

17. A nation such as ours can stand being told the truth and can be depended on to follow a clear call to their intelligence and energy to meet a national crisis. That a crisis exists cannot be denied.

18. Economy in Government, economy in municipal and local administration is urgently necessary.

19. Industry as the patient beast of burden is on the verge of collapse. The responsibility for the continuance of the present burdens is grave indeed.

20. The Engineering Industry is a finishing industry. In the purchase of its materials, it has to carry burdens accumulated in every branch of industry contributing to the supply of these materials—coal, iron and steel, transport, etc.—as to wages, local rating and national taxation.

21. The Industry is therefore under a twofold disability. It has to look after its own economy and it has to accept all the "pre-charges" created for it by the earlier stages of manufacture even on an uneconomic basis.

22. All industries are interrelated and it is the duty of all to contribute to the solution of present difficulties.

23. Particularly is this so in the case of the sheltered or non-exporting industries, municipal and other public bodies. These, being freed from the burden of foreign competition or being in the position of spending public monies, are not conscious of the cares of economic production and pay little heed to the sources from which the money they spend must be found. They create for competitive industry burdens which can only be justified by the presumption that they occupy a position entitling them to preferential treatment at the hands of the nation as a whole.

24. The whole nation is living beyond its means. The standard and mode of living which have grown up in recent years have outrun the national income and will require to be brought back to their proper relation.

25. If any change in the present fiscal system should result in an improvement in trade and thereby create a new source of revenue the amount so accruing to the National Treasury should not be regarded as available for further extravagances, but used for the liquidation of existing commitments.