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Australia has many advantages because of the fact that the people who live on this island continent are one Nation. We have no border difficulties but those left over from the railway Departments, where break of gauge requires us to leave the train at unearthly hours, and deprives us of a commonwealth transport system in keeping with ~~any~~ ~~xxxxxx~~ our nationhood.

On the other hand we live in a condition of isolation which applied to our knowledge and interest in the affairs of other nations, particularly those that are near to our own shores.

Our news services keep us supplied with ~~the~~ information about calamities that happen to individuals and peoples, of conflicts and difficultiest that arise between nations and governments. The fact that we are one world is recognised in this field, but we are not so well-informed as to the significant things that are happening in all countries, particularly those dealing with human progress. A few magazines, and the magazine sections of the best press publications do carry articles that are enlightening and well worth reading. The broadcasting stations ~~xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx~~ give us opportunities of hearing visitors to our shores, and returned Australians who have had the opportunity of making investigations abroad. There is however not nearly enough interest in this material. If we are to build a democracy that ~~will~~ would win the approval of the peoples recently come to their nationhood status, we should know enough to bring a critical judgment to bear on important events, and on the trends they imply in our own country as well as that of others.

I valued the opportunity that came to me a year or so ago to see something of the work being done under the auspices of the United Nations. As a delegate from Australia serving on the Status of Women Commission, I had the opportunity of seeing something of the other United Nations organizations, of appreciating the magnitude of work being done of which the average person knows very little.

A person does not have to be a professor of history to realise that fundamental changes in human ~~developmentxxxxxx~~ affairs is taking place, especially in the economic and social fields. The long t.

programme of the United Nations which is mainly concerned with helping to step up the advancement of people in the under-developed territories and nations, is the greatest movement in human history.

More than half the people of the world are hungry, and in need of help in their most fundamental needs. They are on the march, for they are no longer content to remain in this condition. The watchmen on the towers are warning the more fortunate nations that solutions must be found. Food, ~~must be grown~~, medical aid supplied, ~~development of their resources~~ to increase their goods and supplies must be ~~assisted~~, and education to help them to play their own part in task.

The wealthier nations are pooling funds to make this possible. They are aware that if this is not done, they will probably turn to some form of government that make them easy victims of tyrants in search of world domination. The Comumba plan is one part of this international effort. Millions of refugees are still unable to find a home or country. Millions of children from war torn countries are presenting a problem for the future. They are without the security that helps to make for good citizenship. We all know that broken homes ~~xxxxx~~ and insecurity cause children to become delinquents, and anti-social in their behaviour.

No nation, however strong, can isolate itself from the effect of these conditions. Even the United States with all its wealth and power, with its natural resources that make it more independent than any other country at the present time, is affected. Its policies and internal life is being shaped by these international conditions more than many of its leaders would like to think. India is an example of a nation poor in material things to the point of hunger and destitution in many of its areas, yet itsis exerting an influence with much wisdom and sense of real values. Britain came near to insolvency as a result of the last war, but stripped of much of the power that made her a leader of nations, she still exerts a great influence, and has not lost the confidence of leaders of other lands, because her help to them is so limited on account of her own plight.

I would like to take the time here to give a little compact picture of the type of help being given to countries in need, and which is truly demonstrating the principle of the golden rule on an international scale.

scale. In an article in the United Nations News of March, Ritchie Calder, the Science Editor of the London News Chronicle, reported on a ~~misk~~ United Nations Mission to South East Asia, of which he was the leader. Part of that report contains the story of building a new city in the desert of Pakistan. The Government has found like that of so many of the countries that have newly come to ~~xxxxx~~ self-government, that many of the problems are too great for them to solve alone, so they turn to the United Nations for the expert help that they require. They had many thousands of refugees to place. The populated centres were already crowded so they conceived the idea of building a city in the desert. The aid of the Technical Assistance provisions of U.N. were sought. Food was naturally the first consideration, so the Food and Agriculture Organization of U.N. sent trained people to examine the soils and suggest methods of improving the fertility of the ground, and also the best grasses and plants for the region. Britain Town planning expert is being sent to assist, and a British social planner, so that a good start can be made in those directions. In addition the U.N. World Health Organization will provide advisers on the clinical, public health, and the mother and child welfare services required. The International Labour Office will help with the movement of the population, setting up employment exchanges, technical schools, and so on, as well as advising on the balance of small-scale, and large-scale industries, so that the best uses can be made of the crafts and skills of the people who will live in this new city. Unesco, the educational specialised agency of U.N. will follow on to assist in the fundamental problems of education particularly that of encouraging an appreciation of knowing how to do things in the best way. This is adult education required at once, and then the schools for the younger generations that they too may develop their gifts to use for the good of their country. U.N. experts will also help with the development of post Offices, telephones and such services. This is a sample of how by co-operation between the nations the stronger can help the weak, the skilled can help the unskilled, the richer can help the poorer - truly the golden rule on a grand scale. I have drawn the attention of listeners to this little story of work in a desert area, in a remote part of Pakistan, because I think it is an illustration of the pattern of things that are happening, and of

so far we have reminded ourselves of three things relating to the world in which we live:

1. That fundamental changes are taking place in the lives of human beings in every country.
2. That no nation, however strong can live to itself. We have become one world, and are all influenced for good or ill, by what is happening elsewhere.
- 3 That nations are co-operating around the tables/in the various sections of the United Nations Organizations/to consider the needs of all and if possible, help the destitute half of the world's population to share in the good life,/that makes possible the development of body, mind, and spirit.

Not only are the leaders of these organizations concerned with developing countries/as in our little story of a Pakistan city,/but they are also looking with critical eyes, and weighing with critical minds the habits and practices of the peoples/^{too} that may be increasing the burdens that are already heavy,/and turning the searchlight on them. This has revealed much that requires our consideration, time will not allow of ~~mentioning~~ more than a mention of some of them. The very great handicap that ill-health places on the people, the cost of medical and nursing aid, of hospitals, etc. The cost of crime and delinquency to the nations, of the drug traffic, and the alcohol problem.

The World Health Organization has been giving consideration to the questions of drug addiction,/of alcoholism,/as causes of self inflicted diseases which lay vast burdens on the people./ In a hungry world there is not enough to spare to turn millions of tons of grain into alcoholic liquor,/and immense amounts of fruit into wines and distilled spirits,/ which in their turn add still more ~~toxic~~ problems to those already weighing down the people.

Australia is facing a crisis which may affect the lives of all ~~her~~ ~~people~~. The Federal Government is not able to find sufficient money to meet the needs of the States. The alternative is to ~~exit down~~ close down works employing many thousands of people, and the repercussions may be serious. There are not enough schools to ~~house~~ house the would-be scholars. Not enough teachers to teach them. We suffer lack of power, as every housewife, knows as well as the industrialist. The ~~states~~ ^{states} are asking

for what seems very large sums of money , something like million pounds. Yet Australians this year will spend about 100 million on alcoholic drinks. It may be argued that a large part of this will be returned to the Government in revenue. This is true, but what the States will pay out in dealing with the results ~~of~~ of alcohol on the people. ^{is far in excess of this amount.} It would probably be fairer if the Federal Treasurer made out a cheque for each state, for the sum of money returned to the revenue from the sale of alcoholic liquors, towards the cost they must bear in helping to deal with these results. At least it would be a recognition of the price paid for the indulgence.

The number of men, women and children being slaughtered on the roads is high-lighting one aspect of this tragedy. For the last official year, in Australia 1,643 persons were killed, and over 31,000 crippled or ~~injured~~ seriously. injured.

A conservative estimate is that the cost ~~xxxxxxx~~ of damageds were at least twenty million pounds. There is ample evidence to support the claim that more than half the deaths, injuries, and damages were due to drivers who were under the influence of alcohol. Behind every accident there is a ~~tragedy~~ human tragedy. We see the figures and forget them, but if we could follow only a fraction of the cases, if we had the job of the police of having to tell the relatives and friends of the crippled and killed children, young people ~~and~~ mothers and fathers we would surely demand a code for the road which made it an offence to drive a motor vehicle or a plane, or a train after having imbibed any alcohol at all.

If an enemy country had made raids on our shores causing anything like the loss of life and limb, suffered at the hands of fellow-citizens who drive under the influence of alcohol, the Governments would probably declare war, and a public opinion would probably support them. Yet we accept as inevitable this slaughter of the youth of our country almost without a protest.

It is important to remember that of the number killed and injured more than half ~~xxxx~~ were under the age of thirty. In 3 years ending in 1949 over 8,000 children ~~xxxx~~ of school age were killed or injured. Since then the number has been considerably increased.

In closing this talk I want to remind you again of the fact that it is being recognised in the international field, by United Nations organizations, by all who dare to look ahead and assess the needs of the world, that the democracies cannot afford to carry the weight of the problems arising from indulgence in alcohol as a beverage.

That in Australia we cannot afford to treat this problem as an inevitable evil. That there must be a more thorough understanding of the nature of the problem and the price we pay for nourishing the evil. The spiritual, mental and physical health of the nation is at stake.

The main difference between the highest form of animal life - the chimpanzee - and the human is a delicate layer of brain tissue, no thicker than a fine silk handkerchief. It is interlaced with the ~~xxxxxxxxxx~~ most marvellous thing in nature - vast number of highly specialised nerve cells. These ~~xxxxxx~~ make it possible to know the things that belong to God, to experience spiritual contacts with ~~things~~ divine power. To reason, and judge between good and evil, to enjoy the powers of the intellect, to rise to heights of human development. Yet we encourage the use of a drug, the first action of which is to impair, and degrade these very ~~diffxxx~~ powers which separate us from the brute creation.

The tests as to the action of alcohol on the human brain and nervous system, carried on over the last half century have continued to reveal more and more the extent of this damage. Chemical tests show that that a driver of a motor vehicle may be incapable of dealing with an emergency when he has had as little as ~~a~~ one glass of light ale. That ~~the~~ many are under the influence in the range between .05 and .10 that is after two or three pints of beer or the equivalent in other drinks. That everybody is influenced after they have had the equivalent of three or four pints of beer. Several of the United states are basing their laws on these facts, and the National Safety Council of the United States, and the code advises that such laws be instituted.

AS we listen to the ~~xxx~~ challenge to strengthen our spiritual and moral forces, that we may face the future with the strength of mind and soul that is necessary, let us not be blind to ~~this~~ the fact that we are putting out of action the very powers that God has given us that we may