

# **PRINCIPAL CONTENTS:**

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NEWS • VIEWS • COMMENTARY



# Food for the Starving in Spain

# Scope for a United World Effort

#### WHY SHOULD NOT THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS ENLIST THE HELP OF EVERY COUNTRY IN THE WORLD ON THE ONE THING EVERYONE EVERYWHERE WOULD AT ONCE AGREE TO SUPPORT?

IN Spain war has been raging for twoand-a-half years, and the civilian population is suffering privation,

Food and all the ordinary comforts of life are short.

Shops in the great towns like Barcelona are empty; queucs of shivering, half-starved people line up for rations that mean only slow starvation.

Meantime other countries are wrestling with the problem of too much plenty-of how to increase their exports-of what to do with their surpluses.

Well, why not send them to Spain? Already a plan has been announced by the Acting Secretary of State for the U.S.A., Mr. Sumner Welles, to supply American surplus wheat for distribution impartially to both sides in Spain.

The Surplus Commodities Corporation will sell wheat to the American Red Cross at a nominal price, and it will be transported as ballast free of charge by vessels owned by the United States Maritime Commission.

Commodities Corporation has The 500,000 bushels of wheat available, representing 100,000 barrels of flour a month for the next five months; and by that time plenty more could be available.

Since August the American Red Cross, using the Society of Friends' Service Committee as its agents in the field, has distributed 60,000 barrels of flour to women, children and other civilian refugees on both sides in Spain. The Red Cross also

# FOREIGN STAMPS A Source of Revenue

THOSE of our readers who live abroad especially in the British Colonies-or who receive letters from abroad, are requested to collect and send to us the stamps from the envelopes.

Those who are in a position to make office collections are specially asked to

co-operate. Don't attempt to dismount the stamps; just tear off the corner of the envelope and post the accumulation periodically. Small quantities or even odd stamps enclosed with correspondence are very

welcome, Pictorials and high values are specially desirab'e.

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arranged for the distribution of surplus coffee from Brazil.

Mr. Sumner Welles has expressed the hope that other countries with surplus agricultural stocks would give them, so as to prevent "widespread starvation and disease."

It should be noted that this is not an appeal for money-which means sacrifice purchasing power that ought properly of to be spent in the home market for home benefit-but for the good use of surpluses rather than their destruction or restriction as at present.

Besides agricultural food, there are surpluses of many other kinds at present embarrassing the industrial countries. Everywhere there are manufacturers who are seeking markets so that they may produce more.

While this state of affairs persists, it is wrong to let anyone go short. And in Spain to-day there is a want which all

humanity, all over the world, would like to fulfil.

Of course, we, in Britain, have our own distressed areas and our slums, where poverty is acute; but these are our own private affairs. In Spain there is distress which the whole world views with compassion, and to relieve which the whole world would gladly unite.

If all the nations were to begin pouring into Spain all their surpluses, seeking nothing in return, they would not only solve their own chief problem of export markets, but they would also accomplish an act of universal pacification.

In Spain there would soon be such abundance for the pcople that they would lose all desire to fight one another, preferring to enjoy the plenty that was theirs.

Throughout the world, the chief cause of international friction-the struggle to export in excess of imports - would be removed.

Surely here is a proper function for the eague of Nations? But if the League League of Nations? misses the opportunity, no nation need wait, any more than the U.S.A. is waiting.

# INITIATION

He glanced at the titles of Jim Culley's booklets. One caught his eye -"The Right to be Lazy," translated into English from the French of one Paul Lafargue. . . . He read it again, then put it aside and looked at the ceiling.

The right to be lazy! The right! . . . Podgornik understood the brochure only in spots, and these were far apart; but as remotely as he perceived the writer's argument, he experienced an inner excitation. A vague thrill passed through his entrails. In view of the arduousness and grimness of his labours in the past and the loss of his savings on two occasions, the philosophy of laziness struck him as very charming and worthy of one's thoughtful consideration. His labours, he suddenly realised, had been unproductive for himself of any beneficial results: here he lay, an old man at forty-four, tired, his body broken, his savings gone. No wonder be had lost his money; no wonder a female busybody could get him locked up for three and a half days for carrying upside down a turkey that had been raised to be killed and eaten! He was stupid. His endless labours had made him stupid, a fit object upon which crooks and busybodies might practise their arts.

Suddenly he rebelled against work. Later he told me: "I was so keyed up over this new notion that I sat up and felt no pain in my injured parts, although I was not supposed to move violently. My mind seemed to be flooded with a light-

as if the Holy Ghost Himself had come over with me. I decided that I'd never work again-that is, hold down a job like I used to for twelve or fifteen years. I'd be lazy! Let the others work; they didn't know any better. I laughed out loud. Agnes came in, wondering if I had gone crazy or what. I told her to get to the hell out, shut the door, and let me alone. I was a bit surprised at my own boldness, talking to her that way, and laughed some more. She was sure I had lost my mind and for a while treated me not alone with caution, but with gentleness."—From "Laughing in the Jungle," by Louis Adamic.

### •••••• Good Work !••••••

We wish to express appreciation to the unknown individual who collected five subscriptions which were received in this office last Saturday, followed by another four received last Monday. Thank you. The editor also gratefully acknowledges letters of appreciation from H.T., Nottingham; G.M., New York; E.H., Amersham; M.E., of Le Vesinet; and G.R., Kennington.

# COMMENTARY PRICE OF GAS

### The Greater Shame

T is reported in the press that the German housewite is finding great difficulty in buying coal because of the shortage of supplies owing to the demands of the armament industry.

There is no need for superior sneers in this country. We have plenty of coal, but many people cannot buy it owing to lack of money-a much greater disgrace.

#### A Change for the Worse

"It has been decided to transform Zwiebacks, Vienna's principal women's dress shop, in the Karnerstrasse, into the headquarters of the Vienna City Savings '-Daily Telegraph, December 30, Bank." 1938.

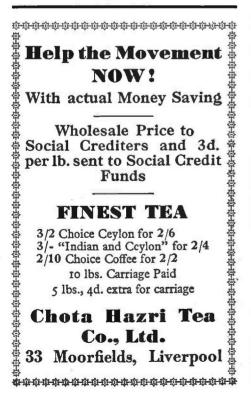
From a dress shop into a debt shop.

#### **A** Square Meal Now

After all the banker-inspired ballyhoo about a "Square Deal" for the railways, it is wholesome to hear the commonsense Gemand of the National Unemployed Workers' Movement for a "square meal now."

In "free" Britain those who cannot get work have no statutory right to live.

Incidentally, it is interesting to note the quickness with which the Government decided to meet to discuss how they could help the railways (not merely whether they would help them) compared with the indifference to the starving unemployed. Evidently this is another instance where it is "quicker by rail," or perhaps it was a



wire pulled by one of the bank nominees on the railways' boards of drectors.

### **Goodwill Not Enough**

Mr. Elliott Roosevelt, second son of the President, has sharply criticised Mexico for "expropriating" American oil properties.

Where do the "good neighbour," "good-will," "democracy" and all the other catchwords come in? When it comes to a question of money, the "democratic" and "dictatorship" countries are much the same. Why shouldn't they be? They same. Why shouldn't they be? are both governed by the same World Dictator-International Finance.

The Mexicans are to be congratulated on striking a blow against this archenemy. Atter all, if the Mexicans cannot own the minerals of their own soil, where is their country?

#### **Money Squeeze**

"Year-End Money Squeeze in Lombard Street."-Newspaper headune.

Lombard Street is lucky-elsewhere, in the High Streets of England, the money squeeze lasts all round the calendarthough it's a bit worse just after Christmas and the summer holidays.

Funnily enough, though we've heard of lemon squash and strawverry jam, we've never heard of a bread squeeze or a butter squeeze. There's plenty of bread and butter, but we can't buy more because of the eternal money squeeze.

#### **Beauty Thwarted**

"Design," by Anthony Bertram (Penguin Books, 6d.) shows how lovely our homes could be.

The rat-ridden basement and the hideous bungalow are unnecessary.

Our England was a garden until "sound finance" started turning it into a desert.

Social Credit will abolish Ugliness in the midst of Beauty.

#### Holiday Haunts

During the Christmas holidays, Sir John Anderson (A.R.P.) planned to go Switzerland, Sir Kingsley Wood (Air) to the South of France, Mr. Hore-Belisha (Army) to the Riviera, Lord Runciman variable of the first and the

Distressed Areas.

### **France Holds Up Life**

"Snow Holds Up Bacon."-Newspaper headline.

It is generally lack of money that holds up the bacon from reaching our homes, but the more common cause of difficulty in distribution does not hit the headlines. Can you guess why?

# INCREASED

## What To Do About It

THE South Metropolitan Gas Company has just announced an increase in the price of gas. Little more than a week ago the Gas Light and Coke Company announced that their gas would be increased by 3/4d. a therm on March 1.

Nearly halt a million consumers in an area of fifty-two square miles covered by the South Metropolitan Gas Company are to have the price of their gas increased by .40d. per therm-from 9.35d. to 9.75d.from the first meter readings after January 15.

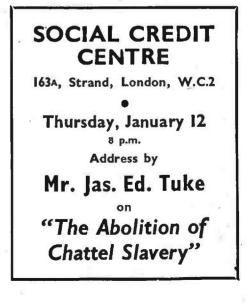
The company say the increase is due to "the further and substantial increase in the cost of coal with which the company is faced.

The Daily Express, in drawing attention to this unwelcome news, reminds readers that last year, almost to the day, the company announced an increase of two-fifths of a penny per therm "owing to the successive and substantial rise in the costs of labour and materials."

There were protests against the increase by local authorities in the area, who held that it was not justified and that figures on which the increase was based should be furnished.

If the ratepayers were to press, through their councillors, for the figures-all the figures-showing how costs were built up, they would probably find that ordinary shareholders, investors of hard-earned savings, got quite a small proportion, but that debenture holders, i.e., mostly banks and financial houses, whose money cost nothing to create got quite a large proportion.

The matter would be well worth looking into. An inquiry might lead to much cheaper gas without penalising anyone. Figures don't always tell the truth.



# COMEDY OF ERRORS 6 THE PUBLIC INTEREST?

Do you appreciate poetry? Listen!

And that inverted system — sound finance,

While underneath, crawling, cooped, we live or die,

Lift not thy hands to it for help,

For it rolls complacently over thou and I.

This is a verse from a poem printed in a Social Credit journal in Australia. The poet apologises to Omar Khayyam for his adaptation. Purists may consider that apologies were needed; but never mind that; the author's fine disdain for rules is appropriate to his theme. Down with discipline and up with individuality.

The following interlude in the House of Commons is interesting and significant. It occurred in connection with a motion allowing the Speaker to call Parliament together if need be "in the public interest." Mr. David Adams raised the point: "What is 'the public interest'?" and asked for a ruling from the Speaker. Other Members asked the same question, but the Speaker was not to be drawn. And Mr. Chamberlain, when appealed to, said "I do not think I can give any answer to it." No wonder. Even High Court judges do not know what it is, except, as one of them remarked on a certain occasion, that it is something whose invocation must be accepted with great caution by the Bench. Of course, we initiates into the mysteries of the creditsystem know what it is-or what is hidden in it-namely, the bankers' interest. Significantly enough, the most impertinent invocation of it known to me came from the mouth of a barrister who was defending one of the London joint-stock banks in an action where a Mr. Leon Franklin brought a claim to recover £450,000,000 in respect of (as he said) the appreciation of some German marks which he acquired. Counsel for the bank submitted to the judge that it was not in the public interest for the impression to be spread round that this bank (or any bank) could possibly incur liabilities of those dimensions. (See The New Age of June 4, 1931, for the full facts and comments.) Yet, apparently, it is altogether in the public interest for the impression to get round that the Government has liabilities of £7,000 millions and no assets but the purses of the taxpayer. And that is curious, because what the Government owes everybody owes. whereas what a bank owes is the concern of its shareholders only-if it ever becomes their concern, for banks enjoy the privilege of creating the means of discharging their debts. a privilege denied to Governments. It is here we come upon the real cause why the "public interest" is as

# By Arthur Brenton

elastic a concept as is the "Constitution" itself. Being unwrit it can be writ up to suit the book of High Finance.

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In these notes on December 16 (p. 4, col. 2) reasons were given and discussed why "scandals" regarding our unpreparedness during the September crisis are settled out of court, so to speak. The ultimate reason, it was pointed out, was that the official respondents to the charges of inefficiency could pass the responsibility upwards until it rested on the Treasury. As if to underline what, was said then the writer of The Londoner's Diary in the *Evening Standard* of December 28 says this:

"I hear that Mr. Hore-Belisha has gained an unexpected ally in his dispute with the junior Ministers who have revolted against his administration of the War Office. His new supporter is his own leader, Sir John Simon . . . Sir John has realised that Mr. Hore-Belisha would not go without . . . . making his own case to the full, and the War Minister's case would not be a counter-attack on the junior Ministers but a flank attack upon the Treasury and Sir John Simon.

"For it is an integral part of Mr. Hore-Belisha's defence for the shortage of modern anti-aircraft guns that he has had to contend with a *financial* stringency imposed on him by Sir John Simon." (My italics.)

The writer finishes by saying that Mr. Hore-Belisha and Lord Strathcona can't both remain at the War Office and that the first-named will probably have to go —not from the Government, but "only ... to another office."

Could you have a more detailed confirmation of the alibi-theory set forth in these notes twelve days previously? The junior Ministers attack the War Minister, who threatens to attack the Chancellor of the Exchequer, who could (if he chose) attack the Treasury, which could (if it chose) attack the Bank of England. The identity of the Treasury with the Bank is established on the testimony of Mr. Montagu Norman himself which described them as "Tweedledum and Montagu Tweedledee." Probably Mr. Hore-Belisha is content to be transferred to another office, but not to be deprived of office altogether without stating his case. If so, he is acting reasonably, for doubtless he would be honestly impressed by repre-sentations that it was "not in the public interest" to ventilate scandals, and that the recognised doctrine of collective responsibility allowed him to withhold his defence without compromising his pres-tige. And, for all one can tell, the con-

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sideration may have had weight that it wouldn't do to hand out polemical ammunition to Social Credit propagandists.

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With reference to the mention of the circumstance that it was junior Ministers who revolted against the War Minister, there is something of importance to say about this. Just after the Labour Government was evicted and the first National Government was established (1931), The Times published a leading article in which it declared that Under-Secretaries (i.e., junior Ministers) would have to assume much greater responsibilities for the administration of their Departments than in the past. It announced as the reason the fact that the whole of the attention of Cabinet Ministers would have to be devoted to the problem of preserving the financial stability of the country. This statement stability of the country. This statement was duly recorded and discussed in The New Age at the time, and the reference can be looked up if any reader wants it. It will be seen that this was virtually announcing that Cabinets would work in Threadneedle Street while sub-Cabinets looked after things in Downing Street. The only relationship between a Cabinet Minister and his Department was that of financial supervision, and the job of the junior Minister was to administer the Department as best he could within the limits of expenditure assigned to him. That is what the announcement meantbecause it manifestly couldn't have meant anything else.

Very well. To students of Social Credit it will be obvious that the course of events since that time must have created tensions in the Departmental zones - tensions arising out of the conflict between technical efficiency and financial economy. Previously each senior Minister would endeavour to extract generous appropriations for his Department from the Chancellor of the Exchequer (the Bankers' Minister, as Snowden called himself). In so doing he would have his junior Minister backing him. The two had one respon-sibility. But the change announced by The Times drove a wedge between the senior and junior Ministers. It detached the senior from the junior, and united him with the Chancellor of the Exchequer. As one might say, every senior Minister became a non-Departmental agent of the Treasury exactly as is the Chancellor. Thus every junior Minister had, in effect, to fight his own senior on the question of appropriations, instead of fighting with him for them. Thus senior Ministers as a body became conductors of lightning that otherwise would have struck directly at the Chancellor and the Treasury. The lightning is, here, the irritation of technicians (the Departmental staffs with the junior Ministers now exerting their function) at the financial restrictions placed on the exercise of their technique.

#### . . .

The foregoing must not be taken as a description of personal conflicts but rather an indication of the consequences logically to be expected from a strict application of the change announced by *The Times*. How strictly it has been applied has to be guessed. But that it represents the requirements of Treasury policy, and that it has been applied to some extent there is no room for doubt.

. .

This being assumed, it accounts fully for the phenomenon of the "revolt of Under-Secretaries" (as The Week terms it) and also for the fact that this revolt was focussed on one single Minister. Energy flies to points. And it was Mr. Hore-Belisha's bad luck to be the point selected. The circumstances of the crisis made him, as War Minister, the tallest lightning-conductor; and so he it was who attracted all to himself the currents of discontent generated among the hampered and baffled technicians of all the Services. "Treasury stringency" (as the Evening Standard's diarist describes it) is felt in all the Departments at all times, and its effects normally tolerated amidst profane whispers. But the September war-scare deceived everybody, including those who should have known better. Permanent officials at the War Office (whom one would expect to be "in the know") appear to have been certain in their own minds that "war to-morrow" (as they told con-tractors) was certain. If they, then all. Naturally, therefore, the shortage of antiaircraft guns exploded the dormant dis-content just spoken of, and before those officials who harboured them stopped to think of the real reason for the shortage. In their every-day life what is the first thing they think of when their Departments are charged with incompetence? Money. Shortage of money, with its frustration of initiative, its disruption of efficiency. That is Reason No. 1 for everything that goes wrong. Yet they do not appear to have thought of that concerning Mr. Hore-Belisha's Department. That gentleman, not being a banker, can't manufacture money for guns; and, not being a superman, can't browbeat the Treasury.

These reflections suggest that there has been a deeper cause for the explosion than the wirepulling of jealous politicians or disappointed contractors. And if so, the theory here formulated is at least tenable enough to be noted for verification or otherwise later on. Maybe the wish is father to the thought, but according to the logical implications of the Social Credit analysis in the field of political policy and administration signs are due to show themselves that the loyalties of public servants to the policies that they

are obliged to implement have become strained. And it is possible that the revolt against the War Minister is a revolt, in its incipient stage, against the policy of the Money Monopoly. At any moment a scandal may arise which cannot be localised and silenced. Suspicions of Finance today may become subpoenas to Finance tomorrow. We'll see the banker in the box for all-in cross-examination.

The Week discussed the alignment of forces in international affairs on the following basis: New York, London and Paris against Berlin, Rome and Tokyo. Since, in that publication, and also in the Fleet Street Letter, more space is now being given to financial negotiations, we may probably see the alignment described in the more realistic terms: Dollars, Sterling and Francs against Marks, Lira and Yen. Stated in this way, somehow or other the three autocracies don't look quite so formidable as when referred to by the cities which they make their headquarters. Mr. Chamberlain recently made a pointed reference to our "financial strength." And in the Fleet Street Letter the comment appears that Hitler has natural grounds for fearing that Mr. Chamberlain may "seduce" the Duce with a large loan, and that the Duce may "betray the Axis." The same publication mentions a British loan to support the Shanghai dollar, and describes this as the answer to Japan's attempt to substitute a paper yen. In explains that China has 60,000 guerillas in the Lower Yangtse alone. These have to rely on local support which, in turn, depends on their reintroducing the Shanghai dollar wherever they go. This shows how money can be used for "appeasement" by the indirect process of redressing balances of military power. Money has the last word.

# WATER SUPPLY IN RURAL DISTRICTS

The Minister of Health, Mr. Walter Elliot, opening the Dunmow Rural District Council water scheme at Thaxted yester day, said that over 750,000 houses had been built since the war in rural districts, of which one-third had earned Government subsidies which already amounted to £40,000,000. The Government's rural water grant of £1,000,000 had stimulated schemes costing nearly £8,000,000, with the result that two-thirds of the rural parishes and threequarters of the rural population in England and Wales now enjoyed, or would soon enjoy, piped water supplies.— "The Times," December 20. In order to enjoy their water, many will

In order to *enjoy* their water, many will have to forego food or clothes or warmth so that they can pay the increased rates demanded to meet the interest and other charges on the  $\pounds 8,000,000$  spent.

This £8,000,000 was, however, created out of nothing by the banks, and sacrifices by anyone, therefore, seem to be wrong.

# **ON STYLE**

Men have a respect for scholarship and learning greatly out of proportion to the use they commonly serve. We are amused to read how Ben Jonson engaged that the dull masks with which the royal family and nobility were to be entertained should be "grounded upon antiquity and solid learning." Can there be any greater reproach than an idle learning? Learn to split wood, at least. The necessity of labour and conversation with many men and things to the scholar is rarely well remembered; steady labour with the hands, which engrosses the attention also, is unquestionably the best method of removing palaver and sentimentality out of one's style, both of speaking and writing. If he has worked hard from morning till night, though he may have grieved that he could not be watching the train of his thoughts during that time, yet the few hasty lines which at evening record his day's experience will be more musical and true than his freest but idle fancy could have furnished. Surely the writer is to address a world of labourers, and such therefore must be his own discipline. He will not idly dance at his work who has wood to cut and cord before nightfall, in the short days of winter; but every stroke will be husbanded and ring soberly through the wood, and so will the strokes of the scholar's pen, which at evening record the story of the day, ring soberly, yet cheerily, on the ear of the reader long after the echoes of his axe have died away. The scholar may be sure that he writes the tougher truth for the calluses on his palms. They give firmness to the sentence. Indeed, the mind never makes a great and successful effort without a corresponding energy of the body. We are often struck by the force and precision of style to which hardworking men. unpractised in writing, easily attain when required to make the effort. As if plainness, and vigour, and sincerity, the ornaments of style, were better learned on the farm and in the workshop than in the schools. The sentences written by such rude hands are nervous and tough, like hardened thongs, the sinews of the deer, or the roots of the pine.

-Thoreau. "A Week on the Concord."

"WHAT'S WRONG WITH THE WORLD?" By G.W.L. Day Is. FROM PUBLICATIONS DEPT., 163A, STRAND, W.C.2

### A Realist

A great astronomer once remarked to a friend: "To the astronomer, man is an infinitesimal dot in an infinite universe."

"Ah!" said his friend, "but man is still the astronomer."

# **ON THIS EARTH** –

# Tact and Good Taste

**I**<sup>T</sup> was undoubtedly a graceful gesture on the part of the Income Tax authorities to time their notice of the first instalment to arrive on Christmas Eve. It was no doubt made to synchronise with the public's good pennorth of newspaper -nearly all advertisement for food, drink A Social Crediter will and laxatives. never permit himself or herself anything but a laugh at the stupidity of a system that, in the instance before us, says, "Spend freely and Save for Taxes." Why the system produces these conundrums may be thrown casually as a question to our opponents; we could tell them what to say from their book of orthodoxy, and also give them the real answer. Shall we burst into song?

An Income Tax demand, Is worth two in the bush, If put in the hand Before the Christmas rush. We are the quick detectors, We are the Banks' collectors Of all them there notes— So with no quips or rueings, Hand over the doings.

There is no copyright, and above may be sung in Pantomime or at mayoral banquets.

## Perspicacity

An observant writer of "The Londoner's Diary" thinks that the half-finished trenches in St. James's Park looked more melancholy than ever beneath a pall of snow. He also states that piles of costly timber rot beside them. This information is very useful, and goes to prove that the writer does keep his eyes open. The Social Credit suggestion about the matter is, of course, for navvies to fill them in with tea-spoons - it would make more work. But, even better, if fish-knives were used instead of tea-spoons the job would take longer time. As for the real reasons why they were dug in the first place, we might know them in twenty years' time. And no reader of this paper will refer me to newspapers or the speeches of prominent men for the bed-rock, downright, stark explanation.

# **Old England**

At Ewell, Surrey, and High Wycombe, there is opposition to the building of shops and flats. These buildings are speculations, some acres of good country are clamped in with bricks and tarred roads, and the emigrant to Australia can make himself a shack when he gets there. Why not make a better job of it than Mussolini and develop parts of Australia with good houses; the only sensible' way of preserving the country is by making towns fit to live in.

### Is He For Social Credit?

What may be a gleam of hope, or signs of an idea penetrating the minds of those who have power in the destinies of nations, appeared in the *Evening Standard* on December 20. The Right Hon. A. Duff Cooper, D.S.O., M.P., in reviewing a book, "The Totalitarian State Against Man," writes as follows:

It is possible to abolish poverty and slavery in the modern world not by oldfashioned theories of Socialism but by modern methods of production. Technical knowledge provides the key to improved conditions. Owing to the inventions of science, man can now produce all that he needs in abundance, without working for hours and in conditions which render life intolerable.

Readers of SOCIAL CREDIT will do well to remember this of the Right Hon. A. Duff We can promise him, without Cooper. being a prophet, the finest satisfaction in his life, if he is in earnest, and the greatest following of any Member of Parliament. There are farmers, engineers and sea-faring men who know that the one way of abolition of poverty is their mutual salvation. It is by the National Dividend, and he can take it further than the mere mention of it in an evening paper; he can have the intelligent half of England at his back, for the National Dividend is National in every sense. In its application there is injustice to none. Any reader in his constituency should note this, congratulate the writer of it, and with the turning of the sun for a new year, add another Man to the number of those who have found out the hoodwinkings of the people of England and the Empire.

# More Support for Sir William Crawford

In his defence of the advertising profession and the British Press, help comes to him by the barrow-load. You will remember that he described as "pernicious nonsense" allegations made by Mr. Wickham Steed that advertisers persuaded editors to "tone down" depressing news. It would seem that the Press have been nettled and they have taken up a "We'll show you" attitude. Get ready then for a refutation of any "toning down." "1,500,000 to pay more for gas." "Five die with Cold." "Colder—more die," and so on. But if there is any more proof wanted that the defender of the Press is more than right-look at the faces of the people in railway carriages who read the papers. And then decide, that as long as there is breath in your body, you will stand up for yourself and for your mentally and physically exploited English countrymen. This time you will have the facts of Social Credit to help you - and good luck to your quarter-staff.

# A House to Live In

A mass mortgage strike against building societies is threatened on Morden Park Estate. Mrs. Elsie Borders, who addressed the members of the Morden Park Residents' Association, in the course of her speech said:

"If we win, it means our properties are not mortgaged to the building societies, and we have to pay no more to them as long as we live. It is not quite so good as it sounds—(laughter) as we shall have to pay somebody. If our houses are not mortgaged to the building society it may be they are mortgaged to the builder, but not as a debt with interest, and so we should probably save fifty per cent. that way."

The lady, it would appear, can well look after herself, and knows her own case. A correspondent in the local paper, full of the wrong kind of good cheer in a bout with money, writes as follows:

"The Morden borrowers will be well advised to follow the advice to call off the strike, as they are bound to lose in the long run. Even if the High Court, the Court of Appeal and the House of Lords decide in their favour, the fight will not be over. Parliament will be virtually compelled to pass a short amending Act, legalising extra-normal advances in conjunction with a guarantor's cash collateral security."

The last part of the last sentence ought to be written in letters of gold; it does not sound as if it had anything at all to do with human beings or this world.

# Making Work

Any suggestion is better than none. In America, where the people are so clever, it is reported that zipp fasteners are being used for sausages. By the time these words are in print, bananas in England may be wrapped in cellophane. Zipp fasteners for bananas would create a fresh industry, besides making the banana last longer—half today to be eaten, and half tomorrow.

## That Cold Spell

By request this was specially delivered, and no doubt it has sent up the sale of overcoats. It has also sent up the stock of mineral waters held by a shopkeeper; the stock exploded. Also the cold spell made a slump in trade with entertainment. In addition, plumbers were busy, but as there is no double-entry system for the householder, he must pay up and look pleasant — and think of the number of overcoats sold. And if he can't see the balloney, he had better look at it standing on his head; he might see it the right way up then.

# Happy New Year

Or what the Press thinks the public wants, or what the Press thinks the public ought to want, or-well, write some more variations for yourself. Evening Standard, front page, January 2, 1939: Gibraltar Sea Battle.

Tory Muddle in Norfolk: Party H.Q. Back Liberal.

London Mystery of Woman Found Strangled.

Flogging: K.C.'s Attack on the Home Secretary.

Dearer Flour.

M. Daladier Flourishes a Corsican Dagger.

This should be good news for those who think the Press guilty of "toning down" depressing news. Not on your life, boy! Can you see in the items any signs of peace, security, a share of plenty, or pensions at fifty?

### Advice

The Evening Standard, January 2, in its leading article, advises its readers to "Stick to Old Moore" for 1939 events. We suggest that its next advice to its readers be, "Stick to your Pennies" and get Alice in Wonderland out of the Free Library. NICHOLAS MERE

# **Italy's Expanding** Agriculture

An exhibition of land reclamation was opened in Rome by Signor Mussolini on December 22. The Times correspondent says that the exhibition demonstrates the results achieved during the ten years since the introduction of the Mussolini "Integral. Land-Reclamation Act" of 1928, for the full application of which 14 years and an expenditure of over seven milliard lire (about £77,000,000 at current rates) were foreseen. It is divided into 14 sections and provides a picture of every phase of the vast work which has been carried out to turn waste land to useful purposes. The exhibits include an irrigation canal with a new type of pump in action, machinery used in drainage schemes, models of peasant houses and villages, and details of afforestation schemes and of the activities of the migration board.

The impressive contribution which the Mussolini Act has already made to the economy of the country can be gauged from the fact that under it more than 6,000,000 acres of land-or about 18 per cent. of the former total cultivated areahave been reclaimed and rendered fertile, an extra 12,000,000 quintals added to the wheat crop, and the cattle increased by 500,000 head.

constructive achievement, This is a benefiting the Italian people in their own homeland, and has been steadily proceeding while in Great Britain we have permitted thousands of acres of good land to go out of cultivation.

# **Non-Production Industry**

# By Edward P. Kaye

YES, that's the correct title! Do you know what it means? Well, read an extract from this month's Murphy Review. It is headed "Funny Finance":

An amusing item in the Evening Stan-dard is the following letter about the nonproduction industry:

"Here is a letter from Mr. Geoffrey Dobbs from King's College on the subject of the British Sugar Corporation:

"I have long been interested in the possibilities of non-production as an industry, and it was therefore with special pleasure that I read in your notes for November 10 the following statements: "The unsatisfactory foundation of the home-produced sugar industry is in itself a good security for the shareholders of the British Sugar Corporation . . . Accordingly, if there were no beets available, the Corporation should have an income ... total-ling about £994,000." And "There would be an available amount equivalent to about 121/2 per cent. on the capital of the Corporation." "'I have noted the sturdy efforts of

marketing boards and other august bodies to stimulate the non-production of various commodities, such as potatoes, fish, milk, rubber, tin, tramp shipping, etc., but this, if I may say so, beats the band.

"'Evidently there is good money in it, and if you will allow me the use of your columns to do so. I should like to offer my services to the British Sugar Corporation as an expert non-producer of sugar beet, in return, of course, for adequate remuneration for my aid in conserving its finances.

"'Without boasting. I think I can claim to be highly qualified for the job, having a long experience and a natural aptitude into the bargain.

"'Indeed. as a non-producer of sugar beet I should. if I may say so, be hard to beat. I should be prepared not to make available very large quantities of beet of the highest quality, in fact. nothing would please me better than to tackle the job in a hig way. not producing. say, 1.000,000 tons of beet or even more annually, provided. of course, the money is available to pav me. "If only we could get the unemployed

back to work at good wages in the nonproduction industry, instead of living in indigent idleness, the whole unemployment problem would be solved at one stroke."

Actually, although this is funny (both "ha-ha" and "peculiar") at first sight, I think there is more in it than the joke.

As with the scorpion's, I find the commentator's tail-piece worth noting. He thinks. In due course he'll be convinced that there's more in it than the joke. If money can be made in one single instance in the non-production industry, why not put the unemployed, the unemployable and even some of the fit into the business; science and invention will take care of real industry.

Very soon some more people will begin thinking over this bad joke, and then we shall arrive at the stage of convincing, first the people, then the Government, that it is a very vital factor in modern industrial life that we must realise the tragedy behind the joke; that we MUST HAVE, in some form or other, MONEY FOR NOTHING; that commerce, if it is not to suffocate itself under the weight of its own unsaleable surplus produce, requires some free money, money not derived from taxation. This is the only hope of our factories ever working at maximum production, it is the only hope of factories fitting into a really sound economy, for their proper function is to produce for consumption what the people need and desire.

"Money for nothing." Let it come as mothers' pensions, family or age pensions. or according to some famous slogan, such as "national dividends for all" or "pensions at 50."

"Where is the money to come from?" We Social Crediters refuse to let the ancient and fishlike scent prevent us from filleting that hoary red-herring!

# ULSTER RESISTS MONOPOLY

"The action of the Government in. forcing this monopolistic scheme upon the public and in direct opposition to the public will, is a negation of the democratic principles inherent in the Ulster people."

This is the view of the Ulster Farmers' Union on the M'Lintock recommendations for a Transport Board for Northern Ireland (reported some months ago in SOCIAL CREDIT). The farmers have already suffered from the effects of the Northern Ireland Road and Rail Transport Act which gave rise to a road transport monopoly, provided a much worse service for the country districts, and involved a very heavy financial loss which the taxpayers are to be asked to make good.

In a democracy, such as the United Kingdom is supposed to be, the people can have their way. Evidently some of the people of Northern Ireland are beginning to express their will through their institu-tions, such as the Ulster Farmers' Union. It only remains for them as a whole to use their Parliament properly, and they will prevent the threatened shackles of monopoly from being locked on them.

Perhaps they may lead the rest of the United Kingdom to freedom.

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# **PARALYSIS OR PRESSURE ?**

**H**OWEVER we may boast of our democracy, the truth is that the people of this country are ruled by a secret clique of International Financiers.

This dictatorial body has a purpose and a policy, which is imposed upon us by stealth.

The Government elected by the people are subject to pressure continually by this secret clique, and politicians, as a consequence, become the puppets of the financiers' policy. The policy which is imposed upon the Government and all of us is one that, if it was seen unwhitewashed and for what it really is, the people would resist and oppose, because they would recognise it for the evil, dangerous thing it is.

It is necessary, therefore, for international finance continually to camouflage their policy so as to make it appear attractive; but its effects, of course, cannot be altogether hidden.

Thus we get millions of unemployed who starve in the midst of plenty; distressed areas within one of the richest countries on earth; trade booms and depressions; war scares; progressive restrictions of personal liberty; and foreign entanglements which are beyond the understanding of the common people.

Although the people want peace and security, they know now that the danger of war is a growing reality. Actually, facts prove that not only are the people of this country having a policy *imposed* upon them, but it is a policy which the people do not *want* themselves, one they have not initiated, but which is inspired in darkness by unknown men.

The purpose of the international financiers is to enslave, comfortably but helplessly, everybody in the world except themselves—freedom for themselves, and power to deny freedom to everybody else.

Because they can create and destroy money at their own whim and pleasure, they have chosen and appointed protagonists in every field of publicity to hypnotise the people of all classes with a fundamentally false idea of work.

Work is, or should be, only a means to an end.

There is a difference between, say, work as such and "employment"; for employment means surrendering your capacity for labour, your creative or other abilities, to the will of another; and the object of work—that is to say, the end to which it

is only a means—has been designedly obscured. The means itself has been turned wrongly, sinfully, and subtly into an end in itself.

This conforms, as it was meant to do, with the secret policy of the international dictatorial clique.

The idea that a man has no right to live unless he works is a false one; but it is propagated in a thousand different ways and elevated into a virtue.

The reason for this is that if the labourer can be hypnotised with the false idea "that he has no right to the product of industry unless he has laboured for it," he unknowingly disinherits himself from any of the increments of association; the way is laid open for the common property rights of invention and scientific progress to be stolen from him by the power-lusters. Further, in his absence of mind (or, one might call it, in the betrayal of his innocence), and because he accepts the idea that his labour, even in competition with mechanical power, is his only claim to life and the means of life, he condemns himself, and accepts the moral philosophy that it is reasonable to starve in the midst of plenty if his labour is not required.

In simple language, he accepts himself as surplus and condemns himself practically to suicide, simply because he has listened to the Medicine Man's false teaching that his only claim to the abundance is the requirement of his labour

Another aspect of this false teaching, which is all part of the plan of whitewashing the secret policy of world dictatorship, is the insinuation that getting "something for nothing" is not only immoral, but is generally impossible. It would be fatal to the plan and purpose of the world power-lusters if grown-up people had the common-sense of babies, for you cannot by any means convince a six-months-old baby that it is impossible to eat heartily without having worked for it, or persuade it of the immorality of eating one's fill every time one is hungry Babies have no bankers' sense of shame at all.

Even a mule cannot be educated to the point of refusing to eat plentifully in a field of grass because its labour is unrequired by the farmer who owns it. But then, mules and babies are not respecters of bankers or institutions; they have no awe of the sanctity of financial figures in books, or such institutions as

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the Bank of England, for instance. It is because we have been educated into bowing down to these sanctities and elevating them up as more important than living men and women, and their personal satisfactions, that we find the world in the state it is to-day.

It is important that those who understand the facts published in this paper week by week should support any action aiming at the acquisition of something without work, "something for nothing." something that will implement the power of the *individual* 

There is no hope whatever for the cause of common freedom except in the reality of pressure, applied behind a commonsense demand initiated, understood, and sanctioned by the people themselves in unity; and whatever form that demand or sanction takes, it is the demand and the will to make and press it that matters. Popularity of aim is essential to such a policy and alone guarantees its rightness. Such a demand cannot fail to be an obstruction to the foul plot which is now operative; it will tend to overcome and replace it with a better order-perhaps not the best possible order, but one that is in line with the best that can be. This dynamic aspect is by far the most pressing and important part of Social Credit, and should claim the attention of all its advocates at the present time.

# Money For Pensions at 50 The Answer to "Where Can It Come From ?"

In 1910  $\pounds 62,817,000$  was the amount spent in Great Britain on public social services. If it had been suggested then that, within ten years, the amount would be increased five times, people would not have believed it. Yet by 1920 the expenditure on social services had risen to  $\pounds 306,634,000$ . And this was in spite of the most costly and devastating war in human history having occurred within the period!

Nearly £250,000,000—two hundred and fifty million pounds—more were being spent in this one way. The amount expended in the year just ended will probably be found to be about £500,000,000 more than in 1910.

Who says it is impossible to give  $f_2$  a week for all unemployed over the age of 50? We have the goods—or the ability to produce the goods—ready now. All we want is the money to pay for them; and this can be put into the pockets of the over-50 unemployed without taking money away from anyone else.

Where will the money come from?

Why, it will come from the same everflowing source that provides all the enormous quantities of money required for social services, defensive services, war, and all other expenses.

# The British Don't Rebel

### By G.W.L. Day

WHILE the snow lay round about, 50 unemployed men and three women marched into the grill-room of the Ritz Hotel in Piccadilly and asked for tea. They had a few coppers in their pockets and they were ready to pay.

At once there was great excitement. Telephones buzzed, policemen arrived, and after parleys the unemployed left in an orderly manner. Soon they were walking down Piccadilly in a procession with placards bearing the words "We want winter relief."

Another day, Christmas shoppers saw more than a hundred unemployed men, who were demanding extra winter relief, lie down in the road and block all the traffic at Oxford Circus. At a signal from their leader they were down on their backs four deep in front of the traffic which had stopped at the lights. "Work or bread," they shouted. "Stop the starvation of our families," "We want extra winter allowances." The traffic was held up for fifteen minutes.

Later on, a deputation of about fifteen called at the U.A.B.'s offices at Millbank and demanded to see the Chairman, Lord Rushcliffe. Failing to get an interview with him, they marched to the House of Commons to lobby their Members of Parliament.

On a third wintry day they marched to Buckingham Palace to present a petition to the King. They were stopped at the gates and some 50 or 60 policemen came up. The Police Superintendent allowed the petition to be presented to a Secretary, who refused to commit himself in any way or even to answer the unemployed leader.

After referring to their previous demonstration, the petition ran, "We now appeal to your Majesty in these last hours before Christmas Day to intervene with your Ministers in such a way as to ensure that every unemployed family has fire in the grate and a Christmas dinner."

As far as one knows, the only result of these demonstrations was a number of private invitations to dinner on Christmas Day.

. . .

Such happenings are among the very few reminders the public is given that we have among us millions of people living on the very brink of starvation. When first the term "Distressed Area" was coined, the conscience of the public was uneasy. Poverty and distress were dramatised in the newspapers, and funds were collected to distribute food and clothing.

But as soon as it became apparent that large-scale unemployment was a permanent phenomenon, acute feelings of sympathy died down. What we can't remedy we must forget, became our slogan. Like the man to whom Dean Inge had not yet been introduced, the half-starved did not exist: they have had their benefit night, so to speak, and now they are expected to suffer in silence.

What, then, are these unfortunate people to do?

They can attempt to start a revolution. If they did this, their chances of success would be virtually nil. Sanctions would be used against them, meaning the armed forces of the State. In bygone days therc were no centrally-controlled sanctions, hence revolutions were more frequent and their prospects very much brighter. To-day, there is not only highly organised control of the wherewithal to suppress revolutions, but the wherewithal itself is enormously greater in strength. Unless the loyalty of the fighting services can be undermined, rebellion amounts to suicide.

Another method is to appeal direct to the public, or to officials, such as Lord Rushcliffe, or to the King himself. This, as we have seen, is what the unemployed have done this Christmas; and perhaps the behaviour of the U.A.B. Chairman and the Buckingham Palace secretary, who refused even to speak, is a fair indication of its efficacy.

But we must not forget the private invitations to dinner!

Insignificant, you say? I think not. It shows that the sympathy of the public is still alive; that if the public were asked, Do you or do you not wish the unemployed to continue in their present plight? most people would answer, No!

But no doubt they would add—some of them, at any rate—that the Government was doing its best, that rearmament entailed sacrifices, that if U.A.B. benefits were increased it would have to come out of the income tax, etc., etc.

If, however, you could convince them that the unemployed are half-starved merely on account of dishonest financial jugglery and that they could be properly fed and cared for without anyone being a penny the poorer, then I think there would be very few dissentient voices.

Having got so far, the force of active and united public opinion would surely be great enough to compel any Government to see that suitable means were invented to bring about the desired results.

# **Restriction of Abundance**

**T**OO much mutton and lamb is being produced, so Mr. W. S. Morrison, our destroying and restricting Minister of Agriculture, in the House of Commons on December 20, announced a scheme for "closer control" of imported supplies. This "control," which means restriction, is said to aim at keeping up prices. Keeping up prices, of course, means preventing those who are short of money—the vast majority —from buying more mutton and lamb. Farmers who could and would gladly increase supplies, must therefore restrict them.

### **Keeping Down Wheat Supplies**

The United States Government, by what it calls its "Wheat Acreage Adjustment Programme," intends to reduce the area of wheat sown for harvest in 1939 to 55 million acres, as compared with 81 million acres sown for harvest in 1938.

Mr. Oliver Stanley, President of the Board of Trade, replying to a question in Parliament on December 22, admitted that U.S. wheat and flour exports had been discussed during the recent trade negotiations between Great Britain and the U.S.A. The U.S.A. policy, including crop restrictions, aims at higher world prices—at the very moment when people all over the world are so poor that they cannot pay even present prices, and as a consequence continue to suffer poverty while the world teems with "surpluses."

The U.S. Government, in its statement which is incorporated in the Official Report of the British Trade Delegation, says, in effect, that it is subsidising the export of wheat, i.e., it is enabling (by making up the difference) exporters to sell wheat abroad at a lower price than the people of the U.S.A. can buy it in their own country.

This, it says, is one of the measures it has had to take to assure that "too burdensome a surplus will not be accumulated in the United States"—where there are 10,000,000 unemployed persons going short of food.

#### . . .

In France the latest estimate of the year's "wheat surplus" is 70,000,000 bushels, but nothing serious has yet been done to get rid of it.

Pensions of £2 a week for all over 50

who are not working for pay would go

some way to solving the problem of these

"burdensome surpluses."

# THE PATHWAY

# THE LAND

### **By Richard Kenward**

THE pioneers of America, after suffering a perilous journey across the Atlantic, had to face the opposition of the Indians, once they began to colonise the new country. It was not always war to the death, for we know that in several cases peaceful settlement was negotiated by friendly treaties.

Having overcome the Indians, the virgin forest was the next enemy, so it was the man with the axe who became the symbol of progress. With the exploitation of the United States, quite seveneighths of the virgin forests have been destroyed. When the settlers followed in the wake of the pioneers, it was then the man with the hoe who became the symbol of civilisation.

But progress to be successful must be intelligent; man must make his peace with Nature; man must make peace with man. Unless these rules are observed, Nature has her own way of dealing with unfriendly man. When the natural forests are ruthlessly destroyed, the land is more liable to flooding. Lack of moisture and continuous mono-culture brings about soil erosion, so that what has taken Nature centuries to make in the form of top soil, can be destroyed by vicious man in one-generation. Hence has arisen the modern phenomenon of the "dust-bowl" in certain parts of America.

Fortunately, the U.S. is alive to the danger threatening her natural resources, and has now begun a policy of soil conservation and afforestation. The credit for initiating this policy is said to be largely due to an English colonial forester.

We are all familiar with the rough island story of our tight little islands, and if we will pause and think for a moment, we will see that it had similar features in common with that of the history of America.

In Britain, we are more gentlemanly in our ruthlessness; first of all, we have allowed our agriculture to sink into slow decline. There are nearly 2,000,000 acres less under cultivation than before the war, while thousands of skilled farm workers have left the land (it takes several generations to make a husbandman). Britain once had the finest agriculturalists in the world; we taught the world how to farm and breed animals.

To-day farmers lack that incentive to farm as of yore, for the reason that they cannot recover costs of production, and hence the serious financial losses farmers have suffered during the post-war period. We can borrow astronomical sums for the promotion of war, but we refuse to create money to restore agriculture to its seat of power in the national economy. Farming can be made to pay, and help to pay us a Dividend, too, but that is the very last thing our rulers want; they would rather see us in the workhouse at 50 than give us *pensions at 50*.

We must get our ideas right and in the right order, and the rest will naturally follow: Man must work in harmony with Nature . . . Man must make peace with Man. . . Man must seek the eternal verities. . . There is Plenty for All. . . plans by which this infamous ring is riveting the chains of slavery upon the limbs of labour. It is one of the chief means adopted to build up a money aristocracy that shall live in idle luxury and ape the pretentious airs of European nobility.'

### Lincoln Vetoes Bank Act

The following veto message was dispatched by Lincoln to the U.S.A. Senate on June 23, 1862, and it had the effect of checking (for the time being) the bankers' attempt to replace Government money by that of their own creation:

"This bill seems to contemplate no end which cannot be otherwise more certainly and beneficially attained. During the existing war it is peculiarly the duty of the National Government to secure to the people a sound circulation medium. This duty has been, under existing circum-stances, satisfactorily performed, in part at least, by authorising the issue of United States notes, receivable for all government dues except customs, and made a legal tender for all debts, public and private, except interest on public debt. The object of the bill submitted to menamely, that of providing a small note currency during the present suspension-can be fully accomplished by authorising the issue—as part of any new emission of United States notes made necessary by the circumstances of the country-of notes of similar character, but of less denomination, than five dollars. Such an issue would answer all the beneficial purposes of the bill, would save a considerable amount to the treasury in interest, would greatly facilitate payments to soldiers and other creditors of small sums, and would furnish to the people a currency as safe as their own government.

"Entertaining these objections to the bill, I feel myself constrained to withhold from it my approval, and return it for the further consideration and action of Congress.

"June 23, 1862."

### Six Months Later—

December 1, 1862

"ABRAHAM LINCOLN

"... and it is extremely doubtful whether a circulation of United States notes, payable in coin, and sufficiently large for the wants of the people, can be permanently, usefully and safely maintained.

"Is there, then, any other mode in which the necessary provisions for the public wants can be made, and the great advantages of a safe and uniform currency secured?

"I know of none which promises so certain results, and is at the same time so unobjectionable, as the organisation of banking associations under a general Act of Congress well guarded in its provisions. To such associations the government might furnish circulating notes, on the security of United States bonds deposited

The People v. Money Power Warnings of Early U.S.A. Presidents

"The nature of the struggle between so the people and Money Power that raged to during the formative years of Lincoln's mind may be inferred from this extract of Andrew Jackson's warning message to

Congress under date of December 2, 1824: The bold effort the present bank has made to control the government, the distress it has wantonly produced, the violence of which it has been the occasion in one of our cities famed for its observance of the law and order, are but premonitions of the fate which awaits the American people should they be deluded into a perpetuation of this institution or the establishment of another like it.'

"Andrew Jackson's fear of the control of money wealth by Money Power was shared by Daniel Webster who, during the same period, declared:

'There never has been devsied by any man a plan more specious by which labour could be robbed of the fruits of toil than the banking system. The people not only take bank paper as money, paying interest on it, but when the banks suspend, the people lose the discount while the bankers gain it.

The people wonder why financial panics occur so frequently. I can tell them why. It is to the interests of the bankers and brokers that they should occur. It is one of the specious methods by which these despotic and utterly useless knaves rob the producing, manufacturing and mercantile classes of their honest earnings. It is one of the chief

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in the treasury. These notes, prepared under the supervision of proper officers, being uniform in appearance and security, and convertible into coin, would at once protect labour against the evils of a vicious currency, and facilitate commerce by cheap and safe exchanges."

#### Lincoln's Opposition Ended

On the evening of Friday, April 14, 1865, Lincoln attended Ford's Theatre with his wife. During the course of the play he was shot by John Wilkes Booth, who, leaping from the Presidential box on to the stage, escaped through a rear exit and fied. Some days afterwards Booth was found in a barn suffering from a broken ankle.

The record of the trial, as printed by Peterson & Bros., contains "the suppressed testimony of Richard Montgomery, James B. Merrett and Sanford Conover," which apparently was not published in the original public records of the trial. This evidence shows that during the Civil War, Richard Montgomery was a secret service agent of the Northern Government. During the winter of 1864-5, he was detailed to observe the actions of a group of Southern agents who wcre operating in the cities of Montreal and Toronto in Canada.

With these facts in mind, an article which appeared in the "Bankers' Magazine" in August, 1873, sheds some definite light on the identity of "the group of bold and daring men" who were pointed to by Richard Montgomery as the men who incited and financed the assassination of Lincoln. The article referred to records the manner in which the gold standard was eventually established in the United States. Among other things it said:

"In 1872, silver being demonetised in France, England and Holland, a capital of 500,000,000 dollars was raised, and Ernest Seyd, of London, was sent to this country (the United States) with this fund, as the agent of foreign bondholders and capitalists, to effect the same object here, which was accomplished."

The Congressional Record of April, 1872 (page 2032) says:

"Ernest Seyd, of London, a distinguished writer and bullionist, who is now here, has given great attention to the subject of mint and coinage. After having examined the first draft of the Bill, he made sensible suggestions which the Committee adopted and embodied in the Bill."

The Ernest Seyd referred to was an English solicitor, acting for English and European bankers and financiers. Later on he is recorded as having made an open confession to one Frederick A. Luckenbach, an American citizen of standing, that "he had gone to America in the winter of 1872-73 with the 500,000 dollars referred to in the Bankers' Journal, with instructions that if that was not sufficient to accomplish the object to draw for

another 500,000 dollars, or as much more as was necessary to secure the passage of a Bill demonetising silver, as it was in the interests of English and European bankers whom he represented." Seyd further said to Luckenbach:

"I saw the Committees of the House and Senate and paid the money and stayed in America until I knew the measure was safe."

These articles and the recorded confession of Seyd acknowledges that withm seven years after Lincoln's assassination, there existed a "group of bold and daring men," who did not hesitate to raise 500,000 dollars to secure the demonetisation of silver by corrupting the American Con-gress and Senate. These were the same men. Yes, they were the "secret foes of the nation" with whom Lincoln was at war. Following Lincoln's assassination, they were successful in wiping out Lincoln's national currency programme and did establish the gold standard money system in the United States. With each step forward, the men behind the racket were able to reap personal fortunes of inestimable value.

Money Power has established a more vicious form of universal slavery over the American people than ever was established over the American Negro. To 'use Lincoln's own words, the bankers and credit dealers of this age have placed the American citizen in this position:

"They have him in his prison house. They have searched his person and have left no prying instrument with him. One after another, they have closed the heavy iron doors upon him and now they have him, as it were, bolted in with a lock of 100 keys which can never be unlocked without the concurrence of every key; the keys in the hands of a hundred different men, and they scattered to a hundred different places; and they stand musing as to what invention in all the dominions of mind and matter can be produced to make the impossibility of his escape more complete than it is."

Yes, the bankers destroyed Lincoln as the preliminary step to the destruction of the American civilisation which they will now complete if the power they have usurped is not taken away from them.

# FIRE AND WATER

LIABILITY to pay out for A.R.P. expenses was recently thrust upon ratepayers. Here comes another attack on their pockets. The Fire Brigades Act, 1938, makes County Boroughs, Boroughs, Urban and Rural District Councils responsible for providing fire-fighting appliances in their districts, and for keeping such appliances and the brigades to work them in AI condition; the Secretary of State is empowered by Order to prescribe the standard of efficiency, which is the key-word. This sudden decision by Whitehall is not unconnected with A.R.P.; hitherto, in country districts, some parishes have provided fire brigades which were paid for out of a small parish rate and receipts from Insurance Companies when the brigades attended fires outside the parish. Large areas of the country had no fire-fighting apparatus at all, property-owners relying on insurance against fire. All this is to be changed; the ratepayers are to shoulder responsibility and they are to pay a standing contribution to cover all services based on the rateable value of the area protected, and perhaps in addition a further payment in respect of each fire. A standing contribution only is likely to become the general method, although this would appear to knock out the voluntary system upon which small parish fire brigades have been run hitherto.

Apart from the difficulties experienced in providing water in many country districts, it would appear that the efficiency aimed at by the Secretary of State will only be attained if he can enthuse volunteers sufficiently to take the job on at a retaining fee only. Perhaps he will be able to rouse such enthusiasm and provide water, too.

How do the Insurance Companies stand in the matter? Originally they provided their own fire-fighting services in certain places, the brigade turning out only when insured property was alight or threatened, such property being distinguished by the metal plates attached to the front of the house which have long become collectors' pieces. Then came parish fire brigades and the payment by the Insurancè Companies of fees to the brigades for attending fires. Now, apparently, the ratepayers are to pay for the lot, the brigade (at a retaining fee) putting out fires in uninsured or insured property indiscriminately, the Insurance Companies paying nothing to anybody for their services.

In these circumstances surely the premiums charged by Insurance Companies should be substantially reduced. There is no hint of this being done, and it does not appear that the Secretary of State is empowered by the Act to enquire into the finances of such companies for the benefit of the overburdened ratepayer. A glance at a Stock Exchange list makes one wonder whether the Insurance Companies should not shoulder the burden, or most of it themselves. Phoenix,  $\pounds I$  fully paid,  $\pounds I4$  195.; Prudential "B," 4s. paid,  $\pounds 4$  1s., etc., etc.

Ratepayers demand either a substantial reduction of premiums or a large contribution to the new fire brigades from the Insurance Companies. A.W.



# **Slavery**—Ancient and Modern

### By R.L.D.

THE culture of ancient Greece flourished on a basis of chattel slavery. In those days, there were no steam engines or dynamos to work in place of man or mule. The curse of Adam bore heavily upon the human labourers.

To-day, vast numbers of our fellow citizens—the unemployed—beg for work, and starve in patience amidst plenty, unaware that they are disinherited from their property rights in the nation's credit by a cheating trick operated by banking institutions.

... "Household slaves play their part in Greek history and drama from its beginning. In the great days of Athens a free citizen who did not own at least one slave was esteemed poor indeed." As Hendrik van Loon says:

"The Greek city, whenever it was not ruled by a King or tyrant, was run by and for the freemen, and this would not have been possible without a large army of slaves who outnumbered the free citizens at the rate of six or five to one. . . The slaves did all the cooking and baking and candlestick making of the city. They were the tailors and the carpenters and the jewellers and the school-teachers and the book-keepers, and they tended the store and looked after the factory while the master went to the public meeting to discuss questions of war or peace or visited the theatre to see the latest play."

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"The small valley farms, with their corn lands and vineyards and olive groves, passed from father to son for many generations: to their labours on the land the owners added boat building, sea fishing and -trading ventures along the Mediterranean coasts. Centuries passed, the population increased; the polis (fortified place) of the chief grew into a city with market place, town hall and streets of dwellings, the town houses of the farmers. Each city with its surrounding' farm and forest land was known as a city state, ruled, in the case of Athens, by its assembly or town-meeting of all the free citizens.

"In the fifth century B.C. the question of food supply became a serious one, for the quantity of corn which could be grown on the little farms did not increase with the population. The people of the city state of Athens dealt with this problem in three ways: by limiting their families, by encouraging in all possible ways the import of corn, and by making exile a common punishment—law breakers were shipped away to some foreign coast, there to found a 'colony.' The Athenian father was neither expected nor desired to allow a weakling baby to grow up, nor one he had not the means to support. . . .

"The Athenian farmer and importer of grain were obliged by law to send their corn to the public granaries of Athens and nowhere else. There it was weighed and two-thirds of it were despatched to the city market, where the merchants had to share it—no merchant might buy more than fifty measures. The remaining third was at the disposal of the owner. So essential was the import of foreign corn that citizens were forbidden to lend money to masters of ships unless such vessels were commissioned to bring back a cargo of grain to Athens. So the jars of olive oil, the pottery and other work of the Greek craftsman went forth, and the grain came in...

"The Greeks of Lydia in Asia Minor began to use *coins* for money in the seventh century B.C. In the British Museum we may see their coins, small lumps of electrum stamped with the seal of merchant or ruler.

"The fifth ad fourth centures B.C. are often called the *Greek Golden Age*. Why 'golden,' we may ask? This metal, though not essential to man, and of limited use, tends to be regarded as the symbol of excellence. So the period of Greece's greatest people and finest achievements must be called its Golden Age. Let us consider the economic position of the Athenians at this time.

"Athens is no longer a city of farmers and fishers. The wealthier citizens have left their farms to the management of slave stewards, or leased them to poorer They live in the city, occupying men. their time with its government, trade and There is no King; the ruling shipping. body is a council of citizens presided over by a member of the leading Athenian families. All Athenian freemen have the right to vote when laws are being made or altered. Large numbers of foreign traders and craftsmen now live in Athens; these people were not welcomed, nor are they granted full citizen rights; but since they brought money with them or some special craft or skill, they are allowed to stay. Money-owners, indeed, are beginning to command the respect formerly paid only to heroes and land-owners, for since the invention of coins all the Mediterraean peoples are becoming ever more fascinated by these symbols of the possession of power and wealth. From the silver mines of Laurion, near Athens, slaves dig the silver from which the Athenian coins are made-the obols exchangeable for so many desirable things, from a cargo of corn to a slave's freedom. The richest and most influential citizens of Athens are now those who hold shares in the Laurion mines. The mine-slaves work under conditions so bad that even a strong man is soon worn out-a master can utter no worse threat to a lazy houseslave than that of selling him to the mines....

"Above the city on the hill of the Acropolis, stand the beautiful pillared temples built by the Athenians-the great Parthenon, shrine of the patron goddess Athene, and the smaller shrines. The walls and columns of the temple are of marble, the columns fluted, the frieze above them carved with life-like carvings of men and horses in motion. These buildings, and the statues adorning them, the colossal bronze Athene, thirty feet in height, the ivory and gold Athene, the bronze image of the Wooden Horse of Troy, with more we have not space to name here, represent the thankoffering of the Athenians to the gods for victory against the hosts and fleets of the Great Kings of Persia. Master-masons, free artisans and slaves, had all worked together upon the fabric of the temples, receiving for their labour each the same

wage, a *drachma* a day. "They were very fine, very impressive, those Greek temples. . . ."

Having read the pictorial account of Ancient Greece, given by Helen Corke in "Towards Economic Freedom,"\* from which the above extracts are taken, one is compelled to ask what such realists would have said of ourselves who do not take steps to utilise all our crops, who aim to export more than we import, who go without national necessities with two million registered unemployed.

In ancient Greece, culture could only flourish on a "slave" basis. This is not true of our time, the harnessing of inanimate power has made culture, leisure, security, and freedom a potential for all.

According to the editor of *Power*, even in 1929, in Great Britain, there was machinery capable of generating 175 millions horse power; in U.S.A. 7,040 millions; in Germany 1,750 millions; in France 700 millions. One horse-power is generally reckoned the equivalent of ten manpower, so that in this country we can each claim to have the equivalent of 40 slaves available, and in the U.S.A. the equivalent of 50 slaves in mechanical power is available for every living person.

power is available for every living person. When are we going to insist on our freedom?—for at present all of us. whether in receipt of wage, salary, or dividend, are slaves of Finance.

\* Methuen & Co., Ltd. 3s. 6d.



# Social Security Act In New Zealand

UNDER the new Social Security Act which is to come into fonce in New Zealand as from April 1, 1939, a main feature of the scheme is to provide free national health services for the whole population, to include a general practitioners' service, hospital or sanatorium treatment, mental hospital care and treatment, maintenance and maternity treatment as well as the cost of maintenance in a maternity home.

These services are to be available to every person over the age of 16, ordinarily resident in New Zealand. In addition, a number of cash benefits are to be paid, of which the following are new to New Zealand legislation: sick benefits payable in respect of temporary incapacity, invalids' benefits payable in respect of permanent incapacity, emergency benefits payable where the above-mentioned benefits and unemployment benefits are not payable, widows' pensions, orphans' pensions and family benefits.

Under the new Act it is also proposed gradually to substitute for the existing non-contributory system of old-age pen-

sions a new contributory system, and the existing scales of unemployment benefits and miners' benefits will be improved. The main grounds of qualification for these benefits, as provided for in the Bill, were that an applicant should satisfy certain conditions of residence and of means. The scheme in general was to be financed by means of a "registration fee" of  $\pounds_{II}$  a year payable quarterly in respect of persons over the age of 20, and by means of a "social security contribution" at the rate of 1s. in the  $\pounds$  on all salaries, wages or income.

The most important amendment relating to the financial provisions of the scheme consists in the addition of a special section providing in effect that all companies are to pay 1s. in the  $\pounds$  on their "chargeable income," which with minor modifications is the income assessable for income tax. In addition, there is a provision for taxation on profits which may, be distributed to shareholders by nontaxable companies. Exemption from payment of the tax is allowed in the case of companies engaged in gold mining,

# **"THE FIG TREE"**

\_ The December issue of *The Fig Tree* is worthy of its predecessors, and that is high praise. The names of D. E. Faulkner Jones, Arthur Brenton, G. F. Powell, G. Hickling, and G. W. L. Day on the cover whet the appetite, and it is certainly true in this case that *l'appetit vient en mangeant*.

In "Fate Takes a Hand," Miss Faulkner Jones, with her customary brilliance and lucidity, reveals the dilemma of our creditcontrollers, who dare not imitate what there is reason to suppose are the financial methods of the dictators—i.e., the *apparent* maintenance of "sound financial principles" before the people, together with the issuance of *secret* credits for defence, public works, etc.—*until* they have completed the process of centralising control and are no longer under the necescity of discussing ways and means in Parliament.

Mr. G. Hickling, in a notable exposure of the Bank of England, shows us how "crises" are manufactured, and the sinister technique of Finance which deliberately plans these periodic upheavals and then takes advantage of the situation it has itself created to get further legislation passed which will increase and consolidate its power and bring the general population a step nearer to complete indigence and impotence.

Probably many readers will turn first

to Mr. G. F. Powell's "Notes on Alberta" and take heart from his expressed conviction that the Albertan Government is "operating on the wave-length of the Canon" and is bound to succeed eventually, however long the struggle.

Under the pseudonym "A.B.C." are given some "Old Testament Anticipations of Social Credit" when "the floors shall be full of wheat and the vats shall overflow with wine and oil . . . And afterwards I will pour out My spirit upon all flesh."

Miss Griselda Cochrane-Shanks gives us a Christmas tale about a Bishop and a Banquet, and Mr. Arthur Welford traces the life-story of the Rate from its humble birth in 1562 after the dissolution of the Monasteries to the present day, with some very interesting facts about the life our ancestors lived, from some of which it may be gleaned that the work complex existed in 1582 when Sir Richard Hakluyt wrote that "there is no commoditie of the Realm that may set so many poore subjects on worke as this (wool) doeth . . ."

Articles by Hilderic Cousens and P. McDevitt, book reviews by W.A.W. and A. W. Coleman, and verses on "The Money-Minded" by Geoffrey Dobbs, complete the list of good and satisfying fare which *The Fig Tree* offers to those who hunger and thirst after the economic righteousness of Social Credit.

D.B

scheelite mining, petroleum mining, *life* insurance and banking, and further exemption may be allowed to particular classes of companies by Order-in-Council.

Other amendments which have been passed include a provision that the right of a woman to select her own medical practitioner in a maternity hospital must be subject to the concurrence of the person or body controlling the hospital.

The New Zealand branch of the British Medical Association has declared itself entirely opposed to the principle of a universal general practitioners' service, and up till the passing of the Act it had refused to co-operate with the Government in organising the scheme. The attitude of the Association was that free services should be granted only to those classes of the population whose means would not allow them to pay for those services. It remains to be seen whether the passing of the Act into law will have modified the attitude of the Association and what measures the Government proposes to take to deal with the situation.

## UTILITY LETTER

In 1900 Mark Twain wrote to a Mr. Kester, who had asked permission to make a play out of *Tom Sawyer*:

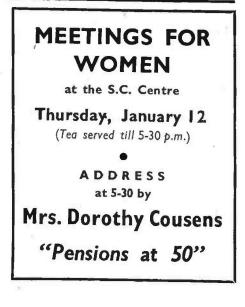
I should like to see Tom Sawyer staged. You need not submit the play to my approval . . . Turn the book upside down and inside out if you want to. If you wish to add people, incidents, morals, immorals, or anything else, do so with a free hand. My literary vanities are dead and nothing I have written is sacred to me.

Sincerely yours,

S'L. CLEMENS.

We are framing a copy of this letter for prominent display in our reception room, where once an editor died like a dog for taking a comma out of a couplet.

-The New Yorker.



# Social Crediters and the Press

# Abstract of an Address by Mr. Brian Reed at the Social Credit Centre, London, January 5

I N reply to a toast of "The Independent Press" given at a press banquet some years ago, the editor of a newspaper known througnout the world said:

"There is no such thing as an independent press-unless it is in the country towns. You know it and I know it. There is not one of you, who dares to write his honest opinion, and if you did you know beforehand that it would never appear in print. I am paid £30 a week for keeping my honest opinions out of the paper I am connected with. Others of you are paid similar salaries for similar things. And any of you who would be so foolish as to write his honest opinions would be out on the streets looking for another job. The business of the journalist is to destroy the truth, to lie outright, to pervert, to vilify, to fawn at the feet of Mammon, to sell his race and his country for his daily bread. You know it and I know it, and what folly is this to be toasting an 'independent press.' We are the tools and vassals of rich men behind the scenes. We are the jumping jacks; they pull the strings and we dance. Our talents, our possibilities, and our lives are all the property of other men. We are intellectual prostitutes."

In the intervening time the shackles with which the press has allowed itself to be bound have been drawn tighter.

There has always been a tendency for us in this country to swallow the tale that if by some strange mischance our press was not *absolutely* free and incorruptible, it was at least a thousand times better than the press of any other country. It isn't. It is, indeed, just as fettered, just as servile and as cowardly as that of any country under an open dictatorship. The terrific decline in English newspapers as moral and intellectual forces during the last two decades or so has been accompanied by an astonishing commercial success, largely through advertising.

There was a time when the leading newspapers of this country were very largely independent, and honestly followed the lines of a pronouncement made in no less a paper than The Times almost go years ago, that it was the purpose of a news-paper to "Seek out truth above all things, and to present to readers not such things as statecraft would wish them to know, but the truth, as near as it can be attained.' This was long after the attempts of such people as Charles II and Horace Walpole to censor the press, the fruits of which lasted until, roughly, Napoleonic times. It is interesting to note, too, that this dictum of *The Times* lays the bogey of what is now called "the public interest," when what is really meant is "the Government interest," which is quite a different matter.

#### The Cult of the Abstract

Despite the buttering which has accompanied the gradual and cunning movement towards the total corruption and control of what is humorously called the "national" press—national being really a term for "State," which is simply an abstraction—very many thousands of people are now deeply suspicious of the press. And they have every cause to be, Indeed, if the newspaper readers of this country knew but a quarter of the truth, the newspaper business would undergo a striking change almost overnight.

It is to try, albeit in a clumsy manner, to keep the idea of an honest and tree press before the British people, that there has been such a spate of speeches recently on the freedom of the press, and how in the "democratic" life to which we in this country "are committed," the free press is one of our most valuable assets.

The incorruptibility of the British journalist—which, taken as I have just said it, is in the main quite true—has been carefully fostered in the public mind as meaning the incorruptibility of the British press, to which it is actually quite different. But even in the purely journalistic field, the pride of the profession, and the ideas of the public generally, should be tempered more in accordance with those lines from Humbert Wolfe's Uncelestial City:

> You cannot hope to bribe or twist, thank God! the British journalist

But, seeing what the man will do unbribed, there's no occasion to.

Although the duty of the press is, or should be, avowedly to the public, and not to any constituted authority, during the present century, and more particularly in post-war years, the London press has come rapidly under the domination of high finance and big business.

#### Free to 'Suppress'

Although profit-making "pure and simple," if I may phrase it so, may seem to be the sole object of the "national" press industry, with the change round to this objective has come insidiously the most potent means of undermining the liberty of every individual in this country, by ensuring that he will be able to read only what certain powerful persons, and organisations wish him to read, and by constantly holding over his head veiled threats of civil war, commotion, revolution, and famine, wrapped up in such fulsome phrases as "falling confidence," "service before self," and so on. One can hardly open any London daily on any one of the 313 publishing days in a year without being reminded of Northcliffe's phrase about the crime of committing a newspaper.

Take any issue of any London daily. Is their half-no, is there one-quarter-of its contents of any real interest to you? Do you find anything in it to tell you just why the abounding plenty of this earth 1s not being freely distributed to us all? Is there as much as a 10-line paragraph in small type to say just who gets the £260,000,000 collected each year in income tax, although a debtor has a legal right to know to whom he is in debt? Does it ever say why day after day it rolls out platitudes to men and institutions which are failing in a most conspicuous manner to give us what we want, and what we, as citizens of this country, have a right to demand? Does it ever hint that a Member of Parliament should be responsible only to his constituents, and not to corrupt parties?

No! But it tells you to pay your taxes, and to pay them bright and early. It tells you, in the midst of almost unconceivable plenty, mind you, that the unemployed shall not eat unless they first go into training-for cannon fodder, presumably. It tells you that you, and your wife, and your children, and your parents, and your friends, and your hopes, and ideals, and life must be sunk or given up for the State, which, it doesn't tell you, is simply an abstraction which would have no meaning whatever if you and I and our fellows were not here. Nor does it offer any comment on the criminal racket of our country being run-to destruction-by an international gang of financial crooks and their touts.

It is in these respects that the presentday "national" press is pre-eminently corrupt. It is not the matter it prints, but the matter which it does *not* print, that is so harmful, and when Social Credit made an effort in Alberta recently to see that this was put right, and that newspapers should have access to all facts and should print all sides of a question, a howl went up from every newspaper of any size in Canada about tampering with the "freedom of the press."

The public of a country may take "freedom of the press" to mean freedom to search out, and publish, and criticise, on the basis of *all* facts, the doings of the people's parliament and its organisation, and of public men and public institutions. But it is obvious from this Canadian demonstration, and from various outpourings in this country, that to the press their freedom means that they can contort, twist, withhold and mutilate with

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### SOCIAL CREDIT, January 6, 1939

unbridled licence anything they like, or anything that their governors like.

Mr. Reed indicated various lines of activity as practicable, including that of continuously bringing people's notice to the true position of the press, writing to the editor, and exercising sanctions upon advertisers.

There is a positive undercurrent of opinions, which more truly expresses the ideas of the real mass than the pathetic and patronising efforts of the press. This opinion is growing. There is scepticism with the majority of newspaper readers about their daily printed fare, and all interested in Social Credit must, for their mental health, say goodbye to any hope or help from the press. And the activities of those working for a freer economy will let fresh air into the fool's paradise of the printed word-which is half-truth, or information having no contact with human life.

## WHY BEG?

An appeal has been made for donations, large and small, to be sent to the Secretary, Church of England Pensions Board, 55 Tufton Street, London S.W.1.

According to a press report: "Arrangements are being made by which it is hoped that a church collection will be set aside for the appeal on some Sunday in every parish during the coming year. Members of the Church and others who care for the work of the Church are asked to make the most liberal response."

Why do not the Churches support the Social Credit policy which would abolish the need to beg?

£2 a week pensions to all over fifty not gainfully employed would abolish the need for charity.

#### Thank You

We thank the anonymous donor of Bristol for sending us Foreign Stamps and twelve penny stamps for

## **BOOK REVIEW**

# FANFARE FOR FREETHOUG

THE analysis of the glorious money system (for a few) is now complete. Financial policy could, by its domination, get a part of the public to eat cinders for its breakfast. It could also get newspapers to expatiate on the benefits of such a diet, and the country would be divided into two parties-the cinder eaters and the anticinder eaters. Folly and knavery comparable to this exists, until a poet comes along and sums up the humbug in a few lines. In "A Question," Mr. Simmons sees the situation:

"Have you e'er thought, my friend, that decent men

Are all like Daniels in the lions' den? The wonder is that decent folk survive, So hard it is for them to keep alive, Surrounded as they are by rogues and fools Who have learned villainy in Public Schools."

And then, noting the forces that exploit ignorance (the task of enlightenment being beyond them) the poet, with a choice of clear words, puts the matter thus:

'The rogues set fools at fighting one another,

Father killing son, and brother, brother: The rogues survive and, laughing, scoop the pool;

A decent man may starve like any fool.

When will the decent people make an end Of fools and rogues-and will you help, my friend?"

The appeal in the last line can be made to any who are determined to put an end to superstition, or beliefs that do not fit the facts, or dominance by the cunning over society either by words, or a thunder-ing "Thou shalt not." This latter is the position that Finance is gradually taking. Thou shalt not-have a full life, a secure life, thou shalt not live-unless working. The Crisis may have made a good number of people reconsider their position in society; if so, it is all to the good and gain

| the funds.   | of society. Slick half-truths from the press,  |
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doubts and fears of folk who are not aware they can only die once, and the travesty of life that goes on will sift a few more decent men who, if they cannot be leaders, will be intelligent followers.

There are thirty-seven poems in this volume of verse which we recommend. An American reviewer of the late A. E. Housman's work stated that of English poets, he had written the least trash. The writer of this little volume could well be included in the same category; he has respect for his own intelligence-and consequently and necessarily, yours. You will be in no doubt of his meaning, and just to give another sample from bulk, here is a sonnet that should warm the heart of every individualist-who wants things for himself that he would not deny to others. Thinking for oneself is a difficult art.

"His mind is tangled in an undergrowth Of words and phrases got from books;

His broth is spoiled by too many cooks; His mental poverty comes not from sloth. Resounding word; the flashing phrase; they both

Can captivate him by their very looks:" They hold him fast; they grapple him

with hooks, To think things for himself the man is loath.

He reads the Times and from it every day Cuts out the speeches of our public men; He learns by heart the empty things they say;

But should you ask of him politely when These childish things will all be put away, He cackles like a stupid, frightened hen.

To the discerning reader there is a wealth of sympathy in the fourth line; it is subtle sympathy, and in the same way, the wholesome life-furthering ideas of Social Credit must be put over to the poor wanderer in the jungle of economics-with comfortable and understanding words.

We recommend this book to the growing and grown up, and John Milton saves us all the trouble of going abroad to learn anything about freedom; Mr. Bayard splendid volume of verse Simmons' reminds us of our house production and his work is in line with the tradition of taking the liberty to know and speak CHRISTOPHER GAY. freely.

• "Fanfare for Freethought," Bayard Simmons. The Pioneer Press, 61, Farringdon Street, E.C.4 18. net.

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Will advertisers please note that the latest time for accepting copy for this column is 12 noon Monday for Friday's issue.

Advertisers are requested to write for space rates, to Advertising Manager, Social Credit Secretariat Limited, 163A, Strand, W.C.2.

BIRMINGHAM and District. Social Crediters will find friends over tea and light refreshments at Princes Café, Temple Street, on Friday even-ings, from 6 p.m. in the King's Room.

BLACKBURN Social Credit Study Group meets each Tuesday at 8 p.m. in the Y.M.C.A., Limbrick. All welcome. Enquiries to Hon. Sec., 47, Whalley New Road, Blackburn.

DARLINGTON. Residents' enquiries welcomed through Mr. J. W. Jennings, 1, Bracken Road.

DERBY S.C. Association. Meetings are held fortnightly (Tuesdays) at the "Unity Hall," Room 14, at 7.45 p.m. Next meeting, January 10. "United Social Club" cater for refreshments to all bona fide members of S.C. Association.

GUERNSEY. Persons interested in Social Credit are requested to communicate with Mr. H. McTaggart, "Sherwood," Mount Row, St. Peter Port.

THE Liverpool Social Credit Forum, an autono-mous local group, is prepared to arrange for speakers to address meetings on Social Credit and will welcome enquiries regarding other activities in the Social Credit Crusade. Address communications to F. H. Auger, "Malvern," Cor-bridge Road, Liverpool 16. bridge Road, Liverpool, 16.

are welcome at the Social Credit Rendezvous, 163A, Strand, W.C.2 (entrance in Strand Lane, close to Aldwych Station). Open meeting: Thursdays, at 8 p.m.

January 12 Jas. Ed. Tuke

on "The Abolition of Chattel Slavery" All visitors welcome,

PORTSMOUTH D.S.C. Group. Weekly meetings every Thursday at 8 p.m., 16, Ursula Grove, Elm Grove, Southsea.

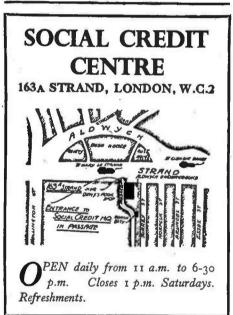
SOUTHAMPTON Group. Please note that the Headquarters have been removed to 8, CRANBURY PLACE, SOUTHAMPTON. Tuesday meetings are postponed temporarily. Members please call to see the new and more advantageously-situated premises.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS and District. Will Social Crediters please get in touch immediately with W.L.W., Cor Laetum, Hastings Road, Pembury, near Tunbridge Wells?

TYNESIDE Social Credit Society invite cooperation to establish a local centre for Social Credit action in all its aspects. Apply, W. L. Page, 74-6, High West Street, Gateshead.

WALLASEY Social Credit Association. Enquiries welcomed by Hon. Sec., 2, Empress Road, Wallasey.

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# THE FIG TREE

DECEMBER ISSUE, JUST OUT THE contains an important article by G. F. Powell reviewing the Alberta

- situation.
- GEORGE HICKLING draws the veil from the machinations of the Bank of England, which he calls the "Crisis Factory."
- A remarkable analysis of the events that have precipitated the present world condition, from the graphic pen of Miss D. E. FAULKNER JONES, should be read by everyone.
- Other notable contributions are from "A.B.C." ARTHUR BRENTON, A. W. COLEMAN, G. W. L. DAY, ARTHUR WELFORD, C. G. DOBBS, HILDERIC COUSENS, GRISELDA COCHRANE-SHANKS, TOM DIXON, PHILIP McDevitt, and Edward P. KAYE.
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