensively priced. We have turned our Military Section into a wonderful Stationery Store with a host of cards and calendars.

Pay a visit—you'll be delighted!

TOYTOWN (Admission Free)

is filled with the most adorable playthings ever devised.

COME & SEE

A splendid assortment of Slippers

SLIPPERS

Make Ideal Gifts

THEY ARE COSY, DURABLE, INEXPENSIVE, AND MOST ACCEPTABLE.

We have a really delightful range of new and attractive styles, while the price is so reasonable.

3/11 PER PAIR.



GENTS' LEATHER SLIPPERS—Good quality—Made up of good break toe, cap toe material—both open and button. Also stocked in good quality velvet or carpet.

1/11 PER PAIR.



GENTS' FELT SLIPPERS—Good break toe, cap toe. Leather soles. Size 6 1/2, 7 1/2, 8 1/2, 9 1/2. Make quality in stock at 2/6 per pair.

2/6 PER PAIR.



LADIES' FELT COSY SLIPPERS, for bedroom wear. Soft leather soles. In black, blue, red, green, and tan.

3/3 PER PAIR.



LADIES' MOCCASIN SLIPPERS, with real fur linings. Made up of a luxurious material. In black, blue, red, green, and tan.

CHILDREN'S GIFT SLIPPERS—In various designs and colors. These good quality are made of soft material. Size 4 1/2, 5 1/2, 6 1/2, 7 1/2, 8 1/2, 9 1/2. Price 2/6 per pair.

SEE THEM IN OUR WINDOWS AT THE ARCADE ECCLESALL RD.



DIVIDEND PAID half-yearly 1/10 IN THE £

ECONOMICS FOR THE CONSUMER.

II.—FOREIGN TRADE.

THE one essential reason for foreign trade—which means selling to and buying from other countries, including the Colonies—is THAT WE MAY BE ABLE TO GET WHAT WE WANT. OTHERWISE HAVE TO GO WITHOUT.

For example, not a solitary orange can be grown in this country; we must therefore have none except that we can get them from abroad. Apples have a short season in England, and for most of the year we should be without them except that we "import" large quantities from South Africa and Australia, where they are available at times of the year when English apples are not. And as a final example, the best raw material of our food supply—wheat—cannot be grown in sufficient quantity in England to meet our needs. All these kinds of shortage are summed up in the phrase printed in capitals above—we do our foreign trade simply to get these necessities.

This leads—or will lead eventually—to the clear conclusion that things should generally be produced where it is easiest to produce them. To take wheat alone, it is obvious that in an intelligent world what would be grown on the great stretches of level prairie land like the "wheat-belt" in Russia, the "prairie" in the States and Canada, and the plains of Argentina and the Argentine. There are no bledges or walls round every few acres of ground, no habits in farming and land-renting which restrict the working of land to a few hundred acres at a time, no "up-hill and down dale," with the result that tractors can be used and the work of ploughing, sowing, and reaping is done with the best mechanical appliances on mass-productions methods.

Reasons.

At present, however, that simple principle cannot be put into effective practice, national trade rivalries prevent it. Still, it should be borne in mind as a desirable thing by all who have any "say" in what laws shall be made, and how industry shall be carried on.

In a world which even now has got as far as allowing not expecting, say, the steamer of any one nationality to rush to the aid of any vessel belonging to any other nation when a wireless call for aid is sent out, it is not to be smiled to suggest that in foreign trade, nevertheless, exists also FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROVIDING PEOPLE ABROAD WITH GOODS AND SERVICES THEY COULD NOT OTHERWISE GET. We do not give such goods away, we exchange them through the ordinary processes of foreign trade. In fact, all foreign trade is simply the exchange of goods and services which we can produce in abundance for those of which we are short.

Summary.

Summarizing what has been said above, we may say that THE SOLE REASONS FOR FOREIGN TRADE ARE, THAT WE MAY GET WHAT WE SHOULD—

1. OTHERWISE GO WITHOUT ALTOGETHER (like oranges), or
2. GO SHORT THROUGHOUT THE YEAR (like bread), or
3. GO WITHOUT THROUGH A LARGE PART OF THE YEAR (like apples), and
4. THAT WE MAY HELP OTHERS BY PROVIDING THEM WITH GOODS OF WHICH WE HAVE, OR CAN MAKE, A SURPLUS—like steel and coal and cotton goods.

Those are the fundamentals—the real essentials. None of all interchange of trade excepts. Now we can see why one country and all others want "balance." That is to say, the agreed values of incoming and outgoing goods and services in total, going goods and services never actually do not agree. The balance is struck by a balancing payment

in gold. Yet, as explained in the first article, gold itself is but one of the items called "goods," and it is the one and only item in the way of "goods" which each country will accept in settlement of the balance.

They may have taxes designed to keep goods out of the country; but they do not put tariffs on gold!

Gold.

However complicated the issues may be, the transferring of agreed values, equal in total, is always at the bottom of foreign trade. Yet just as there are bankrupts amongst tradesmen and trading companies, and a dividend of 10s. or 15s. in the pound is arranged in settlement of all outstanding debts, so our financial system (along with those of other countries also) may compel us as a people to say—"we cannot pay the balance in gold," or in other words, we go "off the gold standard." Our paper money in the shape of bills comes to carry with it a guarantee of being exchangeable for gold.

An entire abolition of these difficulties really solves our problem, except the extremely difficult one of getting the solution in people's heads. Foreign trade is merely the exchange of part of the real national income (or what may become such) for another form of value, which thereby becomes in turn national income. Or in other words, foreign trade merely modifies the kind of national income in part.

Russia and England.

Such exchange of goods, however, is neither direct nor controlled, as in Russia. We have not yet arrived at that stage (though the London Chamber of Commerce is suggesting it). And any importer can here import anything, however unnecessary it may be from the point of view of national well-being. The only thing that prompts him to import is the chance of making a profit! The only sure way of stopping an import is the certainty of making a money loss to a private pocket, or a small group of private pockets.

On the other hand, nothing is allowed to be imported into Russia except what is considered necessary in the public interest of Russia, and her exports are governed in the same way. Whatever may be the crimes of Russia, these arrangements are certainly marks of her wisdom beyond anything that Western Europe can show in trade affairs.

In our case, control through an export and import board would be a great step forward, yet we still leave the whole matter to private individuals seeking self-interest alone. It is for this reason that the whole range of cumbersome tariffs arises; we tinker with a problem that we have caused by allowing "private enterprise" to do what should be done as a piece of national planning.

National Income.

Bearing in mind what was said in the first article, we can now combine that with the present article and give a brief summary in tabular form, set out thus—

- The national income consists of:—
- Goods ready for our personal and domestic consumption (or use)
 - (1) Mined—like coal and gold.
 - (2) Grown—like vegetables.
 - (3) Caught—like fish.
 - (4) Made—clothing, houses, and bread,

to which we may now add:—

- Goods and services, for present or later personal and domestic use, received in exchange for our own goods and services.

Again, leave money out of your ideas altogether; it only hampers your thinking.

The next thing you will want to know is: How do we divide that national income amongst us? To be quite candid, we don't attempt to divide it at all—but that is a matter for the next article.

PRESENTATIONS TO RETIRING SECRETARY.

MR. WILLIAM ROSE, J.P., who has just retired from the position of secretary of the Sheffield and Ecclesall Co-operative Society Limited, after holding that office for forty-four years, was recently the recipient of several tokens of goodwill from members of the committee of management, departmental managers, and staff.

He was the guest of the committee of management at a dinner in the Arcade restaurant on Wednesday evening, November 2nd. His health was proposed by Councillor J. A. Suggden (a member of the committee), to which Mr. Rose suitably replied. Mr. A. Laing, J.P. (president), also responded to the toast of "The Society," proposed by Mr. G. E. Dunbar (manager of the boot department).

During the evening Mr. J. Bagnaley, on behalf of his colleagues on the board, presented Mr. Rose with a camera, and Mr. A. Wainley (fruit department manager) presented a pair of binoculars, the gift of the departmental managers. All present autogenerated a portrait of Mr. Rose, which was then handed to him with apt remarks by Mr. J. Brawley (drapery manager).

Musical items provided by the St. Cecilia Male Quartet were enjoyed by the company.

A party of nearly 100 members of the society's clerical staff, directly under the control of the secretary, gathered in the Arcade Reception Hall on Monday evening, October 30th, to give expressions of their esteem and regard for Mr. Rose.

The chairman (Mr. E. D. James), who has now been appointed secretary in Mr. Rose's stead, spoke of the remarkable changes that had been brought about since the time when Mr. Rose compiled the whole of the clerical staff. The senior members also paid tribute to their "chief."

To recall in practical form their appreciation of his unflinching courtesy and help, Mr. Rose was presented with a fitted dressing-case and shirt case in Morocco leather, and a set of golf cuff links and a rug.

Mr. Rose suitably expressed his thanks, and concluded his remarks by giving a brief itinerary of his forthcoming voyage to the Antipodes.

You can't do without it!

Once you have seen it, you must get it regularly.

Why?

Because it is the cheapest, the best illustrated, the most interesting, the most up-to-date of sources, articles, and poems published.

What?

"THE MINISTERS," which costs sixpence, and beats the magazine at a shilling. Order at your co-operative store, bookshop, or railway bookstall.

LEICESTER "SELF-HELP" BOOT & SHOE MANUFACTURING SOCIETY.

Manufacturers of all kinds of "SELF-HELP" Boots. LADIES' & GIRLS' BOOTS & SHOES.

TRADE UNIONS EMPLOYED. All Workers get Shareholdings. Profits divided into Capital and Customers. Ask us your Share for "SELF-HELP" Brand.

Make your Home Cozy this Winter!

WE have a splendid range of FLOOR COVERINGS at new reduced prices.

HEAVY QUALITY, ALL BRITISH AXMINSTER CARPET SQUARES
3 x 2½ yds. from 63/- to 6 gns.
3 x 3½ " " 85/- to 10 "

AXMINSTER STAIR CARPET
8 ins. wide - 3/11 & 4/11 yd.
23 ins. " " 4/11, 6/6, 7/6 "

INLAID LINO
2/11, 3/6, 4/6, 5/- sq. yd.
HEAVY CORK LINO
2/6 per sq. yard.

ALL LINO FITTED FREE.

SCOTCH FLOORCLOTH
1/3, 1/9, 1/11 sq. yard.
BUY NOW—the prices are right

RADIO

We will gladly demonstrate any of the following sets in your home.
PHILCO, PHILIPS, EKCO, ULTRA, PVE ZETAVOX, G.E.S., GOSFOR, &c.
FOR CASH OR EASY TERMS.



MEN'S AND YOUTHS' HIGH GRADE FOOTWEAR.

THE BLANDFORD BRAND.

STYLES AND SUBSTANCE TO MEET ALL REQUIREMENTS.
EVERY PAIR GUARANTEED



For Comfort and Reliability
Manufactured by the Midland Boot Manufacturers Limited, Wollaton, Notts.

"OUR CIRCLE"

MONTHLY - ONE PENNY
A Clean and Popular Magazine for Young Folks. Full of Stories, Pictures, & Competitions
Published by the National Co-operative Publishing Society, 21, Lang St. Leeds, West-riding.

MEAN "CONCESSIONS" ON MEANS TEST.

WHY LABOUR OPPOSED THE NEW BILL.

The Labour Party in the House of Commons put up a strenuous opposition to the new Means Test Bill. But the Party's opposition to this measure has been deliberately misrepresented in the Tory Press as opposition to improved conditions for the unemployed.

This misrepresentation is an attempt to conceal the fact that, while the country as a whole, the effect of the Bill will be to make the conditions of many unemployed applicants for transitional payments worse instead of better.

The main provision of the Bill is that workmen's Compensation payments, are to be treated as if they were reduced by one-half when assessing the means of applicants; all savings and investments are to be treated as capital assets, and taken into account in, so far as their value does not exceed £25, but not exceeding £500, if exceeding £25, but not exceeding £500, if exceeding £25; in taking into account the value in any person of any interest in the dwelling-house in which he resides, any sum which might be obtained by any sum by selling, or by borrowing upon the security of, that interest shall be disregarded.

What the "Concessions" Mean.

The Labour Party moved the rejection of the Bill on the ground that it "fails to abolish the Means Test and does not remove the system from all association with the Poor-Laws." Mr. Arthur Greenwood, Mr. David Greenfield, and other Labour speakers, effectively exposed the meanness of the Government's alleged "concessions." The dealing with the 50 per cent. allowance for workmen or disabled pensioners, Mr. Greenwood pointed out that the law compelled

Public Assistance Committees to ignore the first 75, 60, of National Health Insurance Benefit.

But the unemployed ex-serviceman with a 20 per cent. disability receiving 8s. a week, will have only 4s. remitted.

Mr. Greenwood urged that the whole of such pensions should be disregarded if they are granted in order to bring disabled ex-servicemen up to the normal in the industrial field—a view which was endorsed by several Tory speakers.

The "concession" which regards every £25 of savings as producing one income of one shilling a week means that the Government consider 95 per cent as an average rate of interest on workers' savings!

Family Income Scandal Unthought.

The Bill does not touch the great mass of injustice which has aroused the indignation of the public.

It does not modify the cruel hardships imposed by the application of the principle that the earnings coming into the home of the unemployed person must be regarded as part of the family income.

In many areas enlightened Public Assistance Committees are administering the Means Test more generously than the new Bill allows. The Government has taken the practice of the less generous authorities as a standard to be enforced throughout the country. In some areas the Bill will effect an improvement, but in others it will have the effect that instead of giving the unemployed an additional million pounds a year, the Government will actually save money on the Bill.

THE LEAST WE OUGHT TO KNOW.

"An Outline for Boys and Girls and Their Parents"; Gallanec, 8s. 6d.

CHRISTMAS is not far ahead! If you are hard up for an idea as to what to buy in the way of a present for your son (or daughter), say ten upwards—or (more important still) for yourself— you cannot improve upon this volume. It has been reviewed in all kinds of papers, and most of the reviewers seemed to have missed the point.

They have praised parts of it, and been rather caustic about other parts. That, of course, is purely a conventional attitude towards a new thing; and this book is most emphatically a new idea: the idea that people hardly need a simple general treatise on the things that matter, a sort of secular bible. It needs to be simply written, it needs to be fearless, and all these qualities have been commended, and there is nothing nearly equal to this book for its particular purpose.

Christmas Presents.

We know the young son of the household who cannot get near his new engine on Christmas Day because father is playing with it. Or mother—may prophesit little Tommy's Christmas present if it happens to be "An Outline for Boys and Girls and Their Parents."

First come some chapters on Science. How the body really works, how the mind works, love and why "things" change, and our relationship to all the stars of the sky are set down in such form as to be readable by anybody.

Following up this there are a number of chapters on Civilisation, a short outline of general history, the growth of the family, and of other social groupings, nationalism and internationalism, civics, economics, and current problems.

We are all for hearing all sides, but a sensible statement of civics, of economics, and of current problems does SOMETIMES wait putting in such a way that it is right up to date, and ACCORDING TO THE MOST PROGRESSIVE IDEAS. Co-operators will naturally appreciate the large and human attitude expressed in the treatment given to these subjects. An example—

Rich and Poor.

"At present, owing to the way money works, some people inherit the power of setting others to work for them. Some people gain this power by luck, or clever trading on other people's wants. The result is that, while many lead shockingly cramped lives, others have far more power and pleasure than is good for them. . . . All this is fantastically wrong and harmful to the world. The ideal is that everyone should have all the wealth that he can use for his own and the world's good, but that no one should waste anything in undertakings which are of no real benefit to the whole."

There you have (in the chapter on Problems and Solutions) the simple economic basis of the Co-operative Commonwealth!

Art and the People.

The various aspects of art—which we may refer to here as beauty and joy—are dealt with in a helpful way, —as the Dance, and the Drama, Dancing and the Drama, Drawing and Architecture, and the Architecture, and the Architecture. The experiences are sadly lacking from the experiences of the bulk of people—mainly because they have become remote and "high—they have been brought them down to earth." This book brings them down to earth for us, and helps to show how the life of the people as a whole is to be improved, and their expressions of their joy, and of their expressions of their joy.

The softness of competitive industry has all but killed art—though in these later years a new revolution in the mind has burst forth which expresses itself in play-readings and dancing and the drama. It is only a beginning, however, and the growth of our economic and the conquest that awaits the awakening of the masses will liberate large stores of fresh energy. No more important service, towards that essential education we have called "the awakening," can we perform than the writing, publication, and the issue of this book for the young, people and their fathers and mothers.

They all read it!

UNEMPLOYMENT AND THE POOR RATE.

A BURDEN THAT IS NOT EQUITABLY BORNE.

The Labour Party has always urged that the burden of unemployment relief should be borne by the nation as a whole. Under the present system the citizen in the present hit hardest by unemployment have to bear the heaviest part of the burden. A striking illustration of this fact was provided in a reply to a question in the House of Commons on October 31st, by Mr. Will Thorne, the Labour M.P. for Plaistow. Mr. Thorne asked the Minister of Health to state the rate in the pound for Poor-Law purposes for the years 1930-31 and 1931-32 at East and West Ham, Lincoln, Sheffield, St. Helens, Norwich, Bournemouth, Blackpool, and Southampton. The following figures were given in reply—

	1930-31.	1931-32.
	s. d. s. d.	s. d. s. d.
East Ham.....	4 10 1	5 1 3
West Ham.....	7 3 1	8 1 8
Lincoln.....	5 0 5	5 6 0
Sheffield.....	4 11 8	6 2 4
St. Helens.....	4 11 6	5 3 0
Norwich.....	5 8 7	6 3 3
Bournemouth ..	0 11 4	0 9 9
Blackpool.....	0 6 4	0 5 9
Southport.....	0 11 0	1 0 0

It will be seen that in all the industrial areas where unemployment is acute the Poor Rate is very high, and has increased during the past year, while in such places as Bournemouth and Blackpool, where there is practically no unemployment, the Poor Rate is less than a shilling in the pound. Such a state of affairs is an overwhelming argument for regarding unemployment relief as a national concern, thus ensuring that every citizen bears a fair share of the burden according to ability to pay.

THINGS THAT CONCERN US ALL.


IF YOU DESIGNED AN IDEAL WORLD

would you see that the factories produced goods that were really pure and wholesome, that the workers enjoyed decent conditions, that the making and distributing of the needs of life were controlled by the people? In your ideal system would the people receive the benefits of their own honest labour and honest spending?

This is already happening in the co-operative movement. Co-operators own and control their own distributive societies, which in turn own and control the Co-operative Wholesale Society. This "C.W.S." has over a hundred factories, and all the benefits of its vast activities go back to the retail co-operative societies and their members—five million co-operative men and women.

Help this idealistic and practical movement to still greater success.

Make sure you buy C.W.S. Goods at your Co-operative Stores.



The C.W.S. supplies the needs of life to Co-operative Societies for their members

December's Wintry Blasts Are Here!

BE CLAD IN COSY
BEAVER
INTEGRITY
UNDERWEAR

*Integrity Hosiery Make
an Ideal Christmas Gift.*

Made by the Wigan Co-operative Hosiery Ltd., Padock Street, Wigan.

CO-OPERATIVE PARTY NOTES.

Attercliffe.

First Attercliffe Co-operative Party members have played a useful part in the recent municipal elections, and have the pleasure of recording yet another complete victory in the division by securing the election of the whole of the Co-operative and Labour municipal candidates.

At the 13th, Mr. H. Slack gave an interesting address on the proposals re power and fuel in the Co-operative Party's new programme. Mr. Slack pointed out that these vital and essential services are conditioned to a large extent the well-being of the community. The Party's advocacy of a National Power Board to control these industries nationally, and on a non-profit making basis in the interests of the community, received hearty approval. An important point made by Mr. Slack was that the co-operation of the man-in-the-street and the employee in these particular industries would be secured in the proposals outlined.

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, December 14th, when election of officers will take place. All co-operators are cordially invited to the meetings, which are held in the Attercliffe Co-operative Institute, Attercliffe Common, at 7.30 p.m.

Brightside.

The new secretary (Mr. H. Wilkinson) has taken up the work of organising the co-operative political opinion in the division with enthusiasm. There has been a good increase of members, and the Party is contemplating a divisional social and dance, to be held in the Burngrave Vestry Hall in the near future. The members have been very active during the recent elections, and have pleasure in reporting that all three candidates were successful, and that two out of the three received the sixth highest number of votes cast for any candidate in the city.

Burngrave.

The Burngrave Women's Section members have been actively engaged in election work, and have now renewed their meetings, which are held every Wednesday in the Burngrave Vestry Hall, at 7.30 p.m. November 2nd, Mrs. Vickers was the speaker on "Reminders: 'Leat We Forget'." 9th, Mrs. Beal spoke on "Women of the Future"; and on the 16th, Mr. Pearson took for his subject, "No More War." The monthly social was held on the 23rd. Secretary: Mrs. Yelland, 25, Catherine-road.

Hillsborough.

The Hillsborough Co-operative Party is finding it a problem to accommodate the number who attend the weekly

meetings held in the guild-room on Thursday evenings. On November 3rd, Mr. Basil Rawson gave a lantern lecture on "New Race to Build New World"; the room was packed. On the 10th, the social in the large Institute was a great success, the Women's Section having organised a concert party which gave several songs and dance scenes to the delight of the large audience. Further developments are projected in this connection for the formation of a permanent concert party of puerette troupe. On the 17th, Mr. T. E. Drabble was the speaker; 24th, the Brightside and Carbrook play-readers were responsible for the programme.

Programme for December: 1st, Alderman T. H. Watkins, J.P., will be the speaker, 8th, social in the large Institute. 15th, the B. and C. educational committee will give a cinema lecture illustrating co-operative productions. 22nd, open meeting for discussion, 29th, the annual tea, social, and dance will be held in the large institute jointly with the Women's Section. Tickets are being sold very rapidly, and early application is essential.

The Women's Section meetings are already too large to be accommodated in the guild-room, and are now held in the large Institute every Monday afternoon at 2.45. November 7th, a successful social was held. On the 14th, W. H. Blackburn (secretary of the Sheffield branch of the Discharged Prisoners' Aid Association) spoke, taking for his subject, "I was Sick and in Prison." 21st, Mr. R. A. Bradbury spoke on "The Public Library." 28th, Mrs. McNair, O.B.E. (of the Scottish Co-operative Party, and a member of the national executive), addressed a large audience.

Programme for December: 5th, an American tea, 12th, an address by Mrs. L. Vickers, 19th, waist drive, proceeds towards the children's street fund. The Section has been actively engaged in the recent municipal elections, the two secretaries—Mrs. Wood and Mr. Bottom—taking responsibility for the organisation. A splendid band of workers rallied round the two officials, and the achievement in both Overton and Hillsborough was due in no small measure to the devoted service of the members, most particularly the women.

Neepsend.

The Neepsend Co-operative Party is still holding crowded meetings in the Institute every month. On October 19th, before the election campaign began, Mr. Lee's party gave an excellent concert.

On November 9th the meeting room was packed, many of the members having to stand whilst Councillor Longden gave an interesting City Council report. Councillor Stokes, Councillor (Mrs.) Speight, and Mr. Bancroft were also present, all of whom expressed their thanks to the workers for their recent achievement. A resolution was also carried congratulating the Hillsborough, Overton, and Walkley wards on their election results.

Proved by Merit

To be Worthy of the Name.

"THE DEAL"

- Ladies' Tailor-made Costumes.
- Gentlemen's High-class Bespoke Tailoring.
- Boys' Hats and Suits.
- Caps.

Can be obtained at your Stores.

The Ideal Clothiers Limited
Works Wellingborough

The Women's Section have demonstrated once again that they do not represent a mere social organisation but have played a very active part in securing the return of Councillor Stokes to the City Council. Councillor Stokes secured the largest number of votes of any candidate in the city. Whilst there was a splendid body of men workers, some of the credit for this result is undoubtedly due to the splendid work of the Women's Section.

On November 7th, a "surprise afternoon" was arranged, 14th, Councillor (Mrs.) Speight gave City Council report. 23rd, Mr. Sands spoke on "Natural History"; and on the 28th, Mrs. Watson (secretary) spoke on "Local Government."

Meetings are held in the Institute every Monday at 2.30 p.m. The Section has organised its second hyacinth competition. Date of exhibition and judging, March 6th, 1933.

Longley.

The Longley and Norwood Section, which holds weekly meetings, has had excellently attended gatherings during November. The members' social, advertised as a victory social (and rightly so) having regard to the splendid result achieved in the Neepsend Ward of which this section forms a part), was held on November 2nd. Councillor Stokes was present, and thanked the members for their fine efforts in helping to secure his splendid majority. 9th, Mr. J. H. Pearce addressed the members. 15th, Councillor H. Morris spoke on "The Jewish Faith." 23rd and 30th, Mr. A. E. Butcher spoke on "Is Money Power?" and "A Prison Experience" respectively. 27th, Mr. J. H. Bingham will speak on "Planning." 14th, monthly City Council report by Councillor (Mrs.) Speight. 21st, play-reading; and on the 28th, the members' Christmas social.

The Women's Section meets on Wednesday afternoons in the Institute at 2.45 p.m. Secretary: Mrs. A. Allen, 103, Everingham-road.

Sheffield and Ecclesall.

The Sheffield and Ecclesall Section recently discussed the "Measa Test" in education at a recent meeting, and forwarded the following resolution to the Prime Minister, the Minister of Education, and the local education committee:

This organisation records its most emphatic protest against the proposal to Government to cause the fees in our secondary schools to be raised, and the provision of 'free places' to be made subject to a mean 'Measa Test.' The equivalent of this proposal is to increase the financial burden borne by working-class parents sending their children to secondary schools, and in many cases will result in the exclusion from these schools of children, who on account of their educational fitness, would otherwise attend them.

We consider this to be a most retrograde step, and one which is in direct conflict with the true national economy, the results of secondary education in Sheffield is such as to call for an extension of the benefits rather than an imposition of restrictive regulations.

Replies have been received from the Prime Minister and the local authority. At the same meeting, Mrs. G. W. Evison gave an address on "Democracy and Industry." There was a good number of members present, and questions and discussion showed keen interest in the subject.

THE LITTLE THEATRE.

The Little Theatre, Shipton-street, is to present "King Lear," Thursday, December 8th, to Saturday, December 10th, commencing 7.30 p.m. each evening. "King Lear" has been described as "Shakespeare's greatest work, the best of his plays, and most tragically in which he exhibits most fully his multitudinous powers." Prices of admission, 6d. (limited number of tickets), 1s. 3d., and 1s. 3d.

WORLD CHAOS.

The world is undoubtedly in a mess, and may very probably not be righted except by crises and dictatorships, reorganisations, and startlingly progressive actions such as would at present shock most people.

G. D. H. Cole has written a book intended for plain men, working men, puzzled men; and their equally plain, working and credit wives. "The Intelligent Man's GUIDE THROUGH WORLD CHAOS" (Gollancz, 5s.). Eleven pages for a penny, bound, well printed, and not difficult to read. The only fault it has is that there is too much of it.

How to Read It.

There are thirteen chapters containing, in all, sixty-two sections. You can't, you ought not to try to, read this book as you would, say, "The Red House Mystery." Space it out, and let your mind "chew over" what you have read, which would not be more than a chapter a week. That means that you will read it. You will be a better citizen and voter, a better man, and probably a better husband at the end of that time! If you vote without knowledge, or form your views on a change of the affairs of life, you are, of course, letting your wife down—so you had better frame up to be a better husband! If you who happen to read this have the good fortune to be a wage-slave, then the same remarks apply to you, when you make the necessary changes of gender in the remarks!

The Challenge of Russia.

This is the title of Chapter XI. It is a good title, because Russia is a challenge, and we must answer it. It will either force capitalism on Russia or will force Communism on the rest of the world. Do not misunderstand it: it does not mean that she will set out with armies to govern the world. It means that the essential superiority, even in a competitive world, of a properly organised people using the very latest equipment and design, and full of zeal for achievement, and an achievement shared with all possible justice amongst the whole of her people, is something that not all the rest of the world combined can long stand up against.

The Detective Story.

Mr. Cole's detective stories in his spare time, and they are well worth reading when you want a thrill. But he was never so successful, so thorough, in his search for the real culprit, and in the unravelling of the mystery, as in this masterpiece where he sets out to find the "villain" who caused the chaos, and shows the way out into an ordered society. The book is so thoroughly well arranged that those who want to read special sections of it can do so. For instance, the thirty-seven pages on the "Challenge of Russia" referred to above, on "Money, Credit and Capital" (including Gold Standard), excellently done in the 81 pages of Chapter VI. Every chapter can be read as a separate book.

What About a Summary.

There is one point to which Mr. Cole's attention should be drawn: 867 pages is a tremendous amount, and the average man has no experience in and often no knowledge of a method of making suitable notes as a condensation of a book. If he could, by arrangement to have written a readable summary, arranged under similar chapter headings, without tables, and occupying 20-30 pages, he would help a good many upon his books by providing essentials for recalling the facts and arguments to the mind. This is indeed a new venture, but so is the Russian experiment, and so is Mr. Cole's book. The value of the writer's knowledge, the high value of such condensations, both to himself over many long years and to those to whom he has been privileged to explain and help in writing up of a book, that summary, or in a summary, this book is a masterpiece and very nearly a god-send. It is, in actual fact, thirteen books bound up as one, and can be strongly recommended to readers, and users, lawyers and bishops, and everybody else. B.

FOOTWEAR FOR GENTS AND BOYS.

Holyoake Brand

Is the MOST RELIABLE

TRADE UNION STAMP No. 1

can be purchased from any Co-operative Boot Department in Sheffield.

Manufactured only by THE KETTERING CO-OPERATIVE BOOT SOCIETY, HAYLOCK WORKS, KETTERING

LABOUR PEERS' CHALLENGE TO HOUSE OF LORDS.

NO RIGHT TO OVERRIDE COMMONS' DECISION.

In the House of Lords on November 17th, during the debate on the Second Reading of the Ottawa Agreements Bill, Lord Dawson, Leader of the Opposition, announced that in future the Labour Party in the Lords would abstain from voting against the Second Reading of Government measures, but up from the House of Commons, sent would reserve the right to move amendments to bills or motions.

"We in opposition," he said, "do not consider that your Lordships' House, with its inadequate constitution, should with its inadequate measures introduced by a Government which has the support of a majority in the House of Commons of elected representatives of the people."

"When the Labour Government was in office we expressed very strongly this view," because an unrepresentative House majority in your Lordships' House could and did reject measures passed by a representative majority in the House of Commons."

Lord Penzance added that a vote against the Bill was a vote in favour of the principle of the House of Lords had the right to reject a Bill passed by a majority in the House of Commons. The Labour Party denied that right.

A TORY Plan to Prevent Socialist Legislation.

Meanwhile, an unofficial committee of Tory members of both Houses has put forward a scheme for the "reform" of the House of Lords for the purpose of preventing the measures of future Socialist Governments from becoming law. The scheme proposes that when the Lords veto any Bill (other than a money Bill) by an absolute majority such Bill shall not be submitted again by the Commons until after the next election. At present, under the Parliament Act, if the Commons pass any Bill three times it must be submitted for the Royal Assent notwithstanding the opposition of the House of Lords.

A money Bill is any Bill cert'f'd as such by the Speaker of the House of Commons, and the Lords cannot hold up such a Bill for longer than a month. The Tory "reform" plan seeks to define a money Bill as a Bill which has no substantial purpose other than the raising of revenue and the authorisation of loans, or an appropriation Bill, and proposes that a money Bill shall be certified by the Speaker in accordance with the decision of a joint committee of both Houses."

A "Democratic" House of Lords.

Having thus made the country safe for plutocracy, the "reform" plan would make the House of Lords "more parties" by reducing the number of members from 295 to about 350, made up as follows: 75 of the blood royal; 150 hereditary peers elected by proportional representation from their own party; 250 "outside" peers elected by proportional representation by members of county and borough councils; three archbishops; three bishops; and the Lords of Appeal in Ordinary. The hereditary and "outside" peers would sit for twelve years, a third part retiring at four-yearly periods.

In order to secure "an adequate representation of Labour" in the "reformed" House of Lords, the commoner proposes that the income of 6000 every member be made up to that figure. It is difficult to believe that such a fiscal scheme has been put forward as a serious proposition to the Government but we are assured by the "Daily Telegraph" that those responsible for the scheme "hope to enlist such a body of support for the proposals as to ensure that the Government will be induced to take up the matter before this Parliament is much older. The impotence of the proposals strengthen the Labour Party's case for the abolition of the House of Lords. That is the only measure of "reform" which will be acceptable to a majority of the people."

(Continued from column 3.)

society's shops' inspector for nearly five years, has been appointed grocery manager and buyer, with control of forty grocery shops.

He started his career in the co-operative movement in the employment of the Cambridge Co-operative Society, and twenty years ago he took up an appointment with the Birmingham Co-operative Society, which he left in 1923.

Mr. Coe has rendered valuable assistance to the management committee of the Sheffield and Ecclesall Society in connection with the instituting of the grocery and provision classes for junior employees.

APPOINTMENTS.

NEW SECRETARY AND GROCERY MANAGER FOR SHEFFIELD AND ECCLESALL SOCIETY.

The board of the Sheffield and Ecclesall Co-operative Society have appointed Mr. Ernest David James secretary in succession to Mr. William Rose, and Mr. Percy Coe, grocery manager and Mr. John Knowles in succession to Mr. John Knowles.

Mr. William Rose and Mr. John Knowles retired recently, the former



Mr. E. D. JAMES.



Mr. P. COE.

after forty-four years as secretary of the society, and the latter after serving the society for thirteen years.

Mr. James, who has been assistant secretary for ten years, entered the employment of the society in March, 1928, as a clerk in the office, and continued in the clerical department until November, 1929, when he became assistant secretary.

Throughout that time he has served the interest of the society in a quiet but an effective manner, and has been ever ready to give a helpful, guiding hand to any project undertaken for the benefit of the members. His appointment is a popular one.

Mr. Percy Coe, who has been the (Continued at foot of previous column.)

CHRISTMAS, 1932.

This season of Christmas is upon us again! Thanks to the co-operative movement, many of those people who during the recent months of trial have taken Christmas less barren than might have been the case. In thousands of households the dividend of the last quarter will go to supply the Christmas fare and to fill the kiddie's stockings, which otherwise might have been empty.

The spirit of good fellowship which prevails at Christmas prevails in the co-operative movement, throughout the whole year. It is the ideal of the whole year which is for ever operative to alleviate the lot of the whole people by bringing economic liberty to all. When co-operators sit down at the Christmas festive board they know that their fare is good and wholesome and that it was not produced under conditions akin to drudgery. If co-operators doubt all their requirements from the board there would be still more people earning fair wages and enjoying decent conditions of labour and life.

How to Make a Better New Year.

The passing year has been a trying one for the consumer, earnings have fallen, social services have been cut, many families have members unemployed, and tariffs, quotas, and other direct and indirect methods of taxation have added to the burdens of the housekeeper.

We wish our readers A MERRY CO-OPERATIVE CHRISTMAS! But we hope that by co-operating still more keenly during the coming year, next Christmas will find the co-operative movement producing more goods, and thereby returning greater amounts to the consumer and employing more British workmen at good wages.

SHEFFIELD "REP.'S" NEW FEATURE.

The last production before Christmas at the Sheffield Repertory Theatre, Townhead-street, will be a Grand Origo programme, opening a two weeks' run on November 29th. This is an entirely new form of entertainment to Sheffield, a mixture of the comic and the macabre, and we are hopeful that it will prove of interest.

Overcoat time



WE ARE NOW DISPLAYING ALL THAT IS NEWEST AND SMARTEST FOR WINTER 1932-1933. EVERY COAT IS WELL CUT, AND MADE IN THE LATEST BELTED OR HALF-BELTED STYLES, AND READY FOR IMMEDIATE WEAR

MEN'S	YOUTH'S
From 27/6	From 21/-
BOYS'	KIDDIES'
From 13/6	From 8/11

BOYS' NAVY GABERDINE - RAINCOATS

All wool interlined throughout with proofed batiste, lined all wood check or art silk.

Sizes 7-8 Sizes 8-12

23/11 26/11

Sheffield ECCLESALL CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY LIMITED

CHEMISTRY ROAD.

You will find here when the COAT you want, and the value is as always - THE BEST.

KIRKBY-IN-ASHFIELD MANUFACTURERS LTD

CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY BY-PRODUCT STORE, EAST KIRKBY, NOTTINGHAM

MAKERS OF ALL KINDS OF PLAIN, RIBBED, AND FANCY HOSIERY, LADIES' AND GENTLEMEN'S UNDERWEAR

Every Co-operator should give these goods a trial. You will give satisfaction. Make orders on the best quality and supplied at Your Own Street.

ASK FOR ASHFIELD BRAND HOSIERY AND UNDERWEAR.

The Sheffield ECCLESALL CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY LIMITED

COAL DEPARTMENT

DIVIDEND 1/10 = £ LAST HALF-YEAR

The Spirit of Christmas

CHRISTMAS CHEER IN TONS OR BAGS

Is best developed in the Genial Warmth of a Coal Fire. We are therefore able to supply at the following reasonable prices:

BEST QUALITY ... 37/- ton	HOUSE COAL 1/9 CWT.	H.H. COBBLES ... 36/- ton
SUPERIOR " ... 34/- "	HOUSE COAL 1/6 "	South YOKES. NUTS 32/- "
No. 2 " ... 32/6 "	HOUSE NUTS 1/6 "	SPECIAL (Half Ton) ... 31/- "

All Delivered Free

SATISFACTION GUARANTEED

Usual Dividend Allowed

ASK FOR DETAILS

November 24th, 1932

MOBILISE FOR THE WAR AGAINST UNEMPLOYMENT.

MR. LANSBURY'S APPEAL FOR GREAT NATIONAL EFFORT.

"I BELIEVE that the world is going steadily to a crash. I believe that this country has the power to prevent that. It must have the enthusiasm and the will and the determination in order to make as big sacrifices in necessary to get this done as were made in the Great War."

On this grave and challenging note Mr. George Lansbury concluded an eloquent speech in the House of Commons on November 4th, in opening the three days' free discussion on unemployment. At the outset of his speech, he made it clear that the Labour Party regarded Socialism as the only remedy for unemployment; but he urged the House to consider every means whereby the present suffering of the people could be alleviated. He added:—

"While we are willing to help every kind of effort to alleviate social misery, we cannot and will not accept charity as a substitute for social justice."

Mr. Lansbury went on to point out that unemployment is a world-wide problem which needs international action in calling the World Economic Conference together, and urged the Government to expedite the calling of the conference and to go to the conference with a definite proposal for the setting up of an international authority to control currency, exchange, credits, the supply of raw material, and to settle the question of the interchange of goods between nations.

A General Staff for Creating Employment.

For dealing with the situation at home, Mr. Lansbury suggested that a "general staff" should be appointed with a Minister specially responsible, not for unemployment, but for employment and trade. "We have a Committee of National Defence," he said, "and I maintain that a committee for the business with a responsible Minister is ever so much more important." Among the immediately practical proposals for absorbing large numbers of the unemployed, Mr. Lansbury mentioned the extension of public works, housing and slum clearance, small holdings, land drainage, the reorganisation of agriculture, the re-establishment of State grants under the Agricultural Land (Utilisation) Act, and the revival of the Trade Facilities Act.

Mr. Lansbury also appealed to the Government to increase the amounts paid to the unemployed and their families; and to con-

sider the question of pensions for aged workers to enable them to retire from industry, and the raising of the school-leaving age for children.

"Is it not a mad world," he said, "when we maintain able-bodied young men out of employment and send aged men and partially disabled men into employment?"

Where the Money Could Come From.

Replying in advance to the inevitable question: Where is the money to come from? Mr. Lansbury said:—

"Yesterday we wanted £300,000,000, and it was over-subscribed in a few hours. Here is our country in economic danger. Why cannot we say to the nation: Give us money, not to squander, not to throw away on useless things, but to cultivate our own land? Why cannot we say: Give us £200,000,000 or £300,000,000, or whatever sum the experts say is necessary. Let us have it at 2 per cent."

"If we can borrow at 2 per cent for conversion, why not for the salvation of our country? . . . When we talk of patriotism, I cannot understand the people who will pour out blood and treasure, as was done in the Great War, and yet boggle at finding the money to reorganise our country."

Mr. Lansbury concluded with the appeal quoted at the head of this summary, and his speech made a deep impression on the House.

"CURRENT TOPICS" AS A "CURRENT COMIC"

THE amusing misreadings of "Current Topics" in the "Sheffield Daily Telegraph" remind us of the new candidate who followed his remarks to the divisional organisation by saying: "These, ladies and gentlemen, are my principles; but they can be changed if any of them do not suit the members of your organisation."

Commenting on the unofficial Conservative candidates in Eccleall and Nether Edge Wards in the recent by-elections, "Current Topics" says: "Whether they prefer to be in Nether Edge and Eccleall they are Progressives when they enter the Town Hall—attend the Progressive group meetings, are elected to Aldermans seats by Progressive votes, and become the Progressive chairs of committees. . . . Why not drop a note which everybody knows is pure fiction? Political 'principles' which a three-ha'penny brass ride suffices to smother are of no use to anyone."

The respective suggestions that candidates with political principles that can be smothered by a three-ha'penny tram ride are no use to anyone either for a "non-political" vote in municipal affairs always results in both Liberals and Tories voting against Labour proposals without regard to the merits of the suggestions under consideration.

In the "Sheffield Daily Telegraph" of November 3rd, "Current Topics" has a paragraph headed "A Public Mandate," in which he deals with the abolition of the Direct Labour department, and states that this "is in obedience to a very definite public mandate."

Where did the mandate come from? When leaving out of account the Communist votes, and assuming that every "Progressive," Conservative, Liberal, and Independent candidate was against Direct Labour, the votes at the recent municipal elections showed:—

For Labour's policy (including Direct Labour)..... 72,518
Against Labour's Policy (including Direct Labour)..... 59,534
(These figures include the votes cast in the by-elections.)

MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS.

CO-OPERATIVE PARTY'S SUCCESS.

INCREASED VOTE. FIVE OUT OF SIX.

THE Sheffield Co-operative Party achieved splendid success in the recent municipal elections.

In Neepsend, our candidate, Councillor F. W. R. Stokes, secured a larger number of votes than any other candidate in the city, namely, 5,377, as against his opponent's 2,603; majority 3,374. In Brightside, Councillor C. T. Richardson secured election with a majority of 3,292; the figures being: Richardson, 4,993; Smith (Progressive), 1,611.

In Darnall, Councillor Dimerberline (the president of the Brightside and Carbrook Society) secured a majority over both his opponents, the figures being:—

DIMERBERLINE, J. (Co-operative Votes and Labour)..... 4,151
VICKERS, Mrs. (Co-operative)..... 2,663
HOWARTH, S. (Communist)..... 190

Co-op. and Labour Majority..... 2,488
In Tinsley, Councillor S. H. Marshall was elected with a majority of 2,875, polling 3,570 votes, against his opponent's poll of 1,615. In Owlerton, Councillor James Gill (a member of the Brightside and Carbrook board of management) obtained a majority of 1,376, reversing a Progressive majority of 306 from the previous year.

In Hillsborough, our candidate (Mrs. E. T. Gowley), although not successful, increased her poll by no less than 700 votes. On the previous occasion she had increased her predecessor's poll by 500, and this time reduced a majority of 2,871 to 1,312.

Mrs. Cowley is to be congratulated on the splendid fight she put up, and the many workers who rallied to her support should be thanked for so rapidly changing the complexion of this ward.

With regard to the Hillsborough Parliamentary Division, which comprises Hillsborough, Owlerton, Walkley, and Neepsend municipal wards, it is interesting to note that a majority of approximately 4,500 was secured for Co-operation and Labour; which augurs well for any Parliamentary election, at which many electorally-minded men and women—would be able to use the franchise they are denied in municipal elections. On this showing there is no doubt that Mr. Alexander's return to Parliament is dependent only upon the opportunity of a contest.

The general position in the city shows an overwhelming vote for Co-operative and Labour policy. There is no doubt that the "Shilling off the Rates" slogan was intended to stampede the electors once more, but the result was an abject failure on the part of the so-called "Progressives" and, but for the intervention of the Communists, not a single Labour seat would have been lost in the city.

FEED THE CHILDREN OF THE UNEMPLOYED.

MISS SUSAN LAWRENCE'S APPEAL TO LOCAL AUTHORITIES.

IN an interview in the "Manchester Guardian" on November 9th, Miss Susan Lawrence urged that Local Authorities should operate the Provision of Meals Act to the fullest extent in order that the children of the unemployed should receive regular meals at school.

"It is the cheapest possible way of guarding against the dangers of malnutrition," she said. "Five good meals a week with a glass of milk would make all the difference the world. There is no way in which so little money could give such good results."

Miss Lawrence pointed out that in a circular on diets in Poor-Law schools, issued last March by the present Minister of Health, the diet he recommended for a growing child would entail a cost of 6s. 6d. per child per week. This was for foodstuffs alone without cost of preparation. Every consideration had been given to cheapness.

"We give the unemployed two shillings a week per child," said Miss Lawrence. "Doctors have exhausted themselves telling us that unless growing children get a sufficiency of protective foods, of which milk is the chief, their growth is stunted. . . ."

How much milk can a child get for two shillings a week, let alone eggs, butter, or green vegetables?

Referring to the "Economist" estimate that the Government has "saved" £20,000,000 as a result of unemployment pay cuts and the Means Test, Miss Lawrence said the public was being exhorted to spend as much as possible this Christmas.

Really Wise Spending.

"The £20,000,000 saved from the unemployed," she said, "would if left to them, have been spent on necessities, food, clothing, fire. I ask any philosopher to reflect whether such spending would not have been wiser than spending on luxuries—whether it is not wiser to give every child a decent meal than to press those who have a little money to shop for the sake of shopping?"

MIGHT HAVE BEEN SAID DIFFERENTLY.

ACTUAL sales now on. Don't go elsewhere to be cheated. * * *

Mr. Brown, farmer, begs to announce that he will make up coats, suits, &c., for ladies, out of their own skins. * * *

Wanted, a boy, to be partly outside and partly behind the counter. * * *

Don't carry your wishes where your backbone ought to be.

LADIES, GIRLS, AND BOYS' FOOTWEAR.

Sperope Brand:

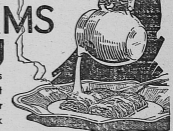
MADE UNDER TRADE UNION CONDITIONS.

STAMP No. 12.

STOCKED BY ALL CO-OPERATIVE BOOT DEPARTMENTS IN SHEFFIELD.

WARM IS YOU

Sustains, nourishes — makes you fit and eager for the day's work



SHREDDED WHEAT

SERVE WITH HOT MILK



The CITY STORES & BRANCHES

for all your Christmas Shopping

BUTCHERY DEPARTMENTS

PRIME FAT STOCK

English Beef and Mutton of the finest quality, and Dairy-Fed Pork from our own farms.

Our Famous Cakes and Pastries

Purest ingredients only, direct from our own bakery.

- Rich, luscious Christmas Cakes in a variety of designs.
- Fancy Pastries and Cakes.
- Chocolate and Cream Sponge Sandwiches.
- Rich Stab Cake—plain, cherry, and fruit.
- Novelty Yule Logs.
- Mince Pies.
- Hand-raised Park Pies.

NO LESS than five tons of our delicious Park Pies were made and sold last year—they are all pork, at the best quality.

PLACE YOUR ORDER!

CHOICEST FRUITS & FRESH VEGETABLES.

Christmas Trees, Holly and Mistletoe and Cut Flowers.

READY-TO-SERVE MEATS.

- Tongue.
- Pressed Beef.
- Ham.
- Potted Beef.
- Polony.

THE DIVIDEND IS AN ADDITIONAL SAVING.

Last Half-Year, 1/8 in the £.



QUALITY has always been the first essential of all foodstuffs at the Brightside and Carbrook Co-operative Society Limited, and in these difficult days they have met the need for general economy by offering pure foods in infinite variety at specially low prices. This year you will find you can practise the wisest economy by buying everything you need for the Festive Table at the B. & C.

PRIME, PLUMP, SELECTED TURKEYS, GEESE, DUCKS, and CHICKENS, and Hares and Rabbits of the highest quality.

You are advised to place your order EARLY at any of the Grocery, Butchery, or Fish Departments.

CHOICE QUALITY PROVISIONS

- Cheese—Finest Cheshire, Canadian, Cheddar, Gorgonzola, Stilton, Kraft, and Dutch, at lowest Market Prices.
- Lactic Cream Cheese, 24, 5d, 8 1/2d each.
- Blue Cap Cheese, 24 oz portions, 7 1/2d each.
- C.I.F.S. Woven Cheese, 14 and 24 portions.
- Butter—Danish, C.W.S., Maple, and Colonial, at Market Prices.
- Bacon and Ham—Our Natural Selection—English, Irish, Danish, at lowest Market Prices.

SEASONABLE COMMODITIES from the Grocery Dept.

- Choice Currants, New Fruit, 5d, 6d, and 7d. per lb.
- Choice Sultanas, 4d, 6d, and 8d. per lb.
- Choice Raisins, 4d, 6d, and 8d. per lb.
- Choice Raisins, Sliced, 1 lb. pils., 6d. and 8d. each.
- Choice California "Sunmaid" Natural Sultanas, 16 oz. pils., 9d. each.
- Choice California (Golden), 8 oz. pils., 6d. each.
- Choice California (Seeded Muscats), 16 oz. pils., 9d. each.
- Long Sugar, 24d. per lb.
- Choice Citron Peel, 11d. per lb.
- Choice Orange Peel, 9d. per lb.
- Choice Lemon Peel, 8d. and 10d. per lb.
- Mixed Peel, small boxes, 5d, 6d, 7d.

- Mixed Peel, large boxes, 10d. each.
- Almonds, Jordan, 1/10 per lb.
- Almonds, Valencia, 1/10 per lb.
- Almonds, Ground, 1/10 per lb.
- Finest Mixed Spice, 1 oz. pils., 1 1/2d.
- Finest Glacé Cherries, 1/6 per lb.
- Glacé Cherries, 2 oz. cartons, 3d. each.
- Glacé Cherries, 4 oz. cartons, 5d. each.
- C.W.S. Mincemeal, in jars, 7 1/2d and 1 1/4d each.
- Daintee Mincemeal, 2 1/2 jars, 6 1/2d each.
- Daintee Mincemeal, 2 1/2 jars, 1 1/4d each.
- C.W.S. Plum Puddings, in basins, Size 1 Size 1 1/2 Size 2 Size 3, 1/6 2/1 2/6 3/4.

SWEETS and Delectable Dainties

- Best Sweets, great variety (guaranteed pure), 10d. per lb.
- Mist Back, 1/2 "
- Caramel, 1/2 "
- Fruit Pastilles, 1/2 "
- Dainty Biscuits, 1/8 "
- Clear Gums, 1/4 "
- CrySTALLIZED FRUITS, in drams, 9d. each.
- Finest Crown Fruits, in drams, 6 1/2, 7 1/2, 8 1/2.
- English Delight, 7 1/2, 1 1/2 per box.
- Christmas Boxes filled with Sweets (Labelled Suitable for Gifts), 6d, 1 1/2, 2.

SPECIAL VALUE!

C.W.S. Chocolates in great variety.

TINNED FRUITS IN RICH SYRUP.

A choice assortment—Apricots, Peaches, Peaches, Pineapples, Loganberries, Raspberries, Strawberries, Damsons, and Victoria Plums.

BISCUITS IN GREAT VARIETY.

Loose from 6d. per lb. and in Fancy Tins.

YULETIDE NOVELTIES

Crackers, in a variety of designs and novelties, 1 1/2, 1 1/6, 2 1/2, and 2 1/8 per box.

Christmas Novelties, 3d, 6d, 9d., and 1 1/2 Christmas Novelties, containing 6 Toys, 6d. and 1 1/2 each.

NUTS FOR DESSERT

- Brazil Nuts, best, 6d. per lb.
- Barcelona Nuts, best, 5d. per lb.
- Walnuts, best, 5d. per lb.
- Pecan Nuts, 3d. per lb.
- Mixed Nuts, 6d. per lb.

- Flavouring Essences, all kinds — 2d., 6d., and 1 1/2 per bottle.
- Table Jellies, all flavours, 2 1/2d. per plate.
- Table Jellies, all flavours, 2d. per 4 plate.
- Non-Alcoholic Wines, all flavours, 1 1/2d. each.

BRIGHTSIDE & CARBROOK

CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY LIMITED

CITY STORES, EXCHANGE ST. & WAINGATE, & ALL BRANCHES