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NOTES OF THE WEEK.

The "ideal newspaper" has made its appearance in Washington. Its name is the *United States Gazette*. Mr. Wilson Midgley, the American Correspondent of the *Daily News*, gives particulars in the issue of this journal of April 13 from which we extract the following passages: extract the following passages:-

"Its motto is 'All the news; no views.' The second part it carries out almost fiercely.... The theory that even an adjective may involve the moral turpitude of comment' forbids even such a headline as 'Valuable Suggestions', though the suggestions be those of Secondary suggestions '—though the suggestions be those of Senators of the United States. It has been officially decided that to describe a report as 'important' is to break the neutrality rule."

After pointing out that the Parliament of the United States is probably the worst reported in the world from a national point of view—that even the metro-Politan papers in New York are scarcely read out-side the city—that journalism in America is "local Journalism," he proceeds:—

"The new paper is trying to bring the Government and its doings home to the people. It is sponsored by a long list of people of importance including Colonel House, Mr. John W. Davis, and others. The directing editor is Mr. David Lawrence, a noted White House Correspondent, and friend and biographer of Woodrow Wilson. The Gazette even in its infancy contains more news than any other paper in the world. In each issue it is printing other paper in the world. Its price is twopence half-penny. Its promoters believe that it will soon be the most quoted paper in America, and will attain a world-wide circulation."

In fact, an international newspaper. Mr. Midgley he advances the comment:

"It . . . displays reports of commissions and other official pronouncements with large American headlines; it is not considered, perhaps, that to give one item a heading of six lines, and another a heading of twenty, is to indulge in the forbidden 'comment' in indirect form'; thus completely shattering the pretence of impartiality of the new journal. He Concludes with the reflection:

"The question about which some doubt still exists is

whether they will find in sufficient numbers that other party to the equation—the perfect reader.'

Older readers of THE NEW AGE will be familiar with the fallacy in the suggestion that a journal needs to express its views explicitly—or even implicitly in adjectives—in order to impose them on its readers. All it has to do is to select the news that accords with its views. In fact, so enormous is the proportion of potential news to published news that the daily contents of all the journals in America taken together represent but a meagre fraction of the total. It is the scope for elimination which gives an editor his power of education. There is no damned editor his power of education. There is no damned error, but some impartial news-exchange will bless it with a cable. We are not indicting the principle of selection. We practise it ourselves. We have frequently been told so. And we are doing it at this moment. The surplusage of facts over the utmost conceivable possibility of using them is as old as the Gospels. Did not John write—"And there are also many other things which Jesus did, the which, if they should be written every one. I suppose that if they should be written every one, I suppose that even the world itself could not contain the books that should be written"?

A very striking instance of the power of selected synthesized facts was exhibited by Ford in the Dearborn Independent. Even when all Ford's views are eliminated from his series of articles, The International Jew, there remains a mass of "news" (which in the main there seems no reason to regard as inaccurate) which of itself is sufficient to establish his case in the minds of all who do not look outside the synthesis he offered—the "Jewish World Program." As readers of this journal know, World Program. As readers of this journal know, we are not interested one way or the other in the truth of his conclusions. We have not yet found evidence that the attitude towards our economic policy is conditioned by racial considerations, and until we do we remain neutral as between Jew and Gentile. Nevertheless, the facts assembled by Mr. Ford must come under any public survey which aims at efficiency. So we will now link up the United States Gazette with certain information which the

Dearborn Independent has advanced about some of its sponsors. We must preface this by recalling the review we published of Colonel House's reminiscences a week or two ago. It will be remembered that the feature of that review was House's suppression of the fact of both Wilson's and his own association with Mr. Barney Baruch, a Jew, who called himself the "American Disraeli." readers, we imagine, found any difficulty in concluding that Baruch and House together were inspiring Wilson's policy. Now not only is House a sponsor for the *United States Gazette*, but its directing editor is Mr. David Lawrence. Who is this latter gentleman? The *Dearborn Inde*pendent of December 11, 1920, made the following assertions:

"It is said that Mr. Baruch was normally a Republican until Woodrow Wilson began to loom up as a Presidential possibility. The Jews made much of Woodrow Wilson, far too much for his own good. They formed a solid ring round him. There was a time when he communicated to the country through no one but a Jew. The best political writers in the country were side-tracked for two years because the President chose the Jewish journalist, David Lawrence, as his unofficial mouthpiece. Lawrence had the run of the White House offices, with frequent access to the President, and for a time he was the high cockalorum of national newspeperdom, but neither that privi-lege nor the assiduous boosting of the Jewish ring availed to make him a favourite with the American public."

So we have a picture of a Baruch-House-Lawrence "ring" round Wilson—the Three Gazetteers—whose adventurous quest after the perfect newspaper some Dumas to come will doubtless chronicle for the enjoyment of the wondering schoolboys of the New Economic dispensation. To any acute reader who reminds us that Mr. Baruch's name is not mentioned by Mr. Midgley, we reply in the words of Mr. Montagu Tigg to Mr. Pecksniff: "Sir, the peculiarity of my friend Slyme is, that he is always waiting round the corner. He is perpetually round the corner, sir. He is round the corner at this instant. Now, that is a remarkably curious and interesting trait in Mr. Slyme's character; and whenever Slyme's life comes to be written, that trait must be thoroughly worked out by his biographer, or society will not be satisfied. Observe me, society will not be satisfied!" We hope Colonel House will work this trait out in the next instalment of his reminiscences. It is interesting to notice that Mr. Wade Chance, in his review of Colonel House's book in the English Review for April, remarks on the fact that all Wilson's letters to House are missing! They probably contain news of Slyme. The same reviewer closes his article as follows:-

"On the day the Treaty was signed in the Hall of Mirrors at Versailles, witnessed by the writer, Mr. Wilson sailed away for America. The next day, June 29, House crossed the Channel to England for an extended stay. The writer travelled by the same boat and wondered why, contrary to precedent, House had not been left in charge unfinished labours at the Conference.

Wolsey had fallen!

Very dramatic. But we suggest a different explana-Treat. The essential job was done as soon as the Treaty was signed: so House went for a well-earned holiday, while his colleague Baruch took Wilson home on the George Washington, there to dispense with his services. As the Dearborn Independent re-

"American Jewry was Democratic until it had secured the last favour that Woodrow Wilson could give, and then it left the Derivation that the indepent haste of the last favour that Woodrow Wilson could give, and then it left the Democratic party as with the indecent haste of rats leaving a sinking ship. Baruch stayed, rather ostenin favour of the League of Nations, but it is entirely protration."

Having got these interesting facts we can dispense with the Ford "plot" synthesis. Let the Jews bury the Jews. The ubiquity of Jewry in these matters is sufficiently explained by the abiquity of the power is sufficiently explained by the ubiquity of the power

of High Finance. In the Jew you have ambition implemented by the perfection of patience and concentration, and inspired by a genius for money with which centuries of political ostracism by Christendom, leaving him no other objective for his energy, have imbued him. Small wonder that he is so often the characters the chosen agent of financial policy. But it matters nothing who are at the head of a self-defeating policy. The whole issue is the policy itself. Economic retribution is the policy itself. retribution is no respecter of races.

The potentialities of production are illuminated from a new direction by Mr. W. Hichens, late of the Colonial Intelligence of Colonial Intelligence Service, in the Daily News of April 13. He discusses the role that aeroplanes are now fulfilling in expanding the effective, as distinct from the actual, output of industry—and nature. French seaplance are being the role that aeroplanes a French seaplanes are being employed to exterminate with hombs the about 10 mg employed to exterminate with bombs the shoals of porpoises which infest the sardine fisheries of the Experience of the Experie sardine fisheries of the French Atlantic coast. years ago America began to use aeroplanes equipped with poison control to the French Atlantic coast. with poison-gas tanks against the cotton boll-weevil.
This poet the This pest, the writer says, destroys nearly half the world's cotton crop coch world's cotton crop each year. Whereas, with the old mule-drawn antiold mule-drawn anti-pest machines, only 30 acres day could be treated the day could be treated, the weevil-raiding aeroplane can drench with poison 300 acres in an hour. goes on to speculate what air raids on locusts might goes on to speculate what air raids on locusts might do for South Africa. With winged swarms ling 100 miles a day in armies 150 miles in all measures from the ground are powerless. all measures from the ground are powerless.

Louisiana airmen reached swamps otherwise inacts
sible and sifted down sible and sifted down arsenical powder fatal disease-carrying mosconic arrented swamps otherwise management of the powder fatal powder disease-carrying mosquitoes. On one plantation which malaria was attended. which malaria was stamped out by such methods as less than 5,000 working. less than 5,000 working days a year were Again, the result of the workers' preserved health. schools of seals which menace our East coast fishericate mentioned as property of the workers' preserved health. Again schools of seals which menace our East coast fishericate mentioned as property of the seal are mentioned as proper subjects for similar ment—the seal, so it is stated, eating on the average I cwt. of fish a day

But are not we humans curious creatures?

erect an economic machine which can best be pictured as a combination of an incubator and a the air on which beheads output as it is born. Up in the air on the second current as it is born. which beheads output as it is born. Up in are preserving are preserving calves, wheat, cotton and rubber, injury, while at the injury, while at the same time on the ground shoot the calves because the same time of and close do shoot the calves, burn the wheat, and is a gound cotton and rubber-growing areas.

There is a gound many the ground down and whom we could name in constant the Fastern and th shoot the calves, burn the wheat, and is a BCount cotton and rubber-growing areas. There is any man whom we could name in one of the Eastern any man whom we could name in one of the Eastern teles who would be very interested to in would clear a crop of them as would subsidise the inventor—he had subsidise the man He count in self-th mele afford to gather them. He said to himself-th mele short of pests—that's what's the matter with single short of pests—that sh cotton and rubber-growing areas. There is a comman whom we could name in one of the Eastern the ties who will be a the Spirit, it is an episode like this.

Spirit, it is an episode like this.

the economic plane must be wicked in whose this called divine; and insofar as Mr. Orage, this truly of articles finishes in this issue, intends "God, "but the control of th of articles finishes in this issue, intends to be the basis of big ultimates to the control of t be the basis of his ultimate recourse to those must surely engage the sympathy even disbelieve in superhamon mediation; and lect must surely engage the sympathy even of those and disbelieve in superhuman mediation; intellect those who do believe, his rejection of humanity as weapons of emancipation to them to use theirs—" religion.

Sir Evelyn Cocili- Dill. Sir Evelyn Cecil's Bill to prohibit the strengthen of detailed divorce court reports and to

the restrictions relating to all law court matter calculated to injure public morals" passed its second reading last Friday by 222 votes to 5. One always sees these large majorities when the rights of the public are being trampled upon. The Home Secretary disagreed with the argument that full Divorce Court reporting is desirable because it acts as a deterrent through publicity. For one thing, he said, adultery is not a crime in the eyes of the law, and he was not sure it was right to give the journalist the power to inflict for his own financial benefit the penalty of elaborate publicity. "Adultery is not a crime in the eyes of the law." This pronouncement, one presumes, may be broadcasted without injury to public morals! If the feared injury to public morals is accomplished it can only manifest itself in the more acts of adultery. These acts themselves are not criminal; only the talking about them! There is no need for fresh legislation. There are existing legal remedies for obscenity in newspapers—not that even the worst obscenities would have any measurable outcome in terms of moral behaviour—and if the public demand for full detail makes it "to the financial benefit" of a journalist to supply it, that journalist ought to do so. When one travels outside divorce matters and comes to criminal offences the proposed Act becomes even reprehensible. Nearly all the cases dealt with involve sexual offences by men against girls. Now what do the most detailed reports of such cases contain? Never a description of the act—never anything approaching what is freely stated in popular books on sex-knowledge—but nearly always an account of the overtures made to the victim, her reception of them, what she did or said after the alleged assault, and finally the comments of counsel and the judge on the matter. The rationale of the proposal to suppress all this "garbage" is, we suppose, that it is held likely to put ideas into the heads of a few male perverts. No idea seems to occur to moralists that it also puts knowledge into the heads moralists that it also puts knowledge into the heads of thousands upon thousands of innocent girls either directly or through their parents. It is lucky for the Well-to-do sponsors of a Bill like this that their daughters are not condemned by circumstances to Wear their honour just inside their wits—going alone on divers errands to all sorts of places and among These busybodies would Otherwise have a rude awakening about the value of

The Church Times has some good comments on the question of the proposed betting tax:

the despised popular Sunday newspaper.

We have never been much affected by the argument that the tax is indefensible because betting is immoral. It may be or it may not be, but we are certainly not inclined to subscribe to the assertion that it is sinful for a working man to have a stilling on a horse any more than it is sinful man to have a shilling on a horse any more than it is sinful for his employer to play bridge for half-a-crown a hundred. It is all a matter of circumstance and degree, and we have no sympathy whatever with the Puritan's delight in adding to the number of the deadly sins."

If this is typical of the Anglo-Catholic outlook, we shall want to know more of it. We commend the following sentiments of the same journal on the coal

"By far the most important statement in the miners' examination of the Coal Commission's Report is the repetition of the demand for a wage that shall ensure a decent standard of living,' and we would again point out that the Archbishop's Committee asserted that it was the duty of all Christian people to do their utmost to secure such duty of all Christian people to do their utmost to secure such a wage for their fellows. The difficulty is that the demand is indefinite. The Federation does not specifically state what is the wage that will accure the decent living which is what is the wage that will secure the decent living which is the right of the miners as it is the right of all workers."

That is a sound practical point. Let the Federation fix and announce a scale (of course, contingent on its purchasing power not being stolen through

prices). If they are too busy their wives will do it for them.

THE NEW AGE

"The Conservative Press generally is . . . urging Mr. Baldwin to refuse any Government help to maintain wages while the industry is being reorganised. The Times, for example, says that the alternative is a reduction of wages or 'no wages at all for a number estimated by the Commission at hundreds of thousands.' If Mr. Baldwin accepts that view, there will be a strike which will begin in the coeffelds, will assuredly spread, will paralyse inin the coalfields, will assuredly spread, will paralyse in-dustry, and will have results which no one can foretell. On the other hand, the temporary assistance, which the Prime Minister has hinted may be given, is surely necessary while reorganisation goes on and until it has produced the economic results that the Commission anticipated." (Our italics.)

This, and other matter in the same issue of the Church Times, gives us some encouragement to present an alternative to Mr. Orage's outlook on the future of society. May it not be that instead of the stewards of Social Credit having to find God, it will be the stewards of God who will find Social Credit? Probabilities are gradually shaping that way. Not, of course, that even the whole Church could herself wield the credit weapon of social emancipation, but if only a hadring the probabilities are gradually shaping that cipation, but if only a body in the prophetic tradition were to invest our purely economic warning with the power of its spiritual fervour, there is no doubt but that the conviction of the sin of ignorance would spread apace among those who must one day take up that weapon on behalf of the community.

On April 15 a talk on "Heroes of Commerce," by On April 15 a talk on "Heroes of Commerce," by Sir Curtis Lampson, was broadcast. His hero for that evening was "Lord Rothschild." After telling his listeners that the motto of the House of Rothschild was "Concord—Integrity—Industry," he proceeded to narrate how (a) Baron Rothschild spent his latter days in fear of his life and slept with a revolver under his pillow; (b) how he misled the City as to the result of the Battle of Waterloo, and made as to the result of the Battle of Waterloo, and made a million pounds out of the panic before the news of the victory (which he had himself witnessed) arrived in London; and (c) how the Rothschild dynasty had promoted prosperity by loaning Governments money here, there and everywhere. The result of its strict attention to its ideals and its business appears to reach £500,000,000—for that is the sum which Sir Curtis said the Rothschilds now possess. We must suppose that his intention was to hold this House up high in public estimation, but his manner of doing up high in public estimation, but his manner of doing it would be quite consistent with a contrary motive. For instance, it stimulates the imagination to know that the Rothschilds could advance the coal subsidy for, say, the next twenty years, while a mere ten months appears to be enough to smash up the British months appears to be enough to smash up the British nation. We hope to hear from Sir Curtis Lampson again.

The procession and demonstration arranged by the Women's Guild of Empire at a cost of £6,000 was a bad piece of tactics. The procession was was a bad piece of tactics. The procession was headed by mounted women members of the Whaddon Hunt, led by Mrs. Lionel Gibbs. The Daily News report says: "They looked very nice, and had excellent horses." No doubt the crowd thought so, cellent horses." No doubt the crowd thought so, to tell them how to think it. The Daily Mail reto tell them how to think it. The Daily Mail rejects the temptation if it felt any, to crown this sists the temptation, if it felt any, to crown this event with a leading article; while the Daily News, which does risk editorial comment, very discreetly phrases its central moral in these terms: "It has at least served a useful purpose in reminding not only trade union leaders, but the capitalist class as well, and the general public, that it is the women a widespread industrial conflict." So now everybody knows what he knew before; and, let us hope, knows exactly what to do about it. One need not

doubt the sincerity of the women who were brought to town by the organisers. Going on strike is the modern method of hunting for food. In primitive days the woman had to put up with her husband's absence while the hunt proceeded. To-day she has to have him at home.

A fire broke out in the Empire Cinema at Bethnal Green on Saturday afternoon while 700 children were watching a film. A report says: "The children displayed remarkable calm, but anxious mothers clamoured at the doors and tried to gain admission." Mr. Hardy, the manager, told a Daily Mail reporter: "We did not let them in, as the children were not in danger, and we were afraid there might have been a stampede if they had been admitted. The band played lively tunes which the children sang." Imagine the zest with which the small boys inside drowned the noise of the weeping Rachaels outside with their ironic-

I want . . . to BE . . . happy, BUT I . . . can't BE . . . happy, TILL I've . . . made YOU . . . happy

But we are afraid these youngsters found that the calmness" there was a prelude to a storm at home. It so often happens to them that the price of a narrow escape is a good hiding. It is riddles like these that make them masters of experimental psychology and the only philosophy. chology and the only philosophers worth listening to. There is a moral somewhere. It has to do with the Women's League of Empire. What if "General" Flora Drummond and her "Four Horsemen of Shepolitics" had been there to show the doors Politics "had been there to charge down the doors of the picture palace!

PRESS EXTRACTS.

(Selected by the Economic Research Council.)

"Mussolini succeeded in coming to an agreement on the debt negotiations with Washington, and placed a loan of City against the opposition of some of the large Italian that the advent of American capital in Italy would mean the economic subjection of Italy to American capitalists. the economic subjection of Italy to American capitalists.
These people little realised that American capitalists had and the raw material and Italy hus the man-power.

Italy will thus provide an important outlet for American Italy will thus provide an important outlet for American enforcement of law and order in Italy by the means used was better than if there had been a bloody revolution. What happened in Russia did not happen in Italy, because there was a firm hand at the helm. . . There is every indication that the Mussolini Government will continue to remain in power. . . . The fact that American investors can feel that there is a responsible Government in Italy should be reassuring to them as to the intrinsic value of should be reassuring to them as to the intrinsic value of Italian securities. . . I have every confidence in the Luigi Criscuolo, Italian American financial standpoint."—
"Wall Street News," January 26.
"France has at the present moment more power and possessed."—Wall Street News, February 1.
"In the matter of debts, the trouble is that few people

In the matter of debts, the trouble is that few people attend upon the payment of great sums of money from one country to another.

Except from Great Britain, America country to another. . . . Except from Great Britain, America taxes. Whatever is collected from the Continent of Europe can come only a long time sheed. It would not Europe can come only a long time ahead. It would not Europe to America at this time. It would be reversing the attingency in Europe and Europe to America at this time. It would be reversing the national current, increasing the stringency in Europe and stimulating a return flow by private channels."—G. E. Roberts, Vice-President of National City Bank of New York, in New York Herald, February 25.

"In Germany on February 1, 1926, the number of unemployed had risen to over 2,000,000, while 2,500,000 more

employed had risen to over 2,000,000, while 2,500,000 more working only part time. The Government had, therefore, decided to grant the railways credit of 100,000,000 meeded."—Financial Times, February 19. Energy from Coal.*

By C. H. Douglas. I.—POLITICS.

It will not have escaped the attention of those who are interested in these matters that the Home policy of the present Government is primarily, if not entirely, concerned with the twin problems of the mining industry and the twin problems of the mining industry and the supply of electrical energy. In themselves these subjects are sufficiently important and interesting. But they have an importance and an interest which is extrinsic as well as intrinsic, and this extrinsic and this extrinsic importance may very possibly outweigh that which attaches to these questions considered by themselves.

For many years past it has been recognised that, at any rate in Great Britain, the principles, theories, and philosophies which have been discussed as alternatives to these leaves and parties to the same and parties to the same and society are natives to those by which industry and society are governed at the present time, would very probably find their first battle-ground, if at all, in the organisation or re-organization of re-organization of re-organization of the state of t sation or re-organisation of the coal mining industry.

It is interesting in the coal mining industry.

It is interesting and useful to consider why this is.

The obvious so. The obvious and superficial reasons, as usually given, are not the true reasons. Coal mining, to the average individual average individual, seems to possess special attri-butes of repulsiveness butes of repulsiveness as an occupation, an idea which largely arises from the fact that the coalminer's occupation is carried on in a world of which the ordinary individual land the ordinary individual knows nothing. It appears the horrible to be lowered thousands of feet into the centre of the earth. The spectacle of mine-workers returning to their homes bearinged and at unfamily returning to their homes begrimed and at unfamiliar hours of the day. liar hours of the day suggests barbarous conditions.
It is certainly not my intention to suggest that fact mining is an ideal purchase. mining is an ideal pursuit for everyone, but the fact that it is not an intelled. that it is not an intolerable pursuit can perhaps the most easily realised by considering the fact that the problem is not to problem is not to get men to work in coalmines, but to keep them out but to keep them out. The coal-miner is a skilled worker. He refuses worker. He refuses, and quite rightly refuses, allow men unused to the technique of getting the to work at the coal face. But in spite of qualifications required, which are not obtainable it is cept through a considerable apprenticeship, cany cept through a considerable apprenticeship, many estimated that there are close on 100,000 at the pressure that the pressure of the pressure that the pressu skilled miners available in this country at districts, ent time. The housing country at districts, ent time. The housing conditions of some districts particularly in Scotland, are disgraceful, but on other hand many modern mining villages are in comfort.

Nor is it because the mining industry employs so many men. It is a large and important industry employing over 1.150 000 Toronto in 1023, but it far on the employing over 1,150,000 persons in 1923, red, es far as the number of its personnel is concernacted is doubtful whether this exceeds or even approaches that of many other industries such as, for instance, the that of many other industries, such as, and shipping the textile trades, or the railway wages greater trades. Nor is it even because of low wages greater existent profits. At the present time there is grant diet. trades. Nor is it even because of low wages greats existent profits. At the present time there is grant distress in the cotton trade of Lancashire, the of it concerns the operative; and as far as are alist is concerned, the financial losses are greater magnitude than is the case in through the coal.

The recommendation of the recommendation of the case in the case

The reason for the persistent limelight through upon the coal industry is more fundamental civiling any of these. It is that our modern industrial use ation is founded and bound up with the arned power sation is founded and bound up with the power, and, so far as Great Britain terms, trade,

power, and, so far as Great Britain is concern coal and power are interchangeable terms. trade Now, the average miner or even the mining mout union leader is far from being an unintelligent and but I do not think that he speculates very the relation of coal to the industrial system. the subject are thoughts that he may have on the subject are * Coparight by C. H. Donglas

probably put into his head from outside. As a matter of fact, most of the ideas which have been put forward as being part of the mine-worker's policy in regard to industry have been put into his head from outside, simply because he is almost the worst judge of the reasons for his troubles that it would be possible to find, owing to his highly segregated life. So that the first consideration to be taken into account in connection with the coal situation is not only that coal as representing power is in truth a very important foundation stone to our industrial edifice, but also that a number of interests quite outside the ranks of either the coal-mine worker or the colliery Proprietor recognise that this is so, and intend to make this industry the battle-ground of their policies

Nor are these policies by any means solely internal policies. It is probable that their international aspect is at least as important as their national aspect. It is fairly well known that, not to put it in stronger terms, the Sankey Commission which reported in favour of nationalisation of coal-mines in 1920 received strong covert support from the United States, and there was current in New York at that time a circumstantial rumour that a certain well-known witness was paid £10,000 to advocate nationalisation. The explanation of this was simple enough. Financiers in the United States held large quantities of British Government loan stock, and were nervous about their security, and considered that it would be sensibly improved if the assets of the British coal industry and, incidentally, the rail-Ways were attached to their risk.

The Sankey report missed fire. But we have just had another Coal Commission, presided over by Sir Herbert Samuel, a member of an international race, whose qualifications as a witness would have been excellent had the Coal Commission dealt with the subject of finance, which it did not. The two outstanding features of this report are the support given to the nationalisation of minerals, which are obviously the key to the coal industry, and its condemnation of the coal subsidy.

Now, there is absolutely nothing to separate private property in coal from any other form of private property which is not directly used by its Owner. That is to say, private property in coal is simply a source of financial credit to its owner like any other sort of private property which is a source of income. Incidentally it is taxed to an extent to which no other form of private property is taxed.

But this Commission went out of its way to put on record its condemnation of private property in Coal, although the financial results, even of absolute Confiscation of Royalties, would not affect the cost-Price of coal by more than a few pence per ton. But the removal of coal from private ownership to so-Called public ownership would give absolute control of the coal industry to whatever influence may be said to control the State. I do not suppose anyone is foolish enough to imagine that the influence of the British public is paramount in British policy at this time.

The recommendations of the Coal Commission in regard to the ownership of minerals, therefore, have a political basis and not an economic basis, and that Political basis may conceivably be international.

The condemnation of a subsidy in aid of wages is The condemnation of a subsidy in aid of wages is not, I think, wholly unconnected with the fear that might develop into a subsidy in reduction of prices. A subsidy in reduction of prices which was not collected in taxation) and it will be remembered that the lected in taxation) and it will be remembered to the lected in taxation and it will be remembered to the lected in taxation. present Coal Subsidy has not, so far, been collected in taxation) would amount to a recognition of public property.

Obviously no Commission presided over by an international financier could fail to oppose that.

(To be continued.)

Towards The Ideal.

(From the Philosophy of Tchoang-tzeu.)

An ancient Chinese tale tells of the annual ascent and descent of the Dragon. Clouds from the North fall as rain in the South. The rain is given back in the form of vapour from the South to the North. The same idea is

expressed in the following allegory.

If we are to believe ancient legends, there lives in the Northern Ocean an enormous fish which can change its shape into that of a bird. When this bird rises, its wings spread across the sky like clouds. Skimming over the waves in the direction of the South, it takes its flight for a distance of a thousand miles. Then it flies with the wind to a height of thirty thousand miles in the space of six months.

months.

What is to be seen up there in the blue sky? Are they troops of wild horses running about? Is it simply dust being blown to and fro? Is it the great breath of life which gives birth to all living things? And that blue: is it the sky itself? Or is it only the colour of infinite distance, in which the sky, the personal being of history and of poetry, hides itself? And from up there, can this earth be seen, and, if so, under what aspect? Mystery. Whatever the truth may be, rising from the vast ocean and borne up by the great mass of air (ocean and air being the only supports possible for its vast size) the great bird flies up to an enormous height.

flies up to an enormous height.

A very young grasshopper and a very young pigeon, having seen it, laughed at the great bird and said, "What is the good of flying up so high? Why risk so much? We who are content to fly from branch to branch, without were roung for from home do not burt ourselves when we ever going far from home, do not hurt ourselves when we fall to the ground. Every day we find all we need, without fatigue. Why go so far? Why fly so high? Do not anxieties increase in proportion to the distance and the

height?"

Thus did two small beings discuss a subject far beyond their comprehension. A little mind cannot understand that which means much to a great mind. A short experience cannot include far-away things. A mushroom, which only lives for one morning, cannot understand the duration of a month. An insect which only lives for one summer, cannot imagine the four seasons. Do not ask short-lived beings for details concerning the great tortoise which lived five hundred years, and the great tree which lived for eight hundred years, and the great tree which lived for eight thousand. Even the old P'eng Tsou can tell you nothing beyond what took place during the eight hundred years that he lived, if tradition is to be believed.

There are men almost as limited as the grasshopper and

beyond what took place during the eight hundred years that he lived, if tradition is to be believed.

There are men almost as limited as the grasshopper and the pigeon. They can understand nothing beyond the routine of ordinary life and are only fit to be the mandarines of a district, or, at the most, the lords of their manors. Master Young of Song was superior to such men and more like the great bird. He lived as indifferent to praise as he was to blame. Relying upon his own judgment he did not allow himself to be influenced by the opinion of others. He never saw any difference between glory and shame. He was free from the bonds of ordinary human prejudices. He was free from the bonds of ordinary human prejudices. Master Lie of Tcheng was superior to Master Young, and still more like the great bird. His soul soared on the wings of contemplation sometimes for a fortnight, leaving his body of contemplation sometimes for a fortnight, leaving his body inert and unconscious. He was almost free from the ties of earth, but not quite. He had to wait for this ecstatic of earth, but not quite. He had to wait for this ecstatic rapture and this showed that he was still a little dependent. Now let us suppose a man entirely absorbed by the great Now let us suppose a man entirely absorbed by the great cosmic movement, and moving with it, in infinite space.

such a man will depend upon nothing. He will be perfectly free, in the sense that his person and his actions will be united to the person and the actions of the great All. It has been very truly said the superman has no longer any has been very truly said the superman has no longer any has been very truly said the superman has no longer any has been very truly said the superman has no longer any has been very truly said the superman has no longer any has been very truly said the superman has no longer any has been very truly said the superman has no longer any has been very truly said the superman has no longer any has been very truly said the superman has no longer any has been very truly said the superman has no longer any has been very truly said the superman has no longer any has been very truly said the superman has no longer any has been very truly said the superman has no longer any has been very truly said the superman has no longer any has been very truly said the superman has no longer any has been very truly said the superman has no longer any has been very truly said the superman has no longer any has been very truly said the superman has no longer any has been very truly said the superman has no longer any has been very truly said the superman has no longer any has been very truly said the superman has no longer any has been very truly said the superman has no longer any has been very truly said the superman has no longer any has been very truly said the superman has no longer any has been very truly said the superman has no longer any has been very truly said the superman has no longer any has been very truly said the superman has no longer any has been very truly said the superman has no longer any has been very truly said the superman has no longer any has been very truly said the superman has no longer any has been very truly said the superman has no longer any has been very truly said the superman has no longer any has been very truly said the superman has no longer any has been very truly sai The inspired man performs no more actions of his The wise man has no longer any name; for he is

[From the French translation of Dr. Wieger. Done into English by A. L. M.]

MINE HOST IS ANGRY!

"The Feeble-mind increase!" O damn your squeal! My millionaires must feed On imbecile.

Think you Posterity Would pay me pence? The Devil take your State. Go! Get you hence!

MORGAN TUD.

A Vagabond in Denmark. By Leopold Spero.

VII.—BAA-BAA! BLACK SHEEP!

You're talking nonsense. I beg your pardon!

(From Hill's Dano-Norwegian Vest Pocket Dictionary and Self-instructor.)

All Danes do not speak English. Hardly any Danes speak French. And those Danes who speak neither English nor French very often do not speak

There was a character in Dickens who had a short way with foreigners. All he did was to shout very loud, and put his special comic-paper hat on a word or sentence here and there, and the foreigner understood. That is, if he had any sense. But here in Denmark, where nearly everybody speaks halfway down the middle of his mouth, like a muffled machine-gun, speaking loud is of little avail. This stout, good-natured business man, for example, is merely staring in polite surprise, as you repeat, louder and louder, the enquiry you are making of

He answers with a word or two in English. But that dries up so soon as you try him in German. And here you begin with the heat of including the the here you begin with the best of intentions, but the mathematical truth soon manifests itself that if you multiply one fraction by another you get a smaller fraction still. You find yourself flat up against a blank wall. Not only do neither of you know the word you want to use but it is your doubtful whether word you want to use, but it is very doubtful whether you are ad idem, as the lawyers say. And you see by the gradual glaze that comes over his blue eyes that his spirit is gradually breaking under the strain.

For, as has been already remarked, the Danes really don't understand their own language. For example; you go to your hotel, ring the bell, and when the tall and buxom chambermaid appears, you ask her for a bath. You say "Baahd." She looks at you. You repeat it She and a sthing haprepeat it. She smiles, disappears, and nothing happens for three-quarters of an hour. Finally, you ring again, thinking she has forgotten you, and she reappears, as happy as ever. You take her gently by the arm, lead her along a corridor, and point to a door upon which is written up the extraordinary word "Badvarelse."

"That's what I want, 'you say, in quiet and selfpossessed English.

Whereupon the young woman says, "Oh," which is an international exclamation denoting surprise, pleasurable or otherwise, and emits a sound like that made by a young sheep torn from its companions. "B-a-a-a!" she bleats.

You nod, go back to your room, and in an incredibly short time she reappears, and leads you to an extremely comfortable and well-appointed bath-

Thereafter, whenever you want a bath in Denmark you make a noise like a deserted sheep—and you get what you want.

Now, in the ordinary traveller's repertory, there simply cannot be enough zoological sounds to supply the various daily necessities of existence. Yet you need only the various daily necessities of existence. need quite a few in Denmark, and you realise that if you could think of one or two to say to this stolid business. The think of one or two to say to this stolid business-man, you and he would get on very much better, instead of being utterly stuck because neither of you know how to say "unemployed" in the language of the other.

Nevertheless, you can exchange smokes and grunts, sleep a bit, awake and nod at each other. He is quite able to understand and to be complimented, when you wave your hand at the flat landscape, exploited to the last inch, and at the neat, red-tiled cottages and comfortable farmhouses, and light.

express your approval of the scene. Over one-third of the population of Denmark earns its living from agriculture, and this depressing fact is evident everywhere you go. Not a golf-course to be seen. Not a pair of plus-fours.

The train stops at villages and small towns, all remarkably well-appointed and incredibly uninteresting. Now and then one of them flaunts a Gothic church with a pointed green copper roof, by way of delighting the architectural eye. But the home counties and suburban atmosphere are not disturbed even by this impropriety, and you are relieved when you realise that you must get out of the train and let it go on its northward get out of the dietant let it go on its northward journey to that distant crooked finger of the Skaw, where the waters of Skager Rak and Kattegat meet in a tumble of foam, leaving you here on the platform at Skjaern, where you get your connection for Silkeborg

The train for Silkeborg is in the station, and you are about to board it, when the apprehension seizes you that it may not be you that it may not be going just yet. You enquire, and discover that it and discover that it is a true Danish train, in no hurry whatsoever for at least an hour. hurry whatsoever for at least an hour. make your way into the neat waiting-room and call for a larger beer to be a larger bear to be a larger beer to be a larger bear to be a larger bea for a lager beer and a Butterbread with Side-lay, and join in the perand join in the popular sport of examining the permanent way until manent way until your attention is distracted by small crowd up the platfer small crowd up the platform at the exit. And here you find you are on interest of the exit. you find you are on international ground, for friend of the fields friend of the ticket-collector has a twelve-pound salmon lying on a scale salmon lying on a sack, and is lying more serenely than the salmon itself. Anyone can see what it weighs, and he has ever not a sale balance upon weighs, and he has even got a scale-balance upon which he sets it affection got a scale-balance upon which he sets it affections. which he sets it affectionately every few minutes, as a fresh cropy comes up to be lied to though you cannot understand him, you know very well that when he lead well that when he looks at the scales he records no mere avoirdupois but right february's weight. mere avoirdupois, but right fisherman's weight.

The history of Skjaern is no doubt wildly exciting, but nobody has ever written it. It has a wind mill, several streets, and about a million chicken runs. It is better to be a rooster in Skjaern, so polygamous township, than a raigh in Bengal, and runs. It is better to be a rooster in Skjaern, So polygamous township, than a rajah in Bengal ruff much you can see from high-strutting feet and fled feathers. But the human population sits about such lofty pretensions. The male portion The femine on benches reading last week's paper. The femine portion gossips in the roadway, or fitments, which dows through the double mirror flat, whose every good Dane affixes outside his flat, whole so floor he lives on, so that he may see the whole such before it comes to call. On a dark night, at such possible to the whole such the such sects can be seen a such as a such sects can be seen a such as a such as a such sects can be seen a such as a such sects can be seen as a such as a such sects can be seen as a such sects. noor he lives on, so that he may see the whole work before it comes to call. On a dark night, at such jects can be unpleasantly prominent, and estimes the householder hears you before he sees you. times the householder hears you before he mirror.

But there is no inhospitality about these But there is no inhospitality about these
They denote a curiosity that is quite generous. They denote a curiosity that is quite generous. Danish burglar, if such a person exists, the same doubt discover that his reception was just the mind doubt discover that his reception was just the mind even though the whole village knew he was complete. even though the whole village knew he was completed whole willage knew he was completed whole whole village knew he was completed the whole whole whole whole whole whole was completed the was completed the whole whole whole whole was completed the was completed the whole whole whole was completed the whole who was completed the whole whole whole whole whole whole whole who was the was completed to the whole who

What do they do in Skjaern, or any other continuous of similar little places which live so obvious fortably and uneventfully? Knut Hamsun obligation knows; but I defy any less introspective intelliging discover the knows; but I defy any less introspective intellect discover the secret. There must be human parallel stiff, upstanding walls or in the little wooden are the server. stiff, upstanding walls, or in the little wooden jarable ery, grocery and stationery shops, with increding of glass and gold glittering, and those such consonants tumbling over each other in consonants tumbling over each other in contemplating the cows, the sniffing dogs, the life contemplating the cows, the sniffing dogs, the life rare bird, the Danish cat. For in the bend of this ward, visiting eye, there appears reasoney of more romance, more motive, more reasoney of pulsive activity, than in the whole town that dreams of nothing in the summer light. stiff, upstanding walls, or in the little wooden jarged ery, grocery and stationery chans with the jarged of class

An Editor's Progress.* By A. R. Orage.

PART IV.—THE QUEST OF GOD.

Selling THE NEW AGE and leaving England was, of course, no solution. At the same time, it was not altogether a surrender of the problem in despair. Certainly, reason had, in my best judgment, completely for the problem in despair. pletely failed against human nature. There had been the tremendous problem of economic distress which for centuries had provoked every species of misery; and here, with the Douglas synthesis, was the satisfying solution of it. Yet, on account of the inadequacy of human reason, that solution could inadequacy of human reason, that solution could never be understood by a sufficient number of people to get it adopted. What else was to be done but to give it up? But was even that possible?

From out a remote past a phrase recurred to mea change of heart—or, more poignantly, ye must be born again. How many times had I encountered the idea in polemics and left it, as I thought, for dead? Yet, here it was alive and walking in my waking mind, and this time as a possible friend.

There came back to me, also, my first associations with the guild idea, and subsequently with the extremely able and personally congenial group that became responsible for the Catholic weekly which in England is the counterpart of the "Commonweal" in America; I refer to the brothers Chesterton, Mr. Belloc, Father McNabb, Mr. Penty, Mr. Eric Gill, Mr. Theodore Maynard, and let me not forget my old Anglo-Catholic friends, Conrad Noel and Maurice Reckitt. Even while triumphantly controverting as it appeared to me the arguments against verting, as it appeared to me, the arguments against the possibility of radical reform in the absence of something greater than reason or self-interest or humanitarianism, my own essential uncertainty and the precariousness of my foundation must have been suspected by my Catholic friends. At any rate suspected by my Catholic friends. At any rate, they were kind to the degree of indulgence; and throughout my whole editorial adventure they made throughout as much at home in The New Ace as I themselves as much at home in THE NEW AGE as I, on my side, certainly made them welcome.

With Mr. Belloc's distributivism I cannot, how-

ever, say that I had then or have now any sympathy. In aim yes, since our aims were the same; but the actual mechanics of the idea seemed and still seem to me to labour under the fatality of impracticability. In short, if national guilds are not viable, and Douglasism is not viable, then, for the same reasons, distributivism is not viable either. And, reasons, distributivism is not viable either. Chesterin fact, I doubt whether Mr. Belloc and Mr. Chesterin fact, I doubt whether Mr. Belloc and Mr. Chesterin fact, I doubt whether Mr. Belloc and Mr. Chestering really believe it Distributivism as a potenton really believe it. Distributivism as a potential weapon of criticism is a very good stick with which to beat the capitalist dog; but the State would totter if the stick were called upon to take the place of the dog.

To return to the historic origin of the English guild system, it appeared to me on reflection that its background was undoubtedly religion. The guilds were the creation of the Church; or, if not the was the soil and garden in which they flourished.
What we had done when formulating a modern guild system applicable to modern conditions was guild system applicable to modern conditions was to take the mediaeval guild out of its original setting and ting and try to make it grow in a soil quite barren in respect of religion. No wonder that the seeds so transplanted failed to germinate; they were sown upon story ground

It must not be assumed, however, that our disillusionment immediately brought us to the realisa-tion of the necessity of a change of heart in the religious sense. Policion for the so-called modern upon stony ground. religious sense. Religion for the so-called modern mind is the last, rather than the first, resort of despair. Remembereing the cultivated intensity of the anti-religious movement among the intelligentsia the anti-religious movement among the intelligentsia * Reprinted from the "Commonweal" (U.S.A.), by the courtesy of Mr. Orage and the Editor.

of twenty and even ten years ago (it is rapidly los-ing its momentum to-day even if it is not entirely dead) nobody will wonder that our first thought was a change of heart by means of brotherhood or whitely or art. All these indeed had a pretty long chivalry or art. All these, indeed, had a pretty long trial to see if they could effect such a change in men's hearts that social injustice would be established as a mere matter of good taste. Ruskin, Morris, and Leathaby were the pioneers of this experiment; and nobody can deny that if their hypothesis had been workable, they were the men to make it work. Alas, it happened in nine cases out of ten, as it still happens wherever the experiment is tried, that exactly in proportion as individuals began to cultivate a taste for art, their social feelings in respect of faith, hope, and charity degenerated. I know this is heretical according to the gospel of Ruskin and Morris; and blasphemous in the ears of the modern dilettantes of art. But it is my emphatic opinion that art as we know it to-day has no power over the conscience of mankind; and that it was not because of barbarism that beauty was not named among the things that abide.

Chivalry may be said to have made its trial with the emergence of the gentleman in social reform; and it must be allowed that there were acknowledged gentlemen in English socialism even before the cavalier days of Mr. Cunninghame Graham. I recall many articles and even whole volumes addressed to the aristocratic tradition. The pre-sumption was that the breed of the barons who forced the king's signature to Magna Charta, and of the gentlemen who fought for the Bill of Rights, the reform of the poor laws, popular education, and the eight-hour day, was not extinct, but only sleeping. An appeal to these slumbering lions would appeal to these slumbering lions would be board and appeared. But again a recksurely be heard and answered. But, again, a reckoning had been made without the host. The ancient chivalry of England had been fed upon other bread than that of "modern ideas"; and modern chivalry was indistinguishable, save in external manners. was indistinguishable, save in external manners, from modern finance and industry, and was fast losing even that distinction. English aristocracy, in short, was for all practical purposes only a memory; and a social reform that depended for its support upon a fading recollection had but a very short career to failure.

There remained the brotherhood and the humanitarian movement, which, it may be recalled, we had before dismissed with Mr. Edward Carpenter's sandals. Was it to be the brotherhood of man, after all, that could create the emotion in which reason would that could create the emotion in which reason would be felt if not seen? Here was Douglas's idea, which, if I may repeat myself, promised a way out for everybody from the economic morass. All that was needed was that everybody should sufficiently wish to be out of the morass to be willing to try Douglas's way. But or the morass to be willing to try Douglas's way. But how to make everybody really wish—that was now the question for me. The poor, it goes without saying, wish they were rich. The rich wish sincerely enough that the poor were better off. But where is the wish on either side for justice, mean it poverty or riches? Where is the love that counts everybody's gain as his own? gain as his own?

Carpenter undoubtedly had a vision of this in his 'Towards Democracy'; and the varieties of brotherhood churches that sprang up in his wake bore evidence to the fertility of that soil and the vitality of the seed. But alas, it, too, fell, if not upon stony ground, upon ground thick with thorns. I never saw a brotherhood church that did not cease in a year or two to bear any relation to its name. Quite seriously, two to pear any relation to its name. Quite seriously, there appears to be no hope in the brother-hood of man secularly conceived; nor, I may add, in any system of morality, transcendental, naturalistic, or rationalist, taken by itself—no hope, I say, for any radical social reform. The reason is clear. Every such system assumes that man is accountable

only to man, and has only social obligations. In the end, every individual must, therefore, owe duty only to his neighbour. His neighbour is his only raison d'être; and society is the Moloch of us all.

The alternative of individualism is, however, quite as unthinkable. A community of Ishmaelites is a contradiction in terms. But, between a society containing only "individualists" and a society containing no individuals, the choice was difficult to make. And, fortunately, the choice proved to be unneces-

What was the missing factor, the neutralising force that alone keeps the world on the middle way—when it is so kept!—between the extremes of imbecility and madness? Simply religion. Yes, but what is the essence of religion, that distinguishes it from even its most colourable imitations in the form of morality. neighbourliness, humanitarianism? I reply quite simply, God. Religion without God is, strictly speaking, as ridiculous as science with nothing to know. There is and can be no religion in the absence of God, though there may be God in the absence of religion! Religion I venture to define as the attempt to establish an ideal and conscious relation between man and God; and since, in my experience, every attempt to establish an ideal and conscious relation between man and man, without taking God into account, has failed, the only remaining hope of the serious social reformer is to "find religion," that is

It would be saying too much to affirm that I resigned from THE NEW AGE and from active participation in social references. pation in social reform in order to find God. I only wish that my motives could be as clearly conscious as that would imply. But at least I am clear now that no other end will end my search.

Question Time. Administering the Just Price.

F. G.—We have read your suggested standard method for accounting the consumer discount in the books of business house it more ness houses. No doubt its simplicity would make it more attractive, as you say, to the ordinary business man, than a scheme of discount vouchers to consumers at the time of purchasing. But simplicity is not the chief consideration. Even so, we do not agree that, because the business man is obstinately conservative about his accounting routine under present conditions, he will not be willing to make any changes required directly he can be satisfied that there is extra money to be made out of it. You instance his present irritation at the accounting modifications imposed upon him by the procedure laid down for getting the Artificial Silk trouble for nothing. It does not being given extra trade. trouble for nothing. It does not bring him more trade. Would the irritation continue suppose he were actually increasing his present the latest the suppose he were actually increasing his present the suppose he were actually increasing his present the suppose he were actually increasing his present the suppose he were actually increased the sup

creasing his prosperity by altering his accounting? An important point to be considered in framing any cheme to take good and to be considered in framing any scheme to take effect immediately upon the adoption of Social Credit is that although you will have changed the governing economic principle you will have changed the Old Economic mentality of buyers and sellers who will be required to co-observed. be required to co-operate in applying it. There will be some methods. The weakness of "Just Price" by illegitimate methods. The weakness of your scheme is that in letting all and sundry issue and recover the consumer discount you re offering the widoot recover the consumer A merchant, re offering the widest scope for cheating. A merchant, A," acting in collusion with two others, "B" and "C," A," acting in collusion with two others, "B" and "C," acting in collusion with two others, "B" and "C," arer, and would get it for £75 (i.e., a consumer discount A" would enter this in his books at its cost of £75. He would get it for £75 (i.e., a consumer discount A), per cent. would be allowed him by the manufacturer). would add, say, £5 for profit, making his price £80. He per cent. consumer discount). "B" would add £5 and the nsell for £48 15s. to "C." "C" would sell to a thousand for, let us say, £90. In such a case the Credit discounts in addition to the original £25 to the manufacturer £20 to "A," and £16 5s. to "B." Total, £36 5s. Add to this the £90 which "C" gets from the consumer, respect of the transfer of furniture actually costing them

£75. You can extend the illustration and suppose the

group to multiply the transfers between themselves to such an extent before finally selling to the consumer that they draw within a fraction of the whole £75 from the Credit Authority as consumer discounts, and yet get £00 from the consumer in addition.

Of course, arrangements could be made to detect and punish swindling of this sort, but since they would necessarily involve a system of scrutiny of traders' accounts, they would raise in a new form the very vexations that your scheme is devised to avert.

On the whole subject of discount schemes, we realise the advantage to the student of exercising his mind on their formulation, but for ourselves, if we were asked by critics, as you have been, "How will you do" this and that, we should reply at once that what "we" will or will not do is not to the point. "We" shall never be in a position to do it, whatever it is. "We" are not a Party bidding for power. The utmost that "we" can do is to attempt to forecast how it will probably be done. On these lines, taking the mentality of our ruling classes into account, and considering how late they are leaving the adoption of the considering how late they are leaving the adoption of the Social Credit principle itself, our own expectation is that they will "blunder through" to the best method of applying it. In fact, they have been applying a giving it. In fact, they have already begun. They are giving away subsidies. So our attitude to the aforesaid critics would be to say to them: "Are you convinced of the soundness of the governing Social Credit principle?" If they replied: "We can't are you would be to say to them: "Are you convinced of the soundness of the governing Social Credit principle?" If they you replied: "We can't say yes or no until you explain how you would mark it?" would work it," we should say: "That proves that you are not yet in a position to pass judgment on methods' we continued the conversation it would be with the object of we continued the conversation it would be with the object of further explaining the governing principle—not any practical application of it. If, on the other hand, these critics said: "Yes, we are convinced of the soundness of the principle": we should then say: "Very well; then you are as well able as we to think out methods of applying it are as well give our views but only in the non-committal spirit," We will give our views, but only in the non-committal spirit in which we might discuss the result of this year's winner. telling you our fancies, but not guaranteeing a winner. You are as likely as we can be a supported by the support of this year's a winner. You are as likely as we are to guess right.'

In this spirit we will put down our own "fancy." We hink that the consumer " think that the consumer discount may probably be distributed not in one way but the consumer discount may probably organised buted not in one way but two. (1) All the properly organised retail businesses will have at the following and sell at retail businesses will buy at the financial price and sell at the Just Price—claiming the difference from the Will Authority. (2) All the multitude of little shopkeepers will buy at such prices as will show them a profit when they result at the Just Price. In Class 1 would be such businesses as Gamages, Selfridges, the Home and Colonial Stores, and as Gamages, Selfridges, the Home and Colonial Stores, and so on at one end, and smaller businesses capable of dealing easily with the accounting of the other. easily with the accounting of the discount at the other. In Class 2 would come all the rest down to the old lady in a side street, who puts up pennyworths of tea and buy pennyworths of sweets. Retailers in Class 2 would the pennyworths of sweets. Retailers in Class from retailers in Class 1. Take two cases. Suppose ges financial price of a toy at the manufacturers is 6s., Gamacial buy it for 6s. and add 2s. profit making their financial financial price of a toy at the manufacturers is 6s., Gamages buy it for 6s. and add 2s. profit, making price, say price 8s. They sell to a consumer for the gust Authority 6s., and collect the 2s. difference from the Credit Authority. Nowhere, lives in terror of Credit Authority. Nowhere, lives in terror of Credit Authority. She wants a similar toy. She orders it from Gamages, who charge unt similar toy. She orders it from Gamages, a trade discount let us say, 6s. (i.e., the gust Price), less a trade discount of say, 1s. Gamages get 2s. from the Credit Authority.

Under this scheme the scope for "profiteering "is greatly lessened, for the only traders who might practice it namely those in Class 2, who would be receiving the benefit of the "Just Price" discount before they had proved dall had passed it on to a bona fide consumer—would all the little people, and therefore in keen competition the check other in their various localities as well as under they prove they had proved the check of t other in their various localities as well as under of competition from the very cured the competition with check the procured the competition from the very cured the competition with check the ch

other in their various localities as well as under they present of competition from the very firms from imagined, of cured their supplies. Thus, in the case imagined, could go and buy the toy for 6s. from say, of could write and get it delivered C.O.D. for, say, of could write and get it delivered C.O.D. for, lines we least illustrated would, of course, still be possible, only; of the scheme limits the possibility to those of the top of the social firms. Nevertheless, at the inauguration of the minds of business men; and for that reason freedom, and the ideals of the New Form and for that reason freedom, and the ideals of the New Form and for that reason freedom, and the scheme limits may be considered to the second to the scheme limits the possibility to those of the minds of business men; and for that reason freedom, the ideals of the New Form and for that reason freedom, and the scheme limits men and for that reason freedom. Credit scheme, this question is bound to be uppermatever, the minds of business men; and for that reason freedirary the ideals of the New Economists in regard to arbitrary and so on—we can foresee the possibility of animensing and known integrity. Or, if not, the sales of Class is to other firms in the same Class might be required out separately accounted, and might, moreover,

a basis of claim for recovery of consumer credit from the Credit Authority, at least until a satisfactory explanation why the purchaser did not buy from a manufacturer was forthcoming.

APRIL 22, 1926

We will stop here. The subject would need volumes to exhaust. Readers' comments will be welcome. We shall not be able to publish them all, but all will be studied carefully and discussed. But let the comments be confined to this: How is (a) the business world (b) likely to deal with the problem (c) at the transition point from the Old to the New system? Thus: "a" rules out suggestions based on the assumption that New Economists will be able to dictate b" rules out comments based simply upon what New Economists think is the perfect method: and c "rules out speculations as to what may happen in years to come after the change.

Pastiche.

A Contribution to the Unemployment Problem.

Consider the ox. His life is beautiful to behold. Before he is ushered into the world the greatest care is taken of his mother. He is born under the best conditions. Thereafter he is an aristocrat. He is fed upon fresh milk when he is very young. A soft hed and an impervious shelter are he is very young. A soft bed and an impervious shelter are provided for him. When the weather is fine he is sent into the fields, where he can run, walk, or leap, according to his athletic tastes. He is much admired for his charm. Much affection is lavished on him by men, women, and children, who stroke his nose or his neck, or brush the flies from his back. He has no school to go to to suffer the torture of lifeless books and systems. There are no parents to nag him into doing what they think is for his benefit. Nor is it necessary for being an existence he knows instinct. is it necessary, for, being an aristocrat, he knows instinctively when he has had enough to eat or when he has exerted himself sufficiently, or when it is time to sleep.

Thus until adolescence he grows in strength and beauty. Thereafter his sexual impulses are catered for; he has the finest grass in summer and the most luscious swedes in winter. Being an aristocrat, he is not allowed to degrade himself by hard labour. His efforts are of the spiritual order only. He rejoices in the open air, the blue skies and the green fields, or spends his time in rumination. He is not harassed by the sordid cares of life; his feeding and housing are in the hands of stewards, who take no reward for their services during his life. And so he grows into large-eyed sturdy virility and becomes admired as a pattern of strength. Proud aristocrat as he is, he allows others to violate his privacy as a privilege only, not as a right; woe betide those who do so when it does not please him; his wrath knows no bounds, and he tosses Indiscretion to the winds. Were it not for the flies in summer his life

Truly a wonderful creature, this splendid specimen of strength, leisure, and reflection! No wonder people love him! They love him so much that they exclaim that they would like to eat him, as fond mothers do when they are talking to their babies. And he, as an aristocrat who knows that self-sacrifice is sometimes necessary, ends his days by gratifying the wishes of his admirers and allows himself to be eaten. An aristocrat to the end, he leaves the arrangements for the eating of himself in the hands of his stewards; but they do not always perform the last rite skilfully.

Of how many human beings can it be said that their only serious trouble is the flies in summer? Of how many are the spiritual and physical desires catered for as well as those of the ox?

Why is this? It is because the human being is not eaten. If the human being were eaten his life would possess the same dignity as that of the ox. He would be properly cared for before birth, properly housed and fed, properly amused, be afforded suitable leisure and employment. His flesh would be protected from all contamination. The flesh would be protected from all contamination. The grand crowning act of his life would be his death, not at the hands of blundering stewards like those of the ox, but at the hands of competent physicians, who would cause him no pain, and he would be eaten by his fellows as a reward to them for their kindness to him during his life.

Thus the unemployment problem would lose its terrors Thus the unemployment problem would lose its terrors for our statesmen. Any party of politicians could remain in power for ever. Once a man lost his employment and could get no other he could be eaten. He would have no reason to object. For until this moment his life would have reason to object. Moreover, he would certainly rejoice been pure pleasure. Moreover, he would certainly rejoice that he was about to yield himself up for the sake of his fellows.

ellows.

I do not doubt that the plan could be made financially
P. M. fellows.

Drama.

Conflict: Queen's Theatre.

It was early morning. Lord Bellingdon, who was growing old, had retired to bed, leaving his daughter, Lady Dare Bellingdon, and his friend, Sir Ronald Clive, free to conduct their affair in the drawing-room. Amid excitement the evil looking stranger who had been observed loitering about the grounds for several hours, was decoyed inside, my lord by this time having risen again. The intruder was cross-examined—in a dialogue stuffed with good satire—with his hands above his head. But the miserable fellow was only begging. He was down and out, and having been at Cambegging. He was down and out, and having been at Cambridge with Sir Ronald, he was making an appeal to class-consciousness. He acted as his name would lead one to expect. He apologised for it, with notorious English snobbery, and insisted on telling the story of his life. In spite of the true romance of his surname he had a very peculiar immediate heredity manifest in the fact that his father, at one time wealthy, had lost all his money during the war. one time wealthy, had lost all his money during the war. Under the influence of plentiful whisky on an empty stomach he foolishly told more than was wise, and finished off the narrative of the jobs he had struggled with—song-writing, journalism, and acting—with how he had once nodded to a pound note on a coffee-stall and walked off with the change while the man who had put it down was engrossed in conversation with his fair companion. Lord Bellingdon, or the whisky his guest was drinking, magnified the crime far beyond the capacity of double vision, but he put up twenty pounds towards giving Smith a new start.

Eighteen months after, Sir Ronald having accepted the Tory candidature in an election to smash the Socialists, a stranger knocks at the door, introduces himself as the Labour candidate, and gives his name as Tom Smith. He wants my lord and Sir Ronald to pledge that his criminal past will not be reaped up against him. Toryism for some reason having to rally entirally on the past my lord gave the pledge relies. to rely entirely on the past my lord gave the pledge reluc-tantly; Sir Ronald, with the sportsmanship with which universities try to make Toryism palatable. In the interval in which the two talk over whether they will pledge or not, Tom Smith is sent into the garden, where he meets Lady Dare, who apparently bids him good morning. If the Empire is by this time lost I blame Lady Dare Bellingdon. She began to read the newspapers.

To learn both sides of the election business she invited the Labour candidate to tea, tête-à-tête. Tom Smith, being more Thomas than Smith, came like a shot, and, entirely deficient in Tory chivalry, knocked my lady's arguments for sixes. But she went to his next meeting, and afterwards followed him to his bed-sitting-room, looking sufficiently regishing to smach the best political arguments in the ravishing to smash the best political arguments in the world, which she did—with a kiss. Being modern, she soon told Sir Ronald where she had been. She confusedly began to spout Labour facts. When Lord Bellingdon was bed of his daughter's wanderings he nearly had apoplexy. Tom Smith was at once commanded to his presence, and was there, being a good Labour man, in a few seconds.

My lord told him straight that either he must vow never to see Lady Dare again, or his heinous past would be broadcast on the election eve; whereupon Lady Dare threatened to go out and tell the crowd how her father's friend, the to go out and tell the crowd how her father's friend, the Tory candidate, had seduced her, and kept her as his mistress for years. She was quite fair, of course, and told her father frankly not only that she had encouraged it, but she would love where she liked; for free love, as the adage runs, is what the Socialists preach and the Tories practice. Her threat completely routed the opposition, however, and the threat completely routed the opposition, however, and the candidates were consequently able to fight a perfectly clean election after all.

Lady Dare Bellingdon had to be played with subfle restraint to make her fully credible. The blend of innocence and cynicism, together with ignorance and worldly wisdom, and cynicism, together with agriculture realised by Japan which her metamorphosis required, was realised by Isabel Jeans to the limit of human capacity. Fred Kerr's Lord Bellingdon, easier because more consistent, was a creation. For so excellent an entertainment I do not know whether to thank these two or Mr. Malleson the more. The London landlady of Smith's bed-sitting-room, well played by Mar-garet Yarde, earned our thanks for relieving the tension of debate with her witty, common-sense philosophy.

Mr. Malleson, as might have been expected, has demonstrated himself a master of stage-craft. By this time he will no doubt have decided to spare us a little of the debate. If some of the harrowing and earnestly stated facts were replaced by epigrams—or even lost—we should understand my lady's love a good deal better. Fanatics may in real elections vote Labour from duty. But the majority of common-sense folk would put up with boredom even for Utopia, or Heaven would have been more populous than

The Marvellous History of St. Bernard.

It is frequently asserted with pride that the growth of Christian culture has transferred human interest to the domestic and trivial. Art, instead of worshipping the angels clapping their hands, etherealises back-kitchens, Dutch and Victorian interiors. Literature represents the mental and emotional life of the sub-normal man or average woman. On the other side it is occasionally mentioned that this involution of interest might be happy enough if it had not been accompanied by the abandonment of the grand subjects. To live only with the angels may not be good for man, whatever it may be for the angels. But to subsist only with the animals is bad, both for man and beast. One of the main tendencies of the present drama is to represent man as-and incidentally to convince him that he is-a diseased

The Marvellous History of St. Bernard brings us once more among the grand subjects. The ways of Heaven may be strange, but they are justified, and the way of man illuminated. Here is no hour or two of mortal homage to the popularity of a star, but a beautifully presented act of worship glorifying the whole Heavens. For translating and producing this modern version of the miracle-play by Henri Ghéon, Sir Barry Jackson deserves the deep gratitude of every lover of the theatre. Although it is a miracle-play, it is a play. All the conflicts known to drama are staged in and duty self-seerifee conflicts interference; beween love and duty, self-sacrifice and power, outraged families and sympathy for the enemy's gride hours and and sympathy for the enemy's griefs, between the world and conflict is set out in universal terms. conflict is set out in universal terms.

There is no effort to overcome the audience by the horrors of realism. When realism is threatened, the fool sits on the stage to ensure our remembering that we witness a play. At the close of the most poignant passages he returns to relieve us. From sublimity to folly and back to sublimity, the drama never ceases to be a complete experience; the blend of holiness and fooling keeps the play whole as it keeps a man sane. The scene where Bernard declines to marry his chosen lady, notwithstanding his betrayal to his observant mother that he loves, and where the father pours out his disappointment and anger at the son's obtuseness in failing to see that God is reasonable like a father, would stamp any play, secular as may be, with the hall-mark of

I am not Roman Catholic. But I do not grant that the nonconformist critics who have emphasised the special whatever. For those who are appropriated from theology, whatever. For those who are emancipated from theology, and for those who are emancipated from the risk of and for those others who are emancipated from theology, listening to the sixty. Who are ready to take the risk of listening to the nightingale at Basle, though it be the voice of Satan himself of Satan himself, it can be recommended simply as a fine

This is one of the rare occasions when I feel inclined to apologise for finding faults. But I think that the atmosphere of the plants a whole cought to have staved Sir phere of the play as a whole ought to have stayed Sir Barry's mind from conceiving those devils. Nobody would be tempted by the conceiving this production says. be tempted by the creatures which, this production says, haunted Jove's mountain. Devils like those would have been externily the creatures which, the production says, here a sternily the creatures which, the production says, here a sternily the creatures which, the production says, here a sternily the creatures which the cr been exterminated before the birth of Christ for their ugliness. Zana his before the birth of Christ for their ugliness. ness. Zeus himself would have destroyed them by light-ning. Heine, musing on his childhood, and recollecting the man who exchanged delicious cakes for his pennies, thought that if over the deal cought him it would be by thought that if ever the devil caught him it would be by counterfeiting the allowed that hawker's bell. Counterfeiting the alluring tinkle of that hawker's bell.

Jove's henchmen though their names he pride, gluttony, Jove's henchmen, though their names be pride, gluttony, and so forth conditions and so forth conditions as a muffin man. A mind ught to be at least as seductive as a muffin man. A miracle play has produced a strange effect when a member of the audionaci produced by it to put in a plea member of the audience is impelled by it to put in a plea for the devil for the devil. But this poor devil couldn't possibly put up any fight. But this poor devil couldn't possibly put up any fight; but for the cravenness of the pilgrims he couldn't have seized to the cravenness of the pilgrims he was a have seized one of them; against Saint Bernard he was a ridiculous. Unless it is pretended, whatever the fact may as attractive, according to his temporary metamorphosis, he as attractive, according to his temporary metamorphosis, he is defeated before the grant begins. I have no objection is defeated before the struggle begins. I have no objection to Jupiter's devils being red and inflamed. But they ought nevertheless to be accepted as a fewer by Praxiteles or nevertheless to be as handsome as a figure by Praxiteles or his agents is a profession, and incidentally that of his agents, is not to repel possible sinners; it is to tempt them. Perhaps the good fellow responsible for designing their make-up has boot out of such company. Let him take their make-up has kept out of such company. Let him take

Reviews.

APRIL 22, 1926

The 'Varsity of the Under-dog: The Truth About Borstal. By Sydney Moseley. (Cecil Palmer. 6s.)

makes a curious mistake, surely, in supposing that there are no adult prisoners at Wandsworth now, but elsewhere he exhibits all the serene accuracy of the best journalism. Inevitably, he finds Lilian Barker an amazing person, the only woman fit to tackle the job of cleaning up the dirty history of the female oubliette at Aylesbury. He has his favourites, including Sir Evelyn Ruggles Brise, Mr. Clarke Hall, and other terrible people with the see the other terrible people who have never been able to see the obvious wisdom of reforming the young human animal by treating it like a stray beast. But although he makes it clear that there clear that there are tougher propositions in authority at Wormwood Scrubs than Feltham or Rochester or even Portland land would tolerate, Mr. Moseley has little use for the sentimentalists pur sang, who "seldom get as far as giving chances; they are exhausted by their emotions long before the practical stage of personal help is reached." A sympathetic, business like healt thetic, business-like book, written without sycophancy of petulance. No highbrow living could have done it half as well

"Neilson." By Elissa Landi. (Eveleigh Nash and Gray-

It is true that "Pain is pain. . . . A broken doll is as nuch of a traggedy to a little state. . . Lasken heart is to a It is true that "Pain is pain. . . A broken doll is much of a tragedy to a little girl as a broken heart is to a big one," and youth suffers a sharper pain than more sophisticated age. There is great tragedy in the first love which is laughed at as the years bury it deeper. Christyn, at intensity that is laughed at as the years bury it deeper. Christyn, at eighteen, feels her romance with such an intensity that Neilson, to her, is god, poet, and human. Is he not chiefly human? Miss Landi has written her first novel with knowhuman? Miss Landi has written her first novel with knowhuman? The characters; yet there is an effort to make them are creatures, for she has not had sufficient experience to write about ordinary people. At restless uncertainty the write about ordinary people. At restless uncertainty the vades the characterisation and the writing. Although the book is not a work of restless. book is not a work of genius, truth and bitterness show Miss Landi's imaginative under the cruel Landi's imaginative understanding. She reveals the cruel pain of Christyn's utter loneliness—"A stranger every where." When the tale is forgotten there is still sadness, perhaps an old feeling awakened

Naphtali. By C. Lewis Hind. (The Bodley Head. 155.).
As a relief from the state of the bodley Head. 155.). As a relief from the sensational shocker, which deludes the purblind publisher into acceptance by those first sentences, and grows progressively and more band. tne purblind publisher into acceptance by those first banal sentences, and grows progressively more and more finish until the reader has no one but himself to blame for ing it, we have here a book of mild Victorian and Edwardian reminiscence, which begins poorly enough, self-obtrusion which may well be the result of and too little spontaneity. but improves and becomes self-obtrusion which may well be the result of too much cate and too little spontaneity, but improves and becouth human very soon, holding the attention here and there passages of natural and vivid record, like the Irish Player in some new Gregorian chantey. This Hind let loose amount the nineties and the nineteen hundreds does no particular damage. In some new Gregorian chantey. This Hind let loose among the nineties and the nineteen hundreds does no particular damage, being a gentle and friendly animal. At the same time, when we read on page 74, which speaks of containing the containing time, when we read on page 74, which speaks of containing the surprise," we wonder what the Polish master would take answered to the containing the polish master would sake answered to the containing the polish master would sake answered to the containing the polish master would sake answered to the containing the polish master would sake answered to the containing the polish master would sake answered to the containing the polish master would sake answered to the containing the polish master would be contained to the containing the con surprise," we wonder what the Polish master would have answered if Mr. Hind had asked him straight out should be did not think that epithets would be better off as nowith But an epithet very definitely qualifies and the trouble makes. But an epithet very definitely qualifies, and the trouble with Mr. Hind is that his qualifying is not definite enough Among the illustrations to his book are four remarkable photographs, which easily master his own art of description. Among the illustrations to his book are photographs, which easily master his own art of description. Mrs. Humphry Ward all speak for themselves his description. In fact, we cannot but feel that one was belonged to the charmed circle, where the mot juste worshipped thirty-five years ago, should have given the worshipped thirty-five years ago, should have grace. And the graces were not in attendance grace. And the graces were not in attendance four remarkation.

Justice and the charmed circle, where the mot juste was those the mot juste was belonged to the charmed circle, where the mot juste was belonged to the charmed circle, where the mot juste was belonged to the charmed circle, where the given times those worshipped thirty-five years ago, should have given the better-finished, cleaner-polished record of It requires the mot juste was at the control of the charmed circle, where the mot juste was at the control of the charmed circle, where the mot juste was at the control of the charmed circle, where the mot juste was at the control of the charmed circle, where the mot juste was at the control of the charmed circle, where the mot juste was at the control of the charmed circle, where the mot juste was at the control of the charmed circle, where the mot juste was at the control of the charmed circle, where the mot juste was at the control of the charmed circle, where the mot juste was at the control of the charmed circle, where the mot juste was at the control of the charmed circle, where the mot juste was at the control of the charmed circle, where the mot juste was at the charmed circle, where the mot juste was at the charmed circle, where the mot juste was at the charmed circle, where the mot juste was at the charmed circle, where the mot juste was at the charmed circle, where the mot juste was at the charmed circle, where the mot juste was at the charmed circle, where the mot juste was at the charmed circle, where the mot juste was at the charmed circle, where the mot juste was at the charmed circle, where the

Justice and the Poor in England.

Champion. (Routledge Total Latter of the Routledge Total Rou

Champion. (Routledge. 7s. 6d. net.)

In this work Mr. Gurney-Champion examines in regard all disadvantages to which poor persons lie exposed in beyon and the obtaining of legal justice. He demonstrates beyon and dispute that, in effect, there is "one law for the justice of another for the poor." He holds this denial of junts another for the poor. He holds this denial of intimate be "the root cause of many social evils," and the tree that an American Commission has given it as a the cause in order of importance of industrial unrest. The content of the poor industrial unrest as asserting peatedly appeals to Magna Carta as asserting

stitutional right to equality in the administration of justice." This is no doubt a good cry, and is at any rate legitimate enough as an argumentum ad hominem—in the street; whether it can be taken very seriously as a historico-political argument may be questioned. Mr. Gurney-Champion, however, is so bitten with the idea that he devotes a whole appendix to the somewhat elephantine jeu d'ésprit of a draft bill to amend Magna Carta so as to conform to the actual situation. This, he says, is, for the sake of honesty, the second best course, if we really cannot secure justice for the poor. However, this does not affect the solid merits of the book, "Justice, not charity," is throughout the author's slogan. He is a master at the making of crisp and telling points. Thus, in regard to the criminal courts, he remarks, "There is already a Public Prosecutor. points. Thus, in regard to the criminal courts, he remarks, "There is already a Public Prosecutor. . . . In England there is no Public Defender." He gives a precise and elaborate scheme of proposed reform. Prima facie this seems satisfactory enough. But any such technical programme always needs much threshing out, as to its details, by a considerable body of duly qualified persons. Experts of equal goodwill will always be found to differ as to this specific proposal or that. But beyond that one cannot but specific proposal or that any reform of machinery can be left doubting whether any reform of machinery can be completely satisfactory. This legal grievance is but one of the social ills arising from the confrontation of a propertied the social ills arising from the confrontation of a propertied minority against a mass of almost wholly propertyless persons. The ultimate remedy for all these inequities is to secure adequate property to all.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

"A VAGABOND IN DENMARK."

Sir,—In connection with Mr. Spero's reference to the Scandinavian languages and how to manage them, perhaps this little story may amuse.

I first made the acquaintance of Scandinavia many years ago by landing on the quay at Tronihem with fishing rode

ago by landing on the quay at Tronjhem with fishing-rods, guns, and a retriever. The retriever had to be passed by a vet. As we sat about on boxes waiting for his arrival I took stock of this new land, and my eye was caught by a big advertisement painted on a wall. INGEFÆROL. That clearly "Ha," I said, "what it is to be a linguist. That clearly means ohne—without, Gefahr—danger, öl—oil; hence safety oil, Rose oil, lamp oil." I was very satisfied with safety oil, Rose oil, lamp oil. I was very satisfied with myself. It was not till later that I discovered that Ingefar myself. It was not till later that I discovered that Ingefar myself. It was not till later that I discovered that Ingefar myself. It was not till later that I discovered that Ingefar myself. It was not till later that I discovered that Ingefar myself. It was not till later that I discovered that Ingefar myself. It was not till later that I discovered that Ingefar myself. Oxon. vet. As we sat about on boxes waiting for his arrival I concerned with Ginger beer!

" BENCH AND BAR."

Sir,—As an old-time contributor to THE NEW AGE—always a stickler for style—I feel it would be churlish to cavil with your reviewer's strictures on literary refinements in view of our complete agreement on essentials. Belonging to the legal circus, he writes with more authority and uses stronger language than mine on matters where we see eye to eye. Truth to tell, strong language is justified in describing the aruth to tell, strong language is justified in describing the ineffable self-complacency of our mandarins in bepraisement of a chaos which is spreading havoc before our eyes in the United States. Such is the pervading uncertainty of the United States. Such is the pervading uncertainty of the law that it is almost impossible to secure a conviction, and law that it is almost impossible to secure a conviction, and the wild surge of lawlessness keeps advancing. Desperate the wild are made to hold prohibition responsible for the attempts are made to hold prohibition responsible for the attempts are made to hold prohibition responsible for the awful record of unpunished crime. This is an erroneous awful record of unpunished crime. This is an erroneous view. Chief Justice Taft, when President, is on record for view. Chief Justice Taft, when President, is on record for the Volstead Act:—"The great this statement, years before the Volstead Act:—"The great this statement, years before the volstead Act:—"W. Durran.

"AN EDITOR'S PROGRESS."

Sir,—Perhaps I can help to clear up some confusing points that have arisen in regard to Mr. Orage and the National

Guilds League.

I left England in February, 1914, a few months before National Guilds was published in book form. I think it National Guilds was published in book form. I think it National Guilds was published in book form. I think it National Guilds League and one from Cole. Cole informed me one from Orage and one from Cole. Orage took the view Guilds League and asked me to join. Orage took the view Guilds League and asked me to join. Orage took the view Guilds League and asked me to join. Orage took the view Guilds League and asked me to join. Orage took the view Guilds League and asked me to join. Orage took the view Guilds League and asked me to join. Orage took the view Guilds League and asked me to join. Orage took the view or work was imperative before we should crystallise into a decided to remain the had, therefore, the had, therefore, independent of the League; he thought THE NEW AGE independent of the League; he thought the had, therefore, a quandary of a purely personal kind; but my convictions favoured the formation. purely personal kind; but my convictions favoured the formation of the Learner and Learner tion of the League, and I accordingly wrote to Cole expressing my willing the second to the second t

It must be remembered that Cole's approach to National Guilds was not precisely Orage's or mine. He was writing The World of Labour, while I was writing National Guilds. Whilst in essentials we were agreed, there was marked ing my willingness to join.

divergence on minor, but none the less important, theoretical points. It soon became evident that, on the whole, the N.G.L. adopted Cole's standpoint on these other issues. For example, there was the difficult question of sovereignty, and later a struggle to change back the title to Guild Socialism—this latter indicating different tendencies. We are apt to forget that the earlier chapters of *National Guilds* were entitled "Guild Socialism." On my return to England in 1917, I found the N.G.L. in a state of great activity under the leadership of Cole, Mellor, W. N. and Monica Ewer, Maurice and Edna Reckitt, Taylor, Baker, and others. At this stage Orage was not a member and was, indeed, confirmed in his original view.

The following two years, the war notwithstanding, wit-Ine tollowing two years, the war notwithstanding, witnessed many exciting discussions, in which Cole steered a steady middle course. Mellor moved rapidly to the Left and I found myself somewhere between. I do not think I am misrepresenting Reckitt as being on the Right.

On Orage's final acceptance of Douglas, he first sought me as a convert, and this failing he urged me to continue the Guild propaganda in The New Age. The reason he gives why many did not accept the Douglas view—our

the Guild propaganda in The New Age. The reason he gives why many did not accept the Douglas view—our attitude towards production—no doubt partly applies to me, but not mainly. (My argument about production and credit is fully stated in National Guilds and the State.) My underlying reason for rejecting Douglas was that he predicated the continuance of the wage system, which was in fact the main thesis in National Guilds. And it was explicitly for this reason that I subsequently invited the N.G.L. to reject this particular form of credit. Cole and I were agreed on this, although both of us were frankly in search of a credit system that would logically dovetail into the Guild structure. the Guild structure.

the Guild structure.

My reason for not continuing my Guild propaganda in The New Age was that, knowing Orage, I knew it would play a very minor rôle in the policy of the paper, which by then had gone over body and bones to Douglas. Orage was fully preoccupied with it, whilst my mind was turning towards the Building Guild, about which I hope soon to write with restored freedom.

I cannot say precisely when Orage joined the N.G.L., but

I cannot say precisely when Orage joined the N.G.L., but I think it would be late in 1919 or early in 1920. He told me frankly that he had joined to support his own supporters in the N.C.I. in the N.G.L. It was a not very serious gesture, and implied no change in his previous convictions.

Sir,—I fear that your readers will soon be tempted to regret the appearance of Mr. Orage's most interesting series of articles, since letters from myself seem to have become an invariable, and by now monotonous, accompaniment to an invariable, and by now monotonous, accompaniment to them. But when one who has carried the admiration of so them. But when one who has earned the admiration of so many of your readers writes of "The Impossibility of Reform " there is grave danger that he will infect others, in whom discouragement has not yet turned to a hopeless pessimism. The New Age cannot draw a cordon sanitaire round its erstwhile editor; but it must be alive to his disease if it is not to fall a victim to it.

Mr. Orage despairs of the republic of reason. "I am as much convinced that the suggestion will never be put into practice, as a result of reason, as I am that reason would, nevertheless, dictate that it should be. The world has not nevertheless, reasons to comprehend the simple sure for all its free brain enough to comprehend the simple cure for all its economic ills."

economic ills."

I venture to suggest that this judgment, however natural, is illogical and superficial. It is illogical because it confuses the free brain required to comprehend with the reason needed to apply. Yet what is required is sufficient "free brain" in the many to comprehend the primacy signifibrain" in the many to comprehend the primacy signifibrain and peril of finance under the existing dispensation—cance and peril of finance under the existing dispensation—no more, though more would no doubt be desirable. I am inclined to believe that so much "free brain" as this is already in existence, largely as the result of Social Credit already in existence, largely as the result of social credit already and—a fact it may be possible to demonstrate in the arready in existence, targety as the result of Social Credit propaganda—a fact it may be possible to demonstrate in the near future. The reason needed fully to comprehend and correctly to apply the remedy is another matter; that need not be the possession of the many though I believe the correctly to apply the remedy is another matter; that need not be the possession of the many, though I believe the reason of the many would grasp quickly enough the essentially rational character of the said remedy when it clearly that its continuous depend that its continuous depend as a possibility and would depend that its continuous depend as a possibility and would depend that its continuous depend as a possibility and would depend that its continuous depend that its con emerged as a possibility, and would demand that its application was hastened.

Of course, we need more intelligence in the general mass of course, we need more intelligence in the general mass of our population, more foresight in those who have the responsibility of leadership in industry and politics, more courage for independent thought in those who set themcourage for independent thought in those who set themcourage to study social problems. I do not believe those selves to study social problems. I do not believe those qualities are absent; I believe rather that they are latent, and not buried so deep that we need to despair. Foots are qualities are absent; I believe rather that they are latent, and not buried so deep that we need to despair. Facts are conspiring with us to shatter many illusions, even the central illusion embodied in that hypnotic phrase, "Sound

PAUL BANKS.

Finance." Mr. Orage is fully justified in saying that our idea "is more alive than ever in England at this moment." If ever anyone "did his bit" in the field of social study it was Mr. Orage. After a dozen years he lighted on what appeared to him as the Philosopher's Stone in economics. For three years he sought to make clear the significance of this revelation to others, but without "practical result." His impatience is natural; his despair at least comprehensible. But the mills of reason grind slowly; and a reform, however vital, is not "impossible" because it has not been achieved at the end of half a dozen years.

MAURICE B. RECKITT.

FORTHCOMING MEETINGS.

LIVERPOOL .- Will all readers who are interested in the present financial problem attend a meeting in Room 13, 49, Whitechapel, on Friday, the 23rd inst., at 6 p.m.? Important proposals will be announced.

The Social Credit Movement.

Supporters of the Social Credit Movement contend that under present conditions the purchasing power in the hands of the community is chronically insufficient to buy the whole product of industry. This is because the money required to finance capital production, and created by the banks for that purpose, is regarded as borrowed from them, and, therefore, in order that it may be repaid, is charged into the price of consumers' goods. It is a vital fallacy to treat new money thus created by the banks as a repayable loan, without crediting the community, on the strength of whose resources the money was created, with the value of the resulting with the value of the resulting new capital resources.

This has given rise to a defective system of national loan accountancy, resulting in the reduction of the community to a condition of perpetual scarcity, and bringing them ployment of men and machines, as at present, or of international complications arising from the struggle for

The Douglas Social Credit Proposals would remedy this defect by increasing the purchasing power in the hands of the community to an amount sufficient to provide effective demand for the whole product of industry. This, of course, cannot be done by the orthodox method of creating new money, prevalent during the war, which necessarily gives rise to the "vicious spiral" of increased higher prices, higher wages, higher costs, still the simultaneous creation of new money and the regulathe simultaneous creation of new money and the regulation of the price of consumers' goods at their real cost of production (as distinct from their apparent financial cost under the present system). The technique for effecting this is fully described in Major Douglas's books mentioned

The adoption of this scheme would result in an unprecedented improvement in the standard of living of the population by the absorption at home of the present unsaleable output, and would, therefore, eliminate the dan-gerous struggle for foreign markets. Unlike other suggested remedies, these proposals do not call for financial Sacrifice on the part of any section of the community, while, on the other hand, they widen the scope for indi-

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