

savings banks. This is, of course, a valuable protection to the finances of the working classes, whose slender resources would otherwise be curtailed.

It will thus be seen that the whole mechanism of our financial existence has been carefully studied, with a view to mitigating as far as possible such hardship as the present emergency entails. And should it appear that any matters have been overlooked, additional provisions can at any time be included in a new proclamation. The duration of the present one is only a month, but before its expiration it will be possible to consider how far it is necessary to continue it. The moratorium will, however, probably be maintained during the whole progress of the war, as has usually been done by foreign countries when they have been compelled to introduce it.

Some criticism has been offered as to the non-applicability to small debts, but it is obvious that in this matter the County Court Judges will continue to exercise their discretion as they always do, and will not make orders upon judgment summonses unless there is evidence of means to pay. The small tradesman must also be protected, and it is not likely that they will act harshly, any more than they have done in the past in districts where there has been a strike in progress.

Finally, it must be remembered that in all matters appertaining to the maintenance of the credit system upon which our trade is based, the good sense and business instincts of the people are the chief safeguards. It may, therefore, confidently be hoped that, with or without the expedients contrived to meet an unprecedented emergency, in the end our national credit will prove to have safely weathered the storm.—*Law Times*.

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Modern civilization has introduced great qualifications to soften the rigours of war; and allows a degree of intercourse with enemies, and particularly with prisoners of war, which can hardly be carried on without the assistance of our Courts of justice. It is not, therefore, good policy to encourage these strict notions, which are insisted on contrary to morality and public convenience.—Eyre, C.J., *Sparenburgh v. Bannatyne* (1797), 2 Bos. & Pull. 170.