

With trade in its present depressed state you will hardly venture on imposing fresh taxes, for increase of taxation is not always increase of revenue, and in fiscal arithmetic two and two do not make four. You may resort to the miserable expedient of borrowing, opening the pleasant vista to our eyes of a debt of 1000 millions. This is a mere mortgaging of the labour of generations unborn, and dire necessity can alone drive you to so unprincipled an alternative. I could point out to you a third course, A LAND TAX, but here the interest of the Landlords would intervene and you would find the House of Commons deaf to your appeals. The land tax was, in Queen Anne's time, 4s. in the £, but this has been so skilfully manipulated and pared down, that it is now something quite insignificant.

And now, Sir, I propose my plan: I call it mine, for I cannot find another man to second me in the advocacy.

That plan is to issue—

EXCHEQUER NOTES for small sums (I should say, ten-shillings), breaking down the present Exchequer Bills of £100, with coupons, payable to the holders, of 3d. per diem. These interest-bearing coupons are a mere sop to the monied men.

I append the form of the PROPOSED EXCHEQUER NOTE. I think you will agree with me that this