



# THE WORLD THEY WANT:

ONCE more we have turned to the man in the street for opinions about the state of the world. The man who has been taken out of the street—chosen as a leader or appointed to teach or preach—speaks to us every day. If we don't know what his opinions are it is our own fault and not his, since it is his duty (whether it is his pleasure or not) to tell us. But the people generally are without a voice. Unless the attempt is made at intervals to find out, it is not easy to know what they think, whether they are getting ahead of or falling behind

their leaders, and how they are likely to behave in an emergency. So we close the year with two simple questions to 20 or 30 men and women chosen almost (but not quite) at random. They have not all answered, of course, but most of them have, and this, with some condensation, is the result.

The questions we asked were:

1. What changes would you LIKE to see in the world before the end of this year?
2. What changes do you EXPECT to see?

**LIEUT.-COL. G. R. POWLES:**

1. Peace; tolerance and co-operation amongst nations and men evinced through working international machinery and truly representative governments; international pooling of scientific advances, raw materials, and primary products; practical realisation of the fact of human brotherhood.  
2. Continued war; increased sectional bitterness within nations and mistrust among nations; much selfishness and sorrow, but much idealism and self-sacrifice; one more year of stumbling, fumbling human endeavour.



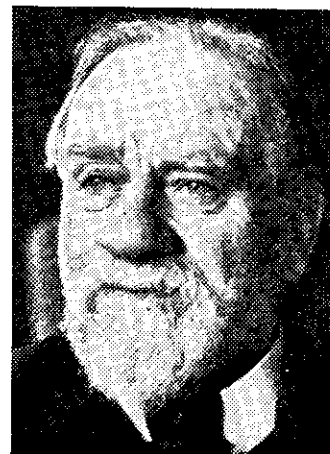
**DR. MURIEL E. BELL**  
(Nutritionist to the Health Department):

1. As a means to the end of future wars, the growth of a world policy and a world organisation for dealing with the equitable distribution of the materials for food, clothing and shelter, coupled with the greater penetration into world affairs of those with the requisite scientific knowledge for implementing this policy.
2. A little progress in this direction such as will undoubtedly be the aim of such bodies as UNRRA and the Interim Commission on Food and Agriculture.



**PTE. B. H. ROBERTSON:**

1. First and foremost, peace and goodwill upon earth; adequate relief to the starving population of liberated countries; more tolerance between nations and between ourselves.
2. A rising crescendo in the global war, particularly in the European theatre in the approaching spring and summer; the occupation of Germany by the Allies; guerrilla resistance from a section of the German people; intense political strife in practically every European country; differences regarding policy between the principal Allies leading to compromises filled with potential danger.



**A. C. GIFFORD** (retired teacher, mathematician and astronomer):

- I would like to see:—
1. All wars over.
  2. Social Credit adopted. Poverty abolished. Money no longer issued as debt.
  3. Vastly increased production, made possible by science, used no longer for destruction, but for man's benefit.
- I expect to see:—
1. Germany defeated, Japan still fighting.
  2. The world facing an absolutely unnecessary slump.
  3. Progress, made possible by science, retarded on account of an alleged lack of funds.



**MISS R. A. COLLINS**  
(a "Wren"):

1. I should like to see no patriotism narrowing the vision of individual countries, but each country recognising each other's virtues and overlooking each other's faults; to see new systems of government peacefully replacing the old, revolutionary ones, from which would issue one suited to the needs of the whole world.
2. I think this year will bring differences and misunderstandings between nations, but if all have the one aim in mind, world peace, the prospect of unity is closer.



**HOWARD WADMAN** (writer, broadcaster, and publicity specialist):

1. I should like to see Germany learning contrition (the product of forgiveness and sympathy), Britain becoming impatient (with the starched dunderheads who are getting ready to tell us what can't be done), the U.S.A. developing humility (with regard to other people's problems, and a conscience with regard to their own), and New Zealand gaining imagination (through a national theatre and a huge influx of foreigners).
2. The only change I expect is that even less people will be united and hopeful at the end of the year than are at the beginning. As this is rather dampening, may we concentrate on another question—What changes in myself would I like to see this year, and how can they be effected?



**H. T. MANKLOW** (Roadman):

1. The end of the war and a new social order built on progress.
2. No change this year unless the unforetold happens. Humanity is in the melting pot, and the forces of evil have got to be destroyed in order to bring about a new world based on security for all.



**HAROLD MILLER** (Librarian, Victoria University College):

- I would like to see the world at peace by the end of 1945 and victor and vanquished co-operating in an endeavour to build a better world, but I expect to see Europe at any rate enter a period of anarchy and civil war.



**L. SHAKESBY** (baker):

1. I would like to see a greater degree of tolerance existing between the nations of the world. I would like to see younger leaders of world affairs.
2. I expect to see disturbances among the liberated people. I expect to see many changes in the social order.



- IAN McDOWALL** (student): Adequate military and economic assistance from the allied nations to China would be the most welcome news in 1945. This is hardly possible before the defeat of Germany, but there seems every reason to hope that we will see that before another twelve months have passed.