

Topics of The Times

Bigger Than Economics. Dr. H J A L M A R SCHACHT, head of the German Reichsbank, who is now in this country to discuss economics with President ROOSEVELT, made a straight-from-the-shoulder radio talk on landing in New York. He vigorously brought to the attention of the American public the existence of three basic truths, of which the second is as follows:

"Many people are trying to convince you that the present economic crisis is based on economic reasons. Don't you believe them. Our crisis is a moral one. Economic well-being will only return if a fair chance is given to every one. Instead, all forces are used to keep down the defeated. He is asked to pay but not allowed to earn."

Fair Play All Round. This is a statement of principles so wise, so courageous and so humane that we must take it to apply in all things, not only to international behavior but to the conduct of domestic affairs everywhere. Wherever there is a victorious political party that is tempted to use violence in order to keep down the defeated side; wherever there is a government which sets out to deprive a part of its population of the elementary right to earn a living; wherever there is a régime that is inclined to forget that the economic well-being of a nation depends on a fair chance for every citizen; wherever, in short, there may be in power a group of men who will not and cannot see that economic crises are rooted in moral crises—these words of our distinguished German visitor ought to be read and taken to heart.

His Eyes Saw. LI CHING-YUN, a native of the province of Szechwan in Western China, is dead there at the age of 197 as he himself counted it, or at the age of 256, according to official estimates. It is said that there is a record of congratulations extended by the Peking Government to the venerable man on his 200th birthday.

If LI CHING-YUN lived to be 197 years old, then it is probable that he witnessed the following:

- 7 attempts to inflate the currency and bring back prosperity.
- 7 collapses of the currency.
- 12 revolts of the young generation.
- 25 revivals of the long skirt.
- 24 returns of the short skirt.
- 8 reintroductions of the game of whist under a new name.
- 10 returns of the jig-saw puzzle.
- 5 cycles of warm Winters and cool Summers.
- 5 cycles of cold Winters and hot Summers.
- 6 outbreaks of nudism.
- 4 eruptions of school teaching without books, teachers or discipline.
- 4 returns to modified corporal punishment.
- 12 outbursts of self-expression in the colleges.
- 11 revivals of the Lady type.

Add 25 Per Cent. But if LI CHING-YUN actually lived to be 256 years, then it is plain that he must have been an observer of

the following panorama:

- 9 attempts to inflate the currency and bring back prosperity.
- 9 collapses of the currency.
- 15 revolts of the younger generation.
- 31 revivals of the long skirt.
- 30 returns of the short skirt.
- 10 reintroductions of the game of whist under a new name.
- 12 revivals of the jig-saw puzzle.
- 6 cycles of warm Winters and cool Summers.
- 6 cycles of cold Winters and hot Summers.
- 8 outbreaks of nudism.
- 5 eruptions of school teaching without books, teachers or discipline.
- 5 returns to modified corporal punishment.
- 15 outbursts of self-expression in the colleges.
- 14 revivals of the Lady type.

Many Jolly Reasons. Every day that passes it becomes more evident that one of the great debates of history lies ahead of us.

It will be the question of what is chiefly responsible for bringing back prosperity.

There will be those who insist that the turning point was beer.

It bucked up industry and gave the signal for a break with the past.

There will be those who think the short wheat crop turned the trick.

Then there is the bank holiday and the excision of a nasty tumor from the national body.

There is inflation.

There is mortgage relief for farm and home.

There is the prospect of complete Repeal.

Only let Prosperity do its share and hurry back as soon as it can.

We shall have no trouble explaining its arrival.

Mrs. ROOSEVELT named as the three most important points in a program to carry our children through these hard times: housing, food and recreation. Food is not merely any that "you may happen to have," but the "right kind." The Federal Government distributes menus of different foods in the right proportion, purchasable cheaply. The Government is doing an inestimable service in making such advice available, wherever there is a child, for, as President HOOVER said, the "march forward of our country must be upon the feet of healthy children."