



CO-OPERATIVE PARTY FACES THE FUTURE.

THE NEW INDUSTRIAL ORDER PLANNED BY CO-OPERATION.

FASCISM AND COMMUNISM ALIKE REJECTED. :: SANE VIEWS EXPRESSED AT ANNUAL CONFERENCE.

Four hundred delegates, the largest number on record, assembled in historic Nottingham over Easter for the annual conference of the Co-operative Party. Nottingham Society, itself one of the most politically active in the country, extended delegates a hearty welcome, which was supported by an equally cordial reception from the civic authorities, represented by the Lord Mayor.

The conference agenda, contained many items of first-class importance, and a feature of the proceedings was the adoption, after a lengthy debate, of a resolution strongly condemnatory of the record of the National Government. The conference also spoke with no uncertain voice on the proposals to tax the surpluses of co-operative societies while the dangers to the movement of producers' monopolies being established under the Agricultural Marketing Acts were emphasized in a resolution demanding that such boards should not be established until provision was made for complementary boards representing distributors' and consumers' interests.

The question of Cabinet appointments in a minority government was discussed at a private session of the conference on Sunday morning, when the view of the National Committee that it was undesirable at this stage to take any steps limiting the freedom of the party was adopted. Assurances were given that there would be the most careful consideration of the position if another Labour and Co-operative minority government was returned.

CHAIRMAN'S REVIEW.

PARTY'S PROGRESS IN PERIOD OF REACTION.

"WE SHALL USE OUR RESOURCES."

"EVIDENCE suggests that the disintegration of capitalism is proceeding at such a pace that the hope of a leisurely transformation of capitalism to a Socialist state through a purely political agency is no longer tenable," declared Mr. Alfred Barnes in the course of his inaugural address. He demonstrated with a forceful arrangement of facts and figures that it is becoming increasingly apparent that in the abnormal conditions prevailing the co-operative movement is our greatest hope for immediate and practical economic reconstruction.

He urged that it was the responsibility of the Co-operative Party to be conscious of this and to develop the capacity and energy to impart this knowledge to working-class thought.

The social consequences of a disastrous state of affairs, which in the last two years had revealed Britain facing a Budget deficiency of £70,000,000, America £400,000,000, France £120,000,000, Germany £20,000,000, and 20,000,000 unem-

ployed in the three greatest capitalist nations of the world—Britain, America, and Germany—it did not require much imagination to realise that social progress in the world had ceased, the standard of living had declined, and hard-won liberties were disappearing.

"It is unthinkable that there is no escape from results which are human and physical in their origin," continued Mr. Barnes. "It is, however, necessary for us as co-operators, to make our position clear, and that is—that we emphatically reject the solutions which Fascism and Communism offer us."

Both seek to impose a Dictatorship as a remedy for a condition which can only be solved by co-operative action. These opposing conceptions of government are both built up on the psychology of conflict, and the result is that whichever wins, Democracy loses. The world needs greater freedom, not less liberty, if it is to progress.

It was time we grasped the fact that co-operation had already widely and firmly laid the foundation of a new industrial order, which was capable of immediate and rapid expansion.

In Britain upon this voluntary plan of co-operation, 6,500,000 workers had been facilitated with a form of economic democracy, and throughout the world 70,000,000 persons were associated in co-operative organisations, either as producers or consumers.

Over a large field of industry the movement had within its ranks the trained personnel to conduct great economic services.

In any crisis the uninterrupted supply of the necessities of life to the population was the determining factor, and the co-operative movement was most capable of ensuring this service.

Private companies, with legislative sanction, had been enabled to conduct monopolistic services for individual gain. With the same measure of legal sanction co-operation could easily surpass the efforts of private monopoly.

Consequently, the Co-operative Party asked for the examination of its programme of economic reconstruction as published in its series of "Britain Reborn" pamphlets, which opened up three parallel lines of advance to the Co-operative Commonwealth via the State, the local authority, and the co-operative movement.

"The Co-operative Party claims that in its Power, Fuel, and Transport policy, which embraces coal, electricity, gas, oil, railways, public road services, civil aviation, and waterways, we have eight important services which will most readily respond and yield the most noticeable and successful results to public ownership, and therefore these should constitute the first line of political advance," declared Mr. Barnes.

Perhaps it was because the masses were not given a chance by the Press, but indifference to all these things appeared to be the main characteristic of this age. If such was a sound analysis, his general contention of the importance of the co-operative way of advance was strengthened.

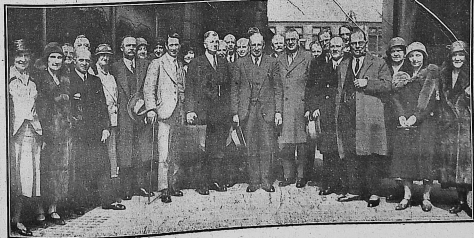
It was not without significance that in the last eighteen months of political apathy and reaction the progress of the Co-operative Party in numbers, in the quality of its organisation, and in prestige had been most marked.

"Our every progress acrosses our capitalist competitors to hostility, and recent experiences have shown that they will not hesitate to use the political power we ourselves give them to our injury," continued the Chairman.

Their unforeseen and overwhelming victory at the last general election had destroyed their sense of proportion, and by the device of quotas, subsidies, protective duties, the regulation of imports, and through legally promoted monopolies they were making Britain safe for the combiner and proleter.

The catastrophic fall in world prices for the time being hid the price we should have to pay for these economic deprivations, but he ventured to suggest that we should discover that in industrial as in military war the Bill would become heavier with the passage of years.

(Continued on page 2, column 1.)



Members of the National Committee of the Co-operative Party at the Easter Conference, Nottingham.

THE SHEFFIELD CO-OPERATOR.

FOR HOLIDAYS THIS YEAR.

A HANDY POCKET GUIDE.

Choose the place is one of the first delights of holiday-making. Not many of us, though, care to risk the unknown without obtaining reliable information beforehand. Lacking such knowledge many people are deterred who would be glad to make not merely a cheap place, but in the character of their holiday.

Holiday experiences of less usual nature form an interesting feature of the "Wheatseaf Holiday Guide for 1935," just published. The writers describe happy holidays in guest houses and camps, a mountaineering adventure in Britain, and a wander tour in Germany with youth hostels as resting-places. There is also a word for those anxious to know what cruising in big liners is like.

All this is in addition to the descriptive notes of 300 holiday resorts in all parts of the British Isles, and over 5,000 holiday addresses, including a special section of guest houses and camps.

The list of cruises is more extensive than last year—an indication of the popularity of this new form of holiday-making among people of moderate means. From the sailing directory which accompanies it the more adventuresome may plan their own independent cruises.

This compact and handy pocket guide costs only 3d., at co-operative stores and railway bookstalls. The post free price is 4½d., from the Holiday Guide Office, P.O. Box 53, Manchester.

[In any alternative note if the book is more obliged if the price is definitely stated as post free, 4½d.]

CO-OPERATIVE PARTY FACES THE FUTURE.

(Continued from page one.)

The membership of the co-operative movement in the last eighteen years had increased by 2,850,000; its trade had increased by £34,000,000; it now owned £47,000,000 of real property; its productive output was approximately £850,000,000 a year; it had raised £18,200,000,000 of public money; it had increased its milk distribution from 10,000,000 gallons to 130,000,000 gallons annually; it retained one-fifth of the nation's bread, one-seventh of the domestically-produced coal, and in many other commodities it was a factor to be reckoned with.

This progress was due to our opponents a matter of increasing courage, and through the establishment of the Racism Committee with its foregone conclusions, they had imagined an assured victory to their prolonged efforts to obtain discriminatory taxation on the surplus of co-operative societies. Perhaps now they were not so certain! "We have economic resources as well as our opponents, and we shall use them as the occasion demands." We have the machinery to reacher vast membership in ten days, and we have demonstrated that we can use it. We have our educational and auxiliary bodies that will rally to our call, and we have in the Co-operative Party a political consciousness that can be transferred from defence to attack.

"We have our own co-operative Press which, if we are prepared to give it our full measure of support, can take our message weekly or daily if we wish it, to the millions that we reached by the special income tax offer. Over £600,000 is spent annually by the co-operative movement on various forms of publicity. Concentrate one-sixth of this and we could equip ourselves with a Press as powerful and complete as any possessed by our opponents."

"We need more faith in our democratic movements as such, for the success of democracy in the long run depends on the healthy normalcy of the majority rather than upon the spectacular exception. Before long the people of Britain will have to decide again whether the destinies of Britain shall be placed in the keeping of wealth, privilege, and position, or whether the representatives of working-class democracies are to plan the future State; and the programme I have outlined could be worked out before then in clear and practical terms." "Complete unity would exist between the three movements, and the full power of all, mobilized behind such a programme, would place a Labour and Co-operative Government in power at Whitehall. Such a programme could be applied in a single Parliament, and substantial results obtained."

"The long period of inaction would be broken; the constructive capacity of the British people would be released in the knowledge that our industrial decline has been due to out-of-date economic laws; and in a spirit of awakened confidence the march from chaos to co-operation would commence." concluded Mr. Barnes amid the prolonged applause of his audience.

WHAT YOU GET FOR YOUR RATES.

The criticisms of local budgets which have headed as usual the close of the financial year make especially interesting the statement on municipal expenditure just prepared by Mr. T. S. Simey (lecturer, Public Administration at Liverpool University). He points out that for a cost of £7,700,000 per annum, or 12s. per family per week, the nation is educated, crime is held in check, infectious disease is suppressed, roads are provided, and the interests of the community in general are watched over. Admittedly the services are which are applied at so low a cost, they can never be adequate to their task so long as local authorities have to bear the burden of poor relief.

LORD Mayes came, and Lord Mayes goes, but the Council meeting, it seemed at the last Council meeting, it seemed as though that sitting might go on for ever. Long, rambling speeches which, with ultimate in the main, lacked grip; with ultimate decisions made.

There is a good deal of room for a bit of anything but definite decisions. Inside of thoroughgoing rationalization of the Council Chamber. The method of the taking votes by show of hands, the voting votes of the upraised hands by the Town Clerk would make anybody think there had been no invention of the machine since the middle of the last century. The perfection of cumbersome wastefulness which reminds one of the procedure in an elementary schoolroom.

RECORDING A VOTE.

Perhaps on some matter, not only a vote is taken, but the Council indicates that the names of supporters and opposers respectively should be recorded. In the twentieth century, it is not so simple a matter to do as to record the names of those who vote for or against a proposal. A thousand votes would put the whole job on a first-class lorry, and modernise the recording methods of the Council Chamber on lines equal to those of a railway corporation, or a motor car race, or the recording of the Rating Department. Not only so, but the rapid efficiency of recording which would then be possible might exercise an influence on the speeches.

By far the best speech of the day was made by Councillor Bennett—who does not always shirk so brightly.

THE NORTON AERODROME.

Alderman Rowland opened out upon this subject by opining on the grounds that the area in question was urgently necessary as a housing site; that the cost of the aerodrome would be exceedingly high; that there was no justification in the town's experience elsewhere that the aerodrome would pay; and, finally, that rapid improvements in aircraft were likely to make the aerodrome obsolete before it was actually completed. He pointed out that whilst only £1,050,000 at present be spent, more than £30,000,000 had been paid for the land itself, which would be wasted so far as housing was concerned. Moreover, before the aerodrome was completed, there were further stages of expenditure which would absorb somewhere about £30,000,000 more.

ALDERMAN BARNARD

seemed to be hesitatingly feeble in his reply, and Alderman Graves was not considerably better. It was only when Councillor Bennett rose to his feet that the case for the aerodrome at Norton began to crumble up. He deserves the thanks of the whole Council and the citizens for the sense and feeling of his exceedingly effective speech. He won the day for the opponents of the scheme. The unfortunate thing was that Councillor Bennett didn't get his speech in first; but no doubt some of its effectiveness was by way of contrast to several rather feeble speeches which had preceded it.

A battle was fought over the question of SUNDAY GOLF.

We confess to a sympathy with the father of Jesse, who, on being told by her that she would like a Continental Sunday in England, too, remarked: "Great heavens; no. Why you can hardly get on the links already!" Councillor Gasey introduced his annual proposal, and the discussion showed that there was no "party" attitude on the matter. Nevertheless, the best point was never put at all! Nobody asked, for example, what a little ball about on a WEEK DAY? Nobody urged that whilst it might not all the real solid objections applied to playing golf on any day in the week. Perhaps, next time Councillor Gasey

trots out his proposal, somebody will be good enough to drop this brick in the Council.

Anyway, he lost once more—and one judges that he rather expected to lose.

As things are, however, the risk of modernity, and the poor man can't. Whatever there is of immortality in playing golf on Sundays—that the poor before this blasphemy—because they are shall have been controlled by a single voice. This is class-discrimination with vengeance, and those who oppose Sunday golf on corporation courses should move off in the direction of obtaining powers to suppress All Sunday golf within the city boundaries. If they fail in that, they are open to the criticism that they quickly accept the position.

The risk of being "inconsistent" and "narrow-minded," which is no doubt true enough. But which is not equally well to other the towns and cities—and even to us all individually.

YORKSHIRE RANGES.

These have nothing to do with shooting, but are an alternative to "combination stoves" in corporation houses. An apparently equal amount of evidence was offered to show that each was superior to the other. No doubt in order of this paper will be as divided in their opinions as the Council members proved to be.

PRIVILEGE.

The son of a prominent corporation official is concerned—and here let us say that there would be exactly the same objection if he were the son of, say, Labour's Prime Minister, or Lord Russell. The son of a privilege, we are told, is to the cause which accepted us in its ranks for service.

The young man in question is to be privately notified to a corporation official, presumably at a fee.

There are several things wrong in principle in this matter. There should be no preferential treatment for the sons of officials, who ought to be entitled, IF THEY HAVE THE QUALIFICATIONS, to consideration along with the sons of all other citizens. The corporation should be no party to giving better advantages in the way of tuition, or of ultimate "standing" to the son of a man who can pay for it than to the son of a man who CANNOT.

But the son of a privilege, we are told, is to the cause which accepted us in its ranks for service.

And, finally, there should be no private fees to corporation officials; the terms of engagement should make this clear beyond dispute in all future arrangements.

There was a good deal of feeling over the matter, and full details should be in the possession of all the citizens. Happily, this matter has been made fully public, and may therefore act as a warning to all parties in the Council Chamber.

CORPORATION EMPLOYEES.

There were 20,661 workpeople employed by the corporation in March, 1932; there are now 9,726. Five hundred-and-forty-five have therefore been added to the unemployed list. Residents are reminded that the City Council minutes are available in all the public libraries, and recommended to inspect them. They are really reports to you about what is strictly your own business.

VALUE!

IN quality, in appearance, in comfort, in value, this WHEATSHEAF Shoe will bear comparison with any shoe made. The material used in its construction, in both upper and interior, is excellent. The last on which it is made is roomy at the right places, but the width is held behind a smart toe shape. The heel is smart in appearance, yet not too high and narrow to be unusable for the broadest feet. It is a pair and proves for yourself the satisfaction this shoe can give, although the price is low.

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CO-OPERATION: TAXER'S COWARDLY ATTACK.

PARLIAMENTARY PRIVILEGES USED AGAINST WORKERS' MOVEMENT.

Mr. F. A. Macquisten, K.C., M.P., has seen fit to attack the co-operative movement in his effort to justify the unjust taxation proposed by the Raeburn Committee, and in a speech on the Budget in the House of Commons, went out of his way to attack both the Wholesale Society and the Right Hon. A. V. Alexander. The privileges of the House of Commons enabled Mr. Macquisten to make this attack without being liable to prosecution for what in the open would have been libellous in law. We print below statements from the Right Hon. A. V. Alexander (ex-Co-operative M.P. for Hillsborough, and First Lord of the Admiralty in the Labour Government) and Mr. R. F. Lancaster (secretary, C.W.S.).

Mr. Alexander said:—
 "The malicious and unfounded attack upon the Co-operative Wholesale Society by Mr. F. A. Macquisten in the House of Commons on April 25th is answered below by the statement of Mr. R. F. Lancaster (secretary to that society)."
 "The same Member of Parliament's



RIGHT HON. A. V. ALEXANDER.

speech, made under privilege in the House of Commons, went on to make a charge against every co-operative society member. He said:—

Every member of a co-operative society seems to think he is all right if he gets a public office of any kind to do something for his society. I would like to ask the present First

Lord of the Admiralty how long the First Lord of the Admiralty in the Labour Government was before he turned over the contracts for margarine and butter to the Co-operative Wholesale Society.

"At another point in his speech, he said that we were like the alchemists of Ephesus. The 'graft', and not the craft, is in danger. Mr. Macquisten therefore sought to imply that I had used a public office for the purpose of obtaining contracts for the C.W.S., and at least inferred that that was graft. It is a great pity that Mr. Macquisten had not sufficient courage first to make this statement in the House of Commons when I was there to answer him, and secondly, not to leave sufficient courage if he wants to impute courage motives, to make a charge outside the privilege of the House of Commons, where he knows that he will be immediately called upon to justify his statement in the Courts.

"I deny most emphatically that any co-operative society was ever treated preferentially by the Admiralty during my term of office. Contracts for the supply of commodities are dealt with by the Controller of the Contracts Departments. They are allocated in the ordinary way on competitive tenders. The position was made quite plain by the present First Lord of the Admiralty on June 29th, 1932, when he stated that the Co-operative Wholesale Society was treated in exactly the same way as the other firms who tender. That was the most exact

practice carried out during the whole of my term of office.

"I now, therefore, challenge Mr. Macquisten to say publicly what he means, and, if he wishes to impute motives, challenge him to make his imputations outside the privilege of the House of Commons, where he will render himself liable to legal process."

MR. LANCASTER.

At an interview with Mr. R. F. Lancaster (the secretary of the Co-operative Wholesale Society Limited), he expressed surprise that Mr. Macquisten, who concluded was a trained lawyer, should base such statements on hearsay evidence gained in casual conversations on board ship.

Mr. Lancaster further said that he personally could not speak of what happened in 1912, when the Shop Hours Act was passed. It would be noticed that it was necessary to go back twenty years to find material upon which to base the charges. He had taken the opportunity of consulting the departments which would be concerned with the acquisition or sale of automatic machines, and he was able to deny absolutely the truth of the statements made by Mr. Macquisten. He, however, added that nothing had ever been heard in the departments of the transaction. If Mr. Macquisten referred to the Shop (Hours of Closing) Act, 1928, then Mr. Lancaster could personally and did categorically and emphatically deny the allegations made, and stated that the transaction referred to had never been heard of in any way.

Mr. Macquisten promised to give the Chancellor of the Exchequer the name of his informant. Mr. Lancaster challenged him to give the name to the C.W.S. or to repeat the statement made outside the confines of privilege, for in such circumstances the C.W.S. board would give him or his informant the opportunity of proving their allegations where they would not be protected from the consequences of making unfounded statements.

Mr. Lancaster added that it was a deliberate and calculated lie to suggest that if the Inland Revenue had access to the society's books they would find evidence of fraudulent or corrupt transactions, and Mr. Lancaster pointed out that the books of the C.W.S. were open to inspection, and were inspected by various Government departments in the same way as the books of any other business concern, and, moreover, such books were under public audit.

On behalf of the directors and officials of the C.W.S., Mr. Lancaster was glad of an opportunity of refuting the statements, which amounted to malicious and entirely unfounded attacks on their

personal honour and character, and were made in a way and in circumstances which enabled the speaker to take advantage of his position.

TITLE TATTLE.

In an editorial in the "Reynolds's Illustrated News," the editor puts Mr. Macquisten in the dock pretty effectively. He says: "Mr. F. A. Macquisten, K.C., is an M.P. of no importance; but by exercising the art of the title-tattle, he succeeded, last week, in attracting the spotlight of the Yellow Press to his unimportant person. He told the House of Commons a story of 'graft.' The story was told to him in a liaser course—where the African coast by a friend



MR. R. F. LANCASTER, Secretary, Co-operative Wholesale Society Limited.

who found evidence of the scandalous allegation not very far from Liverpool!" "And the story? It affected one or two at ten or any number of Co-operative Wholesale Society officials, who are said to have accepted commissions in connection with the placing of an order for automatic machines.

"Mr. Macquisten's immediate concern, it would seem, is not to stop bribery and corruption—he could do that effectively by communicating the facts (if there are any) to the proper quarters; his immediate concern is to impose penal taxation on co-operative trading.

"This is a strange argument for taxing co-operators, especially in view of recent revelations about the Harty, the Hooley, and the Kreneger, valiant upholders of private enterprise.

"It is stranger still that any man should strive to mould national fiscal policy on the basis of title-tattle picked up in ocean liners.

WHO IS MR. MACQUISTEN?

"Mr. Macquisten, according to the 'Directory of Directors, 1932,' is a director of these companies:—Carbide Australia, Commonwealth Carbide Company Limited, Globe and Phoenix Gold Mining Company Limited, Millon and Askam Hematite Iron Company Limited, Phoenix Mining and Finance Limited.

"Does he formulate their policy on title-tattle? And does Mr. Macquisten think that what ought not to be good enough in the conduct of private business is good enough in conducting affairs of State?"

THINGS THAT CONCERN US ALL.

RESPONSIBILITIES AS WELL AS PRIVILEGES

Members of co-operative societies enjoy many privileges—the dividend, pure foods, fair prices, educational and social activities, death benefits, and so on.

But privileges carry responsibilities. Having invested millions of pounds in their own factories—through the Co-operative Wholesale Society Ltd.—it is the duty of co-operators to purchase their own productions. The cycle of co-operation is only completed when those who own the capital buy the goods made with that capital.

And quite apart from this economic sense, there is domestic wisdom in buying C.W.S. goods, for they give reliable service and honest value—and the dividend at the quarter end.

Buy C.W.S. Goods, made with your own capital.



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

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ECONOMICS FOR CONSUMERS.

VI.—STATE READJUSTMENTS OF PURCHASING POWER.

The distribution of purchasing power—usually by means of wages and salaries—first of all occurs by the fact of our WORKING. The distribution of that happens otherwise is by way of the "dole," or by "public assistance" in the case of the working class.

FURTHER REDISTRIBUTION.

But when we have got it; as wage, salary, date, or public assistance, there is a series of further shufflings—all of which make the poor poorer and the rich richer. Last month we dealt with the first of these reshufflings, and the first of these PRIVATE TAXES, as shewn how PRIVATE TAXES, as wages, and interests, royalties, and way-outs, trimmed our incomes down and handed part of them to the people.

THE SECOND "ROUND" IN THE REDISTRIBUTION OF INCOMES IS CAUSED BY THE GOVERNMENT.

The Budget is one of the great instruments of income redistribution. It gets some of our wages and salaries and professional fees" by increasing the price of our matches and tobacco, our beer if we drink it, entertainments, and a whole host of other medicines. It gets some more by placing income tax on the annual value of land and buildings belonging to co-operative societies, as well as the land and buildings belonging to joint-stock companies. It has, in fact, been computed

that the average working-class family pays roughly 5s. a week in national taxation, all of which is wrapped up in the prices of goods and hidden from the fact. That, clearly, takes a good deal AWAY FROM people's incomes, large and small.

TARIFFS.

But the Government has also instituted a widespread system of tariffs, (as beyond the ordinary customs duties on tobacco), which we have been a long familiar. THE EFFECT of it is always to make the price dearer than that of the article which the tariff is placed. Nobody denies that the only justification given for it is that by stopping the sale of certain foreign articles, the sale of our own articles is able to get its highest price. If the foreign article continues to be imported, there is a tax on it collected by the Government; if the import is stopped or reduced by the tariff, workers are paying higher prices to British makers, so that either way the Government is taxing the incomes.

WHERE IT ALL GOES.

But the Government does not collect these taxes merely for the fun of it. Every penny is spent on a good deal of it is spent on it, it is actually received—Very much of it goes directly as income to somebody else. The whole procedure takes money from the people, and hands it over to SOME of the people. In other words, it REDISTRIBUTES income. Let us look where it goes.

First, we have a National Debt of £7,645,000,000, most of which was raised to carry on the Great War. The interest and maintenance of that debt costs the WHOLE people £224,000,000 a year at present—more than a quarter of all the taxation collected. A man who has £10,000 in War Loan gets something like £400 a year from the Government as interest, and his £400 is part of the £224,000,000 mentioned above. What exactly has happened? The incomes of everybody—wages, salaries, and so on—have been clipped by £400 which has been handed over to one amongst their number. Obviously, £224,000,000 is going to make an awful mess of the original incomes, since it is all clipped off. AND, GENERALLY SPEAKING, THE WORKERS GET NOTHING OF THIS BACK.

Last year, £744,000,000 was taken in taxation, of which, since £224,000,000 was paid back in War Loan interest and expenses, a further £520,000,000 has to be accounted for.

It provides the soldiers and sailors and airmen with their wages and maintenance; and buys their arms and equipment. The rank and file of soldiers and sailors get too little, it is true; but all they do get MUST be provided out of the incomes of civilians. The purchase of arms and equipment provides work for the makers of those things, and therefore wages also; it provides handsome profits to the concerns who own the factories where those goods are made—while the profits find their way into the pockets of the directors and shareholders.

It pays the judges of the High Court £5,000 a year each (less a retented "economy" deduction), and the pension of £5,000 a year each they get on retirement. It pays the salaries and THEIR pensions, too. Now some of these payments, although they are mere redistributions of income, and in the first rank of usefulness, but they should be very considerably revised and the extremes ruthlessly cut out.

A matter of over £400,000 a year goes into the King's "Privy Purse," and whilst nobody wants to pass any unkind word about His Majesty—who, according to the traditions of the British people, and obviously by their own will, holds his office, and does the job well—the sum is a startlingly big one. That is ANOTHER redistribution of income;

INSURANCE AND PENSIONS.

It is small wonder that some small share of so large a total of taxation should find its way back to SOME of the workers. Besides taxation proper, however, they are "tagged" for National Health and Unemployment Insurance, and for old-age pensions. In effect, this is added to a contribution from the taxation mentioned above, and then handed back to them in microscopic amounts when they are ill, unemployed, or over sixty-five years of age, and in certain cases, to their widows. In the enormous stream of redistributed income by taxation, only a small trickle falls to the lot of a worker's family; the rank and file do badly on the result!

The whole procedure is based on principles which are economically vicious; the money has all been earned by workers and the money has all after the by hand and brain, and the whole National Pay, which they are poorer and year through the day, is richer, as usual.

RATES.

The taxes of a local authority are RATES. Except in the manner of their collection, they are much akin to national taxes; both are assessed by the authority of the full force of legal and collected by the local authority. Rates, too, take money from the workers in the form of all; and the amount for the "working" classes is determined by the rent of the houses in which they live. They are spent in providing wages and salaries for the workers in the "social services" (like dustmen and medical officers), and in the local "civil service" (like Town Hall charwomen and Town Clerks).

In these days, too, they find the amounts requisite for Public Assistance—and thus help to keep those painfully alive for whom capitalism has utterly failed to provide.

We are all "tagged" by rates as by taxation; and the proceeds of redistributed money go to what very clearly the wage we arrive home with (if any) on Friday nights gets badly knocked about before we begin to please ourselves about it. Mind you, although many just criticisms might be levelled against the whole system of rates, and many more criticisms equally just might be urged against the way rates happen to be distributed as Wages, Salaries, and Public Assistance, this remains the one province of distributed income which gives most advantage to the poorer part of the community.

Now let us sum up:

- (1) The real National Income consists of the GOODS MINED, CAUGHT, GROWN, AND MADE, like coal, fish, cabbages, cheese, and chairs; and the SERVICES CAPABLE OF BEING RENDERED like teaching and doctoring and nursing AT THE POINT WHEN THESE ARE READY AND WAITING FOR HIM OR HER WHO NEEDS THEM.
- (2) We never distribute these; we never even try. Instead, we leave it all to the chance of whether a man is working or not. In the former case, he gets WHAT HE CAN get, what will necessarily satisfy his needs, and the needs of his dependents. That is the only way the working classes have of getting at the REAL National Income, and when they are down that they get a trifle from it they get a "trickle" in the form of a Dole or Public Assistance. They are now, and always have been, short.
- (3) When they get their wages—salaries; or dole—or "public assistance," they are subject to PRIVATE taxes on income as explained last month, and to STATE taxes, as explained above. Both of which redistribute money income which had already been distributed.

WHY RENTS ARE HIGH.

THE BURDEN OF INTEREST.

A prominent member, representing the Co-operative Party on the Sheffield City Council, vouchers for the following as being the actual position regarding housing costs:—

"Table," says he, "a house of the value of £440 to be let at a reasonable rental. The cost has to be spread over sixty years. Worked out on a weekly basis the cost is 11d. for labour, 5d. 4d. for materials, 2d. for the land, and 6d. for sewerage, &c. To this add 2s. 5d. for the maintenance and cost of repairs. That makes a total of 5s. 4d. But we cannot let for less than anything like that figure because the interest charges for the whole term amount to 8s. 2d. per week. Now you will realise one of our big problems. Surely we ought to be able to build houses to let for seven or eight shillings per week. Less again at that 8s. 2d. per week for interest charges on a house costing 5s. 4d. for land, labour, building, repairs, and maintenance. From the 8s. 2d. deduct 2s. a week as the accumulation of the Sinking Fund savings. Then the ratepayers are to be made to pay 6s. 2d. to subsidize from the local and national exchequers to the extent of 3s. 11d. per week to reduce the 6s. 2d. to 2s. 6d., which, added to the 5s. 4d., brings the rent to 8s. per week. But the interest which the Government and the municipality has to pay is actually total 8s. 2d. Thus you will see how we are hankered in providing reasonably rented houses for the working classes by the interest system—verily a 'vested interest'."

KARL MARX.

KARL MARX died at Ventnor on March 14th, 1883.

On this fiftieth anniversary of his death, it is fitting that we should make some mention of him.

Mr. T. W. Mercer has written a small pamphlet—an excellent one—under the title of "Karl Marx and the Philosophy of Revolt," which is published by the National Co-operative Publishing Society as a reprint from "The Millgate." At his best, Mr. Mercer is very good indeed, and has reached high-water mark in this careful little study.

IN MEMORY.

Karl Marx was born a Jew on May 21st, 1818, the son of a prosperous lawyer. His was an entirely fine type of mind that gave up all for his beliefs, and was true to its convictions. In London, he had to sell "all his poor belongings" to carry on a meagre existence. In poverty and intense personal suffering of both mind and body he produced his great work, "Capital."

No man has been more ignorantly hated; few if any have wielded such enormous influence after death. Whether you agree with him or not, he was one of the great saviours of men, as all must be who serve to the extreme limit of personal sacrifice. It would be folly to claim him as the last word in the final authority—but as great a folly to ignore him. Don't put your head in the sand; face up to the facts. You can do that by beginning with this pamphlet—the best which has been written!

SHEFFIELD REPERTORY THEATRE.

Opening Saturday, May 13th, the Repertory Company present "The Round Table," a delightful comedy, by Lennox Robinson—one of the most distinguished of modern Irish writers, and a distinguished and producer of the Abbey Theatre, Dublin. The play is an extremely interesting study in personality under the daily pressure of monotonous conditions.

Opening Saturday, May 27th, "The Sumner Claimant," by Clifford May, will be presented for one week—a charming summer fantasy, this play is utterly unlike anything presented before at this theatre.

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ECONOMY AND THE BUILDING TRADES.

SHAPINGS AND HAPPENINGS.

BUILDING SOCIETIES WILL NOT FILL THE BREACH.

BY COUNCILLOR W. G. ROBINSON.

RECENTLY the Minister of Health was announcing in the House of Commons that £20,000,000 had been "saved" by Local Authorities in response to representations made by the National Government. Mr. H. B. Bryant, the secretary of the Building Industry Council, was summarising the 800 replies which have been received by the Building Industry Council to their questionnaire. Up to date, the Council has established that about £22,000,000 worth of work has been curtailed, and that in the case of 732 public works schemes in England and Wales, economies have been effected to the extent of £9,057,087. Of this total, £3,349,943 was in respect of housing, and £5,707,143 in respect of roads. Under the latter head are included roads which link up new housing estates with main highways. The economies relate mainly to schools, hospitals, bridges, roads, housing, and slum clearance.

Mr. Bryant pointed out that the deterrent in almost all cases was the refusal of the Government to sanction the raising of the necessary money. In view of the facts that the £20,000,000 saved is, roughly, the amount paid during the last year in unemployment relief to the 400,000 members of the building trade who are unemployed, and that money has never been so cheap, the attitude of the Government is absurd; in other words, necessary building is still to be held up. It is false economy and saves nothing.

Speaking at a conference at the Royal

Institute of British Architects on January 31st last, Professor J. M. Keynes said he had calculated that an expenditure of £30,000,000 on housing would probably increase the national income by £20,000,000 on account of its effect on the money market. The Treasury may, £15,000,000 in dollars, increase income from rates and taxes by £13,000,000.

BUILDING SOCIETIES WILL NOT COPY WITH DEMAND.

I AM not satisfied by any means that the building societies will be able to fill the breach. To call them "building societies" is entirely a misnomer. They are not building societies at all. They are never lending money. They have never built a house. Their knowledge of house building must be of a very limited character. The only possible knowledge that they could have of house construction would be their surveyors going round to examine the type and the quality of house in order to see whether, if money were advanced, they would have a reasonable guarantee that the money would be safely invested. It is a purely voluntary matter for the building societies; there is not the slightest bit of compulsion anywhere. It is only if they say "Well, this looks like a fairly reasonable investment," that the building societies, at their own discretion, may agree to come into this form of investment.

Who are going to start in any area and say that they are going to build these houses? Who is going to own the houses after they are built? Is the builder going to own them or are the building societies going to own them? Are the municipal authorities going to purchase them or are they going to be in the hands of the rack renters? All these questions are important. Is housing to be done by private enterprise and they could cope with the huge demand, I don't think anyone would stand in the way, because it would relieve the ratepayers and taxpayers, but if an emergency of twelve months' time the Government will have to come forward (if they last so long) and say they are sorry that they have not been able to make more progress than they have made, that the game with the sort of public spirit that was expected, that the builders have got on, and that the number of houses is found out that they have not been able to get on, and that the number of houses is substantially below what had been hoped for as a result of the work of

NOTHING FOR OVERCROWDING

The 1924 Wheatley Act is now abolished, the 1930 Act, or Mr. Greenwood's Slum Clearance Act, remains. It only means that local authorities will only get a subsidy for building houses to find accommodation for the workers who live in the congested areas. What is the position of the workers who are living in overcrowded conditions—in thousands of cases, two and three families in one house? Overcrowding is prevalent throughout the city—and on the various Corporation estates. The Council used to cater for these overcrowded cases with the housing waiting-list. Now the 1924 Act is abolished by the National Government—there is no subsidy of £7 Tos. per house per year, therefore nothing can be done for these deplorable cases at present. When we get a Labour Government, they will restore the subsidy and provide accommodation for the people who live in overcrowded conditions.

In the light of our housing and building experience, we think that the whole approach to this problem by the Government is small and narrow. We believe that private enterprise can never house the people, but that municipal authorities, centrally directed by the Government, are the best and most effective agencies to make a contribution to the problem.

EVENTS are always occurring; things are ever changing. Some of these events have been directed by men deliberately working for given ends, others have occurred because some change in weather, in some other external circumstance. A king is murdered in Serbia, for example, and England goes to war; people the world over have to economise, and hundreds of tons of coffee are therefore destroyed in Brazil.

The events and the changes taken together, as affecting the life and development of a people are properly the subject matter of history, which is the tale told (to date) of incident and struggle and emergence. The educational system in this—and other—countries has always been faulty on the historical side. It strung the wrong facts together; it did not set the wood for the trees.

In these later years, however, a new spirit breathes in the text-books, perhaps somewhat hesitatingly, but nevertheless the balance of stress is slowly being moved. Kings are slowly given way to the community; the pomp and splendour of courtly ways are becoming but one aspect of the action and movement of the general life of the masses of armies and the din of battle are being placed in the truer perspective wherein the march of men (and only out of step!) and the battle of ideas is predominant.

ENGLISH HISTORY.

Take, for example, "A HISTORY OF ENGLAND," by Carrington and Jackson (Cambridge University Press, 7s. 6d.—or in three vols. at 3s. 6d. each). It is intended for Public and Secondary Schools, and it presents "its story from an international standpoint, and political history is subordinated to social history." As one bit of evidence in proof of this claim, there are two photographic reproductions on one page showing the startling contrast between a modern housing estate at Liverpool and a slum at Oldham. That alone is enough to fire the imagination of any decent scholar who might otherwise consider that slums, though regrettable, had to be accepted as part of the "social order." Setting in picture form that which was against that which is—that is surely one of the functions of history.

Many of the older text-books used to start the story of England and its people with the abrupt entrance of the Romans as though England had been created at that moment. This volume avoids that error in method by an introductory chapter by telling us just something of the Stone and Bronze Ages; making clear that the common story of England is but a continuation after an invasion. At the other end of time, it brings the record of fact and experience right

down to 1931. The environments of our own lives now are a part of history; the struggles of factions, the battles of ideas, the experiences of people; and we outline by our living to make history. Socialism, Public Health, and the Emancipation of Women are all paragraph headings in this very modern history book.

BOLSHEVISM AND FASCISM.

A good many writers of text-books for schools would be afraid of mentioning movements like these. Of course, the author fights rather shy of committing themselves to opinions on such up-to-date affairs, but at least they do appear unbiased. Short and plain accounts are given, and the word "Bolshevik" is happily defined, thus: "Bolshevik means no more than 'majority.' The Russian Communists had split into two groups . . . the Bolsheviks, and Mensheviks, or minority." Considering how many people are destitute of printing, but a yellow-Press knowledge of Russian affairs, even a page in a history book is useful, though there is a rather puzzling statement which does not follow: "The Bolsheviks repudiated the three ideals which have made England what she is—the Christian Religion, Private Property, and Individual Liberty." For the life of us, we are unable to discover exactly what is meant. The ideals that have "made England what she is" have a good deal to answer for, surely!

On the other hand, the larger spirit in which history is conceived is well expressed in these 800 pages from the official centre of history-teaching in England. We have several times in these columns written our expressions of a more humane and realistic scholarship which seeks to be universal (as befits a "university"), and which from time to time is issued from Cambridge. Here is a case in point. The largest outlines of our social and political affairs, with the facts of the whole world as a background; the gradual changes in the life and thought and action of a people; these are set out helpfully and with interest. Struggle and achievement, personal and economic influences and cross purposes, natural obstacles, and human whims and obstinacies—these have made us what we are. And how that has come about is told once more, and in as excellent a way as has yet been done, with certain special improvements. Even the education is benefiting from still more education: the specialist writers are beginning to relate their subjects to the facts of our life. The young people of to-day and to-morrow will have better historical information than those of yesterday—and perhaps they will insist more on "shaping" the future, rather than "letting things happen." B.



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ATTEKLIFFE.

At the Attercliffe Divisional Council meeting, held on April 17th, Mr. G. W. Longley, one of the delegates to the National Co-operative Party Conference, gave a detailed report on the proceedings. Mrs. F. Sweeting also reported on the matter of the Sheffield Joint Hospitals' Council's "id. in the post" scheme. The Attercliffe friends purpose reviewing the whole matter of village surgery as against municipal hospitals at their next meeting, which will be held on Friday, May 19th, at 7.30 p.m., in the Attercliffe Co-operative Institute, Attercliffe Common.

BURNGREAVE.

The Burngreave Women's Section—which meets every Wednesday evening in the Burngreave Vestry Hall—have had addresses given by the following during April: Mr. Fisher, Mrs. F. Ward, Mrs. Fletcher, and Councillor (Mrs.) E. Birch. During May the speakers will be Mr. F. L. Dunn, Councillor (Mrs.) Birch, Mr. A. T. Wells, and Mrs. Yelland (secretary). Recently a visit was or-

able, well made, and cheap commodities within reach of the working-woman's purse, were available in plenty of variety. April 10th, in the absence of Mr. A. Ballard (our other co-operative business, Mrs. Wood (secretary) read Mr. Ballard's paper on "The Organisation of Public Opinion." Interesting discussion followed. On the 24th, Mrs. H. Mitchell spoke to a large audience on "Women in Politics." Meetings held every Monday afternoon at 7.15, in the Large Institute, Co-operative Place. All R. M. Wood, 13, Hillsborough-place. All co-operative women in the district cordially invited to attend and to join the party. Membership fee, 6d. per annum.

NEEPSEND.

The Neepsend Ward Co-operative Party met at the Co-operative Institute, Mansers-street, on April 31st, to consider business details of the organisation. On the 12th, Councillor J. A. Jones gave the monthly City Council report. The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 3rd, and on the

Norwood Section will give a concert in the Co-operative Institute, Mansers-street, commencing at 7.30 p.m., when the proceeds will be given to the fund. The committee is anxious to raise sufficient money to take as many children as possible for a day at the seaside or in the country, sometime during August. The fund is under the direct patronage of Councillor W. R. H. Stokes, 59, Hills-road; Rev. J. E. Foster, M.A., St. Michael's Vicarage, Mansers-street, Neepsend, who would be pleased to receive donations.

SOUTHEY AND NORWOOD.

The Southey and Norwood Section report enrolment of new members during April. The secretary asks us to record his thanks to those who assisted in obtaining so many signatures of protest against the income tax proposals. On April 5th, although the members were disappointed by the non-attendance of the speaker, the time was used effectively in arranging the summer programme. On April 12th, Councillor J. H. Skelton on City Council work; 19th, the party's own concert party made their debut, and the affair attracted a huge success. April 24th, Councillor W. A. Taylor delivered an interesting address upon "Atmospheric Conditions and Their Effect Upon Human Life." The weekly meetings, held in the Co-operative Institute, Southey-avenue, on Wednesday evenings, will be continued until May 17th, after which the summer programme will commence.

Places of interest are to be visited; a bowling club is in course of formation, and the club will challenge other sections to contests in different parts of the town. The secretary, Mr. G. A. Holder, Crowder Close, will be pleased to give particulars to any sections interested.

The Women's Section, which meets on Wednesday afternoons at 2.45, has an interesting programme for May 3rd, Mr. P. Sandford (manager, English and Carbrook furnishing department) will be the speaker; 10th, Councillor (Mrs.) A. Cummings; 17th, Mr. Wilson; and on the 24th, Mr. Bradbury.

SHEFFIELD AND ECCLESALL.

The Sheffield and Ecclesall Divisional Council held their monthly meeting in the Cemetery-road Guild-room, on April 24th, when Mr. Basil Rawson was the speaker. A social evening is to be held in the Banqueting Hall, the Arcade, on May 8th, when Mr. A. Ballard (party organiser) will give a short address on "The Organisation of Public Opinion." An excellent musical programme, also orchestra for dancing, have been arranged.

The Women's Section—which meets in the Mount Tabor Methodist Class-room, Wellington-street, Thursdays, at 2.30 p.m.—has a larger active membership this year than ever before. On April 6th, Mrs. Fletcher was the speaker; and on the 27th, a play-reading evening. May 4th, the party annual conference will be dealt with; the 18th, Mrs. Williams will be discussed; 18th, Press cuttings will be discussed; and on the 28th, Mr. E. Billam will speak.

Are you a Member of any Rambling Club?

If not, we cordially invite you to join us. The advantages of a Rambling Club are:— (1) The club assists in preserving rights of way and a proper respect for the countryside. (2) It tabulates the by-paths, beauty spots, places for catering, natural water supplies for al fresco meals. (3) It secures special permission to traverse prohibited areas. (4) It places at the service of every member experience and knowledge of the countryside gathered over a period of years. (5) Fellowship with lovers of the countryside. THE SHEFFIELD CO-OPERATIVE RAMBLING CLUB was established in 1919, and is affiliated to the Sheffield Ramblers' Federation. The club provides picnic stoves and kettles, and supplies tea at the low cost of 1d. per member.

THE SHEFFIELD CO-OPERATIVE RAMBLERS' 1933 HANDBOOK.

price 2s. (post free 2s. 1/4d.), includes membership to the club. The handbook of 200 pages contains photographs of local beauty spots, interesting articles on the open-air life, poems, &c., and programme of rambles for every Sunday in the year, and all contains terse descriptive and explanatory rambles that can easily be followed by persons desirous of trying the rambles by themselves at times to suit their convenience. Fill in the form below and handbook will be forwarded to you by return.

Mr. A. Ballard, Secretary, Sheffield Co-operative Ramblers, 37, Bank-street, Sheffield.

Dear Sir, I desire to be enrolled as a member of the Sheffield Co-operative Rambling Club, and enclose 2s. 1/4d., for which kindly forward copy of 1933 Handbook.

Name..... Address.....

gained to the Brightside and Carbrook Society's model dairy at Broughton-lane.

HILLSBOROUGH.

The Hillsborough Co-operative Party—which holds meetings every Thursday evening in the Guild-room, Middlewood-road—had an interesting address on April 6th, from Mr. Harold Wilkinson, who spoke on "Soviet Russia, 1932". On the 13th a mock parliament was held, with Mr. J. H. Bingham as "Mr. Speaker," Mr. L. Taylor as "Prime Minister," and Mr. E. C. Organ as "Leader of the Opposition." The policy of the Co-operative Party, as outlined in "Britain Reborn," was presented in the form of a "Bill" to the "Hillsborough House of Commons." On the 20th, a social took place in the large Institute; and on the 27th, Mr. W. H. Bottom (divisional secretary) interested good audience by a report of the Co-operative Party Conference held at Nottingham.

The Women's Section meetings continue to be well attended. On April 3rd, the matinee parade drew an audience of nearly 300 women, when an excellent fashion display was provided by the Brightside and Carbrook drapery department, under the direction of Mrs. E. Welton (departmental manager) and Mr. Haycock (branch manager). The officers of the Women's Section had arranged a fine setting for the display which showed that fashion-

10th, Alderman J. Havnt will give the report of the May City Council meeting. The Women's Section had an enjoyable social on April 3rd. The 10th, Mrs. Ludbrook gave a talk on "Modern Education"; and on the 24th, Mr. Austin spoke on "Peace and Disarmament." The party is rendering valuable assistance to the Neepsend Poor Children's Outing Fund; arranging for collecting sheets, sale of cent cards, &c.; and Saturday, May 6th, the Southey and

DEPENDABLE QUALITY together with perfect fit and the finest materials assure you of better value

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Hosiery and Underwear In all sizes and styles—from your Drapery and Outfitting Departments

Made by the Women's Co-operative Union, Limited, 140, Victoria-street, Wigan.

A "BALANCED" BUDGET.

MORE FOR WAR—LESS FOR HEALTH AND EDUCATION—NOTHING FOR UNEMPLOYED.

"This Budget . . . has been 'balanced' out of the life-blood of the masses of the unemployed."

Thus Mr. George Lansbury, in a speech following the Chancellor's Budget statement, summed up the Labour Party's main criticism of Mr. Neville Chamberlain's second Budget. Barely has a Budget been received with so little enthusiasm among Government supporters. The only cheers came when the Chancellor announced the reduction of the beer tax, and his intention to tax co-operative societies to the extent of £750,000 this year, and £1,250,000 in future years.

It was typical of the Tory mentality that Tory M.P.s. criticised the Chancellor for negotiating with representatives of the co-operative movement, but raised no objection to his negotiations with the brewers.

In whatever form the Government may decide to impose penal taxation on the co-operative societies, it will be strenuously opposed by the Labour Party.

A CONFESSION OF THE BANKRUPTCY OF CAPITALISM.

The Labour attack on the Budget was led by Major Attlee, in a very effective speech on the second day of the general debate. He declared that the Budget was a confession of the bankruptcy of the capitalist system. That system could only flourish on the basis of profit-making, and there was not sufficient opportunity of making profits to tempt capitalists to set industry going again.

That could not occur without a great revival of purchasing power among the masses of the people; and the Government had no policy for planning society on a basis which would allow the people to take advantage of the abundance of supplies.

Major Attlee pointed out that in spite of the boasts of the "National" Government, that it had abolished the practice of borrowing for unemployment relief, there was in the Chancellor's two Budgets a sum of £25,000,000 which was being added to the Government's borrowings or taken from capital funds.

"THE KILL-TRADE GOVERNMENT"

The present Budget (continued Major Attlee) was based on a full year of policy of "economy" and tariffs which was going to restore prosperity. The fact that the Chancellor was budgeting for a further reduction in the national income was proof of the failure of that policy. Last year, the Chancellor estimated for £46,000,000 from income tax, and received only £37,000,000. This year he expects £40,000,000. Last year, the only £40,000,000 came from the new duties imposed on Irish Free State imports and the Ottawa duties, neither of which were included in his estimate.

Dealing with the fall in Customs revenue indicated the success of tariffs in keeping out foreign goods, Major Attlee said if that were so there should be an improvement in the internal trade of the country. But there was no such indication in the Budget figures.

The Chancellor had expressed hope for a world trade revival. But the action of the Government had hindered world trade.

"We are moving towards economic isolation," said Major Attlee. "We have stopped trade with Ireland as much as we can, and we have stopped trade with Russia. It looks as if this Government might be known as the 'Stop Trade Government'."

HOW "THE SURPLUS" WAS OBTAINED.

The Chancellor has produced a "surplus" of £7,000,000. But, as Major Attlee pointed out, it has been obtained by putting the Sinking Fund on to a loan basis, making no provision for the payment of War Debt to America (thus repeating last year's "balancing" feat), taking £10,000,000 from an unsequestered Depreciation Fund attached to the old 5 per cent War Loan, reducing the amounts for social services, and saving money at the expense of the unemployed by the operation of the Means Test.

It is significant that in spite of the Government's promise to give

financial assistance to the distressed areas, there is no provision for this in the Budget. Fourteen million pounds of the surplus goes to the reduction of the beer tax. Major Attlee and other Labour speakers declared that the Chancellor would have done far more good if he had used the surplus to restore the cuts in unemployment pay, and thus helped those in greatest need. A further point made from the Labour benches was that the Budget should have been based on a policy of initiating work schemes in order to restore industry.

THE CURRENT YEAR'S ESTIMATES.

More for Fighting Services—Less for Education.

THE estimated expenditure for 1933-34 includes provision for an increased expenditure of £4,985,000 on the fighting services as compared with last year.

The State grant for education (excluding teachers' pensions) is reduced by £7,222,000.

The grant for National Health Insurance is reduced by £404,000. The grant for health services is reduced by £53,000.

THE DEATH TOLL OF THE SLUMS.

A MEDICAL OFFICER'S REBUKE.

In the Smeaton Market district of Nottingham, a slum area of that city, the infantile mortality rate is 133 per 1,000 births, as compared with 88 per 1,000 in the city as a whole.

This fact was stated by the Chief Medical Officer of Nottingham, at a Ministry of Health inquiry on March 8th.

A representative of the property owners asked if lack of mothercraft was not an important factor. To which the Medical Officer replied:—

"That is chiefly among what we call the 'better class.' What are called 'lower classes' are now so well instructed by health visitors that infant feeding and management are, in many cases, better than among the other class.

It is not lack of mothercraft that is killing the babies; it is the appalling conditions in which they are compelled to exist.

SPEND MORE NOW AND ENABLE MORE TO BUY MORE

That mystic motto is exhibited inside tramcars, on hoardings, and on shop windows. What have the economy bands to say about this? One shilling off the rates, for example, is spending less, surely! But minds that can devise a motto like the above are hopeless. The proper one would be:—

DISTRIBUTE MORE MONEY NOW AND ENABLE MORE PEOPLE TO BUY MORE.

- The motto ought not to be in tramcars, either, but
- (1) On the Prime Minister's desk.
 - (2) On Mr. Montague Norman's ditto.
 - (3) Inside the House of Commons, and in the Progressive Party's room in the Town Hall.
 - (4) In the Chamber of Commerce.
 - (5) In front of everybody who pays wages; and finally
 - (6) On the windows of co-operative societies' shops.
- A further poster issued reads:—

You can't ride to prosperity with the brakes on

"We can't. But we didn't put the brake on. Those did who reduced wages, who were responsible for government and the financial system—and the authors of the motto!"

We and our Customers know . . .

that prices in the DRAPERY DEPARTMENT are always keenly-cut ones, and how low they are at present is convincingly shown in this list of everyday wearing apparel, &c., with current prices alongside those of a short three years ago.

	1930	To-day's Price
LADIES' VESTS	1/11	1/6
KNICKERS	2/11	1/11
COMBS	3/11	2/6
HOSE	4/11	2/11
GENTS' VESTS—Interlock	2/11	1/6
Meridian	4/11	2/11
HOSE	2/6	1/11
ALL-WOOL BLANKETS—		
9 lbs. weight	28/6	18/6
7 lbs. weight	23/6	14/6
ADMIRALTY TOWELS	1/11	1/-
LINEN TEA TOWELS	1/2	9/6

Your £ goes further—**SHEFFIELD ECCLESALL**—now at The Arcade
ECCLESALL ROAD

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 informing, the most entertaining collection of stories, articles, and poems published.

What?

"THE MILLECOTE" which costs sixpence, and beats the magazine at a shilling. Order it at your co-operative stores, bookshops, or railway bookstall.

LADIES', GIRLS', AND BOYS' FOOTWEAR.

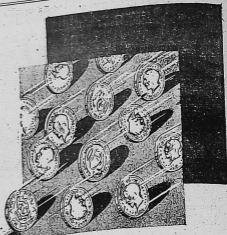
Sperope Brand :

MADE UNDER TRADE UNION CONDITIONS.
STAMP NO. 12.

STOCKED BY ALL CO-OPERATIVE BOOT DEPARTMENTS IN SHEFFIELD.

SPEND that EXTRA SHILLING

at your
own stores



- Why go elsewhere for anything when the Brightside and Carbrook Co-operative Society can offer you the maximum value in every need?
- You will find that it will pay you better in every way to buy all your Clothing, Household Furnishings and Requisites and Foodstuffs at either the City Stores or your most convenient Branch.
- You will find also that they are fully equipped to serve you better with the newest styles—the most reliable qualities, and a courteous, attentive service is at your command.

... and
remember

IT IS THE EXTRA
SHILLINGS SPENT
BY EVERY MEMBER

that will provide the increase in sales that make for
HIGHER DIVIDEND

For example—

1/- extra spent by each member per week means an increase in the turnover of £154,195 per annum, which would reduce the expenses of the Society by 8/6 in the £, and increase the amount available for dividend by the same figure.

So remember that Extra Shilling and help yourself to a Bigger Dividend!
WHY NOT NOW ?

**BRIGHTSIDE
& CARBROOK**
CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY LIMITED

HEAD OFFICE . . . THE CITY STORES,
EXCHANGE STREET, AND WAINGATE,
SHEFFIELD.

● Some suggestions for your shilling in odd things:—

.. METAL POLISHES	DYES
.. BOOT POLISH	JELLIES
.. FLOOR POLISH	MATCHES
.. CANDLES	FRUIT
.. BLUE	PEPPER
.. BLACKLEAD	SALT
.. TOBACCO	CAKES & BREAD
.. SWEETS	CREAM
.. MUSTARD	PICKLES & SAUCES
.. SODA	TINNED FOODS