

national oil companies are interested in preserving.

Secondly, the U.S. is opposed to exports to the Soviet bloc, of goods which will "strengthen Soviet military or industrial potential." No doubt ships would fall into this category as could almost any kind of export.

After a general criticism of East-West trade, a House of Representatives' sub-committee report issued in February, described the Soviet move as an "oil offensive" and complained that West European countries are creating a major market for the Russian bloc countries and allowing them "to invade and disrupt certain commodity markets in the free world."

If any invasion is taking place it is the invasion of freedom to trade—and this is done, paradoxically enough, under the banner "defence of freedom" and under the pressure of sectional interests.

GROWTH—IN MONEY SUPPLY

MR. A. LEWIS asked the Chancellor of the Exchequer in a written question, January 29, whether he was aware that since 1951 the £ sterling had depreciated in purchasing value by 27 per cent. and what was the reason for this. Mr. Barber (Financial Secretary to the Treasury)

STEADY ADVANCE

From the 18th annual report of the New Zealand League for the Taxation of Land Values Inc.
(President Mr. Rolland O'Regan)

RESULTS OF RECENT RATING ROLLS

Successful

Pakuranga County Town

For Unimproved Value	685
Against Unimproved Value	136

Peninsular County

For Unimproved Value	1,037
Against Unimproved Value	677

Clifton County

For Unimproved Value	540
Against Unimproved Value	188

Richmond Borough

For Unimproved Value	523
Against Unimproved Value	439

Mangaweka Town

For Unimproved Value	26
Against Unimproved Value	7

Unsuccessful

Motueka

For Unimproved Value	320
Against Unimproved Value	351

replied: "The increase in prices and the consequential fall in the purchasing power of the £ has been mainly due to the excessive growth in money incomes compared with the growth of national production."

Since the growth in money incomes (as distinct from growth in real incomes that are measured in terms of wealth, not paper) can come about only by the Government increasing the money supply, the statement put in simple and understandable terms, should read: "... the fall in the value of the pound has been mainly due to production not keeping up with the Government's note-printing activities."

FARMING GRANTS

SOME of the grants made to farmers in the year ending March 31, 1962 (*Hansard*, January).

General fertiliser subsidy	£32 m.
Lime subsidy	£8 m.
Ploughing-up grants	£9 m.
Calf subsidy	£14 m.
Hill sheep and hill cattle subsidy	£2 m.
Farm improvement grants	£7 m.
Grants to small farmers	£6 m.

IN NEW ZEALAND

PRESENT RATING POSITION

78 out of 118 Counties, 118 out of 143 Boroughs, and 19 out of 27 Towns now rate on Unimproved Land Values.

NATIONAL LAND TAX

In 1960/61 the Land Tax amounted to £1.8 million. In accordance with the long established practice of keeping the tax round the million pound mark, a 50 per cent. rebate of Land Tax was made in the 1962 Budget.

AMOUNT OF LAND VALUE COLLECTED

In 1960 the amount of land value collected was approximately £24 millions. This sum capitalised at 5 per cent = £480 millions and represents the amount by which the market value of land has been reduced by the land value tax.

In 1960 the total unimproved value of land paying rates (i.e. excluding Crown Lands) was £824 millions. This estimate is conservative as are all government valuations. Increasing this amount by one sixth to allow for this factor would give after taxation a total unimproved value of £960 millions. This would indicate that at present one third of the total economic rent of New Zealand is collected for public purposes by direct taxation.