

# THE NEW TIMES

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*"Ye shall know the truth and the truth shall make you free"*

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## THE CHALLENGE AND HOPE OF TRUTH

By *ERIC D. BUTLER*

**In one of his most brilliant and penetrating statements, C. H. Douglas observed that the truths of the Universe transcend human thinking, and that individuals wishing to create successful human associations should make every effort to understand and apply those truths. Douglas also made the pregnant comment that Social Crediters were trying "to release reality". Truth might be described as the umpire of the game of life. Players are free to break the rules but they cannot escape the penalty prescribed by Truth. Many of the penalties are harsh, as can be seen by the present plight of mankind, but out of the decay and destruction is growing a movement of healthy reaction, which I believe offers a great hope for the future. The responsibility of Social Crediters is to encourage and assist this growth in every possible way. In so doing they enrich their own lives and provide an inspiring example for others.**

Because he had caught what he termed a "glimpse of reality". Douglas was able to predict correctly that the use of centralised credit power, backed by other instruments, would progressively break up Civilisation. This has happened to such an extent that what now passes for Civilisation is but an almost empty shell. Institutions and social organisations are in a state of increasing collapse. Quality has been replaced with one of the gods revered by the French Revolution: equality. E-quality means no quality at all. Animal-like vulgarity is now widely presented as "realistic art". Violence is becoming more commonplace. As shown by Dr. Antony Sutton, Communist societies are only sustained because of economic blood transfusions from the West. And Western societies are only sustaining themselves because of a moral and cultural heritage from the past and the momentum of their technology. But the moral and cultural heritage has been badly squandered, while technology has been geared to serve the philosophy of centralised power, with the result that man's physical heritage is also being squandered. While pollution has been exploited to serve the philosophy of centralised power, it is, however, a reality.

### MAN A CREATIVE BEING

If human beings were, as the materialists' assert, little more than "matter in motion", statistics to be manipulated on the drawing boards of the power planners, then the logic of the drive towards creating the World State would be irrefutable. But as the Soviet planners found when they collectivised the Russian farmers, millions

being murdered in the process, even a despised peasant is a spiritual and creative being. Make it impossible for him to develop his creativeness and he will not produce. Over many years of travel and observing in many countries, including Southern Africa, I have been struck by the fact that the more intense the policy of centralised power is applied, the greater the rebellion against it. Increasing numbers of people are trying to free themselves from the Big Cities and find some place "away from it all". Serious-minded people are examining the possibilities of using technology to serve them in smaller—decentralised communities. Even amongst the hippie movements, in the main quite degenerate, there are many young people genuinely striving to find some answer to the problems being generated in societies which are almost completely based upon the philosophy of materialism.

It has been said that many people are basically Social Crediters without realising it. Their reactions against policies of centralism are striking evidence that they have not surrendered to the collectivists. It may, in the long run, prove beneficial that the British people were driven into the European Common Market. The bitter realities of that experience have produced a groundswell of opposition, which warnings of what was involved could not produce. But the opportunity of having a say on the Common Market at the coming referendum, a unique event in British history, one which a few years back was regarded as a proposition of fantasy, has only been made possible because of the dedication and faith of a com-

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## TO THE POINT

Writing in a recent issue of the Canadian Social Credit journal, "Regards", Mr. Robert Klinck makes a most important point concerning inflation. He points out that the published statistics concerning inflation only tell part of the story; that these statistics should be compared with an examination of how the real cost of production has been substantially reduced as a result of improved production techniques. Realistic financial rules would result in a fall in price levels, these reflecting lower real costs of production. There is another factor, which is overlooked in the discussions on inflation: quality is being reduced in many fields in a desperate endeavour by producers to remain solvent. Inflation statistics do not reflect this fact. The overall result is that the quality of life is falling.

In its desperate efforts to "reflate" (this is one of the latest "in" words) the Australian economy, the Whitlam Government is expanding financial credit at an accelerating rate. It is estimated that there could be a record Federal deficit of \$2000 million. We find it depressing that Mr. B. A. Santamaria, who has established a well-earned reputation as a responsible public commentator, should, after pointing out in a recent TV programme, that the money supply in Australia is now growing at the rate of 24 percent per annum, should then go on to say, "That is just printing paper money". Many American anti-Communists and other conservatives use the same misleading language. If Mr. Santamaria has a look at the facts, he will find that the amount of notes being created by the Central Bank is relatively small compared with the total volume of new money being created in the form of financial credit. This financial credit is created by the simple process of writing or typing figures in bank ledgers, not by operating printing presses.

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We would have thought that with the Australian beef industry in a most desperate plight, leaders in the grazing industry would warmly welcome any constructive policy, which could ease the crisis. But at a recent national conference of graziers' "representatives", a motion to back the anti-inflationary "Petersen Plan" was rejected. Why? Because it was claimed that it sounded too much like League of Rights propaganda! Rank and file graziers are not amused and a campaign has been launched which will shake the complacency of those who are supposed to represent beef producers. Even Country Party leader Mr. Doug Anthony is now talking of interest rates being reduced to 4 percent to assist the beef producers. The following three-point programme would ease the crisis: (1) A moratorium for twelve months on the debts of beef producers, this including interest payments; (2) A consumer price discount of 20 percent on all beef sold by retailers; and (3) all pensioners to be issued with meat vouchers for a weekly amount recommended by health authorities, the vouchers to be cashed by the Commonwealth upon presentation by butchers.

There has been a substantial increase in new car sales in Australia since the Whitlam Government, faced with the threat of mass dismissals by the Australian car manu-

facturers, substantially reduced the Sales Tax, thus reducing prices along the lines suggested by Queensland Premier J. Bjelke-Petersen. We suggest that the beef industry is just as important to Australia as the car industry. It is absurd that Australians should not be able to buy beef at a time when the nation has never had bigger cattle herds.

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Quite apart from the misdirection of man's economic activities, justified by the insane cry that "full employment" must be maintained in spite of technological advances, which progressively displace human labour in production, it is clear that the "energy crisis" has been deliberately produced for long-term purposes. There is irrefutable evidence that energy sources other than oil have been neglected. Direct use of solar energy has been, as far as possible sabotaged. Now the emphasis is on nuclear power with all the many risks associated with its use. But behind this is the drive towards achieving complete centralisation of all power. This is what Dr. Henry Kissinger has in mind, as exposed in Eric Butler's *Censored History*. Even food, the source of energy required to "fuel" human beings, is scheduled to be brought under international control.

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A recent press report states "Japan's tight money is fast becoming everybody else's problem. It is something Australian woolgrowers are distressed about. They cannot sell more of their clip to Japanese spinners until they have got rid of their unsold stock. And Japanese shoppers will not buy more woollens until they have more money to spend." The Japanese "tight money" money is a desperate attempt to curb the soaring Japanese inflation. Australians can do nothing about Japanese affairs. But they can start to free themselves from the export or perish mania which makes them increasingly vulnerable to what happens in other countries. The best market is the home market. Australians obviously cannot use all their own wool. But it is surely elementary that in the biggest wool-producing nation in the world, every Australian family should have ready access to wall-to-wall wool carpets, suits, blankets and other woollen products. If a suitable price discount were applied, Australians would flock to support wool.

## COMMUNISM AND INFLATION

**Writing from Yugoslavia, Malcolm W. Browne comments in the "New York Times" on how the Communist nations are attempting to control inflation:**

But Communist planners contend the real answer to inflation is central government control of wages and prices.

"Let's admit that our official statistics are too rosy," one Communist economist said. "Let's say that although we claim an inflation rate around three percent, it's actually closer to six percent which is the truth. You can't match that anywhere in the West.

"Eventually, you will have to implement price and wage controls like ours, and the sooner you do it, the sooner you can bring inflation under control and begin applying the usual economic tools that work only in a moderately inflationary system.

Richard Nixon tried various phases, but you can make controls work only when they're permanent, and when everyone knows that he can't escape the controls by waiting things out," he said.

But there is a general feeling in the East that the demon of consumerism is loose, and rocketing expectations on the part of the masses could threaten traditional Communist patterns and the economic stability that has been maintained so far.

"The demands must be met, at least up to a point," a Communist central committee member said privately.

"No government in the East can afford a repetition of the Polish worker riots of 1970. The idea of socialism, after all, is to provide the best possible life for the worker, not an eternity of sacrifice so that a powerful, but socially meaningless, heavy industry can be developed.

"But the more we cater to consumerism, the more we are drawn toward the market economy and the terrible dangers that represents. We envy Yugoslavia's prosperity in some ways, but we do not envy her 32 per cent inflation rate or chaotic economy or vulnerability to the economic catastrophe that is taking form in the West. The Yugoslav experiment in mixing a market economy with socialism is a failure we cannot afford to make."

The consensus is that Eastern Europe has a difficult balance to maintain, but the chances of escaping the brunt of the inflation gripping the outer world are fairly good.

(The Communists are demonstrating that they are operating with a lower rate of inflation than Western nations, but the price is totalitarianism and a lower standard of living. This is the price the planners in the West want Australians and others to pay. —Editor *New Times*.)

Red China has placed a \$2.3 million order with a major Japanese industrial organisation, Sumitoma Shoji Kaisha Ltd., for an oil pollution prevention system. Red China is on the verge of becoming a major oil-producing nation, but like the Soviet Union has to rely upon Western technology in order to develop industrially. The machines for preventing oil pollution will be manufactured under licence from American makers. As shown by Dr. Antony Sutton in his book, *National Suicide*, Communism as a production system has been a failure. Having financed and industrially equipped the Soviet Union, the international financial groups are now starting to do the same with Red China. It is all part of the struggle for World Power.

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Dr. Jim Cairns, Australian Federal Treasurer and real Prime Minister and policy maker, with Mr. Gough Whitlam now only serving as an ornament, demonstrated at the Labor Party Conference at Terrigal, that he is a master of Marxist dialectics. Some of the less informed Comrades are inclined to wail that their idol has deserted them with his favourable references to the free enterprise sector of the economy. But the hard-line Marxist-Leninists know all about the necessity, at critical periods, to carry out the dialectical step backwards as laid down by the great master Lenin. In his brilliant address at Terrigal Dr. Cairns stressed that he was still the dedicated Socialist working for a Socialist Australia. But the time was not opportune to dismantle completely the free enterprise system. It was essential for the time being. We never cease to be amazed at the shallow attitude of shortsighted businessmen who now look to Dr. Cairns to save them. Some even see his as a stable and balancing influence!

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It is relatively unimportant now whether a nation has an inflation rate of 10 percent per annum or over 20 percent; civilised societies are collapsing, as stability is progressively undermined. The Americans have managed by further increasing unemployment and business bankruptcies to reduce the inflation rate temporarily to 12.2 percent. As in Australia reduced food prices, such as beef, at the expense of the farmers, are helping to reduce the inflation rate. But food producers cannot continue indefinitely subsidising prices. When enough are destroyed there are food shortages, a new upsurge of prices and the way prepared for the "State" to step in.

Australians who think that the reduction of the inflation rate to about 14 percent is the sign of better things to come will get a shock during the latter part of 1975. Increased financial costs like the new steel prices have yet to reflect themselves.

## AUSTRALIA-WIDE RATE REVOLT UNDER WAY

From all parts of Australia comes a rumbling of revolt by oppressed ratepayers who are hitting back at astronomical rate increases. In the main, these rate increases stem from the increasing burden of debt finance together with escalating inflation. One Local Government told the ratepayers that they should accept the massive increase in rates because inflation was a "worldwide disease".

At Local Government elections in the New England, N.S.W., region last year, irate ratepayers followed the advice of the New England Electors' Association, and presented Local Government candidates with some firm questions. Ratepayers were encouraged to vote against candidates not prepared to give satisfactory answers and firm commitments. There were a few casualties!

Big rate increases in Ipswich, Queensland, the centre of Mr. W. Hayden's Federal Electorate, have produced a roar of outraged opposition and the establishment of a powerful ratepayers' organisation with a positive programme of action.

In some hard-pressed rural areas, where the current rural depression is even worse than the one of four years ago, graziers and farmers are talking openly of refusing to pay their rates. This attitude has now manifested itself in some Sydney suburbs. In the Eastern Suburbs, 1000 members of citizens' action groups have indicated that they will withhold their rates to Waverly Council. Waverly rates have been increased by 48.5 percent. Similar action is being taken in the Kurning-gai council area, where rates have increased by 65 percent.

Unless something is done before long, Local Government will be destroyed in Australia, completely taken over by the Canberra centralists. The League of Rights announces that it is prepared to give advice and guidance to all ratepayers who wish to take a stand before they lose what remaining local government they still possess. By taking action through Local Government, Australians can turn the tide against centralism in Australia.

## SOVIET JEWS SHUNNING ISRAEL

**The following significant report appeared in "The Sun", Vancouver, Canada, of February 12.**

Vienna. Austria (Reuter)—Faced with the threat of another Middle East war and economic uncertainties in Israel, an ever-swelling number of Soviet Jewish emigrants are heading for other destinations once they reach the West.

The trend has quickened in recent months and emigration officials say that on some days only a handful out of several dozen arriving in Vienna by rail and air choose to travel on to Israel.

While only four percent of emigrants arriving in Vienna between 1971 and 1973 went to countries other

than Israel, in 1974 the proportion increased to 16 or 17 percent.

In the final weeks of last year it was 30 percent or more.

While the total number of emigrants arriving here dropped last year to 21,000 from 35,000 in 1973, those who did not go on to Israel more than doubled to more than 3,500 from 1,400.

Israel is the only permitted destination for emigrants leaving the Soviet Union, but once they reach Vienna, the channel through which they all pass, they are free to change their minds.

The motives are not hard to find. Many have doubts about taking their families to a potential war zone in the Middle East and have heard of economic difficulties in Israel.

Others have few emotional or cultural links to Israel and say their main impulse in emigrating was simply to get out of the Soviet Union. Some Jews have non-Jewish relatives with them and do not want to live in a Jewish state.

The fact that with rare exceptions, only people of Jewish ancestry can hope to emigrate at all, means that for Soviet citizens, marriage to a Jewish emigrant can bring an otherwise unobtainable ticket to the West.

The situation is not without a certain black humor. "A Jew is not a luxury but a means of transportation," is one favourite saying among the new arrivals.

For most, the economic attractions of the West proved the main reason for leaving, along with frustration at the cultural and social restrictions of the Soviet society.

(The above report provides further confirmation of the exposures in Mr. Eric Butler's *Censored History*. 74 cents posted. 6 copies for \$2.50.)

## FREEDOM AND INFLATION

By BRYAN W. MONAHAN

Inflation has been officially (for example, by Lord Rothschild and President Ford) designated an enemy. Of course, it is nothing of the sort. Inflation is an instrument of policy, and the enemy is the group ultimately responsible for the policy, which is producing disaster and threatens catastrophe. The technical solution to inflation is quite simple, and is undoubtedly understood but opposed in higher financial circles whence international monetary policy originates—a position of immense power. The elimination of inflation requires a challenge to that power. The essential facts concerning the mechanics of inflation, and the accountancy modifications, which would eliminate it, are outlined in the booklet "Freedom and Inflation". If this can be brought forcefully to the attention of business leaders and others obviously concerned with the ridiculous and dangerous situation developing daily in what should be this increasingly prosperous and happy land, and if it can be made known to politicians that the excuse of misinformation will no longer suffice as chaos increases—under the pretense of 'mismanagement', the fate now so imminent may be averted. Totalitarian enslavement is the alternative - - inevitable unless informed public opinion becomes effective.

Price 61 cents posted from Box 1226L, G.P.O., Melbourne.

## THE BACKGROUND OF SOCIALISM

The following article by Dr. Bryan Monahan, which originally appeared in "The Australian Social Crediter" of June 1, 1946, and is republished in "The Social Crediter", February 1975, is an excellent examination of the basic problem confronting Civilisation at the present time of rapidly developing crisis:

Socialism is an omnibus term, which means different things to different advocates. Probably its best general definition, like that of Social Credit, is that it is the policy of a philosophy. In both cases, this definition excludes all particular technical applications—it excludes the means, and directs attention to the ends. Generically Socialism belongs to the philosophic group of which monism and pantheism are formal expressions for special purposes; more narrowly, the "political philosophy" is Collectivism—the idea that a given Society has a real corporate existence in relation to the individuals composing it, and that as such it possesses permanent functions which are relatively permanently identified with specific classes, so that members of the class become more or less exclusively exponents of a single function.

These abstract relationships do not explain why so many profess Socialism as a policy, and it is evident that only a small minority has any knowledge of the theoretical background. The practical motive with most is probably "what they can get out of it" or think they will get out of it, and this in turn is conditioned by their present status.

To begin with what the theoretical Socialist regards as the basic—i.e. despite what he says, the *lowest* stratum of Society: the worker, or wage-earner, or proletarian. For the great majority of modern workers, the job has become routine and non-creative. It may or may not require a high degree of skill; but if it does, it is a specialised skill unrelated to anything else in life. The job, therefore, provides nothing in itself for the worker; it is a means to an end external to the job itself. The interests of such workers are outside their work; their perfectly natural motive is more "interest" and less "job", the concrete expression of which is higher wages and shorter hours. Now Capitalism does not explicitly offer this, although it could; it appears as the antithesis of what the worker regards as progress, because the worker is continually taught that there is only either Capitalism or Socialism, and that only the latter is identified with his interests.

The next lowest stratum consists of those who make a business of advocating the grievances of the workers—the lower-grade Socialist politicians. These do not feel themselves to be freely interchangeable with those they represent. They are "leaders" whose position depends on having workers with grievances to "lead". The "class-war" is their bread and butter; it is also their taste of power. Now if Socialism abolished all grievances their position would go; they would relapse into the ranks of the workers. But Socialist theory assigns them a function; they personify the *function* of labour in the collectivist system; they become the channel through which this function is co-ordinated with other functions. Socialism thus means for these stability, and stable power.

Next there is the intelligentsia, in which we may include both the genuine expert, and the intellectoid, or intelligent-seeming, type. The latter is a sort of sincere drone type. Its representative defies the intellect in effect; this is the Utopian, the blue-printer, who writes books on how the world should be re-planned, quite oblivious of the equal merits of the radically different and incompatible plans of his fellow intellectoids. The common denominator of the lot of them, however, is the "plan", which will construct everyman's Heaven out of this Earth.

The expert, on the other hand, knows perfectly well the practical consequences of collective planning. His outlook has been well described by Colm Brogan: "It is customary for politicians to talk as if all ignorance, disease, dirt, squalor, ignominy and poverty were the results of an evil and rapacious economic system. But the experts, amateur and professional, have other views. They think the poor must be firmly handled—for their own good, of course. They believe that large numbers will abuse the provisions of social security if they are given the opportunity . . . When they come into action, there will be discontent—but the experts mean to be firm..." (*The Democrat at the Breakfast Table*).

Of course: Once the community is committed to a plan, departure from it is likely to be as disastrous as departure from the design of an engineering project. Sticking to the design has, however, a strong inherent appeal to the expert, especially if he is the author of the plan. Unlike the proletarian, his interest and his work coincide.

There is a silent alliance between the expert and the intellectoid. The latter, well exemplified by the Pink journalists, builds beautiful word-pictures of a state, which he calls Socialism. There is no denying the beauty of the picture, and quite naturally the workers vote for Socialism. The expert says nothing. He knows what Socialism is; and he knows that his business is to carry out orders. And when he is ordered to bring Socialism into being, he attends to his part of the business; it is not his business to correct any misconceptions, except in practice.

Among the experts must be classed the Big Businessmen. Large monopolies require knowledge and specific skill and experience for their management; and their managers are indispensable. Socialism, both in theory and in practice, consists of a set of huge monopolies under the coordinating monopoly of the State, and those monopolies can be run only by those who know how—those who run them at present. Consequently, as Major Douglas puts it, Socialism will install the Trust magnate in the bureaucrat's seat, with the added advantage that he will have no shareholders to concern him. The war—not to mention P.E.P.—revealed the best of understandings be-

tween the socialist bureaucrat and Biggest Business. They both propose to eliminate the smaller—the independent-business.

This aspect is easier to grasp from a consideration of profit. The enormous profits of Big Business are meaningless in terms of individual spending power; human capacity for personal consumption of the product of industry is very strictly limited. Big profits really mean *power*, and are used, through investment, to achieve and consolidate monopolies. Now the technical essence of Socialism is exactly the same thing; it is monopoly control of investment, to produce development in accordance with a monopoly plan.

Here indeed is the key to the whole situation. It is a fact of observation that industry moves ever in the direction of organisation into larger units. It is also known that the expressed policy of, in particular, the Bank of England has been the encouragement of such organisation. Now industry is dependent on the continuous provision of fresh money, which takes the form of an expansion of bank credit, reflected by an increase of debt. The reason for this can be demonstrated mathematically: but here it is sufficient to draw attention to the fact, which can be confirmed by the observation that bank deposits, and total debt, show an absolute increase each year, and that this increase is most rapid when industry is most active, as especially during the war.

Clearly, the dependence of industry on the provision of bank credit—"accommodation" as it is called—places the banking system in a position to control the policy of industry. Thus financial policy could be directed either to promoting or to opposing monopoly development, simply by the preference shown in advancing the necessary credits. Or to put the matter another way, it is not really conceivable that monopoly development has occurred in the face of financial opposition.

But in just the same way, Governments are dependent on financial policy, because they too are dependent on "accommodation". And it can at once be observed that Governments equally for many years past have followed a monopoly policy, which takes the form of more and more Government "control", and an increasing sphere of Government activity. Just as industry squeezes out the small man, so Government squeezes out the voluntary and independent organization.

Thus we have one policy operating through both industry and Government, and the logical end of it, already nearly consummated, is the amalgamation of industry and Government, *and the identification of Finance with Government*. That is precisely what Socialism is: the concentration of all forms of power in one set of hands.

It is merely absurd to suppose that a Government of greengrocers, engine drivers, schoolmasters, journalists and Bloomsbury Pinks will form or ever have formed the *effective* Government. The administration of the huge complexity of ultimate monopoly will be possible only to highly trained experts, and those experts are, of course, those who are at present administering the system. They

will form the General Staff of the bureaucracy, the directing brain: and having achieved and consolidated supreme power, it will obviously be merely a matter of expediency whether or not they retain the titular "elected" Government. If they do, it will be simply as a propaganda device, a sort of Public Relations Office, which is exactly what the Russian single-list Parliament is.

In the meantime, the greengrocers, school teachers *et al.*, who doubtless believe they initiate policy, are where they are simply because their ideas happen to be in accord with the policy which is going to be pursued anyway so that they form the best possible cover for the real point of origin of that policy. That is why our "Chif", the financial wizard, is affectionately known as "the voice", and our Bert Evatt, is the wonder-boy of UNO. The tune would soon change, as it did with Lang, if they proposed to depart from the current canons of finance.

It is of extreme importance to realise that it is not profit as such which the "Capitalist" prizes; it is power. Of course there is exploitation of the worker, and that exploitation is in the interest of power—self-aggrandisement through the subordination of others. It is a purely arbitrary circumstance that for the time being, that subordination is achieved through money-power. The prime concern of the wielders of power is to make their position impregnable. Socialism represents, in theory, an impregnable power-system, and its imposition on Society, through the deception of its intended victims, is exactly what one would expect.

Subordination of others means making those others do what you want them to do. Now if modern industry concentrated on the production of consumers' goods, it would rapidly bring about a condition where the requirements of the population were satisfied with a small and decreasing expenditure of human effort, which would be reflected in what, by present standards, would be ridiculously short working hours. What are the people going to do with all their spare time under these circumstances?

The answer of Socialism is that they are going to be put to work on "projects" which have no immediate relation to the standard of living. Working for an excess export trade; public works; maintenance of armed forces; war; altering the face of the globe by vast engineering projects—all these are of a piece. They are all means to sustaining "full employment", and they all figure in the Socialist planned economy. And they gratify the lust for power of the planner, and are carried through by the exploitation of the worker. They rob him of free time.

The genuine alternative to Socialism is thus a system, which grants to the worker the free time which modern industry makes possible. It can be seen at once that such an alternative receives no publicity whatever. Capitalism is criticised because it fails to provide "employment", and the only argument permitted is as to whether Capitalism can be so modified as to provide "full employment", or whether Socialism, whose primary assumption is "full employment", is inevitable.

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## THE GREAT SPIRITUAL FAMINE

By D. WATTS

**In the beginning of human history, to men, Physical Might is Right. Gradually, uncertainly, attended by derision and persecution and only dear God knows what tears and heartbreak, civilised values gain some social recognition and are given practical expression. Culture, normally civilisation's handmaiden, is psychologically conceived and physically expressed. When to appreciation of beautiful things is added appreciation of beautiful behaviour, civilisation flourishes.**

So far civilisation has been such a tender growth, so difficult to keep alive and has cost so much human effort and suffering that it is like looking into a pit of evil to see it being rooted out, either from ideological fanaticism or, perhaps more often, from the pleasure afforded by moral and spiritual vandalism. We have gone such a short distance along the path to civilisation that it is only a step or two back to our barbarous beginnings. Surely only the stupid or the possessed would callously and carelessly experiment upon it.

The forward marching hosts have always been accompanied by the laggards and the reluctant, the malignant and the morons. There have always been mistakes and misfortunes. There has been much stumbling along the way. All that is part of the journey, but so long as the general direction is towards civilisation we can hope that human hindrance and accidental setbacks may eventually be left behind us. When, however, there is a conscious right about turn by society as a whole to the land of spiritual winter, there is something worse than failure; there is an evil failure.

It is thought, today, to be semi-ignorant or in poor taste to suggest there is a connection between political policies or social behaviour and mighty spiritual Powers that are to us Good and Evil. Any suggestion that such Powers may be real and, if real, must have vital significance for public and private conduct is thought, in these days, by most intellectuals, to be undeserving of tolerant consideration. However, I never did like the admonitory finger of conventional opinion being wagged at me once I discovered that conventional opinion can be fallible; so I beg the patience of the more daring thinkers. I offer suggestions, not a creed.

### THE VANITY OF MAN

Man is an intellectually vain creature. Not only does he think that he is capable of knowing all that there is to know, but far too often he thinks that he knows it. What gives him this belief in his omniscience is his ignorance. He does not know that he does not know, so that it seems to him that within the limits of his knowing is all that there is to be known. That ignorance and consequent false sense of omniscience is the chief characteristic of devout adherents of the philosophy of Materialism and the political ideologies and social and psychological theories drawn from it.

The pursuit of knowledge usually starts from a philosophy. The science that began from the philosophy of Materialism now points, for the adventurous, towards where there will be a new scientific start from a meta-

### BIG LEAGUE EVENTS OF 1975

Queensland Annual State Dinner at Toowoomba, Friday, May 5, Seminar to follow on Saturday and Sunday. Action Seminar on Monday, May 8.

New Times Annual Dinner, Melbourne, Friday, September 19. \$6.50 per person. Annual National Seminar, Saturday, September 20. Theme, "Christianity and The Social Order". National Action Seminar on Sunday, September 21. A major Paper will be on constructive action through Local Government.

West Australia Annual Seminar and Dinner in August. Date to be announced. Guest speaker at Dinner Mr. Jeremy Lee, Queensland State Director.

Sydney Annual Dinner and Seminar in August. Date to be announced. Mr. Eric D. Butler will be the guest speaker.

South Australian Annual Dinner and Seminar in October. Date to be announced. Guest speaker Mr. Eric D. Butler.

Conservative Speakers' Clubs will meet every month in Perth, Adelaide, Sydney, Brisbane and Toowoomba, and readers are asked to make certain they attend Club meetings where possible and bring others with them. These functions have proved invaluable in introducing new people to the League of Rights.

physical philosophy. Scientific investigation indicates that our reality exists within a vaster reality. From that, to those whose imaginations have not shrivelled within the hard shell of a chosen ignorance, it seems almost impossible that the reality which we perceive is more than a minute selection of an infinite Reality much farther from the reach of our sensory powers and our understanding than man's are from that of an insect. Empiricists have comforted themselves with the thought that if there be anything beyond the reach of our senses it does not enter into our experience and it is futile to bother about it. In order to hold to that, they have been obliged to discredit or rationalise all those intuitions of a Spiritual Power, or God, and of immortality which may, and probably do, come to us from a mighty Reality beyond, yet in and with, our own tiny universe. On account of brushing aside this Great Reality, most men know less of it than they could do. If such a Reality exists, contrary to what many empiricists say, it certainly affects men's experience whether they realise it or not.

To be continued

## THE CHALLENGE

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parative few, Social Crediters being prominent amongst them, who never lost their faith in the reality of Truth. A decisive British vote against the Common Market will almost certainly set in motion a series of developments, which run contrary to the plans of the international plotters. The Scots, the Welsh and the Northern Irish are already demanding a greater say in their own affairs.

From all parts of the world come reports of grass-roots revolts against the centralisers. The Canadian League of Rights reports unprecedented meetings and interest in Western Canada. The growing threat to Southern Africa is producing a new unity of purpose amongst the Europeans of both South Africa and Rhodesia. The very intensity of the centralist policies of the Whitlam Government in Australia have produced a reaction which the centralisers ignoring Truth, did not foresee. It is no criticism of Mr. J. Bjelke-Petersen, Queensland Premier, to suggest that he has emerged as a major political figure with constructive financial policies, primarily because of the situation created by the Whitlam Government. And he was fortunate to have in Queensland a strong grass-roots movement directed by League of Rights supporters. Only a short time ago, the N.S.W. Premier, Mr. Tom Lewis, could not have foreseen that he would suddenly be pushed to the centre of the Australian political stage, strongly backed by the Queensland Premier and, in my view, the great majority of the Australian people. It never entered Prime Minister Whitlam's head that when he sent Senator Lionel Murphy to the High Court, the New South Wales Premier would set off a national debate by refusing to follow the convention which would have had Senator Murphy replaced by another Labor Senator. Mr. Lewis has insisted upon using his constitutional rights to have the N.S.W. Parliament make its own choice. The national debate has focussed still further attention upon the Federal system of Government and the Whitlam Government's attack upon it.

### ON THE EVE OF HISTORIC EVENTS

I am convinced that the peoples of the non-Communist world are now on the eve of historic events of tremendous importance. The inflation problem together with growing economic and social dislocation has set the stage for a growing revolt against the power groups. There has been dreadful damage imposed upon mankind over the past fifty years, and there will be still more damage. But through all this the Social Credit movement has held fast to that thread of truth given to it by Douglas. Regeneration from the grass roots is taking place. The signs of healthy life were never stronger. Let us dedicate ourselves to fostering and assisting that life in every possible way. Truth remains the greater challenge to us all. But it is also our great hope.

### BASIC FUND CAMPAIGN IN FINAL STAGE

Over the past month the League of Rights' Basic Fund of \$40,000 for 1974-75 has moved forward by \$1558, making the total \$38,694. Typical of the dedicated giving was a \$50 cheque from an old campaigner, now living on the pension. The League has now achieved every major objective mentioned when the 1974-75 Fund was launched, including the financing of the sensational book, "National Suicide", by Dr. Antony Sutton. But it is imperative that the balance is subscribed immediately, and that all pledges be honoured before the end of May. Queensland, northern N.S.W. readers should send their contributions to Mr. Jeremy Lee, Kingstown, via Armidale. N.S.W. The balance to Box 1052J, G.P.O., Melbourne 3001.

## THE BACKGROUND OF SOCIALISM

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While perhaps the sort of detailed exposition of the necessary and objectionable consequences of Socialism that Professor Hayek makes\* is necessary at some stage, in the alternative is simply whether individuals are to be allowed to be individuals, making their own decisions, and making what they can of their own lives, with the fruits of modern industry at their disposal in return for their own decreasing efforts, or whether they are to be compelled to live in accordance with an imposed pattern. There is a great incompatibility between the physical possibility, and the imposed ideal. Those who believe that "for their own good" men should be forced to work, will have to use—force. Or else they will have to destroy the physical basis of possible leisure.

It is not the theory of Socialism that requires exposure. Socialism is the means by which those who impose on Society an arbitrary ideal propose to render their exalted position impregnable. It is the plot of the Financier to enslave in perpetuity the worker. With the greatest cunning and treachery it makes use of the vague and abstract ideals of masses yearning for freedom and the fuller life to impose servitude on them. It is genuinely reactionary, for it reacts against that possibility of freedom. Criticism of the technique of Socialism will make little difference; what is required is a challenge to the power of its promoters, *and their exposure*. This can be done, through the local objective campaigns, details of which may be obtained through the various Social Credit affiliated groups.

\**The Road to Serfdom*.