

these benefits are only just and fair and they're going to be a help in many cases. But who's going to pay for them, where is the money coming from, that's what I'd like to know."

MAORI RETURNED SOLDIER (brewery worker, 3 children, one under 16):

"I THINK these allowances are on the right lines. We've got to build up our population if we're to avoid wars in the future. Nations that have race suicide are always the ones that go under in history and the nation with the big population is safe. If the British Empire builds up a strong population it won't be worth any other nation's time taking it on and so there won't be any more wars. I'm 49 and I've spent nine years of my life at war, four in the last war and five in this and my eldest boy is still in Egypt. Things have been in a bad mess, but I think they're clearing up and I think this is a step in the right direction. Personally I think a man would be better off without any overtime, working a 40-hour week and drawing his regular wages with the family benefits due to him; then he'd know where he stood — and also he wouldn't have to be yawning on the job the way we are these days."

FARMER:

"WHERE are we going to get the money to pay for all these social benefits? The only source of wealth in New Zealand is the grass in the fields that feeds the sheep and cattle, along with a few other things such as gold-mines and timber. Universal benefits will start, we are told, on the first of April—very appropriate. It's all too idealistic and it will simply mean that we will be taking in each other's washing."

COMMUNIST:

"IT'S a vote-catching stunt. We have heard a lot of talk about a new social order, but so far, it is only talk. Will somebody tell us how we are to achieve it? New Zealand is not self-supporting, she has no heavy industries, and she must import all heavy machinery. How, then, can it be said that we are in a position to go in for these grand schemes? A lot of people will be pleased; some won't. I could talk to you for an hour about this, but what's the use? There is a faint glimmering of an approach to Socialism, but it is so faint that I am not very much heartened by it."

MARRIED WOMAN (no children):

"THE family benefits scheme should be commended by every woman. Personally I will not benefit unless my husband and I adopt a child—which we have been thinking of doing for some time. Now we shall probably make a move. The plan strikes me as being a step towards true Socialism. After what New Zealand, with the rest of the world, has gone through in the last five years, it is excellent to see a move towards assisting the production and nurturing of human life."

BARMAN:

"PERSONALLY I reckon it's the greatest thing the Government has done. If people get married and both go to work and they are too darned mean to have a kid, then they should pay for the others. That's what I think about it."

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For proof, read this letter.

593 Ferry Road,
Woolston, Christchurch,
26th November, 1943.

Lactagol Ltd.,

Dear Sirs,

My baby daughter was born on the 23rd of October and weighed 6lb. 3 oz. While she was in the home she dropped to 5lb. 10oz., and my milk went, so when she was a week old they put her on the bottle. When I came home I started taking Lactagol as a tonic. My milk came back and now, after being fully bottle-fed for 3 weeks, baby is entirely breast-fed again. Last week she put on 6 oz., and is very good both in the daytime and at night. I might add that I have felt a lot better in myself since taking Lactagol—it's not taking it out of me like it did to feed my other little boy. If you wish to use this letter you may.

Yours faithfully,
Mrs. U. E. Laing.

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