THE

NEWAGE

INCORPORATING "CREDIT POWER."

A WEEKLY REVIEW OF POLITICS, LITERATURE AND ART

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NOTES OF THE WEEK.

The Socialist Standard for January publishes an article in which a statement made by a correspondent that bankers create credit is denied. Mr. McKenna's statement is dismissed as a "mere assertion" unaccompanied by argument or evidence."

challenged by argument or evidence.

challenged by the correspondent]:—(a) banks receive
(c) they lend money at interest; (d) the interest they pay
less than the interest they receive."

Perhaps the Socialist Standard will explain in its next issue where the deposits come from which the banks "receive" under item "(a)." Britain's lions in 1918. The difference did not come from in the banks, because the deposits of these increased The world's new deposits came from somewhere. If done so. Or did people dig them up like potatoes?

The Socialist Standard supports its view by a Banking, from the late Mr. Walter Leaf's book, January and June, 1925, the loans and advances of millions, while their deposits went down from £7,515 issue of £30 millions more loans caused the dispersance of £25 millions of deposits—which sugcreating one. Now, since outstanding loans rank as bank-assets, and deposits as bank-liabilities, the large enough amount to get rid of all their liabilities. Surely a snag somewhere, is there not? We suggest that the mystery. It will be seen that the item and advances "is one only of several items"

constituting the bank's total assets; and that the item "deposits" is not its only liability. The total of all the "assets" items is always equal to the total of all the "liabilities" items. Nothing can be proved by showing that rise in a selected item one side is accompanied by a fall in a selected item on the other. For instance, as Mr. McKenna pointed out when discussing the subject, the banks destroy dewhen discussing the subject, the banks destroy deposits by selling securities as well as by withdrawing loans. And, generally, a little reflection will show that when the recorded liabilities of the banks (including deposits) are diminished, the recorded assets are diminished by the same amount—otherwise the balance-sheet would not balance.

The first High Court action against a London pedestrian in which the issue of "jay-walking" will be raised will probably be heard this term. The claim is one for £500 by a motorist through his insurance company. It is alleged that the pedestrian rushed into the traffic from the kerb, and that the motorist, in trying to avoid him, crashed into another vehicle. At the Street Accidents Conference last week a suggestion was put forward for legislation to make pedestrians liable to punishment for dangerous walking in the same way as motorists are dangerous walking in the same way as motorists are liable for dangerous driving. Both these items of liable for dangerous driving. Both these items of liable for dangerous driving, and its objects ledgers of the insurance companies, and its objects ledgers of the insurance companies, and its objects are (a) to lessen the drain on their funds; and (b) to are (a) to lessen the drain on their funds; and (b) to bring them new business. It may be taken as a forebring them new business. It may be taken as a forebring them new business. It may be taken as a forebring them new business. It may be taken as a forebring them new business. It may be taken as a forebring them new business. It may be taken as a forebring them new business. It may be taken as a forebring them new business. It may be taken as a forebring them new business. It is inevitable to a fine for this offence, it is inevitable that is liable to a fine for this offence, it is inevitable that is liable to a fine for this offence, it is inevitable that he will be made liable for damages in the Civil he will be made liable for damages in the Civil he forthcoming test case. These fines and damages are insurable risks; and when about twenty million adults are all rendered subject to them, there opens

up a fine prospect of new premium-revenue for the insurance companies. Since the vast majority of potential victims would leave no money if they were killed, and would frequently be incapacitated for earning money if injured, there is not the slightest doubt that they would be compelled to insure themselves. They would have the premiums deducted from their wages just as they have in respect of health and unemployment.

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There are many insurance companies; but one Insurance Trust-just as there are five big banks; but one Banking Trust. And the Insurance Trust is affiliated to the Banking Trust, which inspires and supports its policy. If it gets away with this new idea the position will be as follows. The motorist will pay so much a year to the Insurance Trust to insure his car; and the pedestrian will pay so much a year to the Trust to insure the same car. The motorist will also insure the risk of having to compensate innocent pedestrians for inflicting personal injuries; while the pedestrian will be compelled to insure against sustaining the same injuries. Of course we shall be told that this theoretical abuse, two-fold premiums for a single risk, would in practice be obviated by a readjustment in premium rates. We shall believe it when we see it. What we now see is that the motorist and the pedestrian will each be paying to cover the risk of his being the guilty party in respect of the same accident. We conclude by offering the idea to the Government that it join in the ramp by making us all take out walking-licences at, say, 5s. per annum. This would bring in £5,000,000 a year. The licences would of course be subject to endorsement and suspension. Nothing would be more likely to make us take care of ourselves (and the Trust's reserves) than the danger of being told in Court that our licences were suspended and that we must stay indoors and away from our jobs for a month or so. Insofar as we were careless we should be assisting the unemployed, on whom our employers would call to fill our places. If, further, a suspension of our walking-licences were made a disqualification for drawing the dole, there would be an additional saving of insurance funds, and therefore an improvement in the stability of the nation's credit.

Dr. Schacht, President of the Reichsbank, was reported last week to have been beaten in a "duel with the German Government." It is stated that he had previously sent word to the Government that he refused to allow the Reichsbank to take a share in the International Bank unless there was an adjustment of the terms of the reparation settlement under the Young Plan. On January 14 the Central

"If the German Government insists that the Reichsbank must take a share in the International Bank, and Governments, then as a German citizen I must obey my

The statutes of the Bank of European Settlement at present only declare the participation of the Reichsbank to be "desirable." The German Government will, it is reported, propose that an article will be included, reading, "The Reichsbank is pledged to participate." The Daily News explains that

"As the Statutes of the Bank of International Settlement will be embodied in the final protocol of the Hague Conference, they will have the force of law when ratified by the Reichstag as part of the Young Plan."

The credibility of this much advertised "defeat" of Dr. Schacht is questionable. Firstly, the rebuff, which is about a matter of no immediate practical interest to the German electorate, follows within a week or ten days of Dr. Schacht's victory over the

German Finance Minister (and therefore the Government) about a matter that was. The Minister had arranged to float a loan in New York, but Dr. Schacht refused to allow it and told him that he must raise the money by increasing internal taxes. Secondly, Dr. Schacht, as President of the Reichsbank in the Interbank, is one only among the members of the International Board of Central-Bank Governors. Within narrow limits his decisions are strictly controlled: and there is no likelihood that the International Board was agreeable to the raising of any serious obstacle to the Young Plan, especially to that part of the plan providing for the Bank of International Settlement. Thirdly, the action of the Governor of a Central Paris, i.e., the action of the Governor of a Central Paris in the Covernor of a Central Bank in interfering with his own Government's policy is carried out privately, it is not provocatively formalised and widely advertised as this action was a trivial to think action was. We are, therefore, inclined to think that Dr. Schacht's challenge was a staged affair. From the point of view of international finance it would have the following merits: (a) it would heal the humiliation of the German Government about the loan veter (b) it the loan-veto; (b) it would fix public attention on, and magnify the trivial issue raised by Dr. Schacht, namely the question of the namely the question of the amount of German reparations, and would divert attention from the bankers' real object of bankers' real object of getting by with the Young-Plan scheme; (c) it would enhance the reputation of their most useful and the results of t of their most useful agent, Mr. Snowden, by making it appear that it was his renewed bold front at the Hague over the Hague over the same trivial issue that caused the German Government of the caused that caused the corder. German Government to call Dr. Schacht to order. This is all that This is all that can be suggested about this event at the present stage of the negotiations.

Mr. S. S. Hammersley, M.P., in the Sunday Times of January 12 says that, in view of the complete ignorance existing at the functions of the plete ignorance existing as to the functions of the proposed International Bank, this country ought not to be committed to proposed the proposed international Bank, this country ought not to be committed to provide the proposed in the pro to be committed to participation without fuller knowledge. He points out that the International will have powers to buy gold on its own account. He refers to the world shortage of gold. He men He refers to the world shortage of gold. He in tions that China is a shortage of gold. He in tions that China is adopting the gold basis. fers that the scramble for gold must become intensified, with discourse fied, with disastrous consequences to England's tree gold market." (We would like to worry. what a free gold market." (We would like to worry.

What a free gold market is.) But he need not when

Just as international laws of war are ignored when

a military crisis comes a military crisis comes so will be the international laws of finance when laws of finance when an economic crisis comes.
Statutes of the T Statutes of the International Bank will have no more force than had the force than had the resolutions of the League of Nations when Signor Mussolini, on the occasion of the Corfu incident, tall the League to mind its own the Corfu incident, told the League to mind its own business. Mr Hammand League to mind its own business. business. Mr. Hammersley, as a politician, naturally assigns a high naturally as a hig ally assigns a high potency to formalised declarations, agreements tions, agreements, and so forth and so on. quite consistent in suggesting that if Mr. Snow it signs a document, this country will be bound by its signs a document, this country will be bound by its But he is mistaken. If this country finds the results unsatisfactory it will be agreement. unsatisfactory it will denounce the agreement.
Nothing that Mr Sand Nothing that Mr. Snowden may sign will render that to create the impression that it mersley says tends to create the impression that will do mersley says tends to create the impression plan will do so. The sound attitude to the Young finant and the International Bank is to show up the suggest objectives behind these schemes but not to hort cial objectives behind these schemes, but not to gest that if we fail to prevent their political authorisation there is no hope for us

Mr. Roy Hopkins, whose pamphlet The Control and Reform of the Bank of England we noticed an article entitled "Bank Pamphleteering January 9, has contributed an article to the January number of The Bank Officer. In it he asks and distributed asks and distributed

den's Committee?" He opens with the following

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Credit, having regard to the factors, internal and international, which govern their operation, and to make recommendations calculated to enable these agents to promote the development of trade and commerce and the employment of labour.' In these words Mr. Snowden has charged a number of eminent financiers and experts to probe the reported defects in our currency and credit system."

These over-riding terms of reference are worth some attention. They implicitly exclude from the field of enquiry just those matters which the Social Credit advocate regards as fundamentally important. They assume the truth of an axiom which Major people, demonstrated to be false. Let us dissect Mr. Snowden's charge to the Committee.

Credit . . ., To inquire into Banking, Finance and

This clause can of course mean everything or nothing. Literally it need only mean that the Committee shall reach the practices and mittee shall obtain evidence of the practices and custom shall obtain evidence of the practices and customs of banking functionaries in the matter of dispensing and handling money. Whether it means anything more than this, and if so what, need not be discussed because the matter of the discussed because the matter of the mat be discussed, because the witnesses from whom the information, because the witnesses from whom the information is to be sought are not obliged to give it. For the it. For the examining body is not a Royal Commission: it is collected by the sought are not obliged to get sion; it is only a Committee. It has no power to get any more law a Committee. any more knowledge than the bankers, as an act of grace, choose when the bankers as an act of Again; even grace, choose to communicate to it. Again; even supposing the Committee free to ask and the bankers willing to the committee free to ask and the bankers willing to answer, there is not one member on it who is capable of Lastly, the Chairman of the Committee has the power to interpret the the committee has the power to interpret the terms of reference, which means that he can discrime and irrecan discriminate between what are relevant and irrelevant questions. The direction in which he exercises this power is the next clause this power is implicitly laid down in the next clause of the charge:

and international, which govern their opera-

It now becomes evident that "banking, finance and credit", are here programed to be things, or functions, whose properties or operations respond automatically the real meaning of this factors of the term The factors; which are not themselves mandam amounts meaning of this formulation of the term bankers what the thankers what the the Committee may ask the hankers what the committee may be compared to the committee ma bankers what they are doing, but in asking, should do in mind they are doing, but in what they are bear in what they are doing, but in asking, should doing. Our readers will not fail to observe that this the complete makes will not fail to observe that this the Social Conversion of the principle from which The Social Credit proposals derive their validity. Douglas's charge against the bankers that they are
we are not in the Social Credit proposals derive their Major Major Credit case is based upon Major that they are incendiaries posing as firemen. We are not in the least interested in hearing testimony about the pat-quality of the engine, the length of the escape, the alary of the bose the promptitude in answering quality of the engine, the length of the escape, alarms, the hose, the promptitude in answering the the length of the use of alarms, the hose, the promptitude in answering the axe on consideration exercised in the use of afficient and other questions affecting windows and doors, and other questing the technique of fire-extinguishing. It Armstrongs when saddy contemplating the blackaxe on windows and doors, and other questions the tooks. It Armstrongs, when sadly contemplating the black-be informed by the brass-helmeted reconstructors that the basement and grand floor have been that the basement and ground floor have been who was responsible for the fire. Mr. Snowden's the rules this vital question out. His conception charge responsible for the fire. Mr. Snowden of the bankers is that of a band of watchful heroes

dragged from their beds at all hours of the night to repair the damage caused by the carelessness or unruliness of their fellow citizens.

The remaining clause of the charge is as follows:

"... and to make recommendations calculated to enable those agents to promote the development of trade and commerce and the employment of labour."

The "agents" referred to are "banking, finance and credit." This clause is consistent with the preceding one where the same "agents" are described as being "governed" by "factors." It goes a wee step towards recognising that there is a personal element associated with the functioning of the credit system, but chooses a word, "agents," which implies that the persons associated with it are servants, not masters—that their policy and administration are shaped and directed by external "factors." Under the guidance of this blatant bankers' bunk the outcome of the Committee's investigations can be foreseen. The result cannot be better described than in Mr. Hopkins's own language:

"This inquiry is considered by many to be of vital importance. Others look on it as unnecessary and the mass of the people remain indifferent, although a currency policy can by one little error place thousands of people out of employment for months. It will probably take from one to two years for the Committee to cover the ground outlined above and the results will certainly disappoint radical thinkers if they look for revolutionary recommendations. In fact, were it not that the Bank of England may derive some useful knowledge and instruction, Mr. Snowden's Committee might be regarded as a strategic comedy. If this is so, it may be asked why has the Committee come into being? Briefly, it is because some of the leading men of this country, to wit, Mr. McKenna, Mr. J. M. Keynes and Lord Beaverbrook, have expressed doubts as to the beneficial results of the present system." (Our italics.)

Mr. Hopkins turns to the question of what views are likely to be put before the Committee, and devotes the greater part of the remainder of his article to a discussion of Mr. Arthur Kitson and Major Douglas.

"For many years two energetic men, Mr. Arthur Kitson and Major Douglas, have spent much of their time impressing upon the country the need for changes. Having paid considerable attention to the theories of Mr. Kitson and Major Douglas, I am doubtful as to whether their adoption would give satisfactory results, and hope that these two gentlemen will pardon me if I suggest that their ideas are somewhat unorthodox. After the amount of time, sturdy patriotism and energy they have spent in studying this question it is hardly likely that the Committee will refrain from giving them an opportunity of expressing their point of view. To be called as a witness is one thing, but to impress the Committee is another. In this respect Major Douglas would appear to be at the greater disadvantage. In the cause of fair play he should be given a hearing; but I entertain doubts as to whether, if he is called, he will carry the Committee with him. Mr. Kitson, however, presents a different case. He is a skilled debater, patient and tolerant to those who disagree with him. Indeed, from many points of view, his exclusion from the Committee calls for an explanation."

Mr. Hopkins is saying that the Committee are not likely to be impressed by unorthodox views, but that if they are it will be due to the politeness of demeanour and skill in debate exhibited by the witness. If any comment were needed to complete witness. If any comment were needed to complete the damnation of the Committee this does it. They are presented as a body of people who have assembled merely to be agreeably entertained. We can only hope that Mr. Hopkins's opinion of them will stir the self-respect of the more independent of them and induce them to get busy and learn something about the nature of their job. It is not a game, in which questions of "fair play" arise; it is a technical enquiry.

Mr. Hopkins speaks fairly and frankly about Major Douglas's theory.

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"Major Douglas has a theory which has been explained in sundry volumes and many articles. In his book Credit Producers' Reals and the whole is to be regarded as an appendix of the Broducers. The subject of the Establishment of Economic and This scheme has been drawn up for special application to the mining industry. As I understand it, for each geological area there is to be created a producers' Reals and the whole is to be regarded as an appendix of the producers. Producers' Bank, and the whole is to be regarded as an autonomous economic unit. The price of coal for domestic use is to bear 'the same ratio to cost as the total National Consumption of all descriptions of commodities does to the total National Production of Credit,' and later I read that we can sell coal to our own domestic consumers below cost, because the supply of the domestic consumer is the ultimate object of organised society. We can sell coal to our industrial users at cost, because this cost reappears as an increment of Real Credit. Apparently, therefore, Major Douglas proposes to sell commodities, internally, at or below cost, while pegging prices for exports. This is certainly, to put it mildly, a revolutionary proposal, but, frankly, I may have misunderstood Major Douglas, for I cannot understand his scheme."

The word "revolutionary" in these days is often used to convey the idea of unsoundness in ideas, and to create fears of general disruption following their adoption. Major Douglas's proposals are not revolutionary in such a sense at all. When adopted there will have been a revolution, but it will have consisted only in a reversal of the principle on which the bankers now administer the credit system. But the visible effect of the change will not consist in any disturbance to the habits, customs, enterprises or ambitions of the people. Take, for instance, the formula: "Selling below cost." It sounds revolutionary as it stands isolated from its context and unrelated to any principle. But suppose we make the formula read: "Selling below the cost as calculated by the bankers' system of reckoning." This at once opens up a clue to the fact that Major Douglas proposes an alternative system of reckoning. If no such alternative is possible, then it does not matter whether you call it revolutionary or not. What you have to do first is to make up your mind whether he has succeeded in proving its possibility. If he has, you may call it a revolutionary idea to adopt, but you still have to consider the nature of the consequences. The consequences can be summarised in the statement that everybody in the country, whatever his estate or occupation, will be able to buy (let us say) 10 per cent. more goods under the new scale of costing than under the old. Nobody's personal income would fall, but the prices of all things retailed for personal consumption would fall. Is that a revolution? Well, it has not been thought of before. But neither were paper currency and cheque-books at one time. Their invention and adoption constituted a technical revolution of the same order as Major Douglas's proposed revision of national accounting. But whereas the other inventions made no contribution to the welfare of the ordinary citizen (and in some respects helped to injure him) the present proposal is designed to improve his standard of living. If that is called a revolution, it is one which everybody in the country is waiting for, and kicking up a disturbance for.

Mr. Hopkins devotes a paragraph to the personnel of the Committee. Lord Bradbury, Sir Cecil Lubbock and Mr. R. H. Brand he classes as conserva-tive. Mr. McKenna and Mr. J. M. Keynes, with the occasional support of Professor Gregory, will press for a little more "elasticity" in credit operations. Two other members—Mr. Ernest Bevin and Mr. Newbold—may possibly side with Mr. Keynes. defined liaison between the Bank of England and

the Treasury. Mr. Hopkins concludes with the re-

" As a body the Committee cannot under any circumstances be said to belong to the whitewashing fraternity, but it must be expected that it will regard as a primary aim the maintenance of the position of London in the money markets of the world, especially in view of the impending struggle for pride of place with Paris and New York."

Since the method of maintaining London's position in the money markets of the world is that of forcing exports into the goods markets of the world—sacking workers, shutting down plant and reducing output as a means of saving costs and getting prices down for this purpose—it is not to be expected that the Committee will be in the mood to consider the merits of a column of merits of a scheme for increasing the consumption of the population. Mr. Hopkins refers to Sir Oswald Mosley's advocacy of "consumer's credit" and describes his attitude by saying that his suggestion is that the consumer about the sufficient of the suggestion is suggestion. "that the consumer should be endowed with sufficient purchasing power to make use of the ever, increasing productive capacity of the community, and makes the comment that if the Committee hear him it is doubtful if they will be able to "spare him much time." Sir Oswald's idea is sound, but as his method involves nothing further than an increase of bank-credit on lean to produce the purchasing of bank-credit on loan to producers the purchasing power of consumers' incomes will not be increased, and might very easily be decreased. It is curious to observe be at to observe, by the way, how this doctrine of increasing consumers' ing consumers' purchasing power, a doctrine which originates with Major Douglas, has come to the ascribed to Sir Oswald Mosley. That is to say, part of the Douglas Proposals which is easily telligible in outline plansible and attractive, is telligible in outline, plausible, and attractive, is credited to someone else, while Major Douglas is credited with the others. credited with the other, and more technical part, which is harden to which is harder to grasp and to which it has become fashionable in form fashionable in financial circles to impute unintelligibility. We do not see that the second of the s bility. We do not suspect Mr. Hopkins of conscious connivance in the connivance in the game, but he is playing it all the same. Directly 1 same. Directly he, with his reputation as late Assistant Editor of the Total State Sistant Editor of the Total State State Sistant Editor of the Total State sistant Editor of the Economist, and as a writer on financial articles. on financial subjects, confesses, as he does, the he "cannot understand" Major Douglas, natural effect on his readers is to discourage The from making an independent attempt to do so. from making an independent attempt to do so. of a average man of intelligence. average man of intelligence, when he learns of a new theory, and is tell in the state of the sta new theory, and is told that it is difficult to understand, might was told stand, might yet take up the study of it if he were to realise the magnitude of the practical benefits to himself which depended on it. But Mr. Hopkins does not afford him that encouragement. does not afford him that encouragement. On the contrary, by saver the contrary of the contrary of the contrary of the contrary. contrary, by saying that he cannot understand Douglas, and leaving that Douglas, and leaving it at that, he is conveying impression that he impression that he is content not to understand him; and this conveying that him; and this conveys the further impression mathe, Mr. Hopking is of he, Mr. Hopkins, is of opinion that it does not matter very much either way whether Major Douglas's Theorem can be proved, or his Proposals adopted. That such an impression would be adopted. false one no doubt Mr. Hopkins himself would con, cede. His very chair. cede. His very choice of the word "revolutionary shows that he recognises the magnitude of the magnitude of the contemplated change in relief involved. templated change in policy involved.

Douglas is the only potential witness who sises the following basic propositions:

(a) That before you attempt to improve the economic desire system you must make up your mind what you it to do.

(b) That having got clear about your economic objective for must choose the most afficient francial system you must choose the most efficient financial system accomplishing it.

In contrast to this attitude is that of all the other potential witnesses

considers it necessary to reflect what it is he wants the improved system to accomplish.

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People co-operate in the production system simply and solely to get out of it as much product as they can be supported as the supported as they can be supported as the sup as they can. With the aid of inventors and engineers they have built up an organisation and equipment admirably designed and constructed in every physical sense to produce a multitude of products and to transport them where they are wanted by consumers.

The bankers, on the other hand, co-operate in the financial system simply and solely to keep as much product inside the production-system as they can. They have built up an organisation and an accountancy-system admirably designed and constructed to hinder productions. to hinder production and restrict consumption.

Naturally, the operation of these two contradictory systems side by side must keep a population in a state of continuous strife. And wherever you look you can see strife. There is hardly a problem, from international war to a scuffle in a public house that is not due to a money problem. Every problem is the consequence to a money problem. is the consequence of money-compulsion—the compulsion to earn money and the compulsion to yield up money up money. And since the one compulsion clashes with the other—for every penny earned here is re-luctantly with the other of every penny earned here is reluctantly yielded there—there are conflicts within conflicts everywhere. The moral injunction "produce more duce more and the conflicts within the conflicts everywhere. The moral injunction is the conflicts and the conflicts within the conflicts everywhere. The moral injunction is the conflicts and the conflicts within the conflict within the c duce more and consume less" is superfluous. The more we produce the less we can buy, and the reason is reason is that in trying to adjust our economic activities to the vities to the bankers' policy we are obliged to make a maximum policy we are obliged and a maximum quantity of non-consumable goods and a minimum of consumable goods.

Music.

Bartok Recital. Arts Theatre Club: January 7. B.B.C. In respect and admiration of the incorruptible and lofty ideals of Bartok, so directly, even drastically. tically, expressed in this music of blunt utterance, if such a bluntness tending often to an uncouthness, is really constant musical expression ness, is really compatible with musical expression at its highest compatible with musical expression at its highest. The intensely compressed, concentrated thought of a Sibelius, with its laconicism of expression expression, is aphoristic, significance-crammed anjali, for it conscience, like a Yoga-Sutra of Patanjali, for instance; but the expression, laconic though it be, is full of hidden subtlety. It is always (for instance) essentially ways (for want of a better expression) essentially musical. This of a better expression in Bartok: it musical. This is what I feel lacking in Bartok: it seems to see what I feel lacking in Bartok: it is, it seems to me, a really primitive musical nature to the quality of to the quality of sounds in themselves, a crudity of inner bearing of sounds in themselves, a blunt inner quality of sounds in themselves, a crum, ugliness of that shows itself in the sharp, blunt ugliness of many of Bartok's chord-spacings and groupings groupings of many of Bartok's chord-spacings and any other basis than the postulation of a ceranal lack of fine that I find it impossible to explain the postulation of a ceranal lack of fine that I find it impossible to explain the postulation of a ceranal lack of fine that I have the postulation of a ceranal lack of fine that I have the postulation of a ceranal lack of fine that I have the postulation of a ceranal lack of fine that I have that I have the postulation of a ceranal lack of fine that I have tain lack of fine feeling for sonority as such. apologise for using this word, which has been made stink by the misuse of it in the hands of the Stravinsky Press agents.

The Orchestral playing did not, on this occasion, often to be at all up to the Hallé standard, sounding liar friends more like that of our too old, too famiuncertainties of pitch, unclear entries all over the fact, and a general untidiness in the playing. In place, and a general untidiness in the playing. In tedium and dull concert was marked by a feeling of the mand dull concert was marked by a feeling of the mand dull concert was marked by a feeling of the mand dull concert was marked by a feeling of the mand dull concert was marked by a feeling of the mand dull concert was marked by a feeling of the mand dull concert was marked by a feeling of the mand dull concert was marked by a feeling of the mand dull concert was marked by a feeling of the manufacturer. tedium and dullness in addition to the poorness of the playing. The state of the playing t the playing. The beautiful "King Lear" overture of Berlioz was infolerably dragged, so that the time (ten minutes) given as its duration in the programme (ten minutes) given as its duration in the was nearer twenty, and the work was

made to take on the length of a "needless Alexandrine." My constitutional insensibility to the Beethoven symphonies is, I decline to believe, solely responsible for the genuine martyrdom of boredom I endured during Sir Hamilton Harty's reading of the "Eroica," the like of which I hope not to en-dure again for a good while: for sound, utterly dull, uninspired, unimaginative, and thoroughly correct

musicianship, I suppose it fulfilled all requirements.

The performance by Benno Moiseiwitsch of the threadbare first Tchaikovsky Concerto was equally unsatisfying. Making all allowances for the essential tawdriness and trumpery of this work, much more can be got out of it than Mr. Moiseiwitsch succeeded in getting, and his performance, with its glib, utterly superficial slickness, its entire lack of breadth and singularly poor, unresonant and in-differently carrying tone (not by any means due entirely to the piano from which later Sir Hamilton succeeded in drawing a far better tone) ended by irritating one to the point of exacerbation. This pianist never had, and has not now, the necessary largeness of style for the Tchaikovsky B flat minor, which does demand this quality above all things. How long are pianists and audiences to remain oblivious that this composer wrote three piano concertos, the second a very pleasant and interesting work which no one but Sapellnikoff has to my knowledge touched within the "historical period," so to speak.

I should prefer to hear Constant Lambert's clever "Rio Grande" again before saying much about it, and in a better performance. It went so lamely and tamely (obviously the whole point of the work is in its scintillance and sparkle) that it is not fair to judge it on this perfermance. As far as concerned Sir Hamilton Harty's part (at the piano) and the composer's (as conductor) these were excellent, it was the apparent complete inability of orchestra and singers to rise to the occasion or enter into the spirit of the work that damped the thing so sadly. Sir Hamilton's playing of the solo part was brilliant and delightful, and had the rest been up to his level one could better have judged the work. On a first hearing it seems scrappy and disjointed, to have no inner coherence—unlike the "Music for Orchestra" which was such a well-knit, consistent piece of work: as an anthology of delicate and clever percussion effects the piece is most interesting, however, especially in the percussion accompanied cadenza for the piano, which is striking and original.

The Musical Copyright Bill.

Since my remarks earlier as to the alleged extortion connected with the collection of performing rights, I have had authoritative information as to the amount of the fees collected annually by the Performing Rights Society from the some thousands of women's institutes, clubs, and such up and down the country. The total was £400, which worked out at 2s. 6d. per club per year for an inclusive out at 2s. od. per club per year for an inclusive performing licence!!! Half-a-crown a year may conceivably appear extortion to those "fair-minded people" who expect and desire to pay one twopence once for all. I should not call them "fair-minded people," however, but thieves. The information as to the figures I have quoted was given to me by a people," however, but thieves. The information as to the figures I have quoted was given to me by a well-known gentleman of unquestionable authority, both from his position and his detailed knowledge of the whole matter of copyright. He has been noted for his championship of the rights of the composer and opposition in former years to the composer and opposition in former years to the P.R.S. when he considered that its methods were open to question, and he agreed, as most rational open to question, and he agreed, as most rational people, I presume, would, not that the fees are too people, I presume, would, not that the feet are too high, but too low—grotesquely so, in fact, as the examples I have given demonstrate completely.

KAIKHOSRU SORABJI.

Drama.

The Doctor's Dilemma: Court.

Shaw put at least three themes into "The Doctor's The first, to caricature and ridicule the medical profession for its pseudo-scientific superstition, was no doubt intended to bring about moral, if not scientific, reform. The second theme is an autobiographical note; the discussion on the relative values of character and artistic creation, after which the doctor decides to save the life of Blenkinsop for his honesty rather than that of Dubedat for his unpainted pictures, is a symbolic report of the dispute between Apollo and Dionysos for the spirit of Bernard Shaw. The third, ostensibly to show what power for evil doctors have if they care to use it so, in which Sir Colenso Ridgeon acknowledges to Mrs. Dubedat that he killed her husband to marry her, is a melodramatic smoke-screen to cover up the second theme. Almost the whole of the fifth act

could accordingly very well be spared. In at least one respect the caricature of the medical profession dates itself. Although surgery is even more highly skilled than when the play was written, it is decidedly out of fashion. In Cutler Walpole's day everybody who went to a specialist, and who had a banking-account that would stand amputation, suffered from blood-poisoning, and, if it was not the "nuciform sac" which had to come out, it was the appendix or the colon. The surgeon's application of the Sermon on the Mount was, simply, if thy incide afford the appendix of the sermon of the Sermon on the Mount was, simply, if thy inside offend thee, have it out. What Shaw failed to appreciate was the possibility that the surgeons, by cutting out more and more of the alimentary organs of each generation, might gradually have reformed human beings into the intestineless bag of bones and box of brains that Shaw himself believes in. Perhaps he attacked the surgeons as rivals. Two things, however, brought "the operation" into disrepute, one of them being the obstacle to Shaw's asexual philosophy. First, human nature, learning that whatever disease the surgeon took away left some trouble in its place, rebelled. Finally, both the surgeons and the patients had so much surgery during the war that anything that would do instead was regarded as a blessing. In 1928 accordingly Professor MacLean, of St. Thomas's Hospital, reported that "practically all uncomplicated gastric ulcers can be cured in a comparatively short time with little or no discomfort or inconvenience to the with little or no discomfort or inconvenience to the patient "; while Dr. Young and Dr. Hirst, ready to learn anywhere have gone even farther since. In Sir Ralph Bloomfield Bonnington's day the germtheory was the medical profession's equivalent to the conservation of energy; that it might require modification was inconceivable. Lately I have heard from which were intalligent to the conservation of energy; that it might require modification was inconceivable. Lately I have heard from which were intalligent to the conservation of the germ-theory which were intelligent enough to make me sit up. Lastly, the nationalisation of medicine for the poor has abolished the saintly Dr. Blenkinsop with his humble Christian service, Christian poverty, and pounds of ripe greengages. Blenkinsop himself, after cure of tuberculosis, affluence as a M.O.H., with which appointment he discovered, as M.O.H.'s still do, that private doctors are murderers with books of certificates. In Blenkinsop's day, however, the poor paid by instalments to the shilling a week collector, with missings, while the lower-middle classes paid rather more at a time but only when they could. Nowadays the Blenkinsops are well paid without having either to write bills or collect them. The working-man has to pay, ill or well, the State supervising the employer's forced levy. The doctor's only trouble is a protest from the chemist and the State when he prescribes what his knowledge decrees, but what the Administration says is too expensive to be wasted on the

Shaw's caricatures are not so far out of date, however, as to render the play not worth revival. There are plenty of doctors enough behind even the medical profession for the caps to fit some of them; and the moral situations are simply enjoyable by vastly more people than when the majority could not quite settle whether Shaw was a dangerous lunatic or a dangerous mountebank. In the present production Mr. Esmé Percy as Dubedat comes through on his superb confidence, Shavian experience, and rhetoric; and for some reason or other, Dubedat seemed on this occasion a less unconscionable time dying. Mr. Wilfred Lawson's Sir Patrick Cullen was as good as his Petkoff, and was a very fine performance in true character. Two other excellent performances were given by Mr. Vernon Sylvaine as Sir Colenso Ridgeon and Mr. Thomas Pauncefort as Dr. Blenkinsop. Ralph Bloomfield Bonnington Mr. D. A. Clarke-Smith justified him the command of ora-Smith justified his choice by his command of ora-But once again Mr. Smith insists on being actor rather than character. His gestures are developing staccato on all occasions. He has a fine voice, a fine command of words, and a presence; but he really will have to bring variety into his postures and deportment.

Four One-act Plays: Players'. All the pieces in this play-bill have been seen before, but as all of them are worth seeing again, and at least one of them is too little known, that is no defect. The defect. The one in question is Miss Susan Glaspell's "Trifles," the other three, including two by Tchehov, "The Bear" and "A Swan Song, his Pirandello's "The Man with a Flower in Mouth." Miss Glaspell's "Trifles" is almost a perfect one-act play. The events before the curtain perfect one-act play. The events before the curtain rises, the strangulation of a childless woman's house, band in his best and his best band in his bed with a rope at a lonely farm house, are communicated to the audience briefly and as part of the play with a rope at a lonely farm house, are communicated to the audience briefly and as The of the play, with all the characters on the stage. dramatic moments are perfectly timed and proportioned. While the characters on the stage. tioned. While the Sheriff and State Attorney search for a motive in the for a motive in the man's bedroom, two women neighbours find it downstairs in a strangled canary, them they hide and finally take away with "Women think only of trifles," says one of the self-important investigators. It is a trifle feminist, perhaps, but it is a good psychological drama. excellent, natural performance was given in this play by Mr. Arthur Brander, who found the way to ald by Mr. Arthur Brander, who found the way to liver a narrative while acting. As the tearful old actor—worn-out actors are more pathetic than other old men for obvious old men for obvious reasons—Mr. Roy Graham spoke and acted with it. spoke and acted with intelligence and understanding; which he uses in all little gence and understanding; which he uses in all his work, but as "The Bear In he was out, if not of his depth, of his breadth this piece however." this piece, however, Mr. Rodney Millington's buf-formance as the but! formance as the butler struck the right Russian his foonery note. In "The Man with the Flower in his Mouth" Mr. Graber Man with the Flower in his misery Mouth '' Mr. Graham did not insinuate his misery sufficiently between sufficiently between my bones, nor make a definite enough contrast between the enough contrast between the grumbling of own other man" about minor irritations and attitude to a solution of the solution of attitude to sentence of death from epithelioma. "The other man," who is, of course, only a fer for the man with the flower, looked as though not would have preferred to looked the stage when would have preferred to leave the stage when not speaking. PAUL BANKS.

"We can obtain more than all the food we require from our own Empire, and Empire produce will not be subjected to taxation at our ports. The Empire, after satisfying one whole of its own requirements, has a surplus of 20,000, we quarters of wheat. There is more beef available than decan consume."—Lord Beaverbrook, on Empire Free Traiffe at Lord Rothermere's dinner to the staffs of the Northcliff newspapers, January 4.

Economic Fermentation.

JANUARY 23, 1930

By John Hargrave.

It is a mistake to under-estimate the importance of what may be called the "economic fermentation" now going on in this country, in Europe, and the world. In terms of chemical action, a ferment is an agent capable of producing fermentation, such as yeast or diastase—a zyme.

It is usual to divide ferments into two classes: (1) Formed or organised ferments, which are living organisms (molds, bacteria, yeasts), and (2) Unorganised, structureless, or chemical ferments, which are chemical substances and belong for the most part to the class of complex soluble organic compounds known as enzymes or soluble ferments. The action of many is probably of many, if not all, organised ferments is probably due to enzymes formed by them.

It is now known that yeast secretes an enzyme, zymase, which decomposes the sugar in alcoholic ferments. fermentation, and it seems probable that other socalled organised or living ferments act by the same

The present economic system has produced its own unorganised ferment. The new economic movement preaching preaching Common of Credit is a structureless enzymic enzymic result; it is the product of a highly organised court; it is the product of a highly

organised economic system which is in ferment.

When we speak of "economic fermentation" we are, of company or chaos, of economic speaking of the ferment, or chaos, of economic speaking of the ferment, or chaos, of economic ideas, both orthodox and unorthodox; ideas penartideas, both orthodox and unorthodox; ideas generated, kept going, or modified by the particular internal, kept going, or modified by the particular internal. ticular interplay of economic cause and effect in the present system. present system. This chaos, or ferment, of economic ideas is increasing the control of the civilised world, ideas is increasing throughout the civilised world, and is demonstrated throughout the civilised world, in and is demonstrated daily in every legislature, in every induced the civilised the civ every industrial dispute, in every legislature, gramme industrial dispute, in every election programme in the state of the gramme, in every newspaper, in every Budget, in every balance of newspaper, in every Budget, in every balance-sheet, and even in banking policy itthe popular press; whereas, only a very few years for any journalist of the popular press; whereas, only a very few years for any journalist of the popular press; whereas, only a very few years for any journalist of the popular press; whereas, only a very few years for any journalist of the popular press; whereas, only a very few years for the popular press; whereas, only a very few years for the popular press; whereas, only a very few years for the popular press. for public cornalist who used the word in an article public consumption would have been stared at last in the administration will have been stared at aghast in the editorial sanctum as a blank dolt. The and the Financial Wall Street collapse and recovery, die the Financial Wall Street collapse are recent inand the Financial Inquiry Committee are recent indications of the general economic ferment. The fertent in action may also be seen seething, heaving, brochures, bubbling action may also be seen seething, nearing, reports in the enormous output of books, brochures, Banking, inance, Wealth, Poverty, Money, etc.; some of written below the sound orthowhich are Written by bankers, financiers and ortho-ent economists to be defend a system that dox economists to explain or to defend a system that real ces financiers financiers and or the enforces financiers to explain or to defend a system that real ces financiers are explain or to defend a system that real ces financiers are explained to the explain or to defend a system that real ces financiers are explained to the explain or to defend a system that real ces financiers are explained to the explain or to defend a system that real ces financiers are explained to the explain or to defend a system that real ces financiers are explained to the explain or to defend a system that real ces financiers are explained to the explain or to defend a system that the explain o enforces financial poverty in the midst of stupendous in wealth The poverty in the midst of stupendous recognised also in the fact that almost every type of "currency tary the ormist mare in the financial reformist maze, is producing his own pet monetary theory as the one and only catholicon, cure-all, system result of a mathomatically unsound economic

The result of a mathematically unsound economic is this command the state of the st system is this economic fermentation. It is an un-But, we must remember, there is always a ferment

within the must remember, there is always

of fe in any case can be looked upon as a process

not ferment.

Tife restricted, made difficult,

arible, and in made desperate, made all but impossible, and in instem is made quite in the made all by a financial system cases made all but miposible, by a financial intensified upon a scarcity policy, because of the comparing of the compa cases made all but impossible, and in based upon quite impossible, by a financial because of the intensified struggle for existence that more and more comes fed struggle for existence that more and more conomic fermentation as unnecessary, produces

general ferment we have already indicated. ferments within this general ferment are the processes which will determine the final transforma-

The process of chemical fermentation brings about a change, a transformation, such as the action of ferments in the souring of milk, the ripening of cheese, the formation of vinegar from cider, or of sugar from starch.

Within the general, world-wide economic fermentation, a particular enzymosis sets in: the New Economics. The economic enzymes (new economists) may be said to agree only upon one point: that there is a shortage of purchasing-power.

Within this ferment there is yet another which, by a process quite beyond its control—the process of idea-conflict—has been drawing further and further away from the general body of Monetary Reformists as such. This smaller grouping is that which adheres strictly to the Douglas Analysis and Proposals. This grouping, or ferment, not only agrees that there is a shortage of purchasing-power, it holds that there is only one correct analysis of the present economic system (by means of the A+B Theorem), and only one guiding principle that can solve the present impasse (the application of the Scientific It holds that the analysis and Price Formula). solution are correct because they conform to mathematical exactitude and cannot be disproved in mathematical logic. The thought-process, or ferment, within this grouping—again by the inescapable conflict of the struggle of ideas—tends to "decompose" the thought-processes in the wider grouping of Credit Reformers in general.

Within the "A+B" ferment appears yet another ferment—a ferment which is striking and peculiar to itself because the economic technics are not in question. The grouping is solid and unified in its economic analysis and solution. In this case the ferment within the ferment may be called "politi-Indeed, it is because this grouping of thought is solid in its economic theory, and because no further idea-conflict on this plane can take place, that it is—again quite inevitably, by a process beyond its control-not only able, but driven to leave the plane of economic theory and to pass logically to the plane of the politics, or application, of the theory; from considerations of the present economic system to considerations of transforming, or adjust-

ing, the system. In this it shows itself to be a potent ferment. It begins to know itself as a transformer, a social-economic zyme. No other grouping of Credit Re-formers has, so far, been driven by its own logic from the theoretical to the practical plane.

This change within the ferment could hardly be expected to take place unless the mathematical logic its theory had been logic-tight at every point. When a political ferment takes place within a

grouping or school of thought it is usually the beginning of the final stages of fermentation. The ferment of thought on the political plane is just as acute, may be even more fierce in idea-conflict, and acute, may be even more herce in idea-conflict, and may take just as long or even longer to mature as the ferments on the theoretical plane which preceded it. The grouping can only become effective in action when its political logic is emotionally true; which is exactly the same thing as saying: when it is logic-tight at every point. Political logic—right policy for action—depends upon (a) the emotional tempo of the many created, as a rule, by economic tempo of the many created, as a rule, by economic conditions playing upon individuals, and (b) the form of words used by the Few, modified, revised, and re-formed time and time again by a process of

It will be seen that, whereas on the theoretical trial and error. plane (which, be it noted, is the fundamentally practical plane) the guiding principle is an exact science, mathematics; on the active or political plane

there is no such guiding principle. It must always be a matter of rapid adjustment to circumstances, states of mind, emotional stress and strain, periods of apathy, and all the imponderables of individual and mass psychology. The political plane is the psychological plane, the plane of psychic complex and counter-complex.

The most important and the most interesting ferment of thought in the New Economic movement is this latest ferment which has made its appearance within the "A+B" ferment, because it is upon the outcome of this struggle of ideas on the political plane that the future success or failure of the whole movement may depend.

It is just because a wrong decision might make all the difference between success and failure at some later date that the idea-conflict is bound to be, and shows every sign of being, acute and stripped bare of the superficialities of academic debate, even to the point of so-called trivial matters of individual personality and idiosyncrasy.

The psychologist, whether speculative or operative, is aware of the terrific forces of the "ego" and the "id," and the idiosyncrasies of the articulate individual who has focus, energy and determination are factors that only ballot-box democrats try to ignore, and will play as determining a part in the establishment of Common of Credit as in every other great social reform.

The Screen Play. Hallelujah!

For once in a way the superlatives of Hollywood have been justified. This film (Empire) is indeed epical; it is a production beyond the possibilities of any other medium but the screen; it portrays religious fervour and revivalist hysteria as they have never been depicted; and it is so outstanding and distinguished a sound picture, that I am inclined to pay King Vidor, its director, the immense compliment of regarding him as having done for the talkies what Griffith did for the silent film in "The Birth of a Nation." For this is emphatically a film which would be incomplete without sound, and in particular, without music. Here the music illuminates the very soul of the American negro, to whom religion is real, and to whom heaven and hell are as real as the tobacco plantations of Carolina. It is possible that for this reason "Hallelujah" may not enjoy the success it deserves in England, where religious feryour and emotionalism are recorded as ridiculous fervour and emotionalism are regarded as ridiculous or being in bad form, and fit only for the Salvation

Army and for street-corner preachers.

"Hallelujah!" is superbly directed, but it detracts nothing from Mr. Vidor's skilful and sympathetic artistry to say that his players most of pathetic artistry to say that his players, most of whom are not professional, largely directed themselves, as is shown by their natural behaviour before the camera. The crowd work, for which the director must be given full credit, is magnificent. This film has something of the cumulative sweep of "The Birth of a Nation," and also something of the compelling atmosphere of "En Rade." It is unusually long, and might perhaps be cut to advantage in the opening scene, but after the conversion of the principal male character, admirably impersonated by Daniel Haynes, the rhythm gradually quickens.
From the rest of an extraordinarily good cast I select for mention Nina Mae McKinney, an actress of seventeen who makes most of the white vamps of the screen look like amateurs, and who has an unusually wide emotional range. usually wide emotional range. Her performance and that of the rest, including the "extras," demonstrate that the negro has a greater artistic scope on the film than in any other medium.

I recommend all my readers to see " Hallelujah!" even those not interested in films in general or who dislike talkies in particular should not miss a great artistic and emotional experience.

Condemned.

Here is another film (London Pavilion) which is artistically notable, Wesley Ruggles, its director, having mastered about the most intelligent and promising sound technique I have yet encountered. One little detail may be cited, the use of a cut-back in speech instead of picture. This is the real contrapuntal method, of which "Condemned" provides numerous other examples. The film tells a human story, and has an unusual setting in the shape of Devil's Island, although it fails to convey shape of Devil's Island, although it fails to convey the atmosphere of that grim penal settlement. Possibly the relations between France and the United States would have been attributed breaking point States would have been strained to breaking point if it had and any been strained to breaking point if it had, and certainly our censorship would never have passed a film which faithfully portrayed the French methods of deals French methods of dealing with transported law-breakers

breakers.

According to the blurbs, "You'll think about 'Condemned' for weeks to come! You'll relive its mad moments of love! You'll take your, And by the arm and insist that they see it, too! "you'll adore" Ronald Colman, "the talking screen's most fascinating star," in "his greatest romantic role!" I didn't. Mr. Colman plays his part in a ladylike way which entirely deprives allove-making of any "mad moments," and allove-making of any "mad moments," and allowed though it is gratifying that Hollywood should have selected an English actor for the part, its impersonation will not heighten the player's reputation among the sonation will not heighten the player's reputation among the judicious among the judicious, even if typists and ladies the dangerous are the dangerous age are deliciously thrilled. Digges, film is stolen from Mr. Colman by Dudley Digges, who gives an advantage of the colman by Dudley Digges, who gives an admirably convincing performance, it he prison governor (as I translate "Warden and Ann Harding, the original Mary Dugan in the stage play, is charming and sincere in a role good does not give scope to her gifts. This is a good to be.

This film, based on the novel by Pirandello, is essentite extraordinary quite extraordinary charm and interest, is essentially cinematic, and has ally cinematic, and has a most arresting to the sphere. It was made in sphere. It was made in 1925, and shown hither Film Society the following year, but has not to been available to the English public, whom der Avenue Pavilion management has thus placed up further indebtedness. It is admirably directed of Marcel l'Herbier, who makes very skilful use some makes very skilful use Marcel l'Herbier, who makes very skilful use ess mixes, which are employed with great effectivened to indicate the passage of the transition of the transiti to indicate the passage of time and the transit of incident in a fashion of incident in a fashion embodying a species screen shorthand. The scene in which the lays the dead had lays the dead body of his infant daughter in arms of his dead mother is one of the most ably things I have a support to ably things I have a support to a support the screen.

ably things I have ever seen on the screen. hither so After this incident the film, which has been naturalistic to the social comedy, is After this incident the film, which has been naturalistic, turns to whimsical comedy, is that this story of the man who would be free film; continually entangling himself is really two in But, unlike "The Little Match Girl," the joining so well contrived that there is no loss of unity they so well contrived that there is no loss of "Matthad like most French films of any length, demand Pascal" is neither like most French films of any length,
Pascal" is neither repetitive nor does of unity
cutting. The title role is excellently played by more
Mosjoukine, whose impersonation is so much his
sincere and sympathetic than in any other has
which I have seen him, as to suggest that he he
been both mis-cast and badly directed ever since.
Went to Hollywood. The décor is by Cavalcant.

DAVID OCKHAM.

Street-Named Schools.

JANUARY 23, 1930

English children are obliged to attend school for nine years. Most progressive people want to extend this period, and quite a number want to extend it at both ends and rake in the toddlers of two and

If I were an English boy or girl, I would like to be consulted over this business. "Is school such a healthy has been wear healthy, happy place that I can stand another year, or perhaps two?

Grown-up people take the State schools for granted. They do not even look at them. How many people exercise their rights as British citizens and ever visit them, unless they are obliged to let their own children be educated there? Motoring through a village, they may glimpse a small, solid building a village, they may glimpse a small, solid building with a yard round it. "A village school, they then the they think. Do they note how high the windows invariable. invariably are, and in many of them how few there are? In the are, and in many of them how few there are? In the big towns they see huge square buildings rising ings rising up out of yards, surrounded by a ten-foot wall. wall. In the wall are gates, which are often locked in school tier wall are gates. in school time, but at noon a mob of released children strate, but at noon a mob of released children surges out with wild yells, and scatters unthinkingly research thanking the scatters with the scatter with the scatters with the scatter with the thinkingly across the street, shepherded by kindly policemen policemen, who take the unruly mass as much for this manner.

In the middle of the morning the children have a reak, and break, and use what an eminent educationalist once about, shouting and screaming, and shoving and to their heads like wire. to their heads like wine.

This yard is furnished with water taps and mugs, roofed in all furnished with water taps and mugs, a roof yard is furnished with water taps and sible from the school, and several dustbins, placed preference school, and several dustbins, placed sheltered corner. The sight of sky overhead is absolutely the only want that can be said for it. No wonder the ten-foot thing that can be said for it. No wonder the ten-foot wall is round be said for it. No wonder the people. wall is round to hide it discreetly from the people.

of the price of bricks has gone up, they say, on account further schools that are to be built, and the

further schools that are to The surrounding walls, I suppose. There is no space to describe the buildings, with deir class roo space to describe the buildings, and their class rooms facing north whenever possible, and stock rooms on the their stairways, cloakrooms, and stock rooms on the inside are aching for the day when they will be fourteen, and able to leave. The outside world may the worse in state to leave. hold worse in store, but, compared to the prison of the school it is to be the prison of the prison of the school it is to be the prison of the school it is to be the prison of the school it is to be the prison of the prison of the school it is to be the prison of the the school, it is freedom. A great many of the teadlern who get the school who liked their children who got on well at school, who liked their weren, and got on well at school, who left when they teachers, and got on well at school, who like were eleven to enjoyed their lessons, left when they ship eleven to enjoyed their lessons, or with scholarships to second go to central schools, or with scholarships to secondary schools, or their parents have paid secondary schools, or their parents have paid for them to go to central schools, or their parents have passecondary schools, or their parents have passecondary school a last year or two to a private or to make the school and the sch secondary schools, or then be to a private to get the better, knowing full well how difficult it is a state the better. a street-named school. street-named kinds of employment straight from

The children left behind have had three years their more left behind have had three years want the left behind had thre Since children left behind have had three years want no more scholastic comrades left, and they share no more scholastic comrades left. want their more scholastic comrades left, and the spent in more of it. They might revel in a year to learn and learning spent no more scholastic comrades to look in the country, learning to farm and learning brief after the look af to look after themselves. England would not need essent for that essentials for that. Teach boys and girls to manage the inunity, and their lives in a happy camping commerce the existing schools.

Then for the tribute of the results might well reveal and correct the existing schools.

Then for the toddlers. If we can get garden thools for the toddlers. If we can get garden schools for the toddlers. If we can get gather then are controll with push toys, and young teachers then are controll with push toys, and young teachers who are controlled enough not to pet them, to leave alone alone with enough not to pet them, to leave alone with them are controlled enough not to pet them, to leave alone with them are controlled enough not to pet them, to leave alone with them are controlled enough not to pet them. them alone whenever they can manage themselves them, and both alone whenever they can manage themselves them personal alone alone whenever they can manage themselved hygiene, and battern patient enough to teach them personal but the patient enough to teach them personal but the patient enough to teach them personal bless but individually, as the need arises, why, then, bless

such schools, but if it means another classroom in an already huge block, full of sitting babies, with one teacher who dare not leave her classroom an instant, and is obliged to let these little ones go journeying all alone to an outside lavatory that is not even provided with toilet paper, then do not do it. What is the use of the notoriously expensive Montessori apparatus in a school where the essential needs of children cannot be attended to? Little ones must have help with their bodies, they must be free to run about and make a noise, they must have sunlight and fresh air.

How many children I have seen with good homes and sensible mothers go to school at the age of five, sturdy and well, and, after six months or less of sitting still and confinement, be very much poorer in health.

"I never had any trouble with her before she went to school," a mother will truthfully say, or "He never caught colds, and now he always seems to be having one.

Stacks of stuff have been written putting the other side of all this. I know there is another side. For the very poor people whose homes are wretched in the extreme, school seems even luxurious in comparison. But State education should be above that sort of

Children are all mixed up together in the same school. A child of a well-to-do artisan or small shopkeeper is sat next to a real ragamuffin with no language except the casual loose sentences of the street urchin. A teacher with imagination may do his or her best at arranging the class, but it is lamentably true that the parents very often speak much better than do their own children. "They talk like that at the school,' these parents will tell you, not as an excuse, but as a well-known reason.

Small right has England to impose another year of compulsory attendance unless she means to change the character of her schools. We may not be rich enough to scrap our unsuitable buildings. Need we repeat them? D. M.

Economic Party Meeting.

[The following is a report contributed by a member of the [The following is a report contributed by a member of the Economic Party. We print it for what it purports to be, namely, a minute of the proceedings at the meeting. Two points in the chairman's "historical sketch" need correction. (1)The New Age announced the Conferences referred to, but neither supported nor opposed any programme ferred to, but neither supported nor opposed any programme or organisation. (2) The M.M. Club has "proved to be" what it was formed to be, namely, a discussion circle.—Ed.]

The meeting of Credit Reformers called by the Economic Party took place at Ludgate Hill Station Café on Wednesday, January 15. There were seventy-seven people present. The chairman opened the proceedings by giving a short picture of the progress of the movement. historical sketch of the progress of the movement. He described its hopeful beginnings, and its failure to organise, despite successive conferences held for that purpose, and the involvable support of Typ New Acre After the fosce at involvable support of Typ New Acre After the fosce at despite successive conferences near for that purpose, and the invaluable support of The New Age. After the fiasco at invaluable support of The New Age. Swanwick and the foundation of the Economic Freedom Swanwick and the foundation of the Economic Freedom League nothing was left of the once-flourishing groups in the North and in Scotland and Ireland except a few isolated and despondent individuals. In London, the M.M. Club had served to keep them together, but it had proved to be no more than a discussion circle. Ten years had passed by, no more than a discussion circle. Ten years had passed by, and they had made no visible headway with their proparada. The chairman then introduced Mr. J. Hargrave to the meeting.

Mr. Hargrave opened his speech by stating the three

the meeting.

Mr. Hargrave opened his speech by stating the three stages through which the movement must pass in its march stages through which the movement must pass in its march stages through which the movement must pass in its march stages through which the movement must pass in its march stage. He towards the establishment of a Social Credit State. He towards that the first of these was already accomplished, asserted that the first of these was already accomplished, and that it was the desire to linger in it that prevented them and that it was the desire to linger in it that prevented them and that it was the desire to linger in it that prevented them and that it was the desire to linger in it that prevented them and that it was the desire to linger in it that prevented them and that it was the desire to linger in it that prevented them and that it was the desire to linger in it that prevented them and that it was the desire to linger in it that prevented them and that it was the desire to linger in it that prevented them and that it was the desire to linger in it that prevented them and that it was the desire to linger in it that prevented them and that it was the desire to linger in it that prevented them and that it was the desire to linger in it that prevented them and that it was the desire to linger in it that prevented them and that it was the desire to linger in it that prevented them. widespread propaganda. To become an effective propaganda instrument, the movement must take on some form of organisational unity. Such unity did not mean control of the individual's activities, but simply his acceptance of a common basis on which to act such as that embodied in common basis on which to act, such as that embodied in

the documents issued by the party. Citing the example of other reform movements, the speaker emphasised the in-evitability of conflict arising between those who were willing to unify in this manner and those who did not feel the need to do so. He professed himself anxious to make this conflict articulate in the case of the party, and unhesitatingly declared that he who was not for it was against it. He concluded by going on to state and refute possible objections which might be felt by those present, and the meeting was then thrown open for questions and discussion.

Opposition took several forms. The first speaker Opposition took several forms. The first speaker announced that he was an active propagandist already, and would not join the party until it showed that it could do what it promised. Mr. Hargrave replied that there was no reason why one should not be an active propagandist and a member of the party; and that to hold aloof until the party was in a position to accomplish its aim was a defeatist of organisation involved coercion of the individual. In reply, Mr. Hargrave said that the party was seeking organisational unity, and not organisational control over indisational unity, and not organisational control over individual initiative. A third was afraid to join an organisation because it might fail and bring his hopes to irretrievable ruin. able ruin. Hr. Hargrave pointed out in reply that anyone suffering from such a fear-complex should either overcome it or stand aloof from any organisational grouping. A fourth pointed to the fact that the various bodies engaged in propagating Social Credit views were all working towards the same goal, like the Christian Churches. He suggested Mr. Hargrave's assertion that those who were not for the party were against it. Mr. Hargrave asserted that he Mr. Hargrave's assertion that those who were not for the party were against it. Mr. Hargrave answered that he was not suggesting any kind of "merger," but that individuals should join the Economic Party in order to establish speaker touched the nerve of the opposition by confessing was not convinced that Mr. Hargrave simply wished to ing to control their activities. Mr. Hargrave was the Head auspices. Had it really given up the association with faith in the particular organisational methods of the Kibbo kift, and the party began under its which it started? Mr. Hargrave pointed out that he had kift, and that at a later date the Kibbo kift might be the fact that, at the moment, new economic students the fact that, at the moment, new economic students the fact that, at the moment, new economic students might feel inclined to look askance at a movement which trol "over the activities of anyone, he asserted that a logical line of argument from which there is found to be no logical asserted is bound to "control" an uncoordinated logical line of argument from which there is found to be no logical escape is bound to "control" an unco-ordinated "body of doctrine" was vitally important, but his speaker supported the party because he found it useful in ested to a society which they could join. He found that they everyone to become a member first and a critic afterwards.

The "New Age" Cigarette. By Arthur Brenton.

I suppose everybody has heard that the Coleman family made most of its money out of wasted mustard. It is equally bine represent to a considerable document to be considerable document. bine represent to a considerable degree unsmoked tobacco. This is particularly the case with cigarettes. When you light up a cigar or a pine you have to been drawing it or light up a cigar or a pipe you have to keep drawing it or it will go out. But nine-tenths of the popular brands of cigarettes smoulder to the end whether you draw them or themselves away behind your back. not. They smoke themselves away behind your back. Since the advent of the flapper to man's estate the cigarette habit has increased enormously, and it is probably a conservative estimate to say that some million or so pounds they neither consume nor some public every year for tobacco which

Now, in the case of mustard, what you waste you waste, and that's that. But in the case of the smouldering cigarette there are consequential wastes. Every cigarette smoker has tales to tell of blackened furrows in furniture, of scorched billiard-cloths, of ruined table-centres, and other accidents of greatest are specified attentions. accidents of greater magnitude, even including the setting of buildings on fire.

Again, in the case of mustard you cannot blame the manufacturer for the waste. He does nothing to force you to not do anything to imbue his product with self-wasting pro-

perties. But the wastage of cigarette tobacco is predetermined in two ways; (a) cigarettes are made more or less of a standard size, and (b) they are imbued with their The smouldering properties in the process of manufacture. The first fact need not be discussed, for a ready-made cigarette has to be some size or other. It is the second fact that is important. important. The cigarette that smoulders does so not be cause it is in the nature of tobacco to smoulder, but because the paper makes it smoulder. The whole trouble is in the chemical treatment of the paper. A cigarette wrapped in pure untreated pure, untreated paper, goes out if you stop smoking it.
Anybody who cares to test this can do so. Let him take any cigarette of the arrest of cigarette of the smouldering type, split it open and re-wrap the tobacco in a pure paper. He will find that the cigarette will not smoulder.

It is some thirty years ago when I had this pointed out to me by a tobacconist. He said that one reason why the cigarette-makers used the treated paper was because it the more substance in it and reason was because in the more substance in it and was more easily worked in the machines—in fact, he said that the machines could not work the pure, thin paper (but I heard recently that this is not the case now). Another recent the said because is not the case now). Another reason was, he said, because the public preferred a white, opaque paper, for this did not show so much external staining during smoking as would the pure. semi transcent and the said that the said

At my request he got me some specimen paper cases of the best and purest material available; and as I had access to some of the most delicate balances in the world I was able to compare the weights not only of the papers, but of their ash after burning. By this means I was able to make the same of the same as a few this means I was able to make the same of the sam of their ash after burning. By this means I was able to make a final choice, which fell on a French paper water marked with the name "Abadie." It was so thin that you could distinguish the strands of tobacco through it when made up into a cigarette. From that time I gave up every made up into a cigarette. From that time I gave up every other brand and got this man to make my cigarettes with this paper. I specified the make my cigarettes of the paper. this paper. I specified that they should be the largest of the standard sizes, namely, eighteen to the ounce, my reason being that the largest page to the prothe standard sizes, namely, eighteen to the ounce, my reason, being that the larger a cigarette is the smaller portion of paper to tobacco that you are smoking. The had now eliminated chemicals altogether and reduced the paper to the minimum, and had got a cigarette which confilled hygienic requirements as nearly as was possible. Sidering this advantage alone, I would have been content if the higher price I had to pay had increased my expendit on cigarettes. But it did not, because of the economy on cigarettes. But it did not, because of the economy. Things went on until the war. Then my precious the disappeared and I had to put up with any substitute my could be procured. Soon after the Armistice what does precious to become the constitute of the confidence of the confidence

could be procured. Soon after the Armistice what does tobacconist do but got be soon after the Armistice what stranger tobacconist do but get knocked down and killed. Stranged took his shop. Then all sorts of queer things happened the sizes of the sizes took his shop. Then all sorts of queer things happer the Changes were rung on the papers, and on the sizes of took cigarettes, and one day, lo and behold, I got a virtual of fireworks—the good old smouldering fellows thought I had buried for ever. Complain as I would could not get my old paper back; I was told that it was not being made. This went on until a year ago, when chanced to call in a tobacconist's shop in Chancery Lup I noticed a bench and chair and saw that he mused it is cigarettes on the premises just like my old friend when me up some samples to see if they suited me better. me up some samples to see if they suited me better. Were I called in for them the next day bless me if they could not wrapped in my long-lost "Abadie" papers. have kissed the man

have kissed the man.

Since then I have had the cigarettes baptised in buy them of The New Age. Anybody who is interested to buy stages can get a sample box of twenty for 1s. 6d., plus 2d. 6d., fica The bulk price is pro rata, namely, 100 for 7s. 3d. postage. They are made by hand to my original with the whom orders should be sent. The proprietor has offset to give a substantial percentage of the revenue from to return to maintenance of this journal.

to whom orders should be sent. The proprietor has a sale to give a substantial percentage of the revenue from towards the maintenance of this journal.

To return to wider economic issues, it is impossible and believe that the profitable consequences to the towards the cigarette-paper manufacturers arising from the wasternived at. You have, on the one hand, the tobacco motion facturers turning out tons of tobacco, and, on the which and, chemical manufacturers turning out saltpetre, kind is going to burn the tobacco up when you are not the paid. Then, as regards the machine-made as against price sind made cigarette, I always like to reflect that the price sind for the latter affords a much higher proportion of purchaside, power to the employees. There is no doubt that approach to the complexity of the public to the employments habit would have a perceptible effect on always provided, of course, that the hand-made were made by hand!

were made by hand!

Reviews.

Ur of the Chaldees. By C. Leonard Woolley. (Ernest Benn, Ltd. 7s. 6d.)

For seven years Mr. Woolley has directed the excavations made, under the joint auspices of the British Museum and the University of Pennsylvania, in Ur, most ancient of the lay public consecution. This book is written to give to the lay public some idea of the romance and the difficulty of his work. In a previous volume, "The Sumerians," he has by careful tabled many of the results. Here he shows how by careful strokes of the pick the expedition has unearthed city below city, reaching far back beyond the very Flood itself. For, over the shards and flints of the earliest settlement associated the shards and flints of the "Deluge". ment—astonishing evidence of the truth of the "Deluge" legend—lies an eight-foot bank of virgin clay before the legend—lies an eight-foot bank of virgin clay before the artifacts of man are found again. We touch the Bible narrathe Moon Temple, stands the base of a "war memorial" of Hammurabi, the "Amraphel King of Shinar" (Babylon) is, of course, the pathetic "Court of the Dead," where glory of exquisite goldsmith's work. Above all, Mr. Woolley arduous toil necessary to uncover while preserving these, the arduous toil necessary to uncover while preserving these, the only clues to the same of Egypt. only clues to a civilisation older than that of Egypt.

Piping George. By Jan Gordon. (Hutchinson's. 7s. 6d.)
married a girl who had promised to accompany him on a and so he left her, and set off as a tramp, diversifying the and by adventures of a not too respectable character. The the Piper himself, with his contempt for "museumisers" country dance what don't stink of sweat isn't a country girls dour one where the boys don't take the L. O. E. girls down the hedgerows afterwards."

I. O. E.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

THE MUSICAL COPYRIGHT BILL.

Sir It is an old saying that there are two sides to every question, which means there are four sides to every berforming Right Society and the content of the Musical the former. The latter is quite clearly the outcome of Mr. B.

Mr. Kaikhosru Sorabji will insist on trying to isolate the claims of composers from all other considerations involved.

Warrantable method of cannot do it—certainly not by the unwarrantable method of pouring contempt on anyone who having being "unjustly treated by the Performing Right Society If the Performing Right Society If the Performing Right Society Nowing University In the Performing Right Society Is the Performing Right Society had published a basis users no doubt be known to the general public of music bear at and a scale fair to everybody would have been wild never have

users no doubt be known to the general public of music arrived at a scale fair to everybody would have been been born. Mr. Sorabji says I "carefully refrain from and here goes. "Quits" himself got up a village dance society's And if Mr. Sorabji will ascertain how much of the under, he will amount of payments of £3 3s. per annum and the payments of have at society's income if Mr. Sorabji will ascertain how much of conditions in the series in the present of the general grounds of objection to the methods the present of the general grounds of objection to the methods to the payers of the society is enormous. It would interest payers of the society payers of the payers of

Says In your issue of January 2, Mr. Roland Berrill the The article on Joan in the new fourteenth edition of Encyclopaedia Britannica ' is an excellent example

of the inferior nature of that publication and of the silly way in which it has been edited. The article accepts Joan's 'Voices' with full religious faith-surely a little out of place—but denies her the gifts of prophecy and telepathy. This is not only inconsistent, it is precisely the opposite of what is more probable."

The name of Mr. Roland Berrill is unfamiliar to us and we

know nothing of his claims to scholarship on the subject of

Ioan of Arc.

But you will perhaps permit us to say that the biography of Joan of Arc which he dismisses with such airy assurance is, as the initials at the end indicate, by Pierre Champion, one of the accepted French authorities on the life of the Maid of Orleans and the author of the " Procès de Condamnation de Jeanne d'Arc."

This fact may be left as a sufficient comment on his entirely gratuitous reference to the editorship of the Encyclopaedia Britannica in general.

The Encyclopaedia Britannica Co., Ltd.,

W. FRANKS, Manager.

Sir,—The interesting contribution by Mr. Roland Berrill appearing in the New Age of the 2nd inst. merits, I think, some comment.

The article contains much that is original and instructive.

It is an essay to commit to memory.

As a zealous reader who has devoted time and thought to the study of the unique "Maid of Orleans," I "prick my ears" at Mr. Berrill's statement "that no sober historian has yet thought it worth his while to let us have a book on Joan of Arc."

I cannot believe that your contributor is not conversant

with M. Anatole France's epic, "Joan of Arc."

If this rare and sympathetic work is not history, then surely history is without form and void! There is, too, in French, an exhaustive bibliography of

In contrast to M. France's volumes may be noted Mark Twain's beautiful romance, "Joan of Arc." Highly coloured though Mark Twain's graphic book may be, shall we deny the eminent American the mantle of a lesser historian? torian?

I have read Mr. Shaw's "Saint Joan" with much

interest.

That it is a fine play, of great power and originality, is

not to be denied.

Mr. Belloc's "Joan of Arc" I shall not leave unread. In conclusion, we may recognise as sound Mr. Berrill's view that "Joan's body had been touched by a cold finger. No sacrifice was too great that would conceal the tragedy of her physiology."

ner physiology.

There is rare insight in this analysis of the Maid's physi-

There is rare insight in this call and mental equipment.

But when the critics have done their worst there will, I believe, always emerge a simple and heroic woman, whose hold upon humanity is, perhaps, immortal!

"They whom the gods love die young!"

CHARLES F. S. BARKER.

ANSWER TO CORRESPONDENT.

R.A.—The reason why we have not dealt with the events in Siberia and South America, to which you refer, is because we have no information on either of them. With regard to Hattersley's "This Age of Plenty," the publishers are Sir Isaac Pitman and Sons. The story that it is out of print in all processes. print is all nonsense.

BONE-SETTING AT THE CITY TEMPLE.

On the evening of Thursday, January 16, the City Temple was packed to the doors. Mr. A. E. Kennard, the most famous of modern bone-setters, was giving a lecture followed by a demonstration of his science of healing. In full lowed by a demonstration which included many doctors and surview of an audience which included many doctors and sur-geons, Mr. Kennard treated cases of tennis elbow, Colles's geons, Mr. Kennard treated cases of tennis elbow, Colles's fracture, dislocations of many joints with their consequent adhesions, and rheumatoid arthritis. In every case his treatment brought relief, and in several complete cure. In the course of his lecture he reterred to the necessity for more bone-setters and more free clinics, and deplored the economic and other conditions which militated against them.

"With regard to proposals that were made in the form of definite promises, as in the case of increased unemployment benefit, no suggestion of postponement for financial reasons was mentioned.—Rt. Hon. F. W. Jowett, M.P., in the Bradford Pioneer, December 6, 1929, referring to Labour's programme at the last election.

JANUARY 23, 1930

CHEST DISEASES

" Umckaloabo acts as regards Tuberculosis as a real specific." (Dr. Sechehaye in the "Swiss Medical Review.")

"It appears to me to have a specific destructive influence on the Tubercle Bacilli in the same way that Quinine has upon Malaria." (Dr. Grun in the King's Bench Division.)

If you are suffering from any disease of the chest or lungs spasmodic or cardiac asthma excluded—ask your doctor about Umckaloabo, or send a postcard for particulars of it to Chas. H. Stevens, 204-206, Worple Road, Wimbledon, London, S.W.20, who will post same to you Free of Charge.

Readers, especially T.B.'s., will see in the above few lines more wonderful news than is to be found in many volumes on the same subject.

A consecutive introductory reading course in Social Credit is provided by the following sets of pamphlets:-

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Social Credit in Summary (1d.). The Key to World Politics (1d.) Through Consumption to Prosperity (2d.). The Monetary Catalyst (1d.).

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Comprising: Set "A" above.

The Veil of Finance (6d.). Post free, is. the set.

CREDIT RESEARCH LIBRARY, 70, High Holborn,

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 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 face to face with the alternatives of widespread unemployment of men and machines, as at present, or of international complications arising from the struggle for foreign

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 fon 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 currency, higher prices, higher wages, higher costs, still higher prices, and so on. The essentials of the scheme are the 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.

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