

THE NEW TIMES

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SIXPENCE WEEKLY.

The Inflation Menace

Recent further increases in the cost of living — and still further increases promised for the immediate future — again direct attention to one of the major issues facing the new Liberal-Country Party Government: how to deal with the inflation menace without a policy of deflation and its consequent disastrous results.

From its inception, this journal has persistently pointed out that present orthodox financial rules are inflationary. Hard economic facts have surely denied the truth of this matter beyond argument. Every improvement in power-production methods results in a growing deficiency of purchasing power reaching consumers to enable them to buy over any given period the total amount of production of this period. Attempts to overcome this growing deficiency are along three main lines: (1) The financing of new capital production which distributes immediately wages and salaries without consumer goods; (2) The financing of public works, i.e., Mr. Casey's "resource planning"; and (3) The financing of a "favourable trade balance," i.e., sending more production out of the country than is imported.

The flaw in the above "solutions" is that, like certain drugs, they merely aggravate the basic problem. They also result in an ever-increasing tempo of credit expansion that is directly and indirectly in-

flationary. Anyone who doubts this should examine the U.S.A. economy, where public and private debts are increasing rapidly. Any slackening of the credit expansion programme in the U.S.A. would result in disaster. But continuation of credit expansion along orthodox lines must also lead to disaster: growing inflation. Inflation makes it increasingly difficult for the individual to make himself independent. It makes it difficult for the small businessman to continue and thus leads to a concentration of economic power, which is the prelude to State Monopoly. The Federal Liberal-Country Party Government must face the fact that increased production will not in itself reduce prices or prevent them from continuing to rise.

The only solution of this problem, which would result in a genuine economic democracy, is the use of new credit, not for the inflationary policies mentioned previously, but for the subsidisation of prices to the consumer. Price subsidies paid at the retail counter only, would ensure that only that production desired by the consumer would

be subsidised. Thus would the benefits of a free economy be retained and expanded.

Under a general price-subsidisation policy, every improvement in production methods would result, not in an inflationary credit expansion policy as at present, but in a progressive reduction in prices to the consumer. Price subsidies are the only method of defeating inflation and we urge our readers to insist that their Federal Members give some thought to this matter. Special attention should be given to Liberal and Country Party Members.

OUR POLICY

1. The preservation of Australia's sovereignty as a part of the British Empire, and the exposure of all internal and external groups which attack that sovereignty.
2. The preservation and extension of genuine local government.
3. The preservation and strengthening of all Constitutional safeguards for the purpose of protecting fundamental individual rights.
4. The encouragement of all activities designed to bring Governments under more effective control by the electors.
5. The preservation and extension of genuine free, competitive enterprise and private ownership, and opposition to all Monopoly, whether it be "private" or State.
6. The support of a financial policy which will (a) permit free enterprise to make available to all individuals an increasing standard of living and greater leisure for cultural pursuits; (b) result in no further increase in the community's indebtedness and the sound business practice of gradually reducing existing debt.
7. Recognising that the basis of any sound economy is agriculture, the encouragement of agricultural policies which will ensure the preservation and building up of soil fertility by organic farming and gardening; and the prevention of soil erosion and the protection of forests and watersheds.

Now, when our land to ruin's brink is verging,
In God's name, let us speak while there is time!
Now, when the padlocks for our lips are forging,
Silence is crime.

WHITTIER.

The Christian Philosophy

"It (the Christian philosophy) was expressed by another New England thinker, Henry Ward Beecher.

Christ did not die for laws or governments. He did not die to build a nation up. He died for men, the separate souls of men.

"The crux of the whole Christian philosophy is that the Supreme Being (the Power above the State, so violently denied by the totalitarians) does actually meet and communicate with the spirit of man, in his inner personal life; or, as St. Augustine put it, 'God stoops to man that man may rise to God.' It is the eternal Vine, which gives the life and value to the branches; and it is a value that belongs only to the personal life, which is individual; to each living separate soul, not to institutions or committees or clubs, or cabinets, or governments, or states.

"The State was made for man, not man for the State. The State may be immensely useful to the individual men who have made it; but it did not make men, and it may be harmful to them.

"No philosopher, even in this mad world, has yet maintained that the State was destined for Eternal Life. But the greatest of all philosophies has maintained, rightly or wrongly, for two thousand years, that the individual human soul is immeasurable because it is capable of rising to communion with God and 'enjoying Him for ever.' This is the proposition upon which Christendom was founded, and it is the only proposition upon which we can guard the otherwise quite arbitrary claims to the great charters of human freedom'."

—Alfred Noyes in "The Edge of the Abyss."

Full Employment

A further essay in analysis of the psychological background of what is known as The Export Drive.

By NORMAN F. WEBB in *The Social Crediter*.

(111)

Into this sick and confused world of post-War One there came a discovery, illuminating in the first case a mathematical flaw common to all accounting systems as the cause of the prevalent stultification evidenced in unemployment and general lack of purchasing power. Along with it, and based on a statement of impeccable Christian philosophy, to the effect that, while the true end of man is unknown, it is most likely to be achieved in the greatest possible degree of individual freedom, were proposals of comparative simplicity for achieving what is unquestionably the intended objective of the existing, or any, Money System:—an equitable—not equal—distribution of everything which the community as a whole is willing and able to produce. We recognise all this, and a lot more besides, under the title of Social Credit, originally termed, when it was first made public in 1920, *Economic Democracy*.

In the fewest words, the initial history of that idea was as follows: That up to about 1923 (say, for two years), under the impact of the great post-war deflation, it appeared to be gaining a wide, if, as it subsequently proved, a somewhat shallow acceptance among men of influence, in Great Britain at least. Then, like the sudden descent of a fog on the landscape, came a complete ban upon all public canvassing of the idea. It was somehow "understood," simultaneously in the Press and in business and in politics, that there were "grave objections" to the whole proposal—that is to say that it was not "favoured" in the influential regions to which the eyes of those who wished to better themselves materially were raised. This state of affairs lasted for over eight years; although, besides others, the book *Social Credit*, had been published in 1924, and run to a second edition in 1926, and was being widely read and studied in both hemispheres. Then, in the economic depression of the thirties, following the Wall Street collapse of 1929, the sheer weight of physical argument produced by the crude conjunction of semi-starvation and so-called glut, pierced the defensive embargo, and it came again to the surface.

Planned or Accidental

All that seems arbitrary and mysterious enough to suggest pure accident, without any connecting thread of conscious cause—either that, or the suggestion that there was really nothing *in* the idea of Social Credit or it would have impressed itself, opposition notwithstanding, on public men of able intellect, of whom there were presumed to be plenty. But, assuming for the moment the correctness of the Social Credit diagnosis and proposed remedy, if one looks at the facts in the light I have endeavoured to shed on them here, the argument for accident seems extremely unlikely. Even if one believes in accident as an explanation of anything. At the time, statesmen in all countries and in England in particular—and by the term statesmen one

means public men with the good of their country at heart—genuinely distressed at the failure to materialise of the Lloyd George-Liberal's rashly-promised "land fit for heroes," were casting about them anxiously in the mounting unemployment figures of 1921-23, and still in post-war mood for an experiment in realism. No doubt those who had immediately reacted to the realistic and revolutionary ideas contained in Social Credit, were examining them with a caution natural to their positions of responsibility; realising also, as they most have, the necessity for sanction to an radical move on their part front the agent of the United States Federal Reserve Bank actually established in the Bank of England at that time on behalf of the American War Loan to Europe. It is also fairly certain that before the idea had had time to develop any but the lightest roots, the more cautious would have sought for a directive from Threadneedle Street, from which oracle the lines of communication lead directly to Wall and Pine Streets when; as we have seen, the World Politicians were, and are, ensconced at the head of the International Discount Banks that crown the structure of International Exchange.

Fundamental Opposition

Here the full implications of Social Credit and its proposals would be examined, not only by the professional exchange manipulators and economists in their short-term immediate effects, but without doubt in aspects, at an even higher and more confidential level, the nature of which we can only guess. The verdict returned would be arrived at with a single eye for its effects on the policy of World Dictatorship held by the scrutineers, and without any regard whatsoever either for the interests of this country, or, indeed, of human individuals, as such, anywhere. To imagine anything else is simply to refuse to accept human nature, as it manifestly is, not in Wall Street only, but everywhere.

How long, must one suppose, would it take for such a finely-sifted panel of fanatical experts and world-planners, at either of these levels, to sense the fundamental opposition to their own objective implicit in the Social Credit idea, as something quite apart from its technical ability, which was the point presumed to be referred to them? Or how long for them to come to the absolute conclusion that no imaginable proposals could be more antagonistic to their own policy of centrally directed world-government from one geo-graphical and material centre? A week? A month? Not more.

Here was a by no means over-recondite mathematical proof and explanation of the cause of the mysterious stultification to which modern industry was periodically subject in every industrialised country alike; that silly, but tragic dilemma which prevented society everywhere, except under the most primitive conditions, from enjoyment of the full substance of its own productive efforts, for lack of the shadow or abstract exchange medium; an explanation of the control, and

therefore effective ownership to which, they, the politico-economic experts had found themselves heirs as the successors of the purely functional economic exchange broker.

Sanctions and the Exchange Controllers

Whether this mathematical explanation came to them—or to most of them—as a revelation or not, we have no certain means of knowing. In any case it is beside the point, because it is inconceivable that those at least at the very top had not long before recognised that they held their position of power, on which depended their whole chance of achieving World government under their personal control, solely by virtue of the mysterious and hitherto inexplicable inability of the individual members of society to exchange more than a fraction of what they were willing and able to produce, without coming to them—the exchange controllers—for sanctions in the shape of loans to which could be attached whatever conditions suited their policy of centralisation of control. And if that realisation on their part had up till then been more instinctive and unformulated than dialectically expressed, as may have been the case, it most certainly would only require a minimum of reflection on their part to envisage the practical results of the impact of the simple revelation contained in Social Credit on national governments all over the world, to grasp its full impact for them. And especially when they realised, as they must have done, the impatient and smouldering resentment on the part of those national governments against inter-restraint and interference every-where, and in particular in London, it must have been borne in on them how precarious, and giddy, and tenuous was the occult source of their vast powers, wholly dependent on continued public ignorance of the facts.

An Appalling Suggestion

(IV)

Would they have hesitated for a moment to condemn the whole idea out of hand? Or failed to take the most immediate and effective steps to dispose of what threatened to reduce the whole immense, confused issue form the mysterious intractability of which their own tremendous power immediately derived, to the dimensions of a mathematical equation? It seems unlikely; more especially when it presented itself accompanied by this simple and apparently quite feasible formula for applying to national accountancy, whereby (and this is the real core of the matter) the members of a society, individually and/or collectively, were to be made free of the entire available material product of their exertions without externally-controlled or arbitrarily-regulated sanctions of any kind, or only such as they themselves should decide to apply.

To a political philosophy of compulsion, which is the root from which the idea of a material and secretly controlled World Dictatorship springs, the prospect invoked by such a suggestion is quite literally appalling. The idea of a system acting so comparatively directly and so openly, as to allow even the least educated to connect effort (or absence of effort, or indifferently-applied effort, or even deliberately-deflected effort) with result, presents itself to such a mentality not only as socially dangerous in the highest degree, but, personally, as the most

(Continued on page 3)

FULL EMPLOYMENT

(Continued from page 2)

undesirable that could be imagined. And when it is seen against a background of the actual productive potentiality of modern technological progress—with its obvious cumulative capacity of paying immense dividends in the material sense—which, it was suggested, should be released of all *personal* control, except that of each active individual concerned, the picture is altogether too terrifying. Especially unwelcome, too, to those in whose personal grasp the control levers actually are today.

That I think is a not unfair summing-up of the inevitable personal reactions, and minds, of those individuals to whom perplexed political statesmanship in England between 1921-23, applied for economic guidance in the interest of their war-disrupted national economy. That they got the answer they did get, seems on the face of it, inevitable. That they really imagined that light could be shed from that quarter, confirms the impression that they simply did not understand their real opponents, or the dynamic nature of what they were handling. How many do today, for that matter? For the reactions then invoked, and still active, come from very deep down indeed, where the comparatively *common* personal power-complex merges in the group-obsession.

An Ethical and Challenging Proposal

Fully to grasp the position, what has to be kept in mind is the fact that the technical proposals of Social Credit, which are what we are assuming were submitted by the administrators for approval, represent in spite of their somewhat misleadingly simple mathematical appearance something essentially ethical and profoundly challenging. And this is because their claim to feasibility is based on an assumption, which, to the dialectical materialist, is entirely unsubstantiated and unjustifiable; and that is the claim that there exists a Natural Law, operating quite independent of human personality, and not amenable to it. That is something which the materialistic-dictator, mentality cannot, dare not, acknowledge, or even conceive; because it undermines all his plans, his planning, to believe in something greater even than his vision of himself ranged at the head of an overwhelmingly organised concentration of material energy. He is completely wrong, of course, in his satanic and ridiculous claim to personal omnipotence, which, since it includes the well-known academical assumption. "What I don't know isn't knowledge," brands itself as fictitious nonsense. The practical point, however, is that this *negative fiction*, has become an *active cult*, or *culture*, embodied (incarnate) in those individuals holding and promoting it. The proposals referred to the world's financial masters in 1921-23 contained for them, the most positive and direct challenge that any one culture could give to another. If this challenge was not immediately met and countered, it constituted in fact, a death sentence. The counter-move, while the power to do so still remained, was obviously to be the first to pronounce sentence, and this was accordingly done, and has been since enforced by every available means, which, unhappily, are considerable and varied.

(Concluded.)

"Marshall Aid" Claws

It would be bad manners, and worse diplomacy, for Mr. Hoffman to seem to give orders to the nations of Western Europe. That is why, on behalf of President Truman, he presented them instead with a "considered request." It amounted, if not to an order, at least to a threat. Either they form an economic union by next year or they will encounter disaster. This was the substance of what Mr. Hoffman said. The alternative, which he had in mind, was, obviously, that they would be left to whistle for the next allocations of Marshall aid. Here is the answer to the simpletons who believed that such "aid" was proffered "without strings." The American policy to force other nations to abandon sovereign power over their own economic systems, which is the price that Europe has been told, in effect, must be paid, was expressed in a sentence by Mr. Hoffman when he said in Paris on Monday that what was wanted in Europe was "the formation of a single large market within which quantitative restrictions on the movement of goods, monetary barriers to the flow of payments and eventually all tariffs are swept away . . ."

. . . While it is true that quotas of goods and currencies are intolerably vexatious to traders, there is no evidence that they are

actually stopping production. The complete fulfilment of the American demand, however, would mean the driving down of British living standards to the lowest Continental level. Trade unionism, to try to protect itself, would have to organise as one unit throughout the "unified" area; organised life would soon become impossible, with simultaneous strikes throughout Europe, called in support of local disputes resulting from the Hoffman policy. . . . The American people, as such, can have no interest in the unification of Europe. Why, then, do their leaders make of it a major principle of American policy? They must, know that there would be no hope of Britain's political stability being imposed upon the chronic political instability of France, or of France's comparative economic stability, based on her greater ability to feed herself, being used to redress what threatens to become Britain's chronic economic instability. Reuter's Paris correspondent probably hit the nail on the head when he said that Mr. Hoffman was expected to press, among other things, for "a central reserve bank for Western Europe, with the United States contributing a substantial amount of capital and having representation on the board of directors . . ."

—*Truth*, November 4, 1949.

Celebration

According to the "Jewish Chronicle" of November 11, the Weizmann 75th Birthday Tribute Dinner on November 22 will have as speakers Field Marshal Smuts, Viscount Jowitt and Anthony Eden. Viscount Samuel will preside, and among those who have accepted invitations are: Viscount Addison, Leader of the House of Lords; the Rt. Hon. L. S. Amery, Sir H. J. D'Avigdor Goldsmid, Viscount Cecil, Lord Justice Cohen, the Duke and Duchess of Devonshire, Lord Douglas, Marshal of the R.A.F., Dr. M. Eliash, the Israel Minister; the Rt. Hon. Walter Elliott, M.P.; the Earl of Halifax, Lord Harlech, Brig. Gen. Sir H. Hartley, Lord Melchett, Harold Nicholson, Lord Pakenham, the Marquess of Reading, Lord Rothschild, Mrs. Leonard Stein, Sir Miles Thomas, Mrs. Waley Cohen, Mrs. Lorna Wingate, etc.

—*Free Britain*, Nov. 20, 1949.

Wot, no Dr. Evatt?

Disillusionment

"Socialism just does not work," said Alfred Edwards, visiting British M.P., in a speech to the Ohio Savings and Loan League last week. Mr. Edwards was elected to Parliament in 1945 as a Socialist, but was expelled from the Labor Party two years ago. He will run as a Conservative in the coming general election. "We have been in power almost four years," he remarked. "We have socialised a large section of our industrial life and subjected what is left to national planning. I have spent years discoursing on the defects of capitalism. I do not withdraw those criticisms. But we have seen the two systems at work, side by side. The men who would still argue that Socialism is the means of ridding our society of the defects of capitalism are blind. Socialism just does not work. . ."

—*Not Merely Gossip*, Oct. 19, 1949.

Concise

"Cripps and his associates are fighting to maintain a system that, because it fails to meet the ordinary and the higher needs of men, can never succeed, and leave men free. It is based on force—not on character."

—Merwin K. Hart, president of the National Economic Council of America in *As It Looks from Britain*.

Controllers

Mr. James W. Gerard, who has just said that his family own more United States Steel shares than the directors do, is one of the few Americans with a British knighthood . . .

J. P. Morgan created this great combine after buying out Carnegie for 500m. dollars. He floated a corporation of 1,000m. dollars, taking a fee of 621/2m. dollars for the job.

Morgan's have kept their connection with the firm through interlocking boards. Thomas W. Lamont, head of Morgan's until he died last year, was the most influential man on the board of United States Steel. Like Mr. Gerard, he was a great friend of this country.

In 1930 Mr. Gerard made a sensation by giving a list of 64 men who, he said, really ran the United States. There was only one politician included, and he was not the President. But the list contained a handful of United States Steel men.

—*The Daily Telegraph*, London, October 28, 1949.

"SOCIAL CREDIT AND CATHOLICISM"

By George-Henri Levesque, O.P., Professor of Economics, Laval and Montreal Universities, Dominican House of Studies Ottawa.

Introduction by Eric D. Butler.

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BUREAUCRACY AND RESPONSIBLE GOVERNMENT

One of the most alarming statements made by Mr. Menzies during the recent Federal Election campaign, was that he was not in favour of a "wholesale sacking" of "public servants." No doubt this statement was made in order to ensure that the ever-increasing numbers of Canberra "public servants" were not antagonised. But Mr. Menzies and his colleagues are deluding themselves and the electors if they really believe that genuinely responsible Government can be a reality while a swollen bureaucracy continues to exercise enormous powers delegated to it by Parliament.

There is a vital distinction between a genuine civil service and a bureaucracy. When Governments are strictly limited in their powers, only a small civil service is required. The members of this civil service should give service with civility. Their function should be to carry into effect the policies of the Government. These policies should be designed for the purpose of ensuring that all members of the community can, without trespassing on the rights of other individuals, make themselves independent by their own efforts.

Responsible Government and a genuine civil service are only possible when political power is decentralised and strictly limited. This is one of the fundamental propositions, which electors ignore at their own peril. A former President of the United States of America Calvin Coolidge dealt effectively with this matter in 1926. He said: "No method of procedure has ever been devised by which liberty could be divorced from self-government. No plan of centralisation has ever been adopted which did not result in bureaucracy, tyranny, inflexibility, reaction and decline . . . unless bureaucracy is constantly resisted it breaks down representative Government, and overwhelms democracy. It is the one element in our institutions that sets up the pretence of having authority and being responsible to nobody."

The bureaucratic menace is one of the major issues the new Federal Liberal-Country Party Government must face. Electoral pressure must be brought to bear upon individual members of the Government, insisting that the Federal bureaucracy be drastically reduced and that the delegation of Parliamentary authority cease.

If it is claimed that the Federal Government must of necessity delegate power to the bureaucracy, which always uses this power to restrict and control the activities of the individual, this is definite evidence that Canberra has too much power and should be compelled to decentralise it. We predict that the new Government, like all Governments, will never relinquish power of any description unless compelled to do so by the electors.

James F. Byrnes

STATES' RIGHTS: Former Secretary of State James F. Byrnes announced on October 16 that he may run for Governor of South Carolina on the principle of States' Rights. This may eventually prove the biggest news in some time, although one would never guess it from the perusal of the Northern press, which accorded scant space to the matter. Throughout the South, however the Byrnes announcement stirred great interest — as we discovered when we 'phoned to various cities below the Mason and Dixon's line. One of the South's greatest liberals (in the true sense of that word) told us that Byrnes' statement came to him as a "breath of fresh air." It offered, he said, a good opportunity to remove the stigma of Southern sectionalism from activities on behalf of States' Rights, by reason of Byrnes' status as a national figure; and it promised to bring the Southern organisation into the main stream of the developing national movement against Statism. Governor Thurmond, of South Carolina, candidate of the States' Rights ticket at the last election, told us on the 'phone that South Carolinians would regard it as wonderful if Byrnes consented to run. And he added: "The people of my State are stronger for States' Rights than ever before." Thurmond, by State law, must retire at the end of the present term; it is widely believed that he will run for Senatorship in 1950.

There is little doubt that Jimmy Byrnes can have the Governorship if he wishes. But the former Secretary of State may choose first to examine the chances in the South for a general States' Rights revival. He is scheduled to address the conference of Southern Governors at Biloxi, Mississippi, which meets November 20-22, and his talk will be on a nation-wide radio hook-up. That occasion may prove crucial for the movement, and for Byrnes' decision. Friends of States' Rights idea believe that its party organisation must be purged of the racial-minded and be brought into the crusade against Statism. That crusade must there-by be converted from one, which is merely "against" to one, which is vigorously for—States' Rights. Southern leaders feel that the time is ripe for a re-alignment of parties, that the American system must be saved no matter what the party label may be and that the present sad plight of the G.O.P. presents an opportunity for such a re-alignment. In some of these talks, we heard the name of Taft mentioned as one whom true Southern liberals could sincerely follow. Taft's fight for reelection in Ohio is increasingly regarded as a test of al of the Republic.

-Not Merely Gossip. October 10, 1949.

BY WHOSE AUTHORITY?

The spring 1950 Electoral Register form now being delivered to householders has in place of the of the customary heading "Christian Names," the heading "Forenames" . . .

- Free Britain, November 20, 1949.

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The Hidden Plot

This article, published by the Monetary Reform League, De Vino's Building, Denham Street, Rockhampton Queensland, in their September Information Sheet, is worthy of a wider audience:

It was stressed in our last issue that every progressive step in the plot to divorce power from responsibility was the result, not of popular clamour but of careful, organisation. There never is and never has been anything spontaneous in the causes of war and revolution: these have been *carefully* fomented to a point where only an excuse is needed, and it is only the excuse, which gives an air of spontaneity to the sudden outbreak of fury. The late H. G. Wells, in one of his prophetic novels written before World War II, forecast a sudden international conflagration as a result of the difficulty which a railway passenger was having with his false teeth: his grimaces were taken as an affront to some military grandee on the platform. Satisfaction was demanded; diplomatic notes were exchanged and—there you are!

Now it is quite illogical to acknowledge that the real cause of any upheaval is hidden, without acknowledging an overriding plan, just as it would be to acknowledge the existence of a plan while placing the onus on "the system" instead of upon individuals. Systems do not plan; only individuals can do that. The evidence that is accumulating that what we are witnessing in today's politics is the unfolding of a plot to institute a world dictatorship, is becoming too formidable to be brushed aside. Apart from the results we are experiencing ourselves in the way of engineered shortages and controls, there are on record certain writings obviously intended to be "off" the record. There is, for instance, the exulting little note written by the American Ambassador in London at the time of the outbreak of World War I that "Britain has been delivered into our hands." Who, then, was Britain's enemy? Not the American people; not "the system" but some individuals located in America - individuals equally the enemies of the American people. Further witness is to be found in a circular issued in 1877 by the American Bankers' Association to its various banks: "It is advisable to do all in your power to sustain such newspapers, especially in the agricultural and religious press, as will oppose the issue of greenback paper money and that you also withhold patronage or favours from all applicants who are not willing to **oppose the Government issue of money.**" (Our emphasis.)

Herein is revealed the plot against the people, not only of America, but of the world. The success of the financial plot has been nothing less than staggering; it has gone from strength to strength until no one in responsible office will dare to assert the people's sovereign right to issue its own money, and not many even understand that governments do not, in fact, create the money we use. The position is accurately described in the following extract from a very confidential circular issued by the house of Rothschild, June 25, 1863: "The few who understand the system" (cheque money and credit) "will either be so interested in its profits or so dependent on its favours that there will be no opposition from that class, while on the other hand, the great body of the people, mentally in-

capable of comprehending the tremendous advantage that capital derives from the system will bear its burden without complaint, and perhaps without even suspecting the system is inimical to their interests."

We are now in a position to see the real objective of World War I, and the means accomplishment. World War II carried the movement a step further—a giant step further at that. The end of World War I saw Britain with notions of freedom still more or less intact: it was not possible to maintain the restrictive legislation introduced as a war measure. There was nothing for it but to bring about the conditions favourable to another—greater war, after which there would be no throwing off of the shackles. The technique already referred to was again resorted to in America, Europe and the British Empire, with the result known as the "depression," which many people are still guileless enough to believe "just happened." Lloyd George allowed the whole of the credits created on the nation's assets for the prosecution of war, to be handed over to the money monopoly as if indeed it was its returnable property. All other belligerents did the same. "Doles" and "New Deals" to create shortages by deliberate destruction made their appearance. Germany was allowed to flout the Versailles Treaty: not only did she re-arm, but she did it with American and British money and materials. Aid from the same sources was poured into Russia, while the defences of Britain were systematically reduced until a point was reached where it looked as though Britain could be eliminated. Consequently, a war looked a practical proposition.

Whether there will be another war will depend on whether the people of the world can be sold the idea of world government under the dictatorship of the world bank, by the army of stooges in Parliaments and the kept "professors," or whether they will cleave to traditional ideas of freedom. A good deal will also depend on the outcome of the "dollar" talks now proceeding in Washington, whither the ministers of once-Great Britain have gone to get their orders. From the assertions and denials coming over the air, it seems very clear that the aim of the financial monopolists is to embarrass Britain to the point of bankruptcy to compel her surrender to dollar currency. Nothing else can explain the pressure from outside Britain to cause her to devalue her currency, since such an action on her part could do nothing but harm to the industries of the countries receiving her exports. What is important to grasp is that the "dollar" talks are not an unfortunate by-product of the aftermath of war, but one of the objectives for which the war was fought.

Our Sham Democracy

AN OUTSTANDING BOOKLET

By JAMES GUTHRIE, B.Sc.

Price: 1/1d posted

ERIC BUTLER'S BOOKS

The Enemy Within the Empire, Over 30,000 copies of this book have been sold in all parts of the English-speaking world. Carefully documented, it is essential for those who desire to understand the background of the present world situation. The policy of the International Financiers in using the Bank of "England" to cripple the British Empire while helping Hitler is dealt with in detail. The origin of what is now known as the "Financier-Socialist" plot is revealed. This book is generally regarded as one of the author's finest works.

The Money Power Versus

Democracy 10d.

Well worth having if only for the comprehensive selection of statements by various authorities concerning the "Money Power." The main thesis of this book is to show how the "Money Power" has prevented the introduction of genuine political and economic democracy. The author shows how the electors must unite to bring their political institutions under control for the purpose of obtaining the results they desire.

The Truth About Social Credit, 1/1

An excellent introduction to the subject of Social Credit for the beginner. It shows how Social Credit is far more than a "funny money" scheme. The author makes it clear that bank nationalisation and "State control of the issue of credit" has got nothing to do with Social Credit. Social Credit financial proposals are outlined clearly and simply. The 1945 Banking Legislation is revealed as a major part of the policy of totalitarianism being imposed upon Australians. This valuable book must be in the armoury of every Social Credit warrior.

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Farming Without Ploughing

By NEWMAN TURNER. Editor of *The Farmer* (England).

(Concluded.)

A Comparison of Ploughed and Unploughed Land

A remarkable example of the harmfulness of the plough was accidentally provided when I ploughed an old pasture this year. The whole field was ploughed with the exception of one corner which had been scattered with straw and upon which grazing cattle had deposited some dung two years previously. The looseness of the topsoil and the debris on the surface made the plough ineffective in this corner and the soil was merely pushed aside, to be broken down later by the disc harrow. After being worked the whole field was sown to turnips during early July. Over most of the field, in spite of continuous wet weather, the young turnips have, for ten days since they showed two leaves above ground, been at a standstill indicating that something below the surface is retarding growth. But the corner that was not ploughed and which had a supply of organic matter worked into the surface has never ceased to grow and the plants are at least three times as big as those in the rest of the field. Furthermore, unlike the un-ploughed kale field the weeds in this ploughed turnip field are out of control. All the weed seeds of a generation past, since the field was last ploughed, seem to have germinated promptly on arrival at the surface of the soil and proceeded to thrust their roots down to the decaying turf, which lies below the reach of the turnips.

This solves for me a problem, upon which I had previously not had the courage to risk a trial; I formerly believed that though one might dispense with the plough on stubble and following potatoes or roots, it would nevertheless be necessary to plough old pastures and temporary leys on first breaking them up. Now, once more, nature has thrust this demonstration under my nose and urged me to go the whole hog. Nature permits no half measures and she has clearly indicated that, if I am to farm properly, I must imitate her ways, as completely as possible so far as is within my ability to perceive them. This means that no land need be ploughed if there is sufficient organic matter available to enable the natural cultivation of earthworms drawing this organic matter from the surface to its naturally designated position in the soil.

Conclusions

After a few years of experimenting with the idea of ploughless farming and two

years' success on a part of the farm, I have reached the following conclusions:

1. That only on land which is not adequately supplied with organic matter and is in consequence too hard and lifeless to make a seed bed, need the plough be used again.

2. Worry about the weather can be at an end. The weather from now on is my best friend: come drought, come rain, my crops will grow as nature intended—from the organic moisture-laden and nutriment-rich sponge surrounding the roots.

3. Although I have used weeds for years in the making of compost, they had been something of a pest when in competition with my crops. Now they no longer offend, for without ploughing, they can be controlled with ease and they become the providers of health and sustenance for my crops, whenever I care to use them. They are the servant of the farmer; nature's gratuitous contribution to the self-sufficiency of the farm.

4. Without the plough it is possible to eliminate all the other operations made necessary by the plough—rolling, harrowing, cultivating and all the clod breaking and levelling processes needed to turn the effects of the plough back to a surface suitable for sowing.

5. The disc harrow is the key implement on the farm and as far as preparations for seeding are concerned, the only essential one. Properly used, the disc will cut all kinds of green manure or other organic manure fine enough to allow the passage of the drill. Whenever the surface trash is troublesome, until such time as a suitable drill is on the market (and I know of one that is on the way), I can broadcast the seed and disc it in.

6. The farming community can dispense immediately with the immense financial burden of chemical fertiliser anti-weed and anti-pest sprays; for crops grown this natural way, without the plough, are adequately sustained and maintained by nature's fool-proof process. There is only one provision which is essential to complete this cycle of fertility and that is the return—properly composted, to avoid unpleasantness—of all organic sewage and town refuse. The colossal funds formerly absorbed by the chemical fertiliser industry—two hundred and fifty million pounds a year—could well be diverted to this essential step against starvation.

7. Drainage problems sink into obscurity. All the paraphernalia of pipes and moles and tiles and trenches, with the immense labour and machinery costs involved in providing and maintaining farm drainage systems, may be dispensed with in properly afforested

areas, of course, for we must not forget that however good our farming, deforestation will bring it to nought. Except in flood and treeless areas, a soil containing adequate organic matter in the right place will attend to its own drainage problems, retaining its seasonal requirements and disposing of, or recalling by capillary action, the moisture required. The man-made drain knows only how to dispose of water, which may later be needed to save the crop from death.

8. Crop diseases may also be discounted. We already know that land naturally manured produces healthy crops and that parasites show a preference for ill-nurtured plants. An example of this was shown in my kale crop last year, about which I wrote in *The Farmer*, Spring, 1948.

"The greatest pest of kale is the turnip fly. But if the seed is sown early in a good seedbed containing ample organic matter in a readily available condition, such as would be the case with good compost, then the fly will go next door. Lesser pests are the cabbage white butterfly and the green fly, both of which attack the plant when it is in leaf. Last season was an example of the serious damage, which can be done by these pests on crops that are not vigorously capable of withstanding attack. Just a handful of my plants showed signs of suffering. It was interesting to see just here and there one plant dropping under an attack of greenfly, or being eaten by caterpillars. But in the whole of two fields of kale not more than half a dozen plants could be found affected. This was a clear indication that a plant grown in the right soil conditions will not be troubled. The few plants that did suffer had obviously struck a handful of soil that had not received its quota of compost. In all cases the affected plants were in the outside of the field where composting and cultivation were likely to have been missed. It was interesting to see an isolated plant dying off or being eaten away, yet surrounded by bushy, strong and healthy plants four or more feet high."

Sir Albert Howard believed that changes in plant structure were brought about by chemical manuring. It is equally reasonable to assume that the sap of a plant varies in content and flavour with varying forms of nutriment. This, no doubt, explains the otherwise bewildering experience, which has resulted in an increase of crop parasites with the declining use of organic manure. Now it is apparent that an even greater degree of freedom from parasites can be achieved by leaving the decaying organic matter at root level and by leaving the fungal associations undisturbed. This may be explained by the increased availability of organic minerals released by the process of decay, undoubtedly raising the mineral con-

(Continued on page 7)

Farming Without Ploughing

(Continued from page 6)

tent of the plant juices and rendering them distasteful to plant parasites. This explanation of disease and parasite resistance is but conjecture on my part. But the fact remains that crops grown on unploughed land that is well supplied with organic matter at the surface, display a remarkable freedom from pests and diseases and we may safely leave it to the scientists to tell us why if it is necessary that we should know why.

Pre-requisites of Success

There are a number of provisions upon which I would insist before entirely dispensing with the plough, however: —

1. The plough pan—if it exists—should be broken by means of a deep subsoiler, which shatters the pan without bringing the subsoil to the surface.

2. The soil should be made crumbly and friable by the addition of organic matter before real success can be achieved. Compost is the most effective means of utilising to the full, any available organic matter and converting it to a condition, which makes it perfect as a plant food and easy to spread. This does not involve any extra labour or special equipment. See my article "Fertility Farming," summer, 1947, *The Farmer*.

3. Every opportunity must be taken to maintain this surface organic matter, by the growing of green crops for discing in, between crops.

Experiment Yourself — This Way

For farmers wishing to give these methods a trial, this is the way to go about it: —

Choose a field in good heart, with a topsoil containing ample organic matter as indicated by its crumbly friability. A corn stubble, or the ground from which the potatoes have been harvested, is a good place to start. If possible, choose a field that has had no chemical manures in recent years: for this will contain more of the soil organisms, earthworms and fungi that are an essential part of nature's own cultivation and nutriment of the crop. The more earthworms and fungi (the white threads which surround a healthy root development) the more successful will your undisturbed soil be.

If there is not ample evidence of organic matter in the soil, either apply a dressing of compost or well-rotted farmyard manure, or sow a green manuring crop such as rye, mustard or lupins. In either case, the first operation after clearance of the previous crop, should be twice working with the disc harrows. If the surface is too hard and dry for the discs to make much impression, the field is probably not fit for a trial of ploughless cropping. But if you are in any case still determined to sow without the plough, then once or twice over the field with the fixed-tine cultivator will bring up sufficient soil to make the disc harrow workable. The only danger in using the cultivator on soil lacking organic matter is that it will bring up clods that quickly bake and harden in the wind and sun, and must then await rain before the field can be prepared for drilling. To avoid

this risk no more should be cultivated each day than can also be worked immediately after the disc harrow. In later years when the soil is rich in humus, even the cultivator will not be necessary, and the disc harrow will then do all that is needed to prepare a first-class seed bed.

If a green manuring crop is sown, allow it to grow as near to the stage of flowering as time will allow before sowing the main crop, for the nearer to maturity the manuring crop is, the more valuable will be its content. Then work it into the surface soil with the disc harrow. If the discs are sharp enough and the harrow is well weighted, the green crop can be cut up so finely that the corn drill will run freely at sowing time. I have chopped up on the surface in this way a stemmy crop of kale five feet in height, effectively enough to follow with the disc drill sowing oats.

Sow the seed at the normal rate of seeding on soil of average fertility, or, if the soil is rich in humus, up to 25 percent, less may be sown. A thin seeding on soil, which offers the ideal medium for germination, tillering and growth, will produce a much heavier yield than of a heavy seeding on the same soil. The sowing of individual seeds in soil which offers a guarantee of a ninety percent or more germination, as soil managed naturally would, is of course the ideal which will be practised when a suitable drill is available. For, in undisturbed humus-rich surface soil nothing is likely to go wrong and the usual margin of heavy seeding rate is not necessary. My unploughed wheat this year looked so thin during the winter that I felt sure it would have to be patched, yet it was too thick by harvest time.

Effective on Any Type of Soil

Were it not that it is only in comparatively recent years that it has become possible to prepare the soil satisfactorily on a commercial basis without the plough, one might be amazed at the apparent slowness of farmers to dispense with a tool so patently harmful. But it is only with the development of the tractor, and the heavy disc harrows, which could not be drawn by horses, that it has become possible to incorporate organic matter and green crops effectively into the surface soil.

These methods apply to any type of soil, in any part of the world. They are the methods practised by nature on all ranges of soil, from the thinnest shale to the deepest loam, and even on a rock nature enables plants to grow so long as the seed is provided with a light covering of organic matter to hold the moisture and supply the products of decay. If nature can grow a vigorous and healthy plant on a rock, as any student of the countryside can often see, then there is no excuse for the farmer or gardener, with soil at his disposal, to have resort to artificial methods of crop production.

This is clearly the clue to our downfall as husbandmen. We have had the audacity to assume that we know better than God; we have believed we could improve on the ways of nature and we find ourselves in the midst of famine, in spite of so-called scientific genius. God in his goodness has provided the means to abundance; we in our greed and arrogance have perverted and destroyed. The only way we can repair the harm we have done is to give nature a chance to work in her own way, and as far as we must interfere by way of farming and gardening let it be in imitation of nature rather than in contradiction.

Nature does not plough.

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A QUESTION OF BALANCE

By ROY BRIDGER

In discussions concerning the relative merits of organic and inorganic fertilisers it is frequently stated by exponents of the latter that it is just a question of balance, that artificials, if used judiciously, can play a leading part in a healthy agriculture. But in the references to the various factors which it is suggested should be taken into account perhaps the most important is overlooked: the character of the social framework within which the projected undertakings are to take place.

Nothing to Sell

Our modern industrial system for all its apparent strength is unsound. Its weakness is that it demands consumers. Its much-vaunted production is in reality purely consumption. Anything that favours self-sufficiency outside the main consumption system weakens it and cannot therefore be tolerated by it. The fierceness of the opposition aroused by the composting campaign is due largely to the fact that as far as the Indore Process is concerned, Sir Albert Howard took out no proprietary rights or patents. There is nothing to buy and nothing to sell.

The controversy between compost and artificials is a cross-section of the underlying antagonism between country and town, between peasant life and industrialism. With the latter go urban concentrations of population, standardisation, machinery, the decline of individual craftsmanship, the refined and processed foods which are the only foods in which industrialism is interested or can consume, drugs of all kinds together with vast insurance schemes for dealing with the casualties, and above all the mentality which asks of every enterprise: "Will it pay?" None of these things can be singled out for isolated attack; they stand or fall together.

Trials Will Not Impress

Artificials come from the factory, which must be kept going at all costs, whether it is turning out stimulants for the land, processed food and drugs, pre-fabs or atomic weapons to clean the slate. In the face of this blind and merciless mechanism "proof" of the superiority of organic manuring is ineffective. Even if the most carefully conducted long-range trials were to prove beyond a shadow of doubt that artificials had no value, it is not likely to make any more impression than the already existing conclusive evidence of the harmfulness of white flour or the superiority of home-produced or hand-made goods. We must move with the times, it is said, which means we must move with the machine.

As long as the mentality prevails which sees everything in terms of detached profits (whether individual, corporate, or state), deals, trading for its own sake, there will always be mass-production and factories and while there are factories there will always be artificials. To attempt the methods of research is a waste of time.

In the non-stop production process the farmer is caught up as much as the manufacturer. He, too, needs consumers for the produce he must sell, which is no use to him if it is not sold. A policy of real production designed to improve to the utmost the area — and the conditions of the

people — under his control would soon have him bankrupt. And geared as he is to the industrial system and to the consumer it is not surprising that he is heavily committed to a programme of mechanisation and artificials. In the circumstances his protests that *composting* does not pay or is possible only in a mechanised form can be allowed. It is not the farmer's ethical code that is at fault, but the size and character of his farm. For the purposes of the system to which it is now tied the 100-acre farm may be uneconomically small. For the needs of the land and in the interests of self-sufficiency it is too big.

It is as illogical to urge the farmer to incorporate compost into his system as to call for the unrelated cessation of all-drug consumption. It can, and has been done, but it is best a strained and uncertain compromise. The industrial system is favourable to Pasteur and Liebig because they have advocated something, which can be made in a factory. It is favourable to the exploitation of natural resources, also to processed foods and war materials because these are ideal consumer goods. It is not favourable to health, to self-sufficiency or to the observance of natural laws; for the fulfilment of these it is necessary to get outside the system.

Inferior Benefit

But the system itself is expansionist. Even in Britain there are areas such as the remoter parts of the Scottish Highlands and Islands which have not as yet fallen completely before the industrial steamroller, but even here industrial development schemes and the spreading of disintegrating influences under the banner of social amenities find ready approval and backing from the authorities, while national insurance seeks to confer its indescribably inferior "benefits" upon the people.

Formerly there existed no lack of opportunities abroad for the small man, but today the individual pioneer seeking to clear a small area of land for his own use is not encouraged. He must be a salaried technician on the staff of a food corporation. It is indeed a measure of the growth of the industrial outlook that the development corporations established to produce food in the Dominions and Colonies should have aroused no opposition at all. Here is industrialised monoculture on the grand scale, complete with huge machines, shiploads of artificers, directives, executives, teams of experts and native labour personnel, going into action at enormous expense, to rip out what is there and move on. We are, of course, assured that everything *is* being done with the highest motives. The food and the groundnuts are only incidental, a mere by-product — the real aim of the scheme being local development, education and improvements in the standards of living. It is hinted that the guiding principle

is one of genuine harmonious and organic development in these areas, with education in intensive methods for local needs and advancement, and an over-ruling concern for the health and well-being of the overseas people. This being so the question may surely be asked: "Why cannot it be done here?"

Only the Land Suffers

Highland hydro-electricity, American T.V.A., Boulder Dam and Grand Coulee projects, industrial development in every part of the world, everywhere the emphasis is on power — the power to produce, which means the power to consume, to destroy. The wires hum. The shares boom. "Gentlemen, your company is in a strong position." Only the land, at the foot of the ladder suffers, and the derelict humanity ground into it.

The belief of its promoters that the industrial system was fool-proof and could continue indefinitely, all out, in all directions, has been an illusion and today the ebbing tide leaves the gaunt framework stranded, its unbalanced populations undermined by disease, oppressively conscious of the stream of atomic weapons now emerging.

Can the dark chapter of industrialism be rolled back? Must we always carry this load? Before the final retribution it is imperative for all concerned to reconsider their position and their responsibilities. The future, perhaps the survival of the human race seems to pivot upon the extent to which we of today are able to find the correct balance.

—*The Farmer*, England, Summer, 1948.

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