

# THE NEW AGE

INCORPORATING "CREDIT POWER."  
A WEEKLY REVIEW OF POLITICS, LITERATURE AND ART

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## NOTES OF THE WEEK.

### "The Week."

A correspondent has sent us a copy of a typewritten circular called *The Week*. This copy (No. 60, dated May 25) consists of three foolscap sized sheets, making six pages of matter. The publisher is Claud Cockburn, 34, Victoria Street, S.W.1. The subscription rate is 12s. per annum post free. Presumably it comes out weekly, in which case the price of a specimen copy would seem to work out at 3d. The inspection of a single copy is a slender basis on which to construct a review, but the policy of the editor seems to be to give news-items that are excluded from the trade-Press or only obscurely referred to. For example he describes a speech by Mr. J. H. Thomas at a private dinner party consisting of representative persons from the Dominions, and prefaces his account with the statement that Mr. Thomas asked that it should not be reported. It was a speech about the prospects of war, and was pessimistic in tone. We can hardly reproduce the terms of it or the way in which the editor has written it up without impairing whatever copyright value (or sharing whatever legal risks) the editor thinks may attach to this matter. Other matters discussed by him are not confidential in the same sense. An interesting item refers to Japan's policy in Manchukuo. It is alleged that the cultivation of the poppy for opium has made enormous strides since the foundation of that State, and that the Japanese are encouraging this for export purposes. This recalls, by the way, Mr. J. O. P. Bland's well-known writings on China, where he stated that the objections to the opium traffic by outside Powers had less to do with its suppression on moral grounds than with its control on economic grounds. The present account mentions reasons that the opium crop is small in bulk, and can be conveyed or concealed inexpensively and easily compared with grain-crops—advantages which appeal strongly in regions where the security of the farmers is threatened by brigandage. A correspondent of the *North China*

*Daily News* is quoted who says that during a recent tour he saw poppies flanking the South Manchurian Railway for miles on end, whereas on his previous trip he had not seen a single bloom. From this short account of the contents of *The Week* it will be seen that its service is not conducted on conventional lines, and is therefore potentially useful to speakers and writers on public affairs.

### Munitions and Munition-Shares.

The Hon. William E. Borah made a speech in the U.S. Senate on March 5. It is now issued as a reprint by the U.S. Government Printing Office under the title "Munition Manufacturers Should be Curbed" (Code No. 45962—9976). It is marked: "Not printed at Government expense," and bears no price. Presumably single copies are obtainable gratis on application. The speech deals with the interlocking of armament interests, and furnishes illustrations of the fact (although Senator Borah does not notice it) that the armament business, like the Bankers' business, takes no notice of national boundaries or "narrow nationalisms." A part of the speech alludes to holdings of armament shares by British statesmen and ecclesiastical dignitaries, mentioning two or three of them by name. Of course, all this is familiar to students of politics, and those who see things from the Social Credit angle will realise that Senator Borah is unwittingly crossing the scent of the nigger he ought to be hunting. We pointed out recently that armament-production would tend to preserve peace rather than precipitate war *provided that the nations kept in step*. We need not repeat the reasons now: our point here is that the international interlocking of armament-interests, with their consequent "supplying-both-sides" policy, does in fact tend to keep the nations in step. The greatest danger of war would arise if each nation were to get independent control of armament-producing policy and resources, and were to set about developing the latter to the maximum. No wonder that, as Senator Borah mentions (again without realising its significance) directorates of armament-firms often interlock with directorates of banking firms. In one place he asks "What's the game?" and the occasion of his question was the fact, as he alleged, that French armament-firms had been financing Hitler's campaign in

Germany. The game is quite plain: it has been the policy of International Finance since 1918 to help Germany to catch up with the Allies in the matter of the balance of armaments, which was greatly disturbed by the Peace Treaty. Let us call this, for convenience and accuracy, the Basle Policy, in which case we can say that Basle isn't going to tolerate any politico-military hegemony in Europe whether seated in Paris, Berlin, or any other capital. The Basle Policy is the Basle Monroe Doctrine, with the difference that instead of shutting a door to keep dangers out it opens a door to allow dangers to cancel out. Instead of forbidding armaments to it permits them to all, and equalises them. What Senator Borah sees as the subscribing of money by armament-firms to campaigns like Hitler's for the sake of sales and profits is really the lending of credit by bankers through those firms for the sake of maintaining their own monopoly of money. The profit-motive operates, no doubt, but only among the shareholders, who have no power to affect policy. This motive can be rendered inoperative at any moment when the bankers decide not to exploit it. At the moment the Nazi enthusiast thinks it possible to have a big bludgeon as well as a big breakfast, and even to get a larger breakfast with a larger bludgeon. But as soon as the Basle Bankers consider that Hitler's bludgeon is big enough they will stop further supplies of credit (whether through French armament firms or otherwise) with the automatic result that any further addition to the Nazi bludgeon will come out of the Nazi breakfast—not to speak of the fact that the breakfast will already have been mortgaged to pay for the bludgeon as it is. Virtually a financial ultimatum will have been imperceptibly delivered to Hitler that he must (a) alter his policy or (b) run it on his own resources, or (c) quit. Germany cannot live by Marks alone, but by every denomination of credit that proceeds from the Bank at Basle. Hence Basle can starve Hitler into surrender for its own purposes without anybody being the wiser. Of course those who have grasped the Social Credit theorem and, by extension, the powers residing in the control of money, would see what was happening; and it is the existence of such people which is the one obstacle to the working of these ramps. But they are not vocal, for they have to wear the Basle gag of silence under penalties for subversion if they take it off. So the public generally would remain under the delusion that Hitler's finances were in disorder as a natural consequence of his policy, and they would be told that the strain thrown on their incomes in the process of balancing his Budget was the direct consequence of the provocative character of his policy. They would not realise that these consequences were externally contrived in order to discredit his policy, and that those who contrived them had done so, not because they objected to it in principle, but because it had proceeded up to the point where they wanted it, and they now wished to exploit its advantages to themselves in other directions. For instance, they might choose to promote peace-construction, such as housing schemes, thereby rallying all moralists and social reformers against war-production both as morally wrong in itself and as a financial obstacle to what was right. The public would get thoroughly muddled between two speculative propositions, the one being that the war-policy was wrong because it was costly, and the other that it was costly because it was wrong. And when they got in that state of confusion the money-controllers could drive through a policy which was equally costly and wrong, but presented in such a way as to suggest that it was right, and that, because it was right the cost could be met somehow or other, and in any case would be worth while. From gun-making to slum-clearing seems a great moral leap: but the financial consequences of either will be identical under the existing principles of national finance and accountancy.

#### Mr. Young's "Mather Lecture."

A correspondent has sent us the May issue of the *Journal of the Textile Institute*. It contains the Mather

Lecture, entitled "Industrial Leadership," delivered by Mr. A. P. Young. It is a survey of the progress of industry since the pre-scientific era. Its main theme appears to be the superiority of co-ordinated planning over the independent, isolated activities which marked the earlier stages of the Industrial Revolution. There are several impressive-looking diagrams relating variously to costing, electrical processes, business organisation, and so on, all of them being used with the object of illustrating and supporting the main theme above described. In a word, Mr. Young seems to be an apostle of the doctrine that economic salvation is a matter of perfected administration. The article covers about thirty pages, including nearly a page of titles of books, cited under the heading "Bibliography." Of the names of authors likely to be familiar to readers of the journal the following may be quoted, viz., Bertrand Russell, A. N. Whitehead, C. E. M. Joad, A. E. Garvie, Maurice B. Reckitt, Professor Soddy, Sir Basil P. Blackett, Sir Josiah Stamp, President Roosevelt, Lord Eustace Percy, G. D. H. Cole, Harold Macmillan, and Barbara Wootton. The omission from this list of several names (which readers will think of immediately) whose knowledge and opinions bear directly upon the subject which Mr. Young explores so minutely suggests that the paper is written more as a support for a pre-conceived political objective than as a piece of scientific research. It is as if he had said to himself: "How far does the history of the development of industry lend support to the project of co-ordinating every branch of activity under one control?" In any case, his paper, if issued as a separate publication, would form an excellent textbook for supporters of Mussolini, Hitler, or Mosley.

For instance, on page 10 appears a chart which he says shows how the standard of life in all countries will move towards "unification" now that world progress is closely inter-connected. He calls this the "ideal of the distant future," and apparently is counting upon the principle of international co-ordinated planning of the production to expand the distributable surplus of the whole world and spread it out evenly over the countries constituting the world. The ideal is sound enough, but, as readers of these pages will see, it cannot be realised by the methods described or suggested in the paper. Anyone who will check this idea by reference to his experience so far of attempts at "unification" along these lines will see that it is falsified in two ways: either (a) by reason of the fact that the people proposed to be unified go on strike against the methods of unifying; or (b) where the unification is accomplished, standards of life go down instead of up. The more this policy is persisted in the more patent will become the truth of the Social Credit proposition that the obstacle to progress is in the price system. Although Mr. Young surveys the elementals and fundamentals, he does not get right to the bottom and make up his mind clearly what it is that an economic system is intended to do. If it is intended to be a system of government, that is one thing; but if it is intended to be a mechanism for satisfying the needs and desires of human beings, that is entirely a different thing. Under the first theory it would be easy to show that "unification" amounts to the same thing as stabilisation, and that the effect of stabilisation will be to confine access to consumable products within limits which prevent the individual from making the economic system serve him, and will, on the contrary, bind him in subservience to the system or to the insignificant number of people who assume control of it.

Mr. Young publishes a diagram illustrating "the composition of a Planning Control Board for an industry concerned with a particular service"; and immediately following publishes another of exactly the same pattern illustrating the composition and responsibility of a National Planning Board. Students of Social Credit will see in this fact alone that Mr. Young has fallen

into the error of assuming that because centralisation and co-ordination are necessary for a narrow, specific, and generally desirable purpose, they must be necessarily helpful in dealing with the huge complex of such activities considered on a national or, if you like, a world basis. For instance, in his first diagram it is quite all right for him to have chairman and planning board in charge of a cotton mill; but it is quite all wrong for him to show (and by implication advocate) in his second diagram a Prime Minister and a Cabinet in control of the economic and political activities of a whole population. The planning board of a single company are concerned with the conversion of material into forms ultimately saleable on the consumers' market. Their concern is with the co-ordination and direction of producers alone. On the other hand, a planning board for the whole nation on the same model would control consumers as well as producers. So to mix the two things up is equivalent to propounding the doctrine that the freedom of the individual as a citizen should be subject to exactly the same limitations as are imposed upon him as a servant of an industrial organisation. This is equivalent to sponsoring the doctrine that the function of an economic system is to govern the lives of everybody.

It would help to clear the minds of most people who are likely to be misled by a study of Mr. Young's paper if they could be faced with the address which Major Douglas delivered at Christchurch during his tour, and which, it will be remembered, we reproduced from *The New Era* a few weeks ago. We notice that *The New English Weekly* is to print the complete authorised version of the same address in its issue this week; so readers who would like to make use of it as suggested are recommended to apply for copies promptly to Lane, E.C., as the address, we understand, will not be reprinted.

#### International Debts.

The international debt question loomed large again last week, and centred round the question of Germany's obligations. The storm centre of the controversy was the service of the Dawes and Young Loans. The British delegation were strongly insistent that Germany's obligations on these loans should be strictly fulfilled. Seeing that strict fulfilment in one direction must necessarily cause modifications in other directions it is not surprising that other national delegations did not see eye to eye with the British, and in fact the Dutch delegation refused to come into line. It is worth noticing that the two loan services to which the British delegation attached the greatest importance were concerned with the two American "Plans." It serves to support the contention so often made in these pages that the international governments are catspaws in the hands of the international bankers. One could have understood this official attitude a year or two ago, when the United States held a dominant position in finance by reason of her huge possessions of gold at a time when gold was universally worshipped as a currency standard, but it is puzzling to-day to find a logical reason why everything should be subordinated to the claims of people who inspired or pushed through the two plans exported by General Dawes and Mr. Owen D. Young from the United States. The attitude of the British delegation remains the same to-day in spite of the fact that American financial power has been revolutionised, and standards of currency have separated into three categories, with the additional complication of the bi-metallist experiment in the United States thrown in. An ordinary observer would expect that following upon a mixing up of the standards and doctrines which prevailed a few years ago the priorities of different loan-services would similarly be mixed up, and that at least the debt problems would be dealt with as a comprehensive whole, and along the

lines of an equitable rationing of all creditors. With debts in the melting pot a frozen debt-policy is a manifest anomaly.

#### Debts to America.

*The Times* of June 2 reviews President Roosevelt's Message to Congress on the previous day on the War Debt problem. It quotes him as having said of this question that it had

"gravely complicated our trade and financial relations with the borrowing nations for many years" and that "the money lent by the United States Government in turn borrowed by the United States Government from the people, and that our Government, in the absence of payments from foreign Governments, has been compelled to make up the shortage by general taxation of its own people."

What a refractory organ Pharaoh's heart is! Must the Seventh Plague descend upon the world before the Exodus from the Captivity of Debt shall take place? Must the debtors of the world continue to the last in the vain endeavour to make the bricks of balanced budgets without the straw of consumption-credits?

#### President Roosevelt's Message.

This declaration by the President is substantially true as a description of what has happened, but fundamentally false as a recital of what need have happened. It is a history of the past application, and the past and present consequences, of a technically unsound—and therefore politically fraudulent—system of manipulating and accounting credit. The technical flaw in the system was exposed at least twelve years ago when the American debt-problem first became a prominent issue in Anglo-American relationships, and Major Douglas exchanged letters with Mr. Lloyd George. It is probably true that President Roosevelt is unaware of the fact, and that he is the unwitting transmitter of exposition containing implicit assumptions which might collectively be designated the "Dubb Theorem of Debt." What Dubb doesn't see his heart needn't grieve over. Undoubtedly Dubb did see "people" lending money to the Government of the United States; and undoubtedly he will assent to the proposition that they ought to be repaid, or at least to the proposition that if they are not repaid they will suffer personal loss, and in many cases ruin. Again, Dubb saw—or will say that he saw—the U.S. Government lend this money to the British and other foreign Governments. Naturally he will conclude that if these debtor Governments default, he and his like will have to foot the bill instead. And even, if you should explain to him that the American citizens who lent their money borrowed it from the banks, you would not shake his belief, because other people would explain to him that banks only mind citizens' money, and that therefore when a bank lends one man money to lend to the Government, it uses the money of another man, and this other man is the ultimate and real lender, who has parted with real savings. So, in the end, as Dubb will believe, every dollar lent abroad during the war left a gap of a dollar in somebody's pre-war store of money. You might, of course, ask him how it was that in America (and in every other country) the dollar-gaps left in the separate banking accounts of American citizens came to be reflected as dollar-gluts in those accounts when added together in the bankers' balance sheets; but you would only elicit the reply that this was a matter of high-financial book-keeping which persons like himself (and like yourself!) could not be expected to understand. He would not consider it his business to offer an explanation of the fact that, e.g., in Britain, where the Government (according to the Dubb Theorem) mined a lode of £900 millions of private savings, got out £7,000 millions, and left £2,000 millions remaining. If it had been a reservoir of 900 million gallons of water raised to 2,000 million gallons by taking out 7,000 millions, he would, in these days of water-shortage, be extremely interested to verify the phe-

nomenon and to know how it could be brought about. But money—no! it is not a problem to be explored but a mystery to be adored.

Nor need Dubb feel ashamed of himself—he bows the knee in august company. Roosevelt in Washington and MacDonald at Westminster are Dubbs writ large—and talking large. They are too "preoccupied" with problems set by Money to give attention to the problem of Money which sets them.

#### Politicians as Marionettes.

In the Social-Credit frame of reference these pre-occupations will be seen, as it were, as strings attached to Ministerial marionettes, controlling their gestures and movements, and operated from the top by the concealed showmen who contribute the vocal part of the performance. Thus it was, for example, that when Snowden was Chancellor of the Exchequer he could act and speak with impressive authority and confidence apropos of his Budget. He was on the string; and had his hand waved and his jaw wagged in accord with the sense and rhythm of the ventriquoist feats of the financiers up in the flies. But when, after he came out of office, he was interviewed by the Press on Mr. Neville Chamberlain's Budget, oh, what a falling off was there! Futility and vacuity breathed out of his commentary, much as if he were a scrapped doll—eyes fixed, arms afloat and jaw agape—so that the interviewer had to be the ventriquoist and provide the book of words. And the same fate awaits Mr. Chamberlain, and every Chancellor, as and when the bankers see fit to restore dilapidations and smarten up the Parliamentary Show.

#### The Kingdoms of Fish and Finance.

There are four alternative planes on which to analyse the political import of President Roosevelt's statement.

1. His personal relations with Congress and the electors.
2. The relations between Congress and Parliament—between Washington and Westminster. (Other countries can be ignored.)
3. The relations between Wall Street and Threadneedle Street.
4. The relations between these two national financial centres for the one part and the international financial centre for the other—the latter being conveniently designated Basle.

We can begin with the postulate that the President's declaration embodies a fundamentally false conception of the origin, nature and necessities of the debt-problem. That needs no explanation in these pages. We can next say, with equal certainty, that awareness of the falsity is lowest on the first plane and highest down on the fourth, rising as you look down the table—the curve of the rise being steeper the lower you look. In fact it is probably true to say that no awareness appears above the third plane. The fact that there are individuals on all planes who know all about Social Credit and support it is irrelevant to our purpose, which is to look into the forces and motives actuating the orthodox bankers and politicians in their concerted manoeuvres. We have then a gradation from complete ignorance at the top to complete knowledge at the bottom. Also we can formulate this gradation in terms of preoccupations, saying of them that they are most urgent and most quickly variable at the top, and least so at the bottom. The meaning of this can be best seen by reference to the fish in the ocean. The whitebait on the surface have preoccupations to which the whales in the depths are strangers. The economic problem of these little fish is least to feed at that nicely judged depth where they are least likely to be fed on by the bass rising from the water below or by the gulls darting from the air above. For all one can tell they might have been able to achieve and stabilise security if every larger fish confined its movements within the same depth-limits. But unfortunately the whales at the bottom get fancies for a feed

at intervals, and when they do they produce disturbances which the fish kingdom would call "trade cycles" if they read the newspapers. For these great fellows come upstairs for breakfast (they can't go down) and, in turn, the sharks above, the conger above them, the ling, cod, bass, mackerel, silver eels, and prawn, all move one place up, something like the way the company at the Mad Hatter's tea-party moved one place sideways, though for other reasons. Without our elaborating the picture any further it will be seen that the situation of the millions of whitebait is related to the movements of a few whales, and that the relationship can be translated into political terms, yielding a picture of myriads of tiny electors being stamped at intervals by the leviathans at Basle.

Every shoal of whitebait is led and followed respectively by two sentinel-fish. When the leader turns, the shoal and the following sentinel turn instantaneously, the last now becoming leader. How it is done nobody has ever been able to find out—but that is one of nature's little mysteries which will probably engage the attention of naturalists when the Age of Leisure comes. For the moment it is hard to guess what it is all for, but easy to see that this massing and drilling rather plays into the hands—or jaws—of the bass by gathering his meal into a convenient compass—a reflection which admirers of Sir Oswald Mosley might find it stimulating to ponder over. But not only dictators are involved: Roosevelt and MacDonald, and all Premiers, are sentinel-fish—quite all right on parade while the whales sleep, for then these party-sentinels can take turn and turn about at leadership with some show of ability; but what use they are at the ascent of a crisis everybody can see for himself.

No reader of THE NEW AGE will question the probability that the commotion between the whitebait in Congress and their sentinel at White House ultimately proceeds from the stirring of the whales at Basle. There is plenty of evidence suggesting that the time has come for them to wake up and intervene. The overlapping of Roosevelt's heterodox experiment in credit-control and Major Douglas's tour through the Dominions showing how heterodoxy might be corrected and established even after a false start, make a combination which alone might be of sufficient potential danger to the Money Monopoly to jolt it into renewed activity.

The breath of fools gives breathing space for bankers. So when President Roosevelt tells the British public (as well as his own) that the prosperity of individual American citizens depends upon debt-repayments he is unwittingly starting up a controversy on a false issue in which both sides will attack each other on the false premises which lie behind it. He is artlessly provoking a quarrel futile in itself, but one which will distract attention from more direct and significant consequences at Basle policy.

#### Wall Street and Threadneedle Street.

Concealed within the artlessness of Washington's argument with Westminster is, it would appear, a more significant argument between Wall Street and Threadneedle Street. It must be remembered that Congress's insistence on formally requesting debt-repayment is hardly less embarrassing to the Money Monopoly than would be any Legislature's insistence on formally repudiating debt. Either attitude prompts the other psychologically ("I must pay? Well, I won't"—or "You won't pay? Yes you jolly well will") and the danger of a clash on this plane lies in the certainty that the protagonists on both sides will go delving for arguments into the technical doctrines and practices affecting debt. Basle might have tolerated this risk a year or two ago because if the disputants had got the notion of searching for technical weapons of debate they could have been set, or would have set themselves, to search blinkers. But to-day, if that game started, there is

considerable town in this country where there is not a band of active Social-Credit campaigners ready to take part in it. It is just what we want. Imagine a British politician on the hunt for an argument to show that (a) the debt to America was a fraud, or (b) a default in it needn't hurt any American—oh boy! Yes; and for the same reason that we should all leap over ourselves to give the answers and widen the conflict, the master-bankers at Basle must get busy and try to forestall the danger by localising and composing the conflict. Within the laws of sound finance which they impose on the banking and general communities alike, there are only two options open:

- (a) For America to lend her debtors the money to pay the sums required,
- (b) For America and her debtors to sign a new debt-suspension peace-treaty.

Option "a" is probably not feasible at the present time, unless the job could be worked without the knowledge of the American Press and politicians. Option "b" would be possible if the controversy could be so directed by the master-bankers as to produce a stalemate—which is what we mean by "localising and composing the conflict."

#### "The Times" on the Message.

The Times appears to be trying this policy in the article we have referred to. If read carefully it will be seen to be saying to American citizens: Our paying you what you ask will hurt you as much as it hurts us. Doubtless the writer is counting on the co-operation of certain central-banking statesmen in New York to get his arguments a fair show of publicity in the United States. They can be summarised as follows:

1. Britain's past endeavours to carry out the 1923 funding settlement (nearly 1,500 million dollars having been paid to the American Treasury) have been largely responsible for the collapse of the international financial system and its unpleasant repercussions in America as well as in other countries.
2. A resumption of repayment by Britain would make impossible any revival of international trade.
3. It is illogical for the United States to press for payment while her tariff and shipping policy keep out the goods and services of her debtors.
4. Assuming that Britain gave way the British Government could (though it might not necessarily do so) "buy the 200 odd millions of dollars with sterling, relying on the American Treasury, in the interests of American trade, to use their vast Exchange Stabilisation Fund to prevent any excessive depreciation of sterling or appreciation of the dollar." This would "load the American Fund with sterling, which it could only use in the purchase, direct or indirect, of British goods and services." And, "since sterling is no longer tied to gold, they could easily prevent the payment from having any deflationary effect in this country."
5. But "they could not prevent . . . the effect on the currencies still clinging precariously to the gold standard; and that effect might well be disastrous."
6. The moral is ". . . a final settlement by agreement which will have some regard to the realities of the situation and to the inevitable economic consequences."

It will be seen that whereas the first three points are more or less intelligible to the lay public in both countries alone, the second three concern high-financial technicalities calculated to allay the inflammation of popular sentiment against this country, which, as The Times says, is regarded as "a wealthy debtor wilfully seeking to hold back payments." Only self-evident reasons why the debtor can't pay, or why the creditor would be injured by exacting payment, can win Congress's assent to postponement in its present temper.

Items 4 and 5 in the list are Threadneedle Street's answer to Wall Street. Seeing that these are embodied

in an article on President Roosevelt's Message, they suggest one of two things: either that Threadneedle Street is answering a challenge by Wall Street issued between the lines of the President's Message, or that Threadneedle Street is in collusion with Wall Street to keep the controversy in safe channels. Assuming the second to be the true interpretation, the method of localising the conflict is that of keeping its planes apart, or crossed. For whereas the President pointedly relates his demand to the technical processes by which the money to lend Britain was raised in America, and to the domestic consequences allegedly inseparable from those processes, the writer in The Times allows this to pass, although the Governor of the Bank of England, whom we must presume to have supervised the article, is undoubtedly aware of the omissions as to relevant facts and misapprehensions as to natural consequences which characterise the President's case, and which, if corrected on the same plane of analysis, would have invalidated it, and could moreover have done so in language easily intelligible to the average Congressman whose attitude is causing all the bother. The actual dollars representing Britain's debt were created by American banks, issued to American industrialists, handled by American citizens, returned to the American banks, and destroyed. Not a dollar left America. Within the limits of this transaction the answer to the cry: "The Yanks want dollars, and by God they shall have them" is that Britain has not got any dollars. Her central bank could, of course, print and parcel up 40,000 notes of £1,000 each, and send them across, and she would be only too pleased if American investors could receive them as spending power. The snag is not in parting with sterling here, but in getting the banks in America to convert it into dollars and distribute it there. This was all worked out in detail in the article which the editor of THE NEW AGE wrote in the Realist in December, 1929, and which the New Economics (Australia) reprinted some time last year.

#### Relief Versus the Dividend

In an article by H. C. Bailey entitled "The Century's Revolution in Poor Law Relief," appearing in the Daily Telegraph of May 22, the author, we understand, has stressed the fact that the relief once paid out of national funds to augment wages was exploited by farmers and industrialists, who forced down wage rates, thereby virtually abstracting the relief for themselves. The point may have been made innocently enough by Mr. Bailey, but as it may be used by interested parties to discredit the Social Credit Proposal of a National Dividend, we give the reference to the article in case any reader cares to follow it up or comment on it in company or at meetings. There are two comments to make on the matter. The first is that the inauguration of a Social Credit regime will not require the abolition of the trade union bargaining principle, or of the trade unions as institutions. A reference to Major Douglas's Draft Scheme for Scotland will make this plain. It will also underline our second comment, viz., that employers who break wage agreements will be penalised by the withdrawal of "price assistance." There is little doubt that after a comparatively short experience of the working of Social Credit neither employers nor employees will have any incentive to sponge on each other, and will therefore find that the safeguarding machinery they now use to protect their respective interests will have become superfluous.

#### House of Lords.

Motion on Finance, down for debate on June 13, 1934. Terms are as follow:

The Lord Strabolgi—To call attention to the growing opinion that defects in the principles governing the issue and recall of money and credit are primarily responsible for continued economic distress in a world which has never been so well equipped to provide for all material needs, and to move that His Majesty's Government do institute an immediate investigation of the monetary system apart from its administrative machinery, with terms of reference sufficiently wide to permit full enquiry into its principles and proposals for its modification.

Strabolgi, Lloyd, Ponsonby, Snell, Melchett.

## The Green Shirts.

### NOTES FROM THE GENERAL SECRETARY.

It was reported last week that, as a result of our action of May 14, replies had been received from both the Prime Minister and the Governor of the Bank of England.

We learn that the former, "in view of the constant pressure of his official preoccupations," is unable to spare a moment to consider the basic principles that must govern a sane economic system.

We are able to say, however, that we have had further communication with the latter.

In response to our request of May 14, a letter was received from Mr. Montagu Norman dated May 22. This letter called for an official reply from the Green Shirt Movement for Social Credit, and this was delivered by hand, on Monday, May 28, at 1 p.m.

The *Star* newspaper (May 28) reported as follows:—

#### "GREENSHIRTS" AT BANK.

##### Envelope Left for Mr. Montagu Norman.

A party of eight Greenshirts—supporters of Major Douglas's credit proposals—visited the Bank of England to-day to present a letter to the Governor, Mr. Montagu Norman.

Dressed in grey flannels with dark green shirts and green berets, the party marched up to the main entrance and halted.

The leader then entered the Bank carrying a long envelope. He was taken to the secretary's office, and informed that the Governor could not see him.

He thereupon left the envelope in charge of officials and returned to his party outside, which then marched away.

An official acknowledgment of our letter of May 28 was delivered by hand from the Bank of England to Green Shirt National Headquarters, 44, Little Britain, on May 30.

We are not in a position at the moment to supplement the above information. It may be taken for granted that a definite step forward has been made by the Green Shirt action of May 14.

Just recently excellent work was done by two London Green Shirts while on a visit to Oxford. It is likely that this will result in a Green Shirt Section in the University town within the next few weeks.

Watford is beginning to show an interest in the Green Shirt Movement, and we expect to see a Green Shirt Section in this town before long.

Green Shirts from Manchester and Macclesfield visited Hanley on May 27, and a successful meeting was held in the market place. This was the third meeting held in Hanley.

A good meeting was held at West Wycombe on May 26, with Green Shirt Knight as the speaker. He had constructed a street rostrum for open-air propaganda, and from it held a crowd of 200 people for two hours. Much interest was aroused. One man was heard to say—"Hang it! I've missed my 'bus home, listening to this chap in green." Another man objected to the Green Shirt attack on bankers as bankers, and said we ought only to attack "the system." Communist opposition was not very vocal. One Fascist in the crowd was overheard to say—"I wonder whether it's worth while shouting him down?" but evidently decided that his voice was not strong enough.

Some few days ago the following incident took place in London:—

Scene: Crowd round a Socialist platform.

Socialist speaker: "We welcome criticism—our platform is open to anyone who cares to take it!"

Voice (of Green Shirt officer in mufti) from the crowd: "Right! I'll take it—now!"

Socialist speaker (astonished and nonplussed): "Er—you—you'll take the platform—?"

Green Shirt officer: "Yes—now!"

Socialist speaker: "Well—er—I'm afraid there's only five minutes to go before we have to close the meeting."

Green Shirt officer: "I can say all I have to say in five minutes." (Applause from the crowd.)

Socialist speaker: "I—I'm afraid we can't—er—fit it in this evening owing to pressure of time (groans and catcalls from the crowd) but—er—perhaps if our friend came along some other evening. . . ."

Green Shirt officer: "I'm here now and willing to speak from your platform—five minutes is ample time in which to explode all your arguments. I'm a busy man and not likely to be here again. I conclude that you cannot face the logic of Douglas Social Credit." (Cheers and cries of "Let him speak from the platform!"—"Let him have a go!")

The Socialists closed their meeting in haste.

The 1st Glasgow Section has sold 800 copies of No. 24 of the Green Shirt paper *Attack!* This beats the record held by the Southampton Section (600 copies) some weeks ago. Altogether, 5,000 copies of each of the last two numbers (Nos. 23 and 24) have been sold. That is, each edition has been sold out.

*Attack!* No. 25 is now on sale. This number contains a first-hand account of the remarkable reception given to Mosley at the Leeds Town Hall recently, when a large crowd spontaneously broke into the concerted shout:—

"WE DON'T WANT BLACKSHIRTS! WE WANT THE GREEN SHIRTS!"

A giant Green Shirt platform has been constructed by our Propaganda (Display) Department, for mass demonstrations out-of-doors. This is being fitted with a Public Address System (loudspeaker amplifiers) and will be brought into use on all suitable occasions. F. G.

## The Point of the Pen.

By R. Laugier.

### No. 3: REVOLT AND LEISURE.

A few days ago I re-read one of my favourite short stories, written by Guy de Maupassant. I read it in Lafcadio Hearn's excellent translation, where the story is called *A Walk*.

It will be remembered that this tale relates how "old Leras, the bookkeeper of Messrs. Labuze and Co.," leaves the warehouse, which has entombed him for forty years, and takes a walk. In doing this he breaks his habits; he experiences profound emotions, and he hangs himself. To my mind this story is a masterpiece: its extraordinary economy, its subtle suggestion, its selection of idea and incident, make it as moving and powerful as any large canvas of a novel, with the novel's cumulative effect. But also I believe that this story is psychologically quite impossible.

Artists, whether rich men or vagabonds, "aristocrats" or "democrats," are invariably rebels. Essentially art is a revolt against rigidity and convention. To live, art must be dynamic; and consequently the artist, however much a "classicist," is forever probing and experimenting. It would seem, in some cases, that genius is an infinite capacity for omitting pains rather than taking them; but genius certainly wears itself out in the constant endeavour to persuade the rest of us to shake off our apathy.

If this is so it is only natural that the artist should be tempted to endow his puppets with artistic characteristics, and to attribute to others the thoughts and feelings that rise so powerfully within himself. Hence the story of the little employee who revolts against his lot. The artist cannot imagine anyone living such a life and not revolting; nevertheless the masses never rise, and they never make history. Recorded history shows us that society has been based, successfully, upon the conception of the greatest unhappiness for the greatest number. Minorities create "movements," and wolves drive sheep. Our so-called "revolutions" are manifestations of violence inspired and actuated by social interests. A real revolution is a thing of the mind; ideas and behaviour are changed through appreciation of new thoughts. Affairs of the barricade are mere insurrections; a party is thrown out, another party

## Music.

Those of my readers who fiddle with wireless, or, strange aberration of the wireless monomaniac, are really interested in the accurate and faithful reproduction of music, may be interested to hear of a highly satisfactory recent form of aerial which has recently been submitted to me for trial by Messrs. The Central Equipment Co., Ltd., of 188, London-road, Liverpool. This is called the "No-Mast," and, as its name implies, no poles nor lengthy trailing wires are needed. The device is fixed to a chimney stack, or outside a window, or in any other convenient place. The aerial is then connected to the set in the usual way. The claim of the makers, namely that overlapping is greatly reduced or removed, and that reception is improved, I find upon trial fully borne out. The device consists of a small bouquet of short copper rods fixed in an earthenware socket, and slightly splayed. The whole thing does not exceed twelve inches or so in height, and when fixed is completely unobtrusive, while giving admirable results. In the case of my own set, and this is a suggestion that may appeal to other flat-dwellers like myself, the lead-in wire has been brought down the chimney of the room in which the set stands, as a precaution against picking up mains interference from any running of the lead-in wire parallel to the house mains, which would otherwise have been necessary. This can, of course, only be done where there is no coal fire used. The "No-Mast" aerial is quite inexpensive, costing, with fifty feet of lead-in wire, half-a-guinea.

A most attractive book on Liszt—as far as I know the only full-length study of this sadly unknown and misunderstood master, in the English language—has recently been published by Mr. Sacheverell Sitwell and published by Messrs. Faber and Faber (price 15s.). First, more than a word of praise must be given to the wholly delightful and charming format, production, and get-up of the book, with its delicate and subtle period-flavour, and the pleasantly original touch of a silvered top edge instead of the usual gilt. Lay-out, type spacing, and page arrangement are models, and the book is as much a delight to the *fin-pec* of bibliophile tendencies as it is to the reader for the charm and fascination of its literary matter and manner. I have seldom read a book dealing with any musical matter that has given me greater delight to read. Mr. Sitwell is the real and true amateur in the French and non-derogatory sense of the word, while his delightful enthusiasm for his subject, so different from the chilly would-be scientific detachment of the professional critic, is as novel as it is delightful and welcome. I find Mr. Sitwell's judgments upon the music of Liszt extraordinarily penetrating, perceptive, intelligent and sound. This word I know, as usually used, is little better than an insult, but it should be hardly necessary to say that it is not so used in this connection. The obvious labour, the *gusto*, the painstaking accumulation of significant data, and the excellent *catalogue raisonné* of Liszt's works at the end of the volume, cannot be too highly praised, and Mr. Sitwell's description of the music he describes is so vivid, so obviously the result of an intensely felt experience, that he almost succeeds in making his reader feel the same emotion. Mr. Sitwell is particularly admirable on the Operatic Fantasias, which he describes in detail, on the great Dies Irae Fantasia, the Fantasia and Fugue on Bach, Weinen Klagen Variations, and the great organ work—Fantasia and Fugue on "Ad nos," which he very rightly assesses for the masterpieces that they are. I was particularly delighted to see that Mr. Sitwell does not omit to mention the exquisite little Berceuse, a work almost wholly unknown to all but students of the master's work, and one that I for one never remember having seen upon any recital programme, or even played at all, during my own concert-going life. In the same key as the Chopin work, it is a most delicate subtly coloured little work, full of the mature Liszt richness and boldness of harmonic treatment. Mr. Sitwell's description of Busoni's Liszt-playing is so vivid, that it is a real evocation for those who had the inestimable privilege of hearing it, and he is evidently one of the few who had a genuine realisation of the unearthly greatness of Busoni's stature both as a pianist and as a musician. All honour to him therefore. A number of interesting appendices increase the value of the book, which has also—rare merit—a very full and complete index.

KAIKHSRU SORABJI

put in. Muscles come into play, not brains. The only thing really altered is the label on the bottle.

*Qu'importe le flacon pourvu qu'on ait l'ivresse?* Professor Ortega y Gasset has seen all this clearly, and then decides that the age of revolutions has passed!

The least valuable argument in favour of Social Credit will be the offering, to the average man, of hours to be spent in leisure. It is not only the masses who have been "badly brought up"; all classes are in the same plight. Boredom stalks through the land, naked and unashamed. To uncultured minds leisure is boredom. To the dispossessed—whom we still describe as the "poor"—ennui may be accompanied by acute distress and punctuated by despair: but the middle-classes, the moneyed people, have not even the stimulant of positive pain to quicken their apathy. At Deauville, Monaco, Cairo, they crawl about in the sun like flies on a soiled wine glass. Their talk is of food, hotels, gout, the casino; they play bridge, chatter, and turn on the wireless—at least one of the occupations will stave off the agonies of thought.

Old Leras would never have made his supreme gesture of revolt—not after forty years of slavery. Rebels are born, not made. They begin in the schoolroom, not in the warehouse with a pension in sight. Society has been based upon overt and covert slavery because the majority desire neither freedom nor leisure. The artist imagines that misery will make the poor kick: the poor do not kick; most of them are prepared by "education" for any unhappiness; they become sub-human, akin to creature from whom one can cut a limb and the very rarely, when driven by utterly intolerable circumstance, they put their heads in gas-ovens, quietly.

Leisure is the delight of an "intense and glowing mind"; it is life to the artist type who, without it, will perish. But it is purgatory to the uncultured rich, and it is a meaningless phrase to the humble poor. And only the poor help the rich.

## Major Douglas's Addresses

*New Democracy* (55, Fifth Avenue, New York, price 10 cents) publishes a five-page report covering Major Douglas's address given at the New School for Social Research in New York on April 23.

The reprinting of the version of "The Christchurch Oration" published in *THE NEW AGE* of May 3 is still under consideration. We understand that it requires alteration before it goes out in permanent form. As it stands, it is a reporters' version, and, as Major Douglas has pointed out to us, suffers in places from their mis-hearing of words or phrases actually spoken. Major Douglas will revise it as soon as possible, and we will then advise readers of what is to be done about publication.

## Social Credit in Sheffield.

The writer of a feature called "General Topics," in the *Daily Independent* (Sheffield), of May 24, has a few paragraphs under the heading "A Night with the Douglasies." He refers to his first visit to a meeting held for the purpose of expounding Social Credit, and gives an adequate and fair outline of the sentiments, analysis, and proposals which he heard discussed. A line or two of biographical details about Major Douglas are included. We consider that, in some ways, the securing of publicity in these popular and useful even than articles and letters; and it might be worth while for advocates of Social Credit in other cities to try to get writers of these features to pay them a visit with the same object in view as appears above.

We notice that *The Ironmonger* of May 12 publishes a paper by Mr. R. B. Kirkbride, Managing Director of Wilks, Bros. and Co., Ltd., on "Finance and Industry." Mr. Kirkbride presents the Social Credit outlook in its political aspect. In the small space allotted to the subject it is comprehensive and adequately done. He refrains from going into technicalities, and evidently planned his paper with the object of arousing interest in a new point of view rather than of making converts to any plan. In this he has accomplished an efficient piece of work.

## The Theatre.

"Without Witness." By Anthony Armstrong and Harold Simpson. Produced by André van Gysegem. Duke of York's.

This play, another recent Embassy success to be transferred to the West End, was reviewed on its original production in December last, since when it has, however, been largely re-written. The cast is in the main the same as at Swiss Cottage, save that the two principal characters are replaced by Nicholas Hennen and Joan Marion. Everything is possible in the world of the theatre, as in politics, but I shall be surprised if "Without Witness" has so long a run as "Ten Minute Alibi," of which Mr. Armstrong was the only better.

"The Golden Toy." By Carl Zuckmayer. Produced by Ludwig Berger. Coliseum.

Here is spectacle of the lavish type to which Sir Oswald Stoll has already accustomed us in "White Horse Inn" and "Casanova." These Coliseum productions are ultimately to be judged by their stagecraft, and "The Golden Toy" passes the test with honours. The cast list reads like a theatrical "Who's Who," including such well-known names as Peggy Ashcroft, Nellie Wallace, Ernest Thesiger, Ion Swinley, Lupino Lane, Wendy Toye, George Hayes, Margaret Yarde, and Joan White, with the Hartman Brothers and Chevalier Brothers thrown in for good measure. Add "music by Schumann," dance production by Ninette de Valois, seven people responsible for the musical arrangement and additional orchestration, and an English book by Dion Titheradge, and the most exacting playgoer must admit that St. Martin's Lane is at present offering a feast of all the talents.

"Sixteen." By Philip and Aimée Stuart. Produced by John Fernald. Embassy.

Congratulations to Ronald Adam for putting on as naturalistic and human a play as is to be seen anywhere in London—and one that should emulate so many other recent Embassy productions by making a speedy migration to the West End. The theme is slight, but it carries conviction through admirable characterisation and a dialogue that never strains after effect. Admirable are also the casting and acting, in particular that of Antoinette Cellier and Alexis France, the first of whom plays with a passionate sincerity not too common in so young an English actress, while Miss France's impersonation of the fourteen-year-old schoolgirl is a tour de force. But to single out only two players is here invidious; justice also demands mention of the other five, who are Helen Hays, Muriel Aked, Fabia Drake, Cecil Truener, and H. G. Stoker. Mr. Truener is a trifle too much the heavy father for my taste; if he would only handle his part with a lighter touch the ensemble would be perfect.

This play is a study of adolescence. The sixteen-year-old Irene and her younger sister, Baba, are presented without warning with a prospective stepfather. The marriage is to be at once. Baba, who takes an immediate liking to Sir John Corbet, is delighted with the prospect that her mother will no longer have to work, and that the family in general is booked for a good time. Not so Irene. She both resents the infidelity to her dead father and is protectively jealous of her mother, and thinks of suicide. The family doctor, who mingles the best bedside manner of the general practitioner with a dash of psycho-analysis, reads her a lecture, and the curtain drops as she gives her blessing. I am not quite sure whether so sudden a conversion of a highly-strung and emotional girl on the verge of adolescence is psychologically correct, but the authors and Miss Cellier make it convincing between them, and the final curtain sets the seal on an evening of excellent entertainment.

"Crime et Chatiment." Produced by Gaston Baty. New.

While bad films emulate old soldiers by never dying, good plays often have far too short a run. Ronald Adam, of the Embassy, who has already placed London theatregoers in his debt by presenting "Verdun" and "The Drums Begin," heightened the obligation by bringing over from Paris the Théâtre Montparnasse production of "Crime et Chatiment" for a limited number of performances, which are now, unfortunately, at an end. Baty's production is masterly. Not only has he made an admirable adaptation of one of the greatest novels ever written, in which no essential point is omitted—the dialogue is, incidentally, pure Dostoevsky—but the atmosphere of the original has also been preserved with astounding fidelity. Excellent casting and stagecraft combine to make this production a contribution to the contemporary theatre at its best and most intelligent.

"Viceroy Sarah." By Norman Ginsbury. Produced by Tyrone Guthrie.

Another admirable production with a run in inverse ratio to its merits. "Viceroy Sarah" is first-class historical drama, by a new playwright whose dialogue is as natural as his curtains are good. I am perhaps prejudiced in favour of the play by the acting of Barbara Everest as Queen Anne—the most perfect character study I can recall ever seeing on either the stage or the screen. Every nuance is perfect, every gesture and vocal inflection and detail of facial play, and there emerges a living and breathing portrait of the weak, stupid, and obstinate queen, who yet contrives to be sympathetic and pitiful. Miss Everest has hitherto played only small parts—including roles at the Old Vic and in "Berkeley Square." An enterprising manager should star her, preferably in "Viceroy Sarah." Edith Evans is excellent in the title role—that of the Duchess of Marlborough—but Mrs. Morley steals the play from Mrs. Freeman. Tyrone Guthrie's production and the costumes and period settings of Herbert Norris are excellent.

"Libel!" By "Ward Dorane." Produced by Leon M. Lion. Playhouse.

This is excellent melodrama which would have been better if the author had not at all costs been determined to give us the atmosphere of the law courts. The result is just too photographic; counsel "opens" his case at such length and with such prolixity of detail, that the audience might be in the King's Bench Court—where the whole of the action takes place—rather than in the theatre. "Ward Dorane" has evidently still to learn that the writer of stage dialogue must not slavishly copy the speech of everyday life, but slightly transpose it. Hence "Libel!" could be improved by judicious doctoring as well as cutting.

The author is admirably served both by his players and producer, since the play is so far from being actor-proof that it would have been vastly less interesting in less capable hands. Leon M. Lion is excellent as leading counsel for the defence, and is well balanced by Nigel Playfair as his opposite number; Aubrey Mather's judge might have stepped straight off the Bench, and James Carew is amusingly convincing as the Canadian ex-officer who unblushingly admits to a record of blackmailing and false pretences. But it was an error to cast Frances Doble for the only important woman's part; her intensity is so overdone as to rob the impersonation of all reality.

Mr. Lion's production is masterly, but has one fault. In a sensational case of the kind far more reporters would have been in Court, and therewith would have been a constant stream of messenger boys in search of "copy." Here, these omissions matter, because in every other respect the atmosphere of the Courts has been reproduced with such remarkable fidelity.

"Libel!" is distinctly out of the ordinary, and good entertainment. VERNON SOMMERFIELD.

## Reviews.

"Individual Psychology and Practice." By Drs. C. M. Beach, Brown, F. G. Layton, O. H. Woodcock, and F. Marjory Edwards. (The C. W. Daniel Co. 2s. 6d.)

It has long been recognised that a neurosis is not simply a haphazard collection of weird symptoms, but that it is a purposive act on the part of the patient, in order to gain his own ends, even though he himself is not clearly aware of the fact. And in the recognition of this important and fruitful fact the part played by Individual Psychology has been a notable one.

But the Individual Psychologist has not been content to confine himself to the neuroses, those vague "half-real," "half imaginary" complaints which we used to be taught to relegate to the limbo of the "functional disorders." Realising quite rightly that physical complaints cannot be separated cleanly from psychological upheavals, the followers of Adler have insisted on carrying their theories into the domain of ordinary "material" medicine, and they now claim that even such strongholds of the material as cancer and duodenal ulcer have causative factors which belong to the realm of the psychologist, both as to diagnosis and as to treatment.

In fact, they are insisting more firmly that "diseases" as entities do not exist, and that they must all be regarded as manifestations of the patient's whole personality. "Il n'y a pas de maladies. Il n'y a que des personnes." This is the burden of most of the articles in this issue.

Now this is a very important point to make, and one which is all too frequently overlooked by the medical mind. But it is to be feared that in their enthusiasm the Individual

Psychologists are pushing the matter too far—as frequently happens with enthusiastic pioneers. They seem almost to be in danger of forgetting that a man may contract pneumonia, just as he may break his leg, not purposively, but by accident, and also that the human body, being after all a material object, must obey material laws.

There is one contribution to this issue which has delighted me more than anything I have read on Individual Psychology. It is the article by Dr. F. Marjory Edwards, M.A., M.B., B.S., on "Some Aspects of the Psychological Approach to Gynaecology and Obstetrics." Unfortunately it has been relegated to the small type at the end of the book.

It deals with the psychology of dysmenorrhoea, and allied matters, but what pleases me most is the author's frank admission of the limitations of Individual Psychology, and her general sanity and balance. Thus she says:—

"There are, however, patients who are so happy in their invalidism that I, at any rate, cannot get them to feel that there is anything wrong with their attitude to life."

This is a difficulty that I, too, have frequently encountered. I have often been able to understand a patient's illness by regarding it through Adlerian spectacles, while being quite unsuccessful in persuading the patient to try them on, and I have often wondered what an Individual Psychologist would do in such circumstances.

Dr. Edwards also faces "the frustration, by inescapable reality, of a normal and conscious desire for fulfilment" (italics mine), and she is "tempted to wonder whether the physical symptom is not an inevitable reaction." And she adds, very significantly, "Here we are surely touching on the problem of the adjustment of both men and women to modern culture."

I should have preferred to have seen the last sentence put the other way round, but this article has convinced me of the correctness of the statement I recently made in these columns, that Individual Psychology is still sufficiently flexible to adapt itself to reality where it has not already done so.

N. M.

Government in the New Era. By Annie C. Bill (A. A. Beauchamp).

This is an irritating book. Miss Bill realises the fatal flaw in all the contemporary experiments in government, whether Nazi, Fascist, or Communist. All these she includes in one satisfying phrase of condemnation as forms of "anti-communism," and she points out that their error lies in overlooking the fact that a community must leave the individual free if it is to progress at all. She knows that the new idea first comes to one individual, that it spreads from him to a small band of followers, and only later leaves the lump of democracy.

Better still, she realises that the new idea for which there is most imperative need at present is the idea of monetary reform, since the outstanding problem is that of poverty in the midst of plenty.

But whenever she comes within sight of the concrete answer to the concrete problem, the iridescent plumage of the Ozlem wings is spread, and away she sails into the clouds.

Here is the sort of thing:—

"The paramount necessity of the hour is a *mechanism of law* wherewith to bridge the gap between a fundamental discovery made by a minority of one and the ultimate common consent necessary to make it effective in experience. Such a mechanism linking the awakened self-interest of common consent with the *contemporary* enlightening discovery of a fundamental fact—as fundamental to the life of all as to the life of one—is a scientific democracy, etc., etc." (Author's italics.)

It may be, of course, that the "Mechanism of law" which Miss Bell has in mind is simply a general increase in purchasing-power, but I cannot find her anywhere saying anything so direct and straightforward. And I very much fear that such an idea is much too obvious to be considered important in the Ozlem-Bird's-Eye-View.

All the same, I must record for "them as likes that sort of thing" that the moral and spiritual tone of the book is extremely high.

N. M.

Hints For Self Culture. By Har Dayal, M.A., Ph.D. (Watts, 5s.).

One cannot review this book properly without knowing the age of the author. If he is under twenty (which, however, his degrees would seem to preclude), he should be encouraged—to put the book away for ten years in some secret place, and then to read it, if he wants a laugh. If he is over that age, as I very much fear, he ought to be thoroughly ashamed of himself.

The book is addressed to "a young rationalist," and its tone is that of a clever fifth-form boy addressing his "fag." The latter, poor little devil, is dragged through biology, physics, chemistry, history, philosophy, economics, and God knows what else, and is told magisterially what views he is to hold, and what to reject. He is to be a rationalist but not a materialist, he is to be a faithful follower of Marx, but not to forget that Marx himself said that he was not a Marxist. His "blood is to boil" over economic inequalities, but he is not to take economics too seriously, and, above all, he is to flee God and metaphysics and national pride like the plague.

The quality of the thought never rises above the jejune, and the book is besmeared with the "blurb" of sentimentality which loves to decorate the page with absurd snippets from the poets, introduced by tags like:—"As Morris truly sings:—"

No doubt the book has entailed an enormous amount of work on Dr. Dayal's part, but the fact remains that it is simply an elaborate piece of "showing-off."

As Omar "truly sings":—

"Another, and another cup to drown  
The memory of this impertinence." N. M.

Film Art. Spring Number. 1s.

Cinema Quarterly. Spring Number. 1s.

Even readers of THE NEW AGE not primarily interested in the cinema may find much to interest them in these two provocative quarterlies, whose attitude to the screen is that of constructive intelligence, and not of slavish adulation of the mass-produced commercial motion picture. Among the contents of the current issues, I would single out in Cinema Quarterly the best description I have yet seen of the methods of Walt Disney, and in Film Art Eisenstein's aptly named essay "The Difficult Bride."

DAVID OCKHAM.

## A Plan to End Plans.

Professor Cassel, the distinguished Swedish economist, succeeded in "arousing the enthusiastic response" of a large British audience the other day by a plea for "a plan to end planned economy." His thesis was that "planned economy" leads inevitably to dictatorship.

In developing his argument Professor Cassel cautioned his hearers that the long fight for civil and personal liberties waged by the Western World may end in defeat unless we successfully resist the tendency of Government to control and even direct the economic life of the nation. He advocated the reconstruction of the social order based essentially on economic freedom and the responsibility of the individual.

None will deny that "planned economy" is an epidemic in the world to-day, nor that the tendency is more and more in the direction of Government "control" of more and more human activities. Our own Conservative Government is engaged in a species of planned economy in the form of the new Marketing Bill. Ten years ago such a measure would have been undreamed of.

Elsewhere, vast and elaborate schemes of "planned economy" are being drafted and designed and, in some cases, applied. The United States is in the throes of national planned economy. In Britain the National Government is doing more planning than any previous Government. Italy is now one great system of planned economy, and Germany is following suit.

Political parties not in power are drafting equally monstrous and complex schemes of "planned economy." To go no farther from home than our own C.C.F., its platform reads like a Government blue-book so far as elaborateness of detail and diversity of proposals go. And all lead inevitably to more Government control and direction.

The answer to "planned economy" is not a return to "rugged individualism," as some fondly hope. It was "rugged individualism" which led to "planned economy." The answer is the tackling of the comparatively simple problem of consumption. Production is solved. The world wants to go shopping for the abundance which production has created. How is this to be accomplished? It is, as the Rotary Social Credit Research Committee of Britain has pointed out, by increasing the purchasing-power of would-be consumers in accordance with the community's capacity to supply their needs. And this can be done by the nation assuming the powers which private individuals now claim as their own to issue the money and credit of the nation.

[Reprinted from *The Citizen* (Ottawa), May 17, 1934.]

## Sugar From Water.

"Scientist Makes Sugar from Water." So runs a headline in the *Sunday Express*. Now, isn't it just too sweet of him to go and do that when we've got a glut of sugar and a scarcity of water!

Perhaps the process has a reversing-gear, in which case this ingenious chemist will have given industry the option of using sugar as the raw material for water, or water as the raw material for sugar, according to the state of the weather.

Nations need no longer starve in war-time, is one comment in the report. No more dread of submarine campaigns, etc., etc. Quite: we could turn the ocean into sugar and leave them stranded.

## Income-Tax.

[Letter to *The Times*, May 29.]

Sir.—We ask your help to expose an income-tax anomaly whereby the Revenue exacts payment of tax from income expressly exempted from the payment of such tax. This reads like a contradiction in terms, but has cost a client of ours £74, deducted from a small capital. It arises in this way. Companies are authorised, on payment of dividends, to deduct tax at source; and the taxpayer is left, if he can, to recover any such tax which may not be payable from the Revenue. No limit of time in deducting at source is imposed on companies; but a limit of six years for the recovery of assessed tax is imposed on the taxpayer.

The facts of this case are undisputed, and so far as they are material are as follows:—For a period since 1911 yearly dividends were accumulated by the company and were retained until 1932, when they were distributed to the personal representatives of the person entitled to them in one payment, and a statement of the dividends then paid, with tax deducted, was rendered. From this amount the company deducted tax in respect of each year from 1911. Unchallenged evidence was produced showing that the taxpayer's income was exempt from tax since 1911, and repayment of such tax demanded from the Revenue. On reference of the claim to the General Commissioners it was granted, but on the advice of their clerk it was limited to six years' tax out of nineteen years received by the Revenue, and the Treasury now refuses any further restoration.

It is contended that the Revenue have no right to refuse payment for the following reasons:—(1) The taxpayer never having received any of the dividends in question they were never her income, nor was she liable to tax. Until payment they were subject to the liabilities of the company. (2) The income was never actually paid nor received until 1932, nor was any tax deducted from payment before then. This is within the limit of six years referred to. (3) It imposes a tax from which the income was exempt by Statute.

We appealed from the decision of the General Commissioners on these grounds, but had to abandon it on receipt of an intimation from the Revenue that they would sustain the Commissioners' decision in the Courts. From the point of view of "justice" we submit that this action of the Treasury is wholly unjustifiable and extortionate.—Yours faithfully,

GEORGE MALLAM AND SON.

Northgate House, 37, Cornmarket Street,  
Oxford, May 26.

## Forthcoming Meetings.

### The New Age Club.

[Open to visitors on Wednesdays from 6 to 9 p.m. at the Lincoln's Inn Restaurant (downstairs), 305, High Holborn, W.C., (south side), opposite the First Avenue Hotel and near to Chancery-lane and Holborn tube stations.]

#### Dublin.

Lectures at Clubroom, Red Bank Restaurant, D'Olier Street, at 8 p.m. Admission 6d.

No. 8.—*The Social Structure Under Social Credit.* June 8. Distribution of (a) Capital; (b) Income; (c) Labour—Security of (a) Life; (b) Property—The Communist State—The Christian State—Effect on (a) Government; (b) Politics; (c) Crime—New Scale of Social Values. Lecturer: Capt. H. Neville Roberts. Chairman: Mr. D. Walsh.

#### Birmingham.

Birmingham D.S.C. Group. On Wednesday, June 13, at 7 p.m., at Queen's College, Paradise Street, Lady Clare Annesley will speak on "Social Credit—What It Will Do."

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

### WEST RIDING D.S.C.A. SOCIAL CREDIT SUMMER SCHOOL, SKEGNESS.

Sir.—It was a matter of sincere regret to me that I was unable to accept the invitation of the organisers to attend the Summer School at Skegness in August. If business arrangements had made it possible it would have been a great pleasure to have renewed the fellowship which was so helpful and enjoyable at Matlock last year. I make this explanation because my inclusion as one of the lecturers in the announcement of the school may result in some of its members thinking that I have broken faith with those responsible for the arrangements.

Knowing something, at first hand, of the enthusiasm and ability of the leaders of the West Riding Association, I can, with confidence, urge all who can possibly visit their school in the first fortnight of August, to do so. They will return home enriched in knowledge and inspiration for the very important, perhaps crucial, work that awaits us all next winter.

A. L. GIBSON.

Sir.—I should be grateful of an opportunity to draw the attention of your readers to the Summer School which is being arranged under the auspices of the above Association at Seacroft School, Skegness. The School is ideally situated on the South side of the town, about two and a half miles from the more popular end. It is close to the sea, and adjoins the golf course.

It is proposed to hold the School during the two weeks commencing August 4 and August 11 respectively. During the first week Major Galloway has consented to give a series of four talks on Social Credit, while there will also be addresses by Mr. Eimar O'Duffy on the historical and philosophical aspects of Social Credit, by Lady Clare Annesley, who has kindly consented to act as hostess for the whole fortnight, and by Mr. R. J. Scrutton. There will probably be addresses by two other well-known speakers during that week, to be announced as soon as final arrangements have been made.

During the second week there will be addresses by Lady Clare Annesley, B. J. Boothroyd, Esq. ("Yaffle"), Major Bonamy Dobree, Dr. Tudor Jones, and Mr. R. J. Scrutton, as well as a course of four talks by myself. In addition to the lectures and discussions, ample arrangements have been made for the enjoyment of members of the School and for expeditions to beauty spots in the neighbourhood.

Every effort has been made to keep the expense as low as possible. For single rooms the charge per head per week (inclusive of conference fee) is £3 13s. 6d. For those sharing double rooms the corresponding charge is £3 3s. 6d. and for those content with dormitory accommodation £2 12s. 6d. Provision has also been made for those who care to camp out to have full board on the premises at £1 17s. 6d. to attend the Conference at the special rate of £1 17s. 6d. per week.

Application for accommodation should be made as soon as possible to the Conference Secretary, Mr. S. A. Staples, Wellwood House, Fitzwilliam Street, Swinton, near Rotherham, from whom all further information can be obtained.

With apologies for trespassing to this extent on your valuable space, and in the hope that you will kindly bring the success of the Conference by bringing it prominently to the notice of your readers, I am, Sir, Yours faithfully,  
C. MARSHALL HATTERSLEY,  
Roseleigh, Swinton, nr. Rotherham.

### AGRICULTURE AND FINANCE.

Sir.—There is a small but important printer's error in your article in your issue of May 31. For "land drainage" read "hand drainage." The difference is vital because our unique climate our marvellously respondent soil which absorbs all the manual labour we like to offer it: this can be said in normal times, but now we are suffering from fourteen years of neglect.

### "NEWS-CHRONICLE" CORRESPONDENCE.

Sir.—I have read with extreme disappointment your columns under the heading, "News-Chronicle" Article appearing in your issue of May 31, last.

This is the first occasion, I believe, on which a national daily newspaper has undertaken to open its columns to a discussion of the Social Credit proposals. The terms under which the "News-Chronicle" was prepared to grant facilities to the Social Credit Secretariat to reply to Mr. Crowther's series of articles were not, perhaps, too generous, but the opportunity should have been allowed to pass on a matter of alteration as to whether both points of view should receive

## CREDIT RESEARCH LIBRARY

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Social Credit in Summary. 1d.  
The Key to World Politics. 1d.  
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Through Consumption to Prosperity. 2d.  
C. G. M.  
The Nation's Credit. 4d.  
DEMANT, V. A.  
This Unemployment. 2s. 6d.  
God, Man and Society. 6s.  
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Credit Power and Democracy. 7s. 6d.  
Social Credit. 3s. 6d.  
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Canada's Bankers. (Evidence at Ottawa.) 2s. 6d.  
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DUNN, E. M.  
The New Economics. 4d.  
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GALLOWAY, C. F. J.  
Poverty Amid Plenty. 6d.  
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Introduction to Social Credit. 6d.

GRIERSON, FRANK  
A Study in Purchasing Power. 2d.  
H. M. M.  
An Outline of Social Credit. 6d.

HATTERSLEY, C. MARSHALL.  
The Community's Credit. 1s.  
This Age of Plenty. 3s. 6d. and 6s.  
Men, Machines and Money. 3d.

RANDS, R. S. J., B.A.  
The Abolition of Poverty. A Brief Explanation of the Proposals of Major C. H. Douglas. 4d.

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The Deadlock in Finance. 3s. 6d.  
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Outside Eldorado. 3d.

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W. W.  
More Purchasing Power, 25 for 6d.

### Critical and Constructive Works on Finance, Economics, and Politics.

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Economic Unity of the Empire: Gold and Credit. 1s.  
HORRABIN, J. F.  
An Outline of Economic Geography. 2s. 6d.  
LUDOVICI, A. M.  
A Defence of Aristocracy. 7s. 6d.  
SYMONS, W. T., and TAIT, F.  
The Just Price. 4d.

### Instructional Works on Finance and Economics.

BARKER, D. A.  
Cash and Credit. 3s.  
CLARKE, J. J.  
Outline of Central Government. 5s.

Address: 70, High Holborn, London, W.C.1.

precisely equal treatment in the matter of newspaper space allotted, appears to me (and to certain other Social Creditors to whom I have spoken) to be an error in tactics.

Fourteen hundred words were allotted to the Secretariat in which to reply to Mr. Crowther, and, although it may have been difficult to cover the whole case within this limitation, the propaganda value of the reply should not thereby have been impaired. The limitation in space imposed could have been indicated, and the opportunity taken of bringing to the notice of a large public (approximately a million readers) the journals and publications dealing with Social Credit.

X. Y. Z.

### THE CONSUMPTION-PRODUCTION RATIO.

Sir.—I would suggest that a cause of much trouble and squabbling is very simply embodied in the statement in the middle of column 1, page 54 (May 31):

"True cost = M × mean consumption rate for selected period ÷ mean production rate for selected period.

In other words, true cost is less than money cost. By this formula True Cost is less than money cost *only* if we assume that consumption is less than production. This is true *in these days*, but put forward as a general statement it is wrong, for consumption *might* be equal to production or even greater, supposing there were stored goods. In fact, the whole Social Credit problem is how to make it so, and thus disprove the above translation of the formula.

L. WALLACE.

### Tolpuddle and Trade-Unionism.

The Tolpuddle pioneers of trade unionism have received their permanent tribute and memorial in the form of a book. That is fitting. The book is issued under the auspices of the Trades Union Congress. And quite appropriately, most people will say. But is it? In part, yes; for there are many stalwarts of the Tolpuddle spirit still in the rank and file of the movement. But the Congress, in its directive capacity, represents a bank rather than an armoury. Its policy, from the point of view of the six "Tolpuddle Martyrs," is a mixture of tolls and muddle; it would be literally and accurately rural pioneers would not have been punished if they had started their scheme on modern lines. or in that case, as and when they saved up money to fight the Squire, they would have handed it to the Parson to mind, and have given him the right to approve a strike and serve out strike-pay, or disapprove it and sit on the money. And if the Parson had proceeded on modern lines he would have lent the money drama of Tolpuddle might well have taken the form of the inauguration of Labour Day and May-Day celebrations under the patronage of the Land and the Church.

### "Douglas Credit in U.S."

"The 'Social Credit' plan of Major Douglas has aroused considerable interest in the British colonies, and more recently in some 'radical' circles at Washington, report Messrs. Dommick and Dommick. Under Major Douglas' plan production would remain in private hands, while all financing would be done by the Government, which would supply credit freely. Industry would expand freely, and as a result of increasing efficiency through greater use of machinery, prices would automatically decline to levels where goods would move freely into consumers' hands. According to Press reports he assumes that all goods needed can be produced by 25 per cent. of the working population (or by available population working 1 1/2 hours a day). The plan rests on unfair statistical assumptions and (like the 'technocracy' theory) is built up by false economic logic. It is to be hoped that its errors will be quickly exposed."—*Financial News*, May 31.

### "The Jew of To-day."

[Excerpts from Sidney Dark's book of this name.] The Jew is the human paradox. The fact of his complexity, for without such a complex, continuance would have been impossible. (p. 55.)

It is clearly very difficult to grow rich gracefully; but my memories of the war profiteers justify the conviction that there is nothing particularly Jewish or Oriental in the deceitfulness of riches. (p. 58.)

I am one of those persons who believe in the existence of the devil, and never, as it seems to me, has the devil been so busy and so successful as in the years since the war. (p. 96.)

J. S. K.

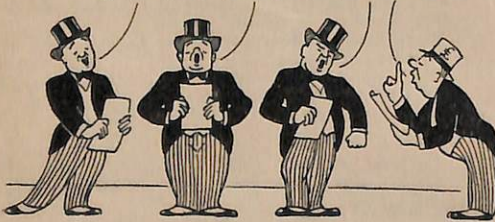
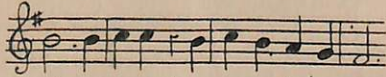
## The Charter.

By B. J. Boothroyd.

"The Charter of the Workless." In these simple but historic words *The Times* baptises the Unemployment Bill, thereby proving that since the silent films stopped, at least one of the old caption writers has got a job.

"The Bill," says *The Times*, "is a great and promising experiment in social reform . . . generously designed to keep or to make the unemployed fit for the work they desire."

The key-word here is "generous." Bounty is the order of the day. "Generous State provision" runs like a leit-motiv through all the leading articles. *The Times*, warming to it, goes on to say that the Bill is no longer based on the old conception of the Poor Law—that "if unemployment were made sufficiently unpleasant the unemployed would find work." The implication here is that the Bill has now made unemployment pleasant. The Chartists will



When Britain first, at Bank's command  
Called her wealth "Debt," so being rich, was broke,  
This was the Charter, the Charter of our land:—  
A Bill for fixing poverty on workless folk

Rule, Britannia! Britannia's too much meat,  
So Britons never, never have enough to eat.

have a lovely time. After deducting for rent, fuel, and a bit of cat's meat for father, they will have about ninepence over for lapping themselves in soft delights. For further details see "The Lotus Eaters."

We will accept the assurance of generosity. Would our statesmen stand before us with their hands on their hearts and confess their large-heartedness, unless they were conscious that much virtue had gone out of them? The answer is in the negative.

In the ordinary way, goodness of heart makes a Christian man humble. But there is a degree of virtue, only reached by politicians at which a man's goodness is so great that it surprises him into a song and dance. That Father of the Poor and Succourer of Many, Sir Henry Bitterton, Minister unto Labour, lives in a state of perpetual ecstasy at his own philanthropy. Narcissus himself never gave himself a better treat. "Boys," he says, to the world about once a week, "I'm a wow. Look me over."

We may, therefore, be sure that the nation pays the unemployed as much as it can afford. And the test of its generosity is the Means Test. As all Parties agree, we must have a Means Test. Before letting a man enjoy the wealth that is lying around doing nothing, we must know what his means are. If he saved up for five years to buy a piano, he must sell it for firewood before we can let him buy a mouth-organ. That's only fair.

What are the means of the unemployed? There is a large surplus of production; the men are unemployed because they have done too much work. The Bill is designed to "make men fit to get back to work." Well, they can't get back to work until the surplus has been consumed. Therefore, they must be made to consume the surplus as soon as possible.

There is, for example, a surplus of food. Therefore, the natural question to ask the unemployed man when he comes before the Means Test committee is, "What are your means of consumption? How are your teeth and digestive organs? Speak up, my man, don't keep anything back."

**ACADEMY CINEMA, Oxford Street.**  
GER. 2981.

Pierre Loti's Breton Masterpiece

**"PECHEUR D'ISLANDE" (U)**

with Yvette Guilbert.

Com. Saturday, June 9th, "LIEBES KOMMANDO" (U).

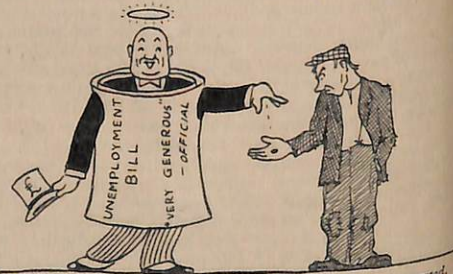
I like this picture of thousands of unemployed busily engaged in trying to consume the surplus so as to get back to work and make another. I like to think of the more patriotic of them taking solemn oaths, with their mouths full, to cram themselves to bursting point so that future generations may grow up into a happier, less surplus-ridden world. Bang! Bang! I hear them now, bursting that others may grow more food. I see other humble heroes going about in a heat-wave with seven shirts on, so that others who come after them may get jobs in the cotton trade.

Yes, times have changed. At one time, under the old Poor Law which Sir Henry Greatheart so dislikes, men were told, "Who does not work neither shall he eat." That was before the Flood—of surpluses. Now he can't work until the surplus is consumed. So what Sir Henry is trying to say—I'm sure—is, "Who does not eat neither shall he work."

Thus, by nine meals a day and all found, shall the unemployed be made ready for work, and the surplus make room for another.

Some may deny this interpretation. Some think that the Government, realising that the nation can support itself in comfort with decreasing man-power, has decided to honour unemployment as the triumph of mechanical science and the lifting of Adam's curse, and maintain the happy workless in dignified leisure. (Cheers, and a voice: "Got a fag?")

This is not the Government's intention. Sir Henry Bitterton distinctly says, "fit for work they desire." Another member referred to "those unfortunate people who find themselves without work." Labour speakers complained



The Lord loveth a cheerful giver. Feelings of recipient not reported.

that the Bill "was a confession that the Government could not overcome unemployment," meaning, obviously, that the Labour Party intends to make steam and electricity illegal and by the grace of God put the curse back on Adam.

Being without work, then, is statutorily established as a misfortune. This points to an interesting contest in the future. Two forces will be at work against each other. The Government will be striving to get the unemployed back to work and abolish the misfortune. At the same time mechanical science will be steadily trying to increase the misfortune.

Science must not be allowed to proceed unopposed. If thirty looms can be controlled by one hand, how can the Government, in the absence of constitutional powers to co-opt Satan, find things for idle hands to do?

But if we can consume at a quicker rate than modern mechanisation can produce, there will once again be work for all. Forward, then, to our task—of swimming up Niagara. Difficult? What of it? He who aims a stone shoots higher much than he who hits a tree (Emerson). Just as he who bowls a wide bowl further much than he who hits the wicket (Larwood).

This is the question before us: Can we lessen the misfortune of worklessness at a quicker rate than scientific inventions can increase it?

Let us set ourselves a simple sum as a test: If inventions cause the misfortune of leisure to increase at the rate of two hours a day per week, at what rate must we consume the proceeds in order to increase the amount of work per man per month?

Give your answer to the nearest pint.

### SUBSCRIPTION RATES.

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