

visions of an additional £5 a week, then do we revert to this list of things that are wanted, and, mark, wanted now :

8,000,000 houses.
135,000,000 clothing outfits.
90,000,000 pairs of boots.
60,000,000 hats.
15,000,000 umbrellas.
20,000,000 mackintoshes.
9,000,000 pianos.
180,000,000 collars.

All these things and much besides would quickly appear on a free market in which we were all at liberty to exercise our capabilities to the full. There is however no hope of any such development of wealth so long as we are afflicted with all our present Collectivist restraints on individual activity. The job is too big to organise, but split up into forty million little jobs is easily within our compass.

But these facts emphasise the truth of the theory that the problem of poverty is not a problem of money, but of things, and that if we will make the things the problem disappears. Things are made by individuals. How suicidal then are all the multifarious restrictions with which we hedge ourselves around.

Most of the difficulties in the economic world would rapidly be solved if people could be brought to accept and act upon the indubitably true proposition that every piece of work or trade completed leads directly and immediately to another piece of work or trade.