

THE NEW AGE

INCORPORATING "CREDIT POWER."
ORGAN OF THE NEW AGE SOCIAL CREDIT SOCIETY

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"The New Age."

Notice.

The next official issue of "The New Age" proper will appear on March 31.

In the meantime we want to try the experiment of publishing at weekly intervals single-sheet articles on public questions so written as to possess permanent propaganda value. They will virtually be a series of leaflets on various topics, financial, political, and commercial, which engage the interest of the general public, and are likely to do so recurrently.

Subscribers to The New Age Social Credit Society will receive copies as part of their subscription. The basic number of copies sent to each subscriber will depend on cost. Subscribers who can make use of more than this number for distribution are asked to notify us.

In addition to these "leaflets," occasional special supplements may be issued: one series devoted exclusively to technical matters of interest to students; and the other devoted exclusively to questions affecting the policy of the Movement as a political agitational force. These supplements will appear as and when sufficient money is specially and conditionally subscribed for these purposes by those who attach importance to them.

This principle of separating the three subjects described ought to appeal to every subscriber. Each can use his or her discretion as to which publication it is useful or expedient to distribute, and which not. Only a few of the general public want to read technical discussions or controversies, and fewer still discussions of what the Movement's policy of action ought to be. These subjects are more profitably and expediently reserved for internal consumption. For external consumption the "leaflet" articles are the best agency of propaganda.

The article on the third page illustrates the "leaflet" idea. It can be detached and used separately if desired. Further copies of this article alone are available for any subscriber who wishes to place them anywhere.

For next week the article will be about certain oil-solence-risks. Readers interested please notify us, stating number of copies they can place.

Social Credit Party's Annual Dinner.

We understand from the Convener of the twelfth annual dinner of the Social Credit Party (Green Shirts) that a record attendance is likely, and among those who have signified their intention to be present at the "Three Nuns" Hotel, E.C.3, on Saturday next, March 5, are: Dr. Maude Royden, Sir Elliott Verdon-Roe, Dr. Cofman, and other representatives of the Engineers' Study Group, as well as a number of Social Credit pioneers, including Mr. Arthur Brenton, Major C. F. J. Galloway, Lt.-Commander A. S. Eiwel-Sutton, and Father Demant.

Tickets, at 3s. 6d. each, represent the most remarkable value obtainable in the pre-Social Credit age, and if any are still left are obtainable from Ian A. Ross, 44, Little Britain, E.C.1.

A Crime-Punishment Misfit.

The Case of Mr. Harries Goldstein.

On February 24 the police posted up a notice on the shop of a Mr. Harries Goldstein recording that he had been convicted of exposing bad eggs for sale. This penalty was imposed on him, in addition to a fine of £15, by the Old-street magistrate, Mr. Metcalfe. Its imposition has legal sanction, but it is against the spirit of the law. A person who commits a crime has to be proved guilty to the satisfaction of a judge or jury, and, when convicted, has to be (or, as we must now put it, ought to be) punished through the agency of legal machinery. In this case Mr. Goldstein, having been punished through this agency (by the extraction of £15 from his till) is now handed over to the public for further punishment. The whole object of the notice on the shop is to foment a boycott of the shop by the public. Apart from that object the raking up of a past conviction is an act which, if performed by a private citizen, is illegal, however much it may be considered to have been in the public interest. Further, a person convicted of a crime is entitled to know the limit of his punishment. If Mr. Goldstein's crime was deemed to call for heavier punishment than £15 he ought to have been fined £20, or some other sum, or £15 plus imprisonment for a specific period—or, say, fourpence plus ten strokes of the "cat" with hanging to follow! That is to say, he should have known exactly what the penalty was, and should be able to know when he had paid it. He did not, nor does he yet, know this. He has stated that he may have to close down. He may have, let it be noted. He has to wait and see how far, and for how long, the public will respond to the tacit invitation extended by the law for them to take the law into their own hands. This does not smell too good. In fact, it smells worse than the eggs did.

Again, supposing we agree to pretend this precedent is sound, can one imagine a more grotesque occasion for setting it than the offering of bad eggs for sale? A bad egg promptly confesses its badness to the customer in an unmistakable manner. Even a curate's egg disengages a caveat which only the most absent-minded professor would disregard. No, the precedent should be set in respect of things whose badness is hard to detect, or perhaps impossible to suspect until after irrevocable consequences have set in. For example: typhoid water.

To revert to our main argument. We stand for the old principle of justice, which can be put in this form: Sufficient unto the day of conviction is the publicity thereof. When Mr. Slapdash gets his driving licence endorsed he is not required to display a notice thereof on his car afterwards. A released prisoner is not required to walk about wearing a placard stating that he has been to prison. The guilty partner in a divorce suit does not have to wear the decree absolute on his or her forehead.

The indefinite extension of expiation is a breach of the deepest principle of justice. Further, in the form here imposed, it embodies the subversive element of lynch law.

N.A.T. FIFTH MANIFESTO.

Paragraph 9. Balance, £7 : 4 : 8
Deficiency, £12 : 15 : 4
JAS. GOLDR.

Yes—We Have No—Potatoes.

By John Grimm.

As I ascend—or rather, am ascended by—the escalator at my Tube station day by day, I am taken past a set of framed posters. These posters show me specimens of potatoes cooked in different ways. Nice potatoes, very nicely cooked, they appear to be. The posters tell me that I need more potatoes.

This form of reminder is, of course, familiar to all of us, and in respect of other things as well, such as fruit and milk and tea and so forth. But I like the reminder best in its association with potatoes. I like to hum the refrain: "Yes, I need more potatoes" to the setting, indicated above, of the song: "Yes, we have no bananas—We have no bananas to-day." Try it: it goes well—and much better still if you get together and sing it in chorus.

And, next to the word: *potatoes*, I like the word: *to-day*. For time is the essence of the contract—and to-day is the appointed time. Sufficient unto the day . . . Yes, I need more potatoes, and I need more potatoes to-day.

And there is another reason why the word *potatoes* stimulates my thoughts. It is this: that the humorous writer, Damon Runyon, whom the *Evening Standard* introduced to Londoners last autumn, popularised this word as a synonym for money. So you will understand my light-hearted reaction to those posters which tell me that I need more potatoes. It is a Social Credit message. Do I need more money? I verily believe that I do! And, if that is so, there is no question that it is to-day when I need it.

Let me pause to quote a passage from one of Runyon's stories. It concerns a rich old lady. In Runyon's stories all females are designated "dolls." So now (I quote from memory):

"Well, this old doll has plenty of potatoes. She has so many potatoes that it is painful to think about. In fact, she has all the potatoes in the world, except maybe a few left over for general circulation."

And thus, throughout all his stories, the word *potatoes* crops up whenever disputes and crises concerning money furnish events in the narrative. And that is very frequently indeed, seeing that the narrative is true to life, and that life nowadays floats on overdrafts.

So now, you ought to be infected with the spirit of exhilaration in which I have chosen the title of this article: *Yes—We Have No—Potatoes*. If so, I will proceed further, and enter into a logical mood.

When I am told that I need more physical potatoes but have not got more financial potatoes to exchange for them, it stands to reason that inasmuch as I purchase more physical potatoes I must do with fewer physical alternatives. But with these Marketing Board posters multiplying all over the place there will soon be no commodities at all that I may do without if I am to obey these "eat-more" injunctions at one and the same time.

Here we come back to the time-slug. If I've got to act to-day, then when I Eat More of one thing I must Eat Less of another. What other? The marketing boards never tell me that! If only they would—well we should all see the fur and feathers fly among the would-be providers of the things I'm supposed to eat less of.

So my only practical course is to alternate feasting and fasting in respect of each separate article of diet. I must make myself a time-table. E.g.,

Monday.—Potatoes instead of milk.

Tuesday.—Milk instead of tea.

Wednesday.—Tea instead of potatoes.

Thursday.—All three instead of —

paying income-tax?! You will agree that I'd better not pursue my logic any further along this line. In the interests of sound finance and constitutionalism I had best fall back on the vague principle of "spending wisely."

But I can diverge in a new direction. What about a Potato Marketing Board to market the potatoes that Damon Runyon's characters dispute over? What about posters showing boiled potatoes, fried potatoes, and potatoes baked in their skins? That is figurative. What I mean is pictures of, say, (a) silver coins, (b) currency notes, (c) bank pass-books exhibiting credit balances. Potatoes as variously fancied by (a) the down-and-out, (b) the wage-earner, and (c) the salary earner.

Why, then—oh then—we should stop the escalator to gaze at the posters. Here are the potatoes we need. Let us have these, and we can have everything else at one and the same time: more milk, more fruit, more tea—yes, and to-day, and every day.

Basle Rules The Roast.

Extracts from City articles on the Chamberlain-Edea split.

All current reports of big sterling credits being arranged for Italy, either through the normal London banking channels or through the instrumentality of the Export Credits Guarantee Department, may for the time being be dismissed as without foundation.

London banks reopened certain credit lines to Italian concerns after the lifting of sanctions, but have seen to it that these facilities have not been utilised to any appreciable amount. There is no question of extending such commitments at present, and even though the political relations between the two countries may ease it will need something more concrete in the shape of an improvement in the Italian financial position to render Italian credit operations attractive here.

As for the Export Credits Guarantee Department, it may in the course of its normal commercial operations have underwritten export transactions with Italy since sanctions were lifted, but of substantial operations in favour of Italy, such as those with Soviet Russia and Turkey, there is at present no question.

(City article, *News Chronicle*, February 23, 1938.)

"Trade Expansion Will Be The Test Of New Policy." (Headline to S. W. Alexander's City article in the *Evening Standard* of February 22, 1938.)

"If that (i.e., Mr. Chamberlain's foreign policy) proves right we shall get the international peace and expansion of trade which is so vital to the livelihood of the people of this country.

"We need the export coal trade to get better. and we need an improvement in the cotton trade."

(S. W. Alexander in City article in the *Evening Standard*, February 23, 1938.)

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

OBSCOLESCENCE.

Sir,—I find Mr. Forrest's letter helpful, especially the item in which he refers to the "obsolescence of an undepreciated asset." I know from experience as well as observation that the maintenance of a plant at its full efficiency is no guarantee that it will not be put out of commission by a new plant with greater efficiency. In such an event the investor will certainly expect his money back. So, in the meantime, a prudent management will endeavour to collect a fund through prices in order to pay out the investor in that event, and this management must, of course, make charges additional to those necessary to recover money spent on maintenance.

In fact there could be such a thing as two plants being constructed at the same time by different companies and finished simultaneously, whereupon if one were more efficient than the other, the latter would be obsolescent—out of commission—while absolutely new and undepreciated.

This risk of obsolescence, great as it would be in a closed economic area, is greater still in international trading as carried on to-day. For new factors such as tariffs operate to put various enterprises out of commission irrespective of their intrinsic efficiency. A plant in any country which makes goods for export markets might be the most efficient in the world intrinsically, but yet be put out of commission by being denied access to those markets. In fact, the greater its intrinsic efficiency the more likely it would be to suffer fiscal reprisals from capitalist interests in other countries.

Hence there are both mechanical and political reasons why all companies have to charge more in respect of their capital assets than they expend on maintaining them, and, of course, to charge as much more as they can get while they can get it.

If they neglect to do this a third factor operates, namely, that they find their borrowing-powers cannot be exercised so freely as those of more prudent managements. The banks do not regard them as so good a security for loans. And obviously when the banks get nervous about a company, that operates as a further (not to say final) factor in putting its plant out of commission.

No; maintenance, like patriotism, is not enough.

SALES ORGANISER.

Forthcoming Meetings.

LONDON SOCIAL CREDIT CLUB.

Blewcoat Room, Caxton-street, S.W.

March 4, 8 p.m. "Social Credit and Housing," with illustrations, by Dr. Aubrey Westlake.

THE NEW AGE SOCIAL CREDIT SOCIETY.

BULLETIN No. 1. (First Edition—10/3/38)

Gratis to voluntary distributors.

MANIFESTO.

The New Age Social Credit Society exists to bring about the adoption of the "Douglas 'New-Age' Social Credit Proposals" put forward in 1919 by Major C. H. Douglas, and sponsored from that year onwards by the late A. R. Orage, the then editor of THE NEW AGE, and afterwards by his successor.

Economic Abundance.

These Proposals are primarily based on the proposition that society is now living in an age of Economic Abundance, but is shut out from access to more than a small proportion of it.

Financial Surcharge.

They are derived from Major Douglas's discovery that this restriction of access is caused by the operation of rules designed and imposed on industry by a chartered Monopoly controlling financial credit. These rules compel industry to place a surcharge on the means of life, and thereby to force society to leave unbought a constantly increasing proportion of needed goods and services which otherwise would be bought.

The Abolition of the Surcharge.

The Proposals embody the principle and method for abolishing this surcharge, thereby giving society unrestricted access to the Industrial Storehouse of Economic Abundance. The proceeds of this surcharge do not at present accrue as concrete benefits to any section of society; hence the abolition of the surcharge will not entail loss to any person, however he earns his living, whereas it will confer gain to every member of society without exception.

The Co-ordination of Production and Consumption.

The Social Credit Proposals provide for the control of production-credits and consumption-prices on a national plan of co-ordination which automatically causes the rate of general consumption to increase in direct ratio to society's increasing powers of production. This plan, by reason of its automaticity, bows the Bureaucrat out of the politico-economic scene of action with many thanks for the cessation of his past services!

Psychology of Fear.

Punch publishes a picture showing two little birds comfortably perched on the shoulders of a scarecrow

in the middle of a field. They are chattering with energy; and one is saying to the other: "Do you know, I was nearly frightened to death the first time I saw this thing." Society is like that. It is frightened by the scarecrows of statistics planted by bankers in the fields of economic enterprise. These scarecrows make society regard itself as a trespasser on its own property.

The Key Is Cut.

But the Social Credit Analysis has taken the scarecrow to pieces; and the Social Credit Proposals have cut the key to the lock on the gate of the field.

Now To Turn It.

The New Age Social Credit Society calls on all men and women who desire a better life to demand that their Government shall pick up this key and turn the lock. Let no tricks of figures denoting economic scarcity make them doubt the reality of economic abundance, nor the possibility of its diffusion throughout all classes of the community.

How To Help

Get into touch with the above Society or any of the following organisations:—

The Social Credit Party of Great Britain (The Green Shirts), 44, Little Britain, E.C. (Open every evening from 6 p.m. onwards.)

The London Social Credit Club, Blewcoat Room, Caxton-street, Westminster. (Public meetings every Friday evening at 8 o'clock. Prospectus on request.) Office, Room 353, Grand Buildings, Trafalgar Square, S.W.1.

The New Age Club. Address for correspondence, c/o THE NEW AGE, 12-14, Red Lion Court, Fleet Street, E.C.4. Rota attendance of members on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 6 to 7 p.m., in the Refreshment Lounge (first floor) of Messrs. Mooney and Co., 57, High Holborn, W.C.1 (two doors from the Post Office) to receive inquiries and give information.

For the convenience of inquirers living out of the London area **The New Age Social Credit Society** will receive and deal with initial correspondence at its office, 12-14, Red Lion Court, Fleet Street, E.C.4. Full membership of this Society is 30s. per annum (payable quarterly if preferred) which covers THE NEW AGE and all other publications issued. Auxiliary membership is 5s. per annum, covering copies of the Bulletin and occasional leaflets.

SOCIAL CREDIT LITERATURE.

(Further particulars on request.)

- Books—*Economic Democracy*. C. H. Douglas (3s. 6d.)
 Pamphlets—*Through Consumption to Prosperity* (2d.) *Social Credit in Summary* (1d.) *International Government* (1d.)
 Journals—*The New Age* (Weekly, 7d.) *The New English Weekly* (Weekly, 6d.) *Wealth* (Monthly, 6d.)

FREE CREDITS FOR THE WORKERS.

Labour's New Electoral Bid?

The *Daily Herald* advocates Expansions of Credit to correct Contractions of Employment.

In the *Daily Herald* of February 28, 1938, Douglas Jay, the City Editor, favours the idea of the Government's issuing new money gratuitously to supplement the national wage-fund when employment falls below a certain level.

As this idea may be incorporated in the Labour Party's next electoral programme it is worth examining.

First of all the expansion of credit can have inflationary consequences, no matter whether brought about temporarily and conditionally or permanently and unconditionally. The City Editor of the *Daily Herald* denies this; holding that the making good of a depleted wage-fund by new credits until the wage-fund is replenished, would not cause inflation, whereas, he maintains, the continuous payments of new credits to all persons at all times as contemplated by advocates of Social Credit *would* cause inflation. This distinction has no evidential foundation.

But, leaving technical defects aside (for these can be remedied), the D. H. Plan, so to call it, has some merits. It is humanitarian in spirit, and it is concrete in nature. Furthermore, it implicitly affirms the right of the Government to create and dispense new credit for purposes approved by the electorate. It also seeks to revive the home market as distinct from the provocative policy of capturing foreign markets. It is constructively pacifist.

For these reasons advocates of Social Credit have sympathy with the Plan as a starting-ground. The risk of inflation is not a final reason why they should oppose it; and, if it were, the practical consideration for them is that their opposition would not have any weight if the Labour Party adopted the Plan in its next programme. The important point is that the poorer classes are to be offered more shopping-money when they are hard up. That is something that the workers can understand and vote for—something equivalent to a business proposition.

It will then be up to the Labour Party, if returned, to show that they can work the plan without causing inflation. If not, they will have to choose whether to abandon the plan on that account or enlarge its scope to prevent inflation.

From the point of view of party politics it is important to note that, if inflation can be avoided, the plan need not be a monopoly of the Labour Party, but could consistently be supported by the Liberal and Conservative Parties as well. For if there is more shopping money, and shop-prices do not rise, a greater quantity of goods will be purchasable *provided that they are placed in the shops*. And there is no party whose principles oblige it to oppose the delivery of goods into markets where there is money waiting to buy them. If the goods do not arrive (which might happen) the reason will be a commercial one, not a party one.

If, on the other hand, shop-prices rise, then this rise will constitute a consumption-tax on all shoppers, including those who have not received any of the new credits. Thus the subsidised shoppers will increase their own consumption at the expense of the rest. This will excite party-political jealousies, because it will alter the "balance of sectional prosperities" which each political party exists to swing in favour of its own section.

In short, this plan, if non-inflationary, can be a non-party plan, whereas, if inflationary, it will be a Labour party only, unless (as is not contemplated by Mr. Jay) the new credits are given to everybody alike instead of only to the poorer classes of the community.

This, of course, will not be an objection to the Labour Party leaders if they propose to sponsor the plan in order to win votes from the other parties. In that case they must obviously put forward a plan that other parties are not likely to put forward as well. It is true that Mr. Jay declares the plan to be non-inflationary, but he is no doubt aware that the leaders of the other parties (not to speak of leaders in the Social Credit Movement) will consider it inflationary, and will therefore leave Labour the monopoly of it.

Another consideration now arises. Party programmes at election times are, and must be, omnibus documents, with the result that the meaning of an electoral mandate is difficult to discover. From this point of view it would be a great advantage to those workers who base their hopes on the success of the *Daily Herald's* plan, if the Labour Party were to make it their sole policy, or, at least, the policy which they would *put in front of all other legislation* if returned. For in that case the electorate would know beforehand that there could be no doubt raised about the meaning of their mandate if they returned Labour to power. The shopping-credit would be either the only passenger in the bus or the first passenger off the bus.

If all candidates standing for Labour were to pledge themselves to the plan, *and to its priority over all other planks in their platform*, the electorate would do well to vote for them notwithstanding doubts concerning risks of inflation.

Advocates of Social Credit recognise that it is not possible to put a majority of non-party candidates of their own into Parliament pledged to the non-inflationary Social Credit plan; and, that being so, they are practical enough to see that it is something gained to bring home one leg of their double (as the betting confraternity say). In other words, it is something gained that Labour should recognise and seek to apply the principle of issuing new credits for consumption purposes, and get the electorate to endorse that principle. Then, if inflationary tendencies appear, there is a way to stop them, namely, price-regulation, which is the second leg of the Social Credit double. Extra money is all right provided that unregulated prices do not rise and rob it of spending power.

Precisely because of this snag, advocates of Social Credit would like to see in Parliament at least one representative of their own who knew his subject and who was not committed to speak or vote under the direction of party Whips. Such a member would be there not to destroy, but to fulfil, the object which the *Daily Herald* seeks and hopes to attain by the plan described. He would be a potential rallying centre in case obstruction in the House caused the Labour members to consider abandoning the plan instead of perfecting it.

The Social Credit Movement is familiar with broadsheets entitled *The Voice of Westminster*, *The Voice of Belfast*, and "Voices" of other centres. These are printed voices, outside Parliament. We now want a speaking voice inside Parliament—in other words:—

A VOICE AT WESTMINSTER.

TREASURY PLANS FOR SOCIAL CREDIT?

Social Credit in War Time.

A correspondent suggests that the New Age Social Credit Society should distribute THE NEW AGE through a wider field than is represented by its fully-paid membership. This policy is already being carried out. Copies of THE NEW AGE containing articles of public importance, technical or political, are despatched gratuitously from our office every week to influential persons or bodies thought likely to be interested in them. This service can be extended indefinitely if adequately financed. In the meantime it is being carried on to the best of our ability. We concentrate on familiarising leading figures in politics with the Social Credit viewpoint on public affairs, and, just as important, key men in the administrative services. Some among both these classes are fully-paid subscribers and get copies regularly. The others are served intermittently, according to the subject-matter of the contents of the various issues.

THE NEW AGE finds its way into the State Departments of every important country in Europe, as well as China and Japan. And what happens to it in these places is undoubtedly the same as what we know happened in the early days of the Movement, namely that it is scrutinised and digested by experts. We know that the Ministry of Labour had a very clear synopsis of the Social Credit Theorem and Proposals prepared in this manner at the time that we speak of. That document was, and no doubt still is, tucked away in a pigeon-hole. But it is ready to hand when wanted. Probably, by now, it has grown into a dossier. For it must be remembered that Government experts cannot afford to miss any points relating to problems of government. Though formally excluded from the function belonging to Ministers (not to say Dictators) they have to father them—they have to answer children's questions in children's language.

When Lord Derby told Disraeli: "You will be the Chancellor of the Exchequer," Disraeli objected: "I know nothing about finance."

"You know as much as Canning knew."
"They will give you the figures," was Lord Derby's reply.
In other words: Father will guide you!

Sixteen years ago we pioneers of the Movement got a thrill out of an article that appeared in the *Pictorial Weekly* entitled: "Money: A Scheme That Will Take Your Breath Away." The "Scheme" was Social Credit. The writer, who signed himself Jack Cherry, described it, and towards the end of his article (covering three pages) he said:

"Alternative plans for the practical distribution of a national dividend have been worked out in concrete detail, and, to let the cat out of the bag, I can say for a fact that one of these plans has been receiving expert official consideration at the Treasury for some months—since shortly after the crisis in last August, in fact." (The issue of the *Pictorial Weekly* in question was that dated August 27, 1932.) Continuing, he said: "I can go even farther and say that the official view is that in the event of the economic situation reaching the point of emergency, the plan will in all probability be adopted."

The writer proceeded to outline two alternative plans, one for the Dividend and the other for the Discount. Whether these plans were reproduced from official documents or reconstructed from official information is a matter of conjecture. But it does not matter much. The important thing is the fact that he stated that plans were in existence for use in an emergency, and that the Treasury had caused them to be prepared. And his statement was antecedently probable.

Now, bearing in mind (a) that the Treasury is identical with the Bank of England; (b) that the Governor of this Bank is in constant, close contact with the heads of other central banks, and (c) that these heads enter

freely into each other's counsels on matters affecting the fundamental principles of finance with the view of devising and maintaining uniformity of basic policy, it is highly probable that emergency plans embodying Social Credit principles are pigeonholed in every Treasury (or central bank) in the four Continents.

The next point is that the existence of such plans is not unknown to the War departments of those Governments.

The next point is that there are accumulating signs of an emergency of at least as great magnitude as that which scared the Bank of England off the gold standard in 1931. If the conflicting interests of the various national capitalist groups can be temporarily accommodated by give-and-take adjustments following diplomatic "talks," well and good. But the heads of the national War departments are invested with the responsibility for backing the national capitalist interests by force of arms if these "talks" should fail. They know that if another great war breaks out it will impose on combatants and non-combatants alike the most searching test of morale that they have ever undergone in civilised times.

For reasons self-evident to all who have grasped the Social Credit analysis, the nation at war which first applies its principles will gain a perceptible if not final advantage over its enemies. If the heads of War departments are aware of this (which is probable because financial technicians in the Treasuries are likely to have discussed the subject with them off duty) they will each be anxious to try out this new psychological factor of military efficiency before any of the others do so.

What will be the position of the central banks, severally and collectively, if they fail to prevent war breaking out? Well, collectively they can be counted on to have done everything in their power compatibly with retaining the system they now run to prevent the war. What will they then have left to hope for. The answer is to see the war end in a stalemate. But this collective hope they cannot possibly avow when separately brought (as they would be) into consultation with the heads of their national War departments. Stalemate is not the policy of the soldier—and, in war, what the soldier says goes. If the central bankers want stalemate, their only chance of bringing it about is by arranging, in anticipation of the contingency of war, to allow Social Credit to be adopted by all the War departments at one and the same time, whichever side they are on, thus equalising the advantage as between the two allied warring groups.

But it may reasonably be hoped that if all the Powers went Social Credit to win the war on their several accounts they would not be long in realising that they could wind up the war on their joint account. There are high class brains in every country which would quickly realise how the Social-Credit mechanism producing destructive morale under war conditions could be converted to the production of constructive morale under peace conditions—the morale enshrined in personal economic security and cultural expansion. Why not? Your soldier is a dreamer. Where he goes wrong is that he feeds on bankers' doctrines and gets nightmare. Show him a glimpse of the right doctrine at work and he will be for it more quickly than the arm-chair intellectual pacifist and philanthropist.

Well, in saying these things we may be dreaming ourselves. Never mind, to tell the dream of good things to come may help the dream to become true. For the rest we must plod along, casting about the seed of our message with a prayer that it will sprout in some new head and new heart, maybe in the hovel of Lazarus or the mansion of Dives.

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