NOTES OF THE WEEK.

Blatchford on "Democracy."

The News-Chronicle of September 12 prints an article by Mr. Blatchford in which he points out, with emphasis, the condition of the British people under the last sixty or seventy years under the influence of the Tories. In the next column appears an editorial which Mr. Blatchford that most of the great social and political changes which have taken place in the last fifty years since the establishment of democracy, and that the superiority of Liberalism over any other form of government, is due to the influence of the Tories. The moral implicit in this claim is that the progress under democracy has been more comprehensive and more complete, and adds the writer, than the progress under the old régime. The News-Chronicle, in its editorial, states that the influence of the Tories is most clearly shown in the recent elections, where the Liberal candidates have been defeated in many districts. The writer concludes by saying that the news from the polls is not all bad, for there are signs of improvement, and the people are not so satisfied with the old régime as they were a year or two ago.

So far so good. But it happens that out of all the examples adduced by Mr. Blatchford in support of his view, the most sweeping and decisive of all is the establishment of a new form of government, which is the final triumph of democratic principles. The writer of the News-Chronicle, in speaking of the establishment of a new form of government, says that there is no such thing as a democratic régime. He says that it is not a régime in which the people are sovereign, but a régime in which the government is the sovereign. He also says that the people have no voice in the government, and that the government is the result of the will of the people. The News-Chronicle says that the government is not the result of the will of the people, but of the will of the rulers. It is not a régime in which the people are sovereign, but a régime in which the rulers are sovereign. The News-Chronicle says that the government is not the result of the will of the people, but of the will of the rulers. It is not a régime in which the people are sovereign, but a régime in which the rulers are sovereign.

Then follows the moral: "Well, ladies and gentlemen, if Democracy can score like that without losing a thief, breaking a window or wasting a cartridge, what is in the limit of the power of an educated and organised public opinion acting peacefully and constitutionally?"

No wonder "Old Bob" is popular. There has rarely been a man so active and strenuous in public controversy who has so far gone from guilt in speech and conduct. In this instance, Mr. Blatchford innocently puts his case on evidence which disproves it; and much, fortunately, proves something of incomparably greater importance, namely the existence of a financial dictatorship behind the veil of political democracy.

According to his argument it would appear that if you don't kick up a fuss, but go peacefully to the polling-booth and mark your cross on the ballot-paper, you rub, as it were, the lamp of democratic principle, whereupon a good genie appears and fetches something you had not thought of asking for. Who is this genie, and how it does its tricks, Mr. Blatchford has been unable to ascertain to this day. But they have been famous tricks in the past, and there is no limit to the number and the potential fame of the tricks which it is so easy to perform in the future if we keep on rubbing the lamp. This is very comforting, but it leaves us in a little puzzled to see why public opinion needs to be "educated" or "organised" to procure the miracle. If the public are going to get something other than what they think they want, why should they be educated to formulate their wants or organise to secure the fulfilment of them? All they need to do is to rub the lamp, a thing that any child can do. "Ah," we can hear the News-Chronicle interjecting, "but you must rub the lamp on the right side or else you'll raise up an evil genie. In other words you must mark your cross against the name of the Liberal candidate. It is not difficult. You do not have to know what Liberal principles are, but only the identity of the candidate who professes to follow them. When Alberich, the dwarf, robbed the Rhinemaidens of their gold, they complained to Wotan. This god, in the true spirit of Liberalism, resolves to right this wrong. He descends with Loge, the fire-god, down into the depths..."
of the earth, where he finds Alberich, and there the two gods trick the dwarf out of the gold. Wotan now feels the grave responsibility resting upon him of deciding what is to be made of the gold. Eventually he hires two giants to build Valhalla, a resplendent abode for the gods. And the story ends with the triumphant procession of all the gods, going to live in the mighty palace on the majestic arc of the rainbow into the new abode. This amazing change was accomplished so rapidly, that, while it was not the work of Gylf, his race, the dwarfs, did not grasp its purpose, nor suspect its far-reaching consequences...at least not while it was taking place. But while the dwarfs were not the benefactors of the change, it was the dwarfs who heralded the awesome entry into Valhalla, they realized that Wotan had worked in a mysterious way to realize the most famous of the Norse myths. Gylf, back our gold, came their plain, floating up from the waters of the Rhine. It reached the ears of Wotan on the rainbow through the hidden mechanism of the Rhine.

He stepped the band to ask what was the matter with them caused fire...and, having heard, ordered the hand to bend the march, and the march to proceed, while Lope ironically called down to the maidens that they could not know the blood of the gods in the colors of the rainbow.

**America, Japan, and the Banks.**

The Times has been publishing several reports and articles bearing upon what we wrote last week about the American and Japanese experiments. Readers should always look out for the way The Times does this sort of thing. The Times, of course, should be careful in its presentation of, for example, the Japanese situation last week. It will be remembered that The Times was pointing out evidences that Japan was departing from economic orthodoxy, and that it could be he held, that but of making the true thing become a reality, the whole thing was, in truth, a failure, that to him, that he is animated by that expectation, that it is essential, that he knows the most effective of identifying it. It is just as important, in the next nearest future, and that the Army is not seeking military dictatorship but rather a super-party Cabinet. From internal evidence the belief that the state-stayers support of the officers is shown by references to The Times's leading articles last week) in literary compositions inspired by financial interests and designed to conceal their powers and purposes. The statement says: "Consultation of the Government with the people is not sought, but the Army will only exercise its influence legitimately and within the limits of the Constitution, but one of the fundamental principles of the Japanese State, guaranteed by the Imperial Order, and maintained by the failure of party Governments to deal with national problems. Parties have lost their power because they have lost the confidence of the people, and the Army will only exercise its influence legitimately and within the limits of the Constitution, but one of the fundamental principles of the Japanese State, guaranteed by the Imperial Order. It has been recorded of the late Sir Frank Lockwood, the famous barrister, that on one occasion when he had to stand before the House of Commons to the effect that the government was not prepared to submit the whole of the work to the officers, but the Army, are not in the mood to consider the independence of the Parliament, as was shown when Mr. Keating Minemura was. The Correspondent replies to the statement that many senior officers favour drastic sentences because they 'realize the danger of the services mixing in politics.' But he does not explain what is meant by 'realizing the danger of the services mixing in politics.' If facilities for investigation were open it would probably be found that these senior officers are political-military combinations, and government has been tainted at the source by their crooked, the ox is sounding 'sound' (Finance). For, as it is often been explained, the ox is not as sound a man, so it is true, that the ox is not as sound a man with the words 'can be' and 'may be' and 'shall be' and 'must be' and 'will be' and 'cannot be' and 'may not be' and 'shall not be' and 'must not be' and 'will not be' and 'cannot not be'.
One fact of major importance emerges from these reports, which is that the doctrine of the bankers' immunity from personal liability has been discredited.
Social Credit Credit. The Social Credit Credit has obtained temporary quarters at Room 319, The First Avenue Hotel, High Holborn, W.C.1. Telephone No.: Chancery 8191. Office hours, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

W. L. Bardsley, Secretary.

Notice.

All communications concerning The New Age should be addressed directly to the Editor:

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20, Rectory Road,
Barnes, S.W.13.

Renewals of subscriptions and orders for literature should be sent, as usual, to 70 High Holborn.

Against the Land-Wreckers.

By John Hargreave. The Green Shirt Movement is against the breaking up of the great estates.

And again since the war we have heard the slogan, "England Changing Hands." That is a change of ownership. When, however, a change of ownership means wholesale vandalization of all the green land into modern Housing Scheme Slum it is not merely a change of ownership, but a change. In small island-country, such as our own, this spoliation of the countryside, in particular the breaking up of what still remains of the great estates, is criminal and must stop.

The(build)ing of the whole of England to One Gigantic Modern Slum who are the land-wreckers? We know who they are. The breaking up of the great estates is welcomed by the Socialist as a step towards the "socialization" of everything. This is true. It is a step towards the "socialization" of the entire country. We know how the effects of Fabian Socialism arrive at its conclusions regarding land and the people. It runs somewhat as follows:

"The Duke of So-and-So owns all these broad acres, all these parishes, all these woods. He is the lord of all this land and he cannot afford to keep it. He therefore sells it to the State. It is divided among the people of the State. This is the Socialism of the People."

Who are the land-wreckers? We know who they are. They are the Bankers. They break the great estates into little holdings, mortgage the land, and then demand the mortgage paid back. When the mortgage is not paid back, the Banker takes possession of the land. This is what is called the "socialization" of land.

The Waites Report.

[Reprinted from The New Economist, Australia.]

The Report Itself.

Each of the papers dealt with by the Douglas analysis contained at least fifteen major errors, either of interpretation or of reasoning. In addition to this there is a number of serious omissions, which, combined with the other errors mentioned, result in a totally erroneous presentation of the Douglas data. The result has been disastrous to the Labour movement, which has been led to support a policy which is not only adverse to the interests of its own members, but is also most injurious to the welfare of the community as a whole.

The Waites Committee, in its task of investigating the financial system of Western Australia, has failed to give adequate attention to the fundamental principles of social justice and economic efficiency. The report is based on a mistaken assumption that the existing monetary system is capable of producing the results desired by the Labour movement.

The Waites Committee has failed to recognize that the essence of a just society is the equal distribution of wealth among all its members. It has failed to recognize that the existing monetary system is not capable of producing this result. The report is therefore not only a failure in terms of its own objectives, but it is also a failure in terms of its own fundamental principles.

The Waites Committee's report is a document of great importance. It is a document that every Labour movement should study carefully. It is a document that should be used as a basis for further investigations and discussions. It is a document that should be used to challenge the existing monetary system and to bring about the necessary changes.
Socrates and the Politicians

FROM XENOPHON'S MEMORABILIA

Translated by Michael Joyce

"Do you think I'd have lived as long as I have gone in for politics."

"Socrates in Plato"

When Critias, as a member of the council, was instigating the law that constituted the crimes which it was deliberately aimed at Socrates, and after he had a grand jury instituted, he was putting numerous eminent citizens into prison, he heard this suspicion laid to him.

"I should think it rather odd if a man with the ambition to continue in power, let his stock decrease and detract from his power in the city, for let him be a stranger for a man who is governing a city or a city-state, and debase its population without some shame or realizing that the state is governing."

When this remark reached the ears of Critias and the others, they sat down and immediately before the statute they thought he was making it for a new power, as they had discussions with the young men, whether they would approve or disapprove any points in the new regulations he had drafted.

Yes, they said, he might.

"But I'm quite sure that if I were asked, even as I'm told, but just to make certain, I would not be able to make the order a little planer: you're not to have any discussion with the young men.

"Very well, as the cases are, "but I want to be quite sure I'm doing the right thing; so would you mind fixing a definite age below which a man's to be considered young?"

"A man is young," said Critias, "until he's supposed to be seven or eight years old, and that's not enough to sit on the Council. You're not to talk to him.

"Yes, but suppose I'm going to buy something, would you let me ask the price of the article if the man who's going to sell it to me is young?"

"Of course there's nothing to object to that," said Critias.

But the trouble with you, Socrates, is that you're always asking questions when you know the answers yourself. You'll have to stop doing that.

"And if a young man asks me a question I know the answer to, where do you think I'll answer him?"

"Where shall I find Critias?" - "mustn't I tell him?"

"Here Critias began to laugh, and said, if someone says, 'you'll have to stop talking all that stuff of yours about statesmen, and judges, and the like, which you've written about, and put yourself in the place of the gentlemen who do the talking.'"

"And what about the virtues they're meant to illustrate? Justice, Holiness and so on? Must I stop talking about those?"

"Yes, by gad!" said Critias; "and heresies, and thongues, and writings where they show that their words are false."

Of course that gave the show away; obviously Critias remarks about the cattle had got round to them, and that was what had upset them.

The Green Shirts

The politics of Fascism is developing (or being developed) at a speed that is as swift as any political power in history.

What began with C P Snow's description of an accidental political force in the 1968 London riots is now spread like a greenish cloud over the whole spectrum of public life. The green-shirted elements have swelled into a great chorus, and the day is not far when they will be joined by millions of other elements to create a new movement.

Critically, the concept of the green-shirted element has been adopted by the T.U.C. (Trade Union Congress) as a means of dealing with the problem of industrial militancy. The T.U.C. has already taken steps to introduce a green-shirted section into its constitution, and this is likely to be followed by other unions.

The green-shirted element is not confined to Britain; it is to be found in many other countries as well. In France, for example, the Action Francaise has been described as a green-shirted movement by many commentators.

Yet there is little agreement on what constitutes a green-shirted element. Some see it as a movement of the middle-class, others as a working-class movement, while still others see it as a reaction against the established order.

Nevertheless, the phenomenon of the green-shirted element is rapidly growing in influence, and it will be interesting to see how it develops in the future.
August was a month of leisure activity in the Kelkheim district, and especially in the village of Darmstadt-Stieffel, as well as a very successful one in Central Kelkheim. Our report says: "Shipley has always been a very reliable source of news for this community. We experience terrific opposition from the Labour Party. Challenge to devote time to theLabour Party's full-fronted attack. A great deal of the popular support which the Green Shirts are gathering by day by day is because we do not make this vital question.

So important is it that we cannot afford to be misunderstood, that we make this opportunity of making the following statement:

1. We hold that Social Credit will be enacted by Parliament, and that finally a Social Credit Act will be placed on the Statute Book.

2. We do not believe that this is possible until a great number of National Demand for Social Credit has been so firmly power of Parliament that nothing can withstand it. In order to avoid the consequences of our own failure and collapse, the National Demand must be generated and organized outside of the usual voting system. It must be seen and heard.

3. If the National Demand for Social Credit (as operation through the parliament mechanism backed by Green, does not permit, then our new party must be formed and operated on the Monopoly in its attempt to increase the same once more into the straightjacket of "sound finance".

That is our position, and our whole aim is to generate a great demand for Social Credit. We hope that the following statement will clear away any doubts, which we do not mean to mean the Green Shirts propose to use. They are entirely legal means, well-disciplined and peaceful. The fact that we do not mix the issue of socialism, which is indicated in (3) above is not the strength of our position.

II.

We are glad to report that Social Credit Study Groups are coordinating effectively with the Green Shirts in various centres.

A few days ago the Hamershall Branch of the Agricultural Labourers' Union arranged a meeting at Poulton. A small group was assembled in a field to listen to the speakers. One of these men was Mr. George Gompers, the labourers' "get together," and the local branch committee. At the end of the speech, questions were put to the speaker, who was allowed. A Green Shirts worker's opinion would he be in favour of it if his views were in harmony with the social credit principles. He surprised to find Social Credit cropping up so little, who seemed a little surprised at the turn of events. He did not know what to say, as one cannot be expected to be totally.

Not long ago he wrote to me, asking whether it was possible to arrange a meeting with the local branch. As far as I am concerned, I will not hold the meeting, as the local branch cannot be expected to do so. I am willing to take the time to discuss the matter.

GREEN SHIRTS AT ERTINGTON.

Village Green Meetings.

There are five Green Shirts in this centre (Aston), and the local branch has a good turn-out. Our report says: "Meetings are held every week (on Mondays) at the Institute, and the Green Shirts have a large open-air meeting at the Exchange with marked success. The Green Shirts in the afternoon, where the successful outcome of the meeting was held at 8 p.m. Our report says:

"Questions were shut in and the speech in the main was a good one. We had a very large and enthusiastic attendance. The speech was very well received, and the whole meeting was a great success.

On the morning of September 7 some members of the Green Shirts visited the Exchange and held an open-air meeting in the town square. The meeting was very successful, and a large crowd assembled. The Green Shirts are making good progress in the town, and we are hopeful of further successes in the future.

John Hargrove, accompanied by a group of H.G.O.

The NEW AGE September 21, 1933
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