NOTES OF THE WEEK.

United States Labour Policy.

Mr. William Green, the President of the Australian Federation of Labour, now in convention in San Francisco, has announced that the 30-hour week is the paramount purpose of Labour, and that if the Government or the industrialists put obstacles in the way of this policy the Federation will proceed to enforce it by strike. He is backed by the unanimous vote of the delegates. The object of the policy is to absorb into industry some of the ten million still outside, and, thus, as Mr. Green contends, to expand consumer-demand. Hence, no reduction of wages is to be tolerated—there has got to be a larger collective outflow of wages and salaries into the hands of a larger number of workers.

The theory behind this policy is described by a leader-writer in The Times (October 11), as follows:

"... modern machinery and modern industrial methods make it perfectly feasible to provide for all the wants of the community without anyone working more than five or six hours a day; the failure is not in the supply, but in effective demand, and the demand can only be created by employing more people at sufficient wages to enable them to purchase the goods produced and thus to make industry again remunerative."

It is interesting to notice that the writer offers no comment on the fundamental soundness or otherwise of this theory, but simply alludes to some of the practical difficulties of administering it as presenting themselves to the Government technicians. Thus, if wages rise will not price rise?—or if profits fail will not enterprise be contracted and unemployment recur? Again, how can a rate of reduced working time be applied to agriculture where the control of working hours is impossible?

Then he turns to what he calls "a more fundamental question, namely, that of the right of collective bargaining." It appears that Section 7 (a) of the National Industrial Act which seemed to establish this right has been construed by certain employers in such a way as to nullify the advantages which Labour had calculated on when supporting it. Such employers adopted the device of promoting what are called "company unions," by means of which they were able to enter into "collective bargaining" with bodies whom they had themselves virtually selected to bargain on their behalf. The workers. Roosevelt is now said to be looking round for a method to stop this by his own letter of the law without causing a breach of the peace agreement on either party. He must find, as The Times puts it, a "working agreement" on the position of the unions, and on the "interpretation of collective bargaining."

We suggest that it would be more to the point to arrive at the interpretation of the word "fundamental."

Readers will remember our analogy of the animals on hot bricks trying to climb on each other's backs to get off the floor. Well, here we have the fundamental problem. Obviously it is to cool the bricks, for that would stop the struggling and at least restore the bargaining spirit. These bricks correspond to the collective bargaining. This is a technical aspect. The corresponding political fact is that the people in control of this system are never mentioned in any legislative provisions for "collective bargaining." Capital and Labour are left to form the system. In the hands of the banker, who has got all the time in America, they are beginning to understand that money for industry product of banks and bankers' purchases of Government securities, but they are not aware that an increase in the number of monetary values is automatically attended by a corresponding contraction in the purchasing-power of each token when in the hands of
the consumer. The number can be as high as you like, but incomes would lag behind prices all the same; which means that the struggle between the capitalists as cost-recoverers and the workers as cost-defrayers must be perpetual and abortive. Naturally it is part of the problem to attribute the dilemma to the fact of the struggle itself. That is what they mean by calling it “fundamental.”

Full as strikes must be as instruments of advance on a wide and permanent scale, they are relatively to their dimensions, more efficient means of useful publicity than are elections. Useful publicity is that which focuses attention on domestic economic issues to the exclusion of international politico-idealist. The General Strike of 1926 was an excellent peg on which to hang the Social Credit moron, and many veteran advocates will remember. And if anything in the nature of a general strike occurs in the United States it will act as a stimulus for the pulling of the same moral still further. For whereas in the trade-unionists of America has no such origin, but on the contrary has emerged in the last few years under the title of the distribution of subsidies all round. That is to say, the leadership of the workers remain just as acute a police problem as in any country as a policy of compensation and inflation as they are under a policy of credit contraction and deflation. And it would be the same under a policy of any great and unwise policy. And if anybody can define what the Social Credit Analysis expects and is ready to come to plain to workers who are ready to listen. Unfortunately the time when the workers’ grievances are most acute is the time when they are least disposed to listen to the arguments and advice of a government. Their consideration. They are not disposed to hear about a distant country where they have done nothing—Their feelings demand that antigonists against whom they can bring a plausible indictment—and还有一个——。The employers, they say to themselves, would disappear at the insolvency of sharing power as between shareholders and wage-earners. In the United States it is the employers who must be appealed to for more wages. They cannot be harrassed until they provide them. Even if they fail to go to work, they want at least their letters of work. It is a costly process for workers to form as a substitute, and to pay themselves dividends out of their accumulated sufferings. If they want much more costly in a deeper sense when they want to see the world as a hand-machine-man, and intend to dress them up in the most exaggerated way in order to cooperate with the Social-Credit Section of the eight-hourers, which of course is to point out peculiarities in the structure of the public men that were previously obscure. But there it may be harrassed. Still after the light dies down and the sombre shadows of one more milestone resume their habituation of the structure. Mr. Green, it must be conceded, does uninvitingly stand in a stronger moral position than the strike-leaders of 1926 in this country, but, unlike them, he is ready with an answer to the charge that his strike is an “attack on the community.” In England there was no ques-
record of monetary distribution at all times past in respect of goods now for sale, sets the lowest limit on the price of those goods. If, without damage to the interests of any persons, price could be reduced in respect of these goods to equivalents with those names, there would be no urgent problem remaining to be solved. Social Credit claims to prove that this can be done, and that the trouble in the world to-day springs from the fact that it is not done.

The impression which the public will get from these schemes of scientific co-operation in the search for a remedy must be that a satisfactory hypothesis has yet to be discovered. And that is why these schemes are in suspense and set in the place of the patronage of International Finance. Social Credit is calmly still in a niche along with other theories in the temple of research as if it had been proved defective on its major reasoning, but was essentially useful in some of its incidentals reasoning. If any true scientific inquirer knows his duty, he will do in his own field what Social-Credit propagandists advocate in the political field, and that is to keep out of these Pied-Piper processes and warn his fellows to do so. They are all about, in towns, and end up at the Bank for International Settlements.

Judge Crawford's Retirement.

Last Friday in the Hall of the Inner Temple two presentations were made to Judge Crawford on his retirement from the Bench before a representative company of legal congregations and friends. Regrets were expressed at his departure, and these will be shared by those of our readers who recall occasions, recorded in these pages, in which he showed himself such a solicitous protector of the public interest, above all a defender of poor men and the public in respect of compensation for injury sustained in the course of employment. Judge Crawford was not satisfied, personally to authorise terms of compensation merely because the workman had agreed to the offer made by the insurance company, but he exerted his creation on his own view of the merits of the cases. On one occasion, it will be remembered, he was handed an agreement, no less than seven pages long, one more of its fragments, torn into and hurled them from the Bench among the ducking and dodging lawyers and officials, saying to the solicitor who had presented it: "Come back with a proper agreement."

If it had only been possible for De-partmental proceedings to come within the jurisdiction of his Court we should have had some stimulating occasion to add to our record of his attitude. How refreshing it is to find in these days a dispenser of justice who stands between the individual and the capacity of the custodians of mass finance. It is strange, too, that his own capacity of service was by any means exhausted; but the fact of high-politics decided that he must go—and no one who reads these pages will be surprised at it. The old-style sagacity and integrity characteristic of veteran judges are de-moted by the "New Despotism." Judge Tobin declaimed heatedly against last week when he found himself obliged to endorse by judgement a fine of £50 imposed on a bureaucrat in some private room on a man for selling milk contrary to the regulations of the Milk Marketing Board. "Have I the power to vary the amount of the fine?" he asked in so many words, but was told that he had not. And so it goes. In due time judges will cease to protest: their complaints will not alter policy above, nor produce reactions against it among the public, who get no direction from the Press in detecting and assessing their numerous encroachments on liberty and property. Pondering on the retirement of Judge Crawford the fancy crosses our mind how pleasant it would be if, following the precedent of private chapels and private theatres attached to the castles and mansions of nobilities, we could imagine a judge having a private court of his own in which he could continue his voluminous letter-writing. We know the answer—sanctions of force and other perversions, but we can still indulge the fancy because we have a clear picture of the time—perhaps not long hence—when the judgments of a wise man will be their sanction from the respect and confidence which legislators repute in its name.

Electoral Reform.

It may be a coincidence, but during the week past The Times has been giving a run to correspondence on (a) electoral reform and (b) the coming of an easing of party restrictions on private members. Pondering on the retirement of Judge Crawford the fancy crosses our mind how pleasant it would be if, following the precedent of private chapels and private theatres attached to the castles and mansions of nobilities, we could imagine a judge having a private court of his own in which he could continue his voluminous letter-writing. We know the answer—sanctions of force and other perversions, but we can still indulge the fancy because we have a clear picture of the time—perhaps not long hence—when the judgments of a wise man will be their sanction from the respect and confidence which legislators repute in its name.

The Johns Courtney Star on Social Credit.

The Star of September 28, on the page devoted to "Ministry, Finance, and Commerce," prints the following:

"Douglas Social Credit. Failure of appeal to Australi-ans. None of forty candidates elected. One of the features of the Australian election has been the com-plete failure of the Douglas Social Credit candidates, of whom there were forty. Not one seat was gained. The basis of the Douglas system of social credit is the creation and distribution of a national dividend."

The Star then gives particulars of the Scheme for Scotland. "After which it says in a concluding passage:

"In this scheme of social credit the Australian elec-tors have displayed no capacity to assume the role of pioneers, and perhaps they are not altogether to blame."

The Star is probably the most widely read evening paper in the United States.

Social Credit in the Press.

As announced in these pages recently the Bank Officer repeats its piece "For the Time Being" for this month our article "The Cost of Living," which appeared on September 6. The central theme of the article was the proposition that the cost of living is the result of the quality of goods being inflated in price. After the Bank Officer comments on the Banking of the Cost of Living, it says: "We think, the closest association of salaried men to lend an ear to the claims of Social Credit,4 according to the Local Government Officers' Association might be able to dispute this statement."

Turning to general newspapers we find that a word may be said about the Nottingham Guardian, whose editor makes a fine example of enterprise, independence and public spirit by his consistent and generous criticisms of the Social-Credit case to be advertised in the Press. Our esteemed friend Mr. J. S. Kirkland, who is the Social-Credit case to be advertised in the Press. Our esteemed friend Mr. J. S. Kirkland, who is the editor and publisher of the Nottingham Guardian, has long been one of the most zealous in the campaign for Social Credit, and his weekly paper is one of the most useful and practical of the weeklies. We hope to see the good work continue, and there is no doubt that in time to come the Nottingham Guardian and its editor will find a higher place in the record of public service than any of the imposing national newspapers and journalistic magazines.

My !

"The Queen Mary was launched last night. Call her this 26th day of Nov. to the joy of many who will slip the Queen Mary out of the lock at Beith to the King of Kings—Yours, etc., etc." [Message circuited to The Times recently.]

Our Rules.

"This unattainable abode of a master, which you will never see..."

But in the case of the servant which... you will see... when the politician receives the favor." [Hilaire Belloc, The Green Overcoat.]

NEW CHAIRMAN FOR BARCLAYS BANK.

Mr. William Pavell Dale, deputy chairman, has been elected chairman of Barclays Bank, Limited, in succession to the late Mr. Frederick R. Conder Goodenough, and Mr. Frank Schmidt, junior vice-chairman, has been elected deputy chairman of the bank.

The Times, October 12.
The Constitution of the Movement.

In the spring of 1935 a Social-Credit Conference was held at Swanwick, and was concerned with the question of whether the Movement should be organised on a national or provincial basis. It was generally agreed that the Movement should be organised on a national basis, and it was decided to hold a conference at the New Age Theatre in London on April 9, 1935, to discuss the question of whether the Movement should be organised on a national basis, and to consider the possibility of applying for registration as a political party.

The conference was attended by a number of leading members of the Movement, including J. G. H. Wells, W. E. H. Bradbury, and A. E. Housman. It was decided that the Movement should be organised on a national basis, and that the name of the organisation should be changed from "Social-Credit" to "The New Age Party".

The Constitution of the Movement was approved, and it was decided that the Movement should apply for registration as a political party. The conference was a great success, and it was agreed that the Movement should continue its work and that it should continue to oppose the policies of the government.

The Movement continued to grow, and it was successful in electing a number of members to Parliament. It was also successful in persuading a number of other political parties to adopt some of its policies.

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may have an unbusinesslike look, but no business will survive distrust and antagonism among its members. Trust underlies co-operation.

It is a pity that so little time was allowed at the Conference to the business of the local group. Mr. R. C. B. and Mr. R. W. C. have been stating views in this article, and others in a letter elsewhere, of which there is always the possibility that we may care to discuss the subject of the present article. But it is an important question, and there are two possible explanations: either that propaganda did or, that making a more effective and less difficult that it had been possible to do. If it had been possible, then it is clear that "unorganised"

If the system starts to run smoothly and is powerful, but..."

The Films.


"Godfather." Picture made in "The Terror". This was presented at the Piccadilly in October, and the first full length "no per cent" of all the old, all am made to be paid for, if all the cost..."

"The Terror." Much during the intervening years. His..."

"Have some cake." "No, thank you.""

The chief advantage of organisation lies in the fact that "people's thoughts from the few to the many. In 956, in the..."

"It is not the intention of any member of the drama society, personally..."

We now know of what we are talking about. The same workers to collect, and we are a Privy Council out..."

"When a bolt of electricity fails to..."

The Theatre.

"An Enemy of the People." By Henrik Ibsen. Produced by Eileen Thorndike. Embassy.

If anyone is inclined to believe that Ibsen dates, he should see this admirable revival. A play dealing with the essential stupidity and baseness of human nature, and its hatred of new ideas, can never date, and the splendid of the literal Norwegian tone, the attitude of the local authorities in the matter, the veracity of the Press, and the belief of the editor of the "People's Messenger" that Dr. Stocking is a symptom of a cunningly contrived war. Sir Wilfrid Deane, the journalist of to-day just as it inspired Ibsen to write a play published in 1882.

Dr. Stocking is admirably played by Ronald Adam. Mr. Adam manages the Embassy—a full-time job if ever there was one—and how he also finds leisure to learn a double role is beyond me. It is a record in box-office history, and a score in the file of cast changes. Mr. Peter Sackville; Mr. Sackville is an actor of the older school, and Peter Sackville's influence to the part of the somewhat peevish Major who likes himself so well. Richold Goodwin's Aslanis is perfect; here is an actor..."

"First Nights." By James Agee (The Nicholson and Watson Co. Ltd. 60s.)

"One may not be "unaccountably" the famous figure 'to-day in the field of dramatic criticism,' but "unaccountably" can have a hard time, and theatrical articles between 1592 and 1600 was well worth reading in book form; so much contemporary journalism is so well worth re-reading that one should do so exactly as "unaccountably" a permanent record. I have enjoyed.."

"For every writer to find time to read both The Observer and The Times, I shall be beholden to the latter."

"The authoress of "Shah of Persia," but rather greater sense of humour and a prettier sense of epigram..."

"Dorgael's Corner" was so far from being "the complete article", although the English drama writer..."

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Reviews.

Aspects of Dialectical Materialism. Watts, 5s.

This collection of papers by different hands is an excellent introduction to the official philosophy of Soviet Russia. By far the best contributions, judging by their clarity of thought and expression, are those of Professor Marmur and Mr. E. F. Carr, both of whom are apparently unaware of those who pride themselves on being orthodox Marxists. Whatever its virtues may be, the book lacks a sense of humor, and has been described by the late Mr. J. D. Bernal as descending to calling Professor Marx a buffoon, while Mr. Ralph Fox quotes letters from Russian intellectuals expressing their admiration for the work. It is a pity, therefore, that the book is not more successful in communicating its message.

The World Crisis. By S. Evelyn Thomas. (Simpkin Marshall, 32 pp., 6d.)

This pamphlet surveys the world crisis (or crises) from 1919 onwards, chiefly in relation to the gold standard. It is descriptive, not argumentative. Social Credit students will find it a useful text, as will students of modern economic history. It is particularly the Diary of the World Crisis, on two pages. In this book, much of the earlier work is overlooked, and the argument is not convincing. It is a good introduction to the subject for students of modern economic history.

Forthcoming Meetings.

The New Age Club. [Open to visitors on Wednesdays from 4 to 9 p.m. at the Lincoln Inn Restaurant (dining-rooms), 354, High Holborn. W.C. (South), near the Chancery Lane and Holborn tubes.]

The Green Shirt Movement for Social Credit.


Birmingham Douglas Social Credit Club. C. Leek.


Nottingham (U.K.).

The North-Eastern Branch of the D.S.C. Meeting. Monday, October 14th, 7.30 p.m. in the Council Chamber, 24, The Crescent, Eastgate. Tickets, £1.50. Speaker, Mr. A. E. Brown. Tickets, 3s. 6d. Dress optional. Committee: Tony Pemberton (Chairman), Father soakingly, and others.

Democracy.

A good deal has recently been said about the merits of democracy. I shall not go into that here. However, I should like to say something about the meaning of democracy. In my view, it is important to distinguish between the two senses in which the word is used. There is the sense in which it is used by those who are opposed to the capitalist system and who believe in a society based on the cooperation of all people. There is also the sense in which it is used by those who are in favor of the capitalist system and who believe in a society based on the cooperation of all people. The latter sense is more important for our purposes, as it is the one that is most likely to lead to an improvement in the lives of the working class.

The New Age. October 18, 1934.
In Course of Preparation.

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Editor pro tem, ARTHUR BRENTON.
Editorial Committee in process of formation. Collaboration invited.

Readers are invited to submit:
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2. Names and addresses for the Directory section.
3. Suggestions as to what material (speeches, statistics, historical data, etc.) is best worth placing on permanent record in the Year Book section.
4. Information as to societies and organisations advocating Social Credit or other principles of financial reform. (Date of formation: objects: officers: structure: fees, etc., etc.)

Communications to Arthur Brenton, 29, Rectory Road, Barnes, S.W.13.

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