

Register 22.5.23

World

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### UNIVERSITY OVAL DRESSING-ROOM RANSACKED.

On Sunday evening thieves broke into the dressing-room portion of the grandstand room at the Adelaide University Oval and forced open the lockers. The caretaker left the place about 6 o'clock, when everything was in order, but two hours later a member of the Police Force, who visited the vicinity on duty, found the door of the front dressing-room open, the locks of the lockers broken, and football "togs" scattered on the floor of the room in great confusion. The marauders' efforts to break through the fastenings of the door to an inner room proved futile, otherwise a valuable haul of new tennis balls, which had been stored there for use on Monday, might have rewarded them. So far no serious loss has been reported.

1. That the present total amount of reparations is one that cannot be made without producing economic chaos, and that the amount must be very substantially reduced.
2. That the amount and the method of payment should be determined by a tribunal to be appointed by a majority of the Council of the League of Nations.
3. That in the interests of restoring normal conditions throughout the world it would be wise that the restoration of material damage should be the first charge upon reparation payments.
4. That, even if the amount of reparations is determined in accordance with the findings of the proposed tribunal, it is desirable that some international arrangements should be made by which cash may be raised on the credit of the reparations scheme.
5. That the machinery of the League of Nations should be employed for associating the whole world in this problem.
6. That the League of Nations should take steps to educate public opinion in the sense of the above resolutions.

To some of my readers these recommendations may seem rank treason; but they are really a simple indication of the extent to which British thought has faced facts since 1919. The facts are, briefly, as follows:—

1. The amount fixed, £6,600,000,000, is far beyond Germany's capacity to pay in view of the reduction of her economic resources by the Peace Treaty and the dislocation of her exchanges.
2. The only way in which Germany or any other country can make annual reparation payments of interest and sinking fund is by exporting a big annual surplus of goods or rendering large shipping and banking services to her creditors.
3. To meet the reparations requirement Germany would have to export annually a surplus in goods of at least £150,000,000, and possibly of more than £250,000,000. If this were possible it would mean a glutting of the markets in those commodities which Germany exported, the sale of goods at very low prices below the cost of production in probably every case, and the consequent ruin of the affected industries in the allied countries. Instead of dumping in order to keep a scarcity in the local market, Germany would have to dump in order to sell at any price, because of the need for getting foreign credits with which to make the annual payments.
4. As a matter of fact, the export of any considerable surplus by Germany is today probably impossible. Her export trade is insufficient for paying the cost of her imports. She has now to import more foodstuffs and the greater part of her iron ore on top of the pre-war imports of other raw and semi-manufactured materials.
5. Offers made by Germany to rebuild the devastated areas, or to supply material for that task, e.g., the Wiesbaden agreement between Loucheur and Rathenau have been rejected or impeded. For instance, the Paris Chamber of Commerce protested against the Wiesbaden agreement on the ground that, "though offering certain financial advantages, it will only increase the disabilities from which French industries are now suffering, that it will diminish French production and offer a premium on German imports."
6. Any arrangement of an international loan to allow Germany to hand over cash at once is impossible; the bankers of the world will not look at the proposal until the whole question of reparations and inter-allied debts has been drastically overhauled. The conference of international bankers in Paris last year made that quite clear.
7. Until Central and Eastern Europe is once more inside the producing and consuming circle of world trade, nearly one-fifth of the world's population is cut off from the normal pre-war market. To a country such as England, which depends on its foreign trade, this is a vital consideration, and England cannot, therefore, afford to allow any other Power to take separate action which delays the day of settlement.

Hence the protest of the British League of Nations Union against the French advance in the Ruhr; hence the frequent cables recording the resolutions of the Union in favour of submitting the whole question to the League. Force settles nothing; it does not get coal out of the ground or build miners' cottages at Lens. The only way out, a way in which Australia and the whole world are concerned, is that the reparations question shall be settled once and for all on a practicable basis in accord with economic possibilities. The only body capable of making such a settlement is the League of Nations.

### LAWN TENNIS.

#### INTER-UNIVERSITY WOMEN'S CHAMPIONSHIP.

The inter-University women's championship games were continued on the University Oval on Tuesday, when Adelaide completed their rubbers against Sydney. Of the two doubles rubbers played, Sydney and Adelaide each won one, but Sydney was successful in all the singles. In the contests between Melbourne and Queensland, two doubles and four singles contests were played, Melbourne carrying off the honors in all. This leaves Sydney and Melbourne to contest the finals, which will be held on the University Oval to-day and to-morrow, if the weather is not too rough. Results:—

- SYDNEY VERSUS ADELAIDE.**
- Doubles.  
Misses E. Bickerton and E. Hunt (S.) beat Misses M. Hardy and J. Taplin (A.), 6-1, 2-6, 6-3.
- Singles.  
Miss G. Jones and P. Miller (S.) lost to Miss G. Ure and L. Morris (A.), 3-6, 2-6.
- Miss E. Hunt (S.) beat Miss M. Hardy (A.), 6-0, 6-0.  
Miss P. Miller (S.) beat Miss L. Morris (A.), 6-2, 5-7, 6-10.  
Miss L. Bickerton (S.) beat Miss G. Ure (A.), 6-3, 6-3.  
Miss G. Jones (S.) beat Miss J. Taplin (A.), 6-7, 6-3, 6-2.
- MELBOURNE VERSUS QUEENSLAND.**
- Doubles.  
Misses M. Tovell and M. Davies (M.) beat Misses A. Hooper and L. Bartholomews (Q.), 6-3, 2-6, 7-5.
- Singles.  
Miss K. Stephenson (M.) beat Miss J. Bartholomews (Q.), 7-5, 1-6.  
Miss M. Tovell (M.) beat Miss A. Hooper (Q.), 6-1, 6-1.  
Miss D. Davies (M.) beat Miss S. Drake (Q.), 6-3, 2-6, 8-6.  
Miss M. Davies (M.) beat Miss P. Hempsted (Q.), 6-1, 6-0.

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### LEAGUE OF NATIONS.

#### And the Reparation Problem. By Dr. H. Heaton.

On a famous occasion about 30 years ago, when a group of Australian State delegates was trying to thrash out an acceptable plan of federation, Sir James Scobie remarked that the tariff problem stood like "a lion in the path." To this Henry Parkes retorted that tariff or no tariff, "the crimson tie of kinship runs through us all." Adopting these two utterances for to-day, we may say that the reparations and inter-allied debts problem stands like a lion in the path of all real and general trade revival, and that the common interests and benefits of active international trade run through us all, making it necessary for us to drive out of our path whatever obstacles lie in the way. British opinion, or at least that part of it which rests on knowledge of the facts and principles of international commerce, is solidly and perhaps pessimistically convinced that a drastic revision of the whole reparations "settlement" is an essential first step towards the recovery of Europe and the world, and as that revision is further and further postponed, opinion becomes more gloomy. Dean Inge to-day stands not alone in his role of Jeremiah; with him we find Norman Angell wondering "if Britain is to live," and the doubts expressed by the Webbs, Lord Milner, Mr. McKenna, and scores of others, make one wonder if "it's all up" with European supremacy and civilization.

**Need for Revision.**  
The need for facing and reviewing the reparations position drove the British League of Nations, late in 1921, to ask its economic subcommittee to consider and report on "the probably impending failure of the German Government to meet their obligations in the matter of reparations payments, and the probable consequence of such failure." The subcommittee to which this task was entrusted was probably as competent a body of economic and financial experts as any country could produce. It consisted of J. A. Hobson, the most stimulating and independent economist in the Empire; Professor Canaan, who occupies the chair of Political Economy in the University of London; F. W. Hirst, onetime editor of The Economist; Walter Layton, the present editor of that paper; and Sir George Paish, whose name is a household word in British financial circles. The report of the sub-committee first surveys the tortuous history. Finally the Reparations Commission fixed the total at £6,600,000,000, of which roughly one-third represented damage to civilians and their property, the remainder consisting of pension and allowance costs. That decision was reached over two years ago, and the last two years have probably been the two most dismal and unsettled in the whole world's history of "peace." As Dean Inge says, the Great War was followed by the "great unsettlement." And if the reparations terms are not revised, the next ten years will be little better than the last two. Mr. Bonar Law admitted that, by implication, in his plan submitted to the Paris Conference last January. The League of Nations Economic Sub-Committee realized it, and when it submitted its report in early 1922, the Executive Committee of the League of Nations Union passed the following resolutions:—

### A FACULTY OF LAW FOR PERTH.

Perth, May 22.  
The University Senate to-day resolved to ask the Premier for a special grant of £1,650 a year to establish a faculty of law, including £1,000 for the salary of a professor. The decision resulted from a conference with the Barristers' Board, who recommended provision for a two-years' law course, and to enable articled clerks to take the LL.B. degree.

The Minister in reply, referred to the many calls made upon the financial resources of the Government by the various branches of education. What was being done at the present time showed that they were not unresponsive to the demand for increased facilities, and he hoped that for next year Parliament would give a much bigger vote for educational purposes generally. He did not know whether it would be possible for him to get all that was asked for by the different educational associations when the Estimates were before the Cabinet, in addition to what was required by the needs of the primary, secondary, and technical systems, but he would do the best he could for them all. He did not want to belittle in any way the work done by the W.E.A., neither would he apply the same definition to it, as was stated by Mr. Hannaford to be sometimes understood. No body had the right in South Australia to monopolise the term "worker," which applied to all classes who were doing something. He would bring their request before the Cabinet, and point out what they had been able to accomplish. The Government could not shut their eyes to the fact that the association was doing good work. With a number of other institutions it was striving for the general uplift of the people through the medium of education. He appreciated the work which those institutions were doing, and hoped that it would be possible to deal with them more generously than in the past.

### WORKERS' EDUCATIONAL ASSOCIATION.

#### Increased State Aid Desired.

A representative deputation from the Workers' Educational Association, waited upon the Minister of Education (Hon. T. Pascoe), on Wednesday, and asked that additional financial assistance should be given by the Government in order that the working operations of the organization might be made still more extensive.

The speakers were Messrs. S. Whitford, M.P. (President of the association), G. McRitchie (general secretary), McMillan, M.P. (Murray lands), F. W. Riddle (Gawler), H. W. Gersch (Freeling), and B. Newell (Mount Barker), the Hon. W. Hannaford, M.L.C. (Riverton), and Dr. Heaton (Director of Tutorial Classes). It was claimed that the association had done and was doing really wonderful work. On account of lack of funds, however, it was unable to respond to demands to extend its attention to the country as it would like to do. At present the Government contributed £1,300 a year towards the work. Although the total number of students in the classes was the second largest aggregate of any State in the Commonwealth, the Government grant was the smallest. In 1917 the students numbered 231, and at present they totalled approximately 700, with further applications being received each week. The growth of the association spoke for itself, and its usefulness was beyond doubt or challenge. Teachers were available to extend the work, and students were waiting to be enrolled, but extra Government help was necessary in the matter. In the Murray district alone, the full time of one teacher could be absorbed. If the additional grant required were not made by the State, some of the classes already in existence in the rural districts would have to be shut down. The provision of extra classes—mental recreation—would undoubtedly help in stopping the drift of people from the country to the city. The work was of University standard, and conducted by teachers of University attainment, and the object was to help the workers generally to improve their education. Requests to send lecturers to certain country circles had had to be refused owing to shortage of funds. They asked that the Government grant should be made £1,800 a year. Of that £200 would be required to make up the immediate leeway, and £300 would be used to extend the operations this year. The University of Adelaide granted £200 per annum.

#### Consideration Promised.

The Minister of Education, in reply, emphasized the task of the Government to meet all the demands for extra money for education. Application would be made to Parliament for a bigger vote, and he hoped that it would be granted. (Mr. Whitford—I will vote for it.) Mr. Pascoe added that he realized that excellent work was done by the W.E.A. He would submit their request to Cabinet, and he knew that the feeling of his colleagues would be to help such a good cause so far as possible.

### THE WORKERS' EDUCATIONAL ASSOCIATION.

#### AN INCREASED GRANT ASKED FOR.

The good work which is being done by the Workers' Educational Association was brought under the notice of the Government on Wednesday, when a deputation waited upon the Minister of Education (Hon. T. Pascoe) and sought an increased grant, in order that its sphere of influence might be extended.

Mr. S. Whitford, M.P. (president), who introduced the speakers, said the association was doing a wonderful work for education, not only in the metropolitan area, but in some of the provincial centres. Its object was to place educational facilities within the reach of working men generally, but because of the lack of funds it was not possible to give assistance to people who were desirous of entering the movement. The State contributed £1,300 per annum, but was now asked to increase that amount considerably.

Mr. G. McRitchie (general secretary) pointed out that although the number of students attached to the W.E.A. in South Australia was the second largest in the Commonwealth, their grant was the smallest. The students enrolled had grown from 231 in 1917 to approximately 700 at the present time, and more were joining each week on learning of the benefits to be gained. Owing to the limited funds it was impossible to develop the association as they wished. Along the Murray alone there were sufficient students waiting to occupy the full time of one tutor, but under present conditions they could not do anything for outlying places. It would, in fact, be necessary to terminate some of the classes already in existence unless the grant were increased.

The Hon. W. Hannaford said a wrong impression was formed by some people from the name of the association. Many more people were benefited than those generally understood by the use of the term, "working man." An extension of the student movement could not fail to benefit the State very materially.

Dr. Heaton, director of the University tutorial classes, asked that the Government grant should be increased to £1,800. Messrs. F. W. Riddle (Gawler), H. W. Gersch (Freeling), B. Newell (Mount Barker), and F. M. McMillan, M.P., spoke in support of the request.

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