

# SOCIAL CREDIT

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## IF ROBINSON CRUSOE BROADCAST

What Would He Say Of Our Industries ?

**M**R. WILSON, the Chief Inspector of Factories, points out in his annual report that there has been a marked increase of accidents in industry during the last two years.

The total number of accidents was 113,260 in 1933 and 136,858 in 1934. The number of fatal accidents was 688 in 1933 and 785 in 1934.

None of these accidents, says the report, were really trivial, and Mr. Wilson suggests that "every effort should be made to effect improvement."

This last phrase has a familiar ring. It has already passed into our post-War language of despair, like the famous clichés "Searching for a Formula" and "Exploring every Avenue." It is verbal dope, and one can almost feel the prick of the hypodermic needle on hearing it.

But perhaps it is unfair to blame Mr. Wilson for using such a phrase. To do him justice, he has made a number of practical suggestions for reducing accidents in factories, and Dr. J. C. Bridge has written a supplementary chapter on health, showing among other things the dangers to brick and tile workers due to siliceous dust. The point is that both writers can only conclude their reports with pious hopes, knowing perfectly well that the crux of the matter is Finance.

If an electrical combine dominated the government and kept us short of current and equipment so that night traffic had to move about in semi-darkness, a Chief Inspector of Roads might report alarming numbers of accidents at night, and conclude with the suggestion that "every effort should be made to effect improvement." But knowing what we knew, surely we should object: "What's the use of these pious sentiments? The electrical combine is to blame for starving us of light."

If Finance assessed values in terms of human well-being, factories and workshops could be made safer by far, for it is only cost which prevents it. But Finance knows only money values, and anything in the interests of the community has to be done against the grain, so to speak.

Who has not been thrilled by Defoe? Compare the adventures of Robinson Crusoe with, say, a Test Match, and the feats of our flanneled heroes seem positively tame.

Now "Robinson Crusoe" is simply a description of Industry in an unalloyed condition. It is man's struggle with his environment, but with no complicating factors. Crusoe knew nothing about false systems

of book-keeping. He made a direct attack on all his problems, and thought always in terms of real values.

If he could visit Britain to-day he would be appalled at the ugliness and sordidness of our factories, and when he heard of the numbers killed and maimed he would ask why we didn't spend more money—if necessary a lot more money—in making them safer. If we objected that the nation hadn't enough of it, Crusoe might reply that lack of money never prevented *him* from exercising his own muscles and capabilities to the full.

How should we reply to this ?

We can imagine Crusoe mentioning the point in a broadcast address during the Children's Hour, whereupon a suave professor of economics would allay the suspicions of 10,000,000 listeners-in that same evening by a few humorous, half-contemptuous remarks implying that Crusoe was unacquainted with modern methods of banking.

All the same, Crusoe would be right. But for Finance, a parasitic perversion which has crept into the situation and been allowed to grow like some monstrous leech, we could make industry as pleasant as the games we pay to take part in, and build factories as beautiful as cathedrals.

Why not? The Institute of Industrial Psychology has found that factory conditions make a great difference to the quality and quantity of the work which is done in them.

For example, a certain factory owner was in the habit of distempering the walls of his factory at least once a year. One day he decided to try the experiment of changing the colour each time he distempered. The effect was an immediate increase of output. So even from a purely utilitarian standpoint it would be good policy to improve our factories.

But there is far more in it than this. Just as Crusoe's life was full of romance and interest because he saw things in perspective and pursued true aims, so ours is sordid and dispiriting because we are working at one remove from reality and confusing the substance with the shadow.

Like the unhappy children in "Hansel and Gretel" who were turned into cats and dogs, we are all under a spell which has almost deprived us of our humanity and imprisoned us in a witch's house of frustrated desires.

The first thing to realise is that we have been enchanted by the witch of Finance, and the next thing is to break the spell, which can only be done by the concerted will of the people.

We must wake up to the situation and refuse to accept it any longer.

G. W. L. DAY.

### UNEMPLOYMENT

is a Sign of  
Progress.

Pay It  
DIVIDENDS

## Women Demand Abolition of Poverty

Report of a speech by Miss Alison Neilans to the International Women's Congress at Istanbul on April 22, proposing a resolution on Economic Problems.

**I**N this speech Miss Neilans showed that the present crisis is affecting men and women alike. Men and women are standing together to demand a better world (women suffer specially, because their equal right to paid work is not everywhere recognised).

In the present state of affairs, said Miss Neilans, we find terrible poverty, not only in the backward countries, but also in highly developed countries like the U.S.A. The number of suicides in all industrial countries is rapidly increasing, and fear and worry are driving people insane. Men and women dare not have children, and regard them as a curse rather than a blessing—they have no food, no clothes, no shelter and no hope.

At least one hundred million people are affected by these appalling conditions, and hanging over us all is the fear of a war which may entirely destroy civilisation.

The effects of unemployment are evident; the loss of self-respect in a world where millions seem to be unwanted; the misery of the old, the hopelessness of the young.

This is the situation regarding *People*: Consider the situation regarding *Things*.

As a result of an increased knowledge of science and the progress of invention, the productivity of the earth and of industry has also increased. At first man was the only labour machine. Then came water power, steam power and electric power. Then the internal combustion engine, the diesel engine and the turbine, and now the photo-electric cell.

The population of the world is about 2,000 million, but in the last 150 years another population has appeared in it, 10,000 million horsepower of units of mechanical energy. So that for each human creature there exist five mechanical slaves, able to work for him. We have entered the Age of Power. Here are some examples:—

1. The great banks are using a machine which makes sixty thousand ledger entries in one hour. One girl works it and it displaces sixty men clerks.
2. At St. Louis, in U.S.A., on sewerage works, seventy men with special digging machines are doing the work of 7,000 men with picks and shovels.
3. A machine producing 650,000 electric bulbs every twenty-four hours displaces 2,000 men.
4. In U.S.A. a motor car factory turns out 9,000 motor car chassis a day and employs only 200 men.
5. Three workers with one machine can produce 700,000 cigarettes a day, displacing 700 men.
6. *Sochs*.—One worker on an automatic machine can produce 3,600 pairs a day.
7. *Printing*.—Thirty years ago 1,000 letterheads an hour, now 20,000 an hour.

The result will be that women will get nothing but cheap monotonous work, and men will lose what work they have.

When we come to the heavy industries—the production of iron and steel, coal-carbonisation, and the handling of freight—we find the machine all-powerful. For example, in 1712 the steam engine gave 56 man-power; in 1772 the steam engine gave 756 man-power; in 1871 the steam engine gave 20,000 man power. Now one turbine unit produces nine million man-power in twenty-four hours.

In the production of food, scientific methods have enormously increased the output of wheat, sugar, wines, coffee, etc. In the production of such materials as cotton, rubber, wool, etc., the same multiplication of output takes place. So that there is in fact limitless power at man's disposal—enormously increased production of all the necessities of life, and real wealth for all.

What is being done with this wealth at the present time?

It is being destroyed, at the rate of: twenty-six million sacks of coffee in Brazil; twelve million pigs and cattle in the U.S.A.; 500 thousand lambs in New Zealand; ten million gallons of wine in Portugal.

People are even paid not to produce! As a result of the Ottawa Conference fourteen million acres were put out of cultivation in Canada.

In his recent Alexander Pedler lecture to the British Science Guild, Sir Daniel Hall remarks: It used to be said that the greatest public benefactor was the man who could make two blades of grass grow where one grew before. Not so to-day, when nations are considering agreements to restrict output, and even destroying the products of the soil. . . . As an American Professor of Agriculture writes to me: "ten million acres of cotton and some thousands of tobacco have been ploughed under. The latest move is the killing of some five million pigs weighing under 100 lb. and the slaughter of some 200,000 sows. If this will bring national prosperity I have wasted my life."

We women, concluded Miss Neilans, denounce this as fundamentally wrong. It is blasphemy against God's gifts. Wealth is piling up around us and we ask the people of the world to starve in the midst of plenty.

But these miracles of production throw men and women out of work. They receive no wages. They cannot buy the goods which the machine produces. So in many countries we are trying to invent work so that people may be employed.

But do we live to work or work to live? Are men and women born merely to pay the interest on the world debts or are we born to glorify God and to enjoy Him and serve Him for ever?

*Everything progresses except human happiness*—women regard the civilisation of to-day as a biological failure. We demand a world fit for our children, our men and ourselves to live in. We live in the Age of Power. The Curse of Adam has been lifted from us. We are face to face with something entirely new in human experience — some mighty corner has been rounded. We have left the age of Scarcity for the age of Plenty.

We call upon the governments of the world to face the fact that the Promised Land, flowing with milk and honey, is open before all the nations of the earth and they must devise the way to let their peoples enter.

The resolution was adopted unanimously in the following terms:—

This Congress, representing many millions of women throughout the Eastern and Western World, and voicing the views of that section of the community most closely associated with the personal distribution of the means of life to the family, records its conviction that destruction of urgently needed necessities cannot improve the condition of the world, and is fundamentally unsound and wrong in principle.

### WHEREAS

- (a) There is widespread poverty, malnutrition and urgent need for the common necessities of life among large sections of the world populations;
- (b) There is no true shortage of raw material, human labour, productive machinery and cultivable land;
- (c) Science, research and invention are constantly increasing the productivity of the earth and of industry, and thereby increasing or having the potentiality of increasing the real wealth of the world;
- (d) This increased real wealth or potentiality of real wealth is available to the majority of the people of any country only by means of the purchasing power which they obtain in return for their labour;
- (e) The use of machinery is more and more replacing human labour, so that millions of people are unable to earn wages and consequently have little or no purchasing power;
- (f) The development of machinery should everywhere lighten the burden of the workers rather than add to their distress.

The Congress calls upon all Governments to consider how purchasing power can be made available for those whose paid work is temporarily or permanently not required by the community and further, to consider what effective action can be taken whereby the potential productivity of the earth and of industry can be distributed for the benefit of the peoples of the world.

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## Good News from Overseas

This week's news from British Columbia and California (see page 353) may well be the beginning of great events on the Pacific slope. In British Columbia a campaign is under way to demand results on the model of our own Electoral Campaign. In California the formation of a League of National Dividends, with headquarters at San Francisco, is evidence that the Canadian province will have a friendly but formidable rival in the race for economic sanity.

Well, the winner of this race, which is now world-wide, gains a prize not only for himself but equally for every one of his rivals, for the first country to introduce Social Credit will by that fact force its adoption elsewhere within a comparatively short time. Poverty must not remain for a day longer than can be helped, however, and we are not going to have our own Campaign beaten on the post if hard work and enthusiasm can prevent it. We have a good start, let us keep it!

## Why Work?

Under this headline, the *Bradford Telegraph and Argus* says that in Lancashire there are men who are doing work for wages which would be paid to youths. Their earnings are not enough to maintain them and their dependants, and through an ironic state of affairs a man who does no work and looks to the Public Assistance Officer for his maintenance actually receives more at the end of the week than the wage-earner. And so there arises the new problem of the man who works to preserve his form as a worker, but whose reward is smaller than he would receive for doing nothing!

The very fact that there are men who are willing to work under such circumstances at all is a striking

answer to those who say that no work would be done if National Dividends were distributed to everybody. If men who are actually *penalised* for working will yet insist on working, what further proof could be needed?

Perhaps the answer to this will be that there are always a few enthusiasts, but that the average man needs an incentive. Well, would National Dividends remove the incentive? A man would be very abnormal if he were content to eke out a living on his National Dividend alone. To begin with, at all events, it would be small, and at the same time industrial employment would rapidly become less irksome.

## Too Many Spindles

The Bill to scrap "redundant" spindles in our cotton mills has passed its first reading, and the text of it has been published. There are thought to be between 48,000,000 and 53,000,000 spindles, and the Bill aims at reducing them by 10,000,000. This is to be done by establishing a Board with a capital of £2,000,000 behind it to buy surplus spindles and scrap, or otherwise get rid of them. Five shillings is suggested as the average purchase price per spindle, but the Board will not be obliged to pay any special figure.

The fact that exactly two-thirds of the cotton spinners voted for a scheme of this kind, when the Colwyn Committee put it to the vote, shows how desperate must be their plight. There is solid satisfaction in building up an industry, but what a dispiriting business it must be to dismember one!

And can anyone suppose that the cotton operatives of other countries—the Japanese, for example—will not rapidly fill in the gap created by the removal of 10,000,000 British spindles, so that in another twelve months we shall be talking about scrapping another lot? There is only one solution for it, and that is to distribute more purchasing power among our own people until they can buy all the cotton goods they need.

## Financial "Adviser"

In the debate on the Government of India Bill in the House of Lords on July 2, Lord Strabolgi was the only member of that august assembly to question clause 15, which, although one of the shortest in this tremendous measure, may well prove to be one of the most important.

This clause provides for the appointment of a financial adviser to the Governor-General, and, as Lord Strabolgi pointed out, "unless a miracle happens," this adviser will be someone "very agreeable to the hierarchy of central bankers, who have such immense power. He will be somebody who is acceptable to the Bank of International Settlements and its member governors of central banks."

Clause 15 is only permissive not mandatory, but who can doubt that the Governor-General, overburdened with his many special responsibilities of which finance is but one, will be glad to take advantage of the permission accorded him to appoint an adviser, if indeed he does not regard it as mandatory, although the clause is not so worded? Furthermore, is it not only to be expected that this adviser will, as Lord Strabolgi suggested, "be viewed with grave suspicion at once," for finance is a "reserved subject" which means that the Governor-General can overrule his finance minister's decisions with regard to it?

Lord Strabolgi pointed to the analogy between the situation which might arise in the future in India and that which arose in the "so-called financial crisis of 1931." Mr. Montagu Norman was abroad at that time, and the Deputy-Governor of the Bank of England attended at Downing Street and gave advice to two Ministers only—the Prime Minister and Viscount Snowden, then Chancellor of the Exchequer. Only they saw the Deputy-Governor and his assistants who, said Lord Strabolgi, spoke not only for the Bank of England but for the Banque de France and Wall Street. "Your Lordships will understand," he continued, "how other ministers in that Cabinet were suspicious . . . Is it to be wondered at that they were suspicious and hostile?"

Despite these and other cogent criticisms from the same source, the clause was passed, and thus the central bankers have ensured that if perchance the Indian member selected to act as Finance Minister to the Federal Government, is sufficiently independent to refuse to play Tweedledum to the Tweedledee of the Governor of the recently established Central Bank of India, then this power behind the throne can come into operation and, acting on his advice, the Governor General can disregard that of the Minister, in the interests of course of the "financial stability and credit of India"!

Well, that is that; but thanks to Lord Strabolgi no member of the House of Lords can plead ignorance of the issue. This legislation is not absent minded, it is deliberate.

### The Lunacy of Debt

Since the war £900,000,000 has been spent on the roads of Britain, according to Captain Austin Hudson, Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry of Transport, who added, when addressing the Institute of the Motor Trade on July 4, that 400 miles of new roads had been constructed and many miles of old roads reconstructed since the war.

All this work has increased the assets—the *real* wealth—of Britain. Transport has been made easier; less energy is required to move traffic over these better roads than if they had not been made. They have made possible a *real* saving of effort, and represent a huge increment of association.

And how does our present financial system reflect this increase in the *real* wealth of the country? Remember all the praise that we hear about the soundness of our monetary system—Britain, the model for the world to follow in finance.

Well, this great effort our people have made, with the abundant labour and materials ready to hand inside the country—no imports necessary, nothing to be paid to foreign countries for materials we had not got at home—all this has been written up against the nation as—what do you think?—DEBT!

### The Madness of Poverty

Common sense whispers that, so far from increases of real wealth, like the £900,000,000 worth of our new roads, being treated as a debt to be repaid with interest, it should be written up to the credit of the country.

The resulting saving in energy for transport ought to be calculated in terms of money and paid out to the community as a National Dividend. Instead of increasing the National *Debt*, the National *Credit* should have been increased.

Yet our Chancellors of the Exchequer, our Bank

Governors, or "Economic *Experts*" (God save the English language!), the leaders of our public life, tell us that our financial system is perfect! Indeed, the system is becoming a religion, and to criticise it is regarded by these idiots—yes, idiots is a mild term—as sacrilege.

Why, we haven't even got a National Credit Account in which to write up these assets! Nothing but Debt, Debt, Debt, accompanied by ever-increasing *Taxation*. And the example of the roads is one of *thousands* that could be cited.

Don't you *see* how immensely rich we might all be? Are we *mad*, then, to tolerate poverty? Instead of Debt we should have Credit; instead of *Taxation* we should have Dividends. What can you do about it? See page 351.

### Eating to Live

Mr. Frederick Stewart, the Australian Government representative, in moving a resolution about nutritional standards at Geneva, had some rather interesting things to say about so-called over-production and unemployment. He said that if he had remained at the Ministry of Commerce, where he was officially associated with restriction schemes, he might have believed "some quite reputable folk" who believed that our difficulties were due to producing too much, but that when he left this job and took charge of other Government plans for relieving unemployment he noticed that many of the unemployed were kept short of those very foodstuffs of which the farmers were said to be producing too much.

No one, he said, could say that in 1929 the world was free from poverty, or even from hunger. Even in the West, large sections of the population needed more and better food and clothing, while in Asia hunger was still endemic. Since 1929 world population had been increasing about one per cent. each year, or six per cent. in all, while production of food had remained practically unchanged. So there was less food available per head to-day than in 1929.

Everybody, he said, would benefit if countries could devise means of increasing the consumption of food—farmers, industrial workers, ship-owners, anaemic mothers, rickety children, and distracted Governments.

Well, countries cannot *devise means*, but experts can, or they are not experts. The people have to *demand results* and the means will be devised. The Electoral Campaign is endorsed by Mr. Stewart, though he may not know it.

### Dinner to Major Douglas

A dinner is being given on Friday, July 19, to welcome Major Douglas on his return from Alberta where, as Chief Reconstruction Adviser to the Government, he has just presented his first interim report on the possibility of applying Social Credit to that Province. The dinner will be held in the Connaught Rooms, Great Queen Street, London, W.C.2, at 6-30 for 7-30 p.m. Lord Tankerville will be in the Chair. Tickets, 8s. 6d., from the Social Credit Secretariat, 163A, Strand, London, W.C.2, or Lady Beaman, 18, Palace Gardens Terrace, London, W.8.

## Electors of Great Britain! Use Your Votes to Secure Lasting Prosperity

By Edward Hewlett

**SUPERVISORS** and all workers in the Electoral Campaign are requested to read this paper carefully. There is reason to believe that, published as a pamphlet, it would meet a long-felt want for a simple exposition of our case. Later we shall ask what demand does in fact exist for such a pamphlet. Suggestions for a suitable title are also requested.

**D**O you know that all sorts of things which you or your family would like to have are now being destroyed? Beef, mutton, bacon, wheat, eggs, milk, fish, fruit—these and many other foods are almost every day being BURNED, BURIED, or SUNK IN THE SEA. And farmers are being told that they must not send so much to market, and that if they do they will be fined, or made to lose in other ways.

Against this many of our own people are living in terrible conditions of poverty, unable to buy a square meal, believing meat and fruit to be a luxury, unable even to buy their children the milk they badly need. They think there is a general shortage of such things. THIS IS NOT SO. Of all the things needed to make life decent and comfortable there is an ABUNDANCE SUCH AS HAS NEVER EXISTED BEFORE.

Again, most of the rest of us, though perhaps not in immediate need, live in a state of constant anxiety. We are AFRAID of losing our business, our trade, our dividends, our JOBS. You yourself realise that at any time some new machine may deprive you of your work. Or if you have a business or a shop, or in any way provide other people with what they want, you depend on their wages or takings to keep you going. Machinery or some new process may throw THEM out, and YOU must lose by that, as your customers will no longer have money to buy. And so we live, AFRAID of being unable to support ourselves and our families! IN FEAR of poverty. For always, somewhere at the back of our minds, is the dread of being "out of work" and, against all our struggles, of being compelled to join the tragic and ever-increasing army of "the down and outs."

These facts are not to be avoided. If we honestly face them, what real hope have most of us of a free and happy life for ourselves and our children? These conditions are surely too terrible for us to ALLOW to exist. Are they not too absurd, too STUPID for sane men and women to endure?

### Plenty Amidst Poverty

The most ample proof exists that here, in Great Britain, we have incalculable POWER, MATERIALS, and SKILL to produce and distribute the things we want. That is SOLID, UNDENIABLE FACT. If you doubt it, ask the farmers and manufacturers. They will show you barns and warehouses bulging with goods which only await customers with money to buy. They will tell you that they could easily produce much more, and that, with increase of machinery (which others are only waiting to supply) the quantity of goods which could be turned out is almost unlimited. It is very certain that the manufacturers WANT to make and sell those goods, and that the farmers WOULD RATHER sell than destroy their crops. We also know that business men WANT to distribute and sell these goods to us, the public. Therefore this CAN be done. With the full use of modern methods and machinery there COULD be enough for ALL, and that without taking anything from anyone.

The fact is that our farmers, manufacturers, business men and shopkeepers NEED our custom, just as we need their goods; if we could pay for what they have to sell we should ALL benefit, and so security for us would mean prosperity for industry.

Our lives as citizens of Great Britain show us that we must share in whatever times of stress may come to our country; we did not desert her during the War and now we are still sharing in "bad times," in poverty and insecurity. Modern science now makes GOOD

times possible, and SCIENCE with its many inventions, new methods, and vast accumulation of knowledge is a FREE GIFT to US ALL from those clever inventors and engineers of the past, our forefathers.

Therefore we ought to be sharing in the good times made possible through their efforts. We are entitled to this; it is our BIRTHRIGHT. No one could wish that the results should be held back from their own countrymen. But, as things are, our farms, factories, and workshops are being THROTTLED DOWN for want of an outlet for their goods, whilst we, their natural customers, so badly need them. Therefore for the benefit of ALL we should PROVIDE THIS OUTLET. Which means that WE OURSELVES must be made able to enjoy the abundance of good things now possible: by established right, never to be taken away.

For this, each one of us must have his share, in regular weekly payments—our DIVIDENDS on this our inheritance. Dividends to buy the goods that are now being destroyed, and by the use of which industry can go "full steam ahead" to supply our needs. Dividends for every member of the British public, as SHAREHOLDERS IN "GREAT BRITAIN LTD."

### Security is Within Our Reach

And so we come to this: Common sense tells us TO USE THE ABUNDANCE (which is now being stifled and destroyed) as the solid basis on which to issue National Dividends, and so free ourselves from money worries and troubles. This is clearly JUST. It is also NECESSARY because modern methods such as mass production choke themselves, simply will not work, unless we have MASS CONSUMPTION: that is, unless we are all able to buy.

There is, in simple fact, no real shortage of any single thing in this world, except MONEY—and we all want more money. WE KNOW FOR A FACT that the goods it would buy CAN BE PRODUCED: enough for all, and that without depriving anyone of what he now enjoys.

Beyond all doubt THERE MUST BE SOME WAY OUT of this fantastic tangle, this intolerable Poverty in Plenty. POVERTY IS NO LONGER NECESSARY. THEREFORE IT CAN BE ENDED. Poverty and insecurity can be ABOLISHED—can be swept out of existence NOW, and assuredly it is THE WILL OF THE PEOPLE that this should be done.

### How Can We Make Sure That This is Done?

Who is responsible? To whom can we look to end poverty? PARLIAMENT exists to direct the affairs of the nation, to ORDER WHAT IS TO BE DONE, to ensure that the will of the people shall prevail. But who can instruct—COMMAND—Parliament as to WHAT IT SHOULD ORDER?

It is only the public—We who vote, THE ELECTORS of Great Britain—who can do that. Therefore it is they who are responsible. The trouble lies in this: we elect Members of Parliament to carry out our wishes, but we never tell them clearly WHAT IT IS WE WANT. The remedy is in our own hands. WE MUST TELL THEM what it is we want. For neither King, Parliament, nor Government can secure obedience to the Will of the People UNLESS THAT WILL IS CLEARLY AND EMPHATICALLY EXPRESSED.

### Vote for What You Want

Then MAKE KNOWN to your Member of Parliament that you want Poverty to be abolished, and tell him that you will not vote for him unless he UNDERTAKES TO GET IT DONE—unless he sees to it that this, your demand, is carried into effect BEFORE ANY OTHER LEGISLATION. THAT IS HIS JOB: to see that the express Will of the People is satisfied. It is the very purpose for which he is elected.

If you will consider it you will see that Members of

Parliament cannot be expected to know JUST HOW this end can be best accomplished. They have not, any more than we have, the special technical knowledge required. But Parliament has at its call the best men in the country for the job, the specialists, the men with skilled and expert knowledge. These are the men who can "work it out," who can say how this reform can best be carried into effect. The Treasury, the Bank of England, the great Insurance companies: these could and should contain men specially directed to think out and arrange such schemes. If ordered to do so by the Government they would soon produce a workable plan. They would have to do so, or resign and give place to those who could.

For, after all, to them it is a simple enough matter. If something went wrong with the water mains, so that the flow of water from your taps was stopped, neither you nor your Member of Parliament would know how to put it right, and you would not think of trying to do it. You would call in the qualified man, the plumber.

Our trouble is similar. The pipes of industry are choked, and the goods cannot get through to the people. To a man who knows his job it would not be a difficult matter to clear them. IT IS FOR US to tell Parliament to get this done. IT IS FOR PARLIAMENT to find and employ the right man, and his JOB IS TO CLEAR THEM.

More than this, Parliament must be told that this is no time for prolonged discussion, for "exploring avenues." The people of Great Britain are suffering unnecessary troubles and distress. Poverty must be abolished and National Dividends must be issued before all else, under pain of our displeasure, the displeasure of THOSE WHO ELECT PARLIAMENT. Parliament will not fail to pass on this same urgency to their experts.

### The People's Will is Irresistible

This is a vital truth, that NO POWER ON EARTH CAN FOR LONG RESIST THE CLEARLY EXPRESSED WILL OF THE PEOPLE. Its compelling power has been proved by history times without number. Women secured their votes, not through any reasoned assent, but because the Government of the day found themselves unable to withstand the incessant, unmistakable demand of a small section of the people.

The agitation against the Public Assistance Bill was, as it were, but a whisper of the people's voice, but it was clear and emphatic. Parliament recognised the underlying power, and, abandoning all else, hastened to obey. They did not stop for discussion, they received an imperative order and at once passed it on to their experts, and within eight days it was fulfilled.

These demands were not made without some disorder, but in a democratic country such as ours this should not be necessary. Electors have but to recognise the power which is theirs, and to use it by demanding with their votes the END which they wish to attain—the RESULTS which they wish for. Parliament MUST then obey.

### Vote for Results, Not Schemes

It is for the people to demand what they want clearly and urgently—to DEMAND RESULTS. STAND FAST ON that, for there lies hope. More, that is our might, our power to secure those results.

Consider that vast number of men and women who are the electors. Each and every one has his own wishes and desires, hopes for better times, wishes for leisure and enjoyment. Their united WILL—the Will of the People—is not difficult to interpret. Let them but grasp that our distresses and worries REALLY CAN be swept away from out our lives, that nature's bounty and man's ingenuity REALLY CAN provide ourselves, our houses and our friends with the good things those dividends would buy: let them but see that, and the thing is done. They will then demand it—and get it.

But ask those same millions HOW it is to be done, what PLAN is to be followed: and what a conflict of opinion will arise! How those plans would be torn to shreds! A dog-fight! For our OPINIONS are not united, nor can they ever be. They must differ with our varying experience, knowledge and character. Not so with our WISHES. The WILL of the business man,

the bricklayer, the artist or the dock labourer at root is much the same. All alike want security, freedom from worries, leisure to follow their own pursuits.

But as to UNDERSTANDING HOW these objects, these results, are to be brought about—you might as well harness the entire population of the Zoo, lions, snakes, rabbits, ostriches, and hyaenas in team and think to get them all to pull together, as expect to get concerted agreement on "HOW TO DO IT" from thirty million electors. Is not that obvious?

Then always vote for the RESULTS you want. For if you vote for any scheme whatsoever you will merely be passing your opinion on it. And you may be sure that there will always be thousands voting for some OTHER plan, and so nothing vital will be done. But add your WILL to that of other British voters, and together we shall gain power that will move mountains—that most assuredly will abolish poverty—*easily*—for it is just a bad dream. Facts, the REAL things, have only to be straightened up a little, rearranged, and poverty will cease to exist.

### You Have Tried Voting for Plans, and What Has Happened?

Why do so many people despise their votes and never use them? You hear them say: "It makes no difference." WHAT ARE THEY ASKED TO VOTE UPON? Is it not always schemes and plans? Tariffs, free trade, nationalisation, plans to "make work," or to "save the pound"? How can we tell whether these will bring us what we REALLY want: good times, and a free and happy life? We, the millions of electors, CANNOT TELL, and so we all pull different ways and all is confusion. OF COURSE it will make no real difference until we demand what WE want, and that right lustily. Give parliament a clear, overriding objective AS AN ORDER, and schemes will soon enough be made to carry it out. Effective action will quickly follow. Poverty will be abolished, and that will make a difference to everyone.

### What Would Happen Then?

For think how this reform would transfigure our lives: how deeply it would affect us, as between man and man. No more gluts of goods, WE SHOULD BE ABLE TO BUY. Think what that would mean for US. No more bankruptcies. BUSINESS PEOPLE WOULD BE ABLE TO SELL. Think what that would mean for TRADE! If there were no poverty, no distress, surely there would be less crime, fewer criminals, fewer prisons and warders.

And with our dividends in our pockets we should laugh at the poor law and the "dole." These would simply fade away, and so taxation, for this and many other things, would be greatly lessened. Moreover, in these truly sound conditions our savings would be secure, and we should have no need to fear for any investments we might have.

And think how our relations with OTHER COUNTRIES would be affected! The pipes of industry are choked, yet, as things are now, our one idea is to relieve them by discharging them on to our neighbour's land, surely a mad idea! That is, we endeavour to send, or export, our goods to some OTHER country.

But other countries are in the same fix as we are, and they resent and fear these floods of goods which advancing science pours out in ever-increasing quantities. Each tries to stop up the other's channels, to keep out other nation's goods. And all are exasperated by this ceaseless economic war for "foreign markets." We are all terrified lest this economic strife should continue to its inevitable conclusion in military war. And so it MUST unless some sensible nation can face reality as it exists, and itself use the goods it now forces on unwilling neighbours.

Not one nation is facing up to real facts; all alike endeavour to solve THE WRONG PROBLEM, to cure THE WRONG DISEASE. They seek to "cure unemployment," to provide WORK for those who really want GOODS. It should not need much courage to recognise that THAT is no longer our problem. Machines have settled that question — there is PLENTY FOR ALL, and to spare.

The critical, the vital point now is: "What are we

going to do with that plenty?" This once recognised there can be no doubt as to the answer. Men must be paid the "wages of the machine," as dividends; or men will starve and the machines be choked with rotted goods.

Thus only can we cease our attempts to flood our neighbour's fields—by turning the flow of industry to irrigate our own, and producing such a crop of courageous, sturdy British men and women as will be fit to meet the proud possibilities of freedom.

Thus only can that grim conclusion of economic strife—WAR—be avoided.

### The Choice Before Us

Are we to continue, groping and confused, rapidly declining into war and chaos? Or shall we grip reality, which, realised, leads to victory?

Here we stand: in these INSANE conditions of Poverty in Plenty. Insanity indeed. PLENTY to the point of wholesale destruction of good things. POVERTY to the extreme of suicide for want of them.

Futile destruction! Useless agony!

Yet POVERTY CAN BE ABOLISHED! We have but to declare our WILL, using our votes to express it, and, beyond any doubt, we shall be obeyed, and POVERTY WILL BE ABOLISHED.

### End This Crisis

During the Great War our countrymen and women acted as one to overcome the enemy. Here is a cause of far deeper meaning: a way out of this tangled mesh in which we are caught. Here is an object which affects

the personal freedom and happiness of each one of us: and one which would sap the very root of war. For, WITH GREAT BRITAIN LEADING, who could prevent this happy release from spreading throughout the world? AND WHO COULD PERSUADE HAPPY AND CONTENTED PEOPLES TO FIGHT THE DREADFUL BATTLES OF MODERN WAR?

### You Can Help In This

A definite and practical non-party organisation exists for the sole purpose of enabling the people of Great Britain to unite to express their WILL TO ABOLISH POVERTY: to demand, clearly and insistently, that before anything else is attempted, THIS MUST BE DONE.

This great object is at the root of the hopes and wishes of everyone. It is what you yourself want, AND YOU CAN HELP TO GET IT. Please, therefore, get into touch with the local branch of this Campaign or write direct to us: The ONLY DEMOCRATS (Non-Party), 163a Strand, London, W.C.2.

This NATIONAL CAMPAIGN has nothing to do with Party Politics. It is a broader issue on which we can all unite. It is not Communism, Socialism, Fascism, Liberalism, or Conservatism.

It is JUST COMMON SENSE.

POVERTY EXISTS—AND SO DOES PLENTY. Use your democratic vote as it should be used: to demand urgently and unmistakably that before all else poverty must be abolished and National Dividends issued to ALL. And SO USE PLENTY TO PUT AN END TO POVERTY.

### Wealth Causes Distress

Italy's action in Abyssinia was the direct result of the financial and economic distress of Italy. Mussolini was endeavouring to divert the attention of the Italian people from their own suffering by military action.—Sir George Paish as reported in "The Times" of July 5, 1935.

See our Notes of the Week on page 348 about the Lunacy of Debt and the Madness of Poverty. Italy has spent more in the last dozen years on public works—i.e., on increasing her real wealth—than in the whole of the preceding period since the Union. Finance reflects the result in growing and intolerable economic distress!

### Science as She is Wrote

"The first act of a new-born child is to draw a deep breath . . . It is, therefore, no mere metaphor to say that man is destined to a life of toil . . ."

To do Thomas Henry Huxley justice, he added that "the work of respiration which began with his first breath ends only with his last," but the statement does less than justice to the distinction between a life of gentle breathing and a life of toil.

### A Challenge to the Transport Workers

"In addition to fighting for individual wages it is one of the tasks of the union to fight for an adequate social wage to meet the social needs of the people as a whole . . ."

"By constant propaganda and effort we have helped to emphasise the fact that there is no justification for poverty in the midst of plenty, that it is not the worker who is wrong nor his capacity to produce and distribute that is lacking, but the stupidity of the system itself which is preventing the people from enjoying the products of their labours.

"Unemployment, poverty, slums, and disease are monuments to the inability of the capitalist system to provide any method of machinery for the distribution of the world's wealth on an equitable basis . . . There is no reason to deny a much better standard of maintenance for the unemployed, a more rational organisation of the hours of labour, development of a new conception of leisure, its organisation and its cultural use, prevention of the exploitation of young people by raising the school age and giving them proper training; and adequate security by means of pensions.

"All these things can be done now. The nation can afford them because it only means distribution of the national income in a form different from that which takes place at the moment. The result would benefit the whole of the country . . ."

"Let us, in the exercise of our citizenship, make a bold bid for power, and prove to the world that we have confidence in our ability to work out our own destiny . . ."

Mr. Harry J. Edwards, of Middlesbrough, in his presidential address to the delegate conference of the Transport and General Workers' Union, at Douglas.

Mr. Edwards knows what he wants, but like other electors, he does not know how to get it. This need not deter him, as it is the business of experts to devise

the means of giving him what he wants, or else make way for others who will.

Mr. Edwards should at once sign the Elector's Demand and Undertaking, and advise all the members of his Union to do the same.

This done he should point out to them that their demand needs support, and throw the whole Union into the Electoral Campaign without further ado.

## ELECTORS— DEMAND NATIONAL DIVIDENDS

### Leaflet No. 4

**For Recruiting.**—The leaflet is designed as an aid to recruiting and contains a space in which the address of the local group or District Supervisor can be inserted with a rubber stamp.

It can be used for distribution at meetings, or for delivery by post or from door to door, and is admirably suited to be left behind after collecting signed demand forms.

### Leaflet No. 5

**Elector's Demand and Undertaking.**—This is the instrument of the Electoral Campaign, fully described in our Special Electoral Campaign Number, April 19, 1935, and can be obtained either in purple on orange or purple on white.

### Leaflet No. 6

**For Personal and Business Friends.**—Not suitable for the house-to-house canvass, but for use in offices, factories, or by travellers, or at parties. Contains space for twenty-four signatures. Also described in our Special Electoral Campaign Number, April 19, 1935.

### Prices of Leaflets

Leaflet No. 4: 6s. for 1,000 (postage 9d.); 3s. for 500 (postage 9d.); 1s. 6d. for 250 (postage 4d.); 7d. for 100 (postage 2d.).

Leaflet No. 5: (post free) 12s. 6d. for 1,000; 6s. 3d. for 500; 3s. 2d. for 250; 1s. 7d. for 125; 10d. for 60.

Leaflet No. 6: (carriage extra) 7s. 6d. for 1,000; 3s. for 500; 1s. 6d. for 250; 9d. for 125.

Obtainable from the offices of SOCIAL CREDIT, 163a, Strand, London, W.C.2.

# What's Wrong With the World\*

## Social Credit Simply Explained

By G. W. L. Day

### CHAPTER IV.

#### Where Does the Fault Lie?

SOME people said that most of us are poor because a few of us are rich, and that everything would come right if we shared out our incomes equally. As a matter of fact, something like this has been done already. Since the War the rich have been taxed more heavily than in the whole of history. Taxed to death, in fact, and even after it, for over £80,000,000 a year is taken from them in death duties. But are we any better off in consequence? It doesn't seem so.

Professor Bowley, a well-known statistician, has calculated that if all our incomes were pooled and equally divided we should each have well under £200 a year. No more. This would mean the total disappearance at once of a good many luxury industries, so that we should soon be worse off than we were before, and even the £200 a year would quickly drop to much less.

Other people say the trouble is that there are too many tariff barriers which restrict trade. They say we should soon be prosperous again if only we could have Free Trade in Europe or the British Empire.

Now it so happens we have a living example of how such an ideal would work out. Each of the 48 States in the U.S.A. is a country with vast and varied productive resources, and there is Free Trade between them all. But is America prosperous? No; her present plight is the wonder of the world. Nearly every one of the popular remedies of the day is being tried out in some country; yet in no country is there any sign whatever of the tremendous prosperity which science and invention has made possible for us.

Two things we can be quite sure about. It is a very deeply-rooted trouble which is oppressing all industrial countries, no matter what form of government they happen to have. And it is a malady which grows acute when countries produce a lot, or have immense power to produce, and gets worse the more a country's productive capacity rises. Thus in Soviet Russia, which is fighting real scarcity, it is not yet apparent. But in America, the greatest producing nation the world has ever seen, it has reached colossal dimensions.

Suppose we all kept posting letters and parcels to our friends but only a few of them reached their destinations, what should we do? We should say that something had gone very wrong with the postal system, and that if someone didn't do something about it quickly there would be trouble.

So when we find mountains of machinery and goods at one end (in the factories), but only a thin trickle of goods reaching us, the public, we can say at once that something has gone very wrong with our Industrial Despatch Department—or, in other words, the Financial System. And we have every right to kick up a row about it, even if we don't understand Finance.

It doesn't deliver the goods.

Why doesn't it deliver the goods?

It was an engineer who first put his finger on the reason why. His name is Major C. H. Douglas and he made his discovery soon after the War when he was sent down to the Royal Aircraft Factory at Farnborough to clear up the muddle into which this concern had got its accounts.

He introduced costing methods which were so effective that before long he actually got out the figures for payments and the figures for costs at the same time.

With these figures in front of him he was able to observe the fact that at the end of every normal week the total amount of wages and salaries and profits paid out to the workers, staff and Government was always less than the total prices of the goods produced by the works. That is, total incomes were less than total prices, in any given period of time. The rate of flow of one was less than that of the other.

Struck with this obvious fact (which, nevertheless, nobody seems to have noticed before), he collected information from over one hundred large businesses in Great Britain and found that it was always the same. *Each week* the wages and salaries (and dividends, including profits), added together—and it is *only* in these ways that people receive money to spend—were less than the prices of goods manufactured. Over the whole country, therefore, the rate of flow of incomes to the people who want to spend and buy is *less* than the rate at which the prices of goods mount up.

Now the product of any factory may be thought of as something which the public *ought* to be able to buy, even if it is an intermediate product like leather which passes on to be made into boots. *Somebody* in Great Britain should be able to buy these things, otherwise they will not be paid for and a debt will grow up. That is obvious.

But by adding all the factories together it is clear from Major Douglas's discovery that all the people in Great Britain who earn wages, draw salaries or receive dividends or doles—and this means all of us—cannot buy what Great Britain's industries produce. Indeed, why are the shops bulging with the very things people want if this statement is not true?

*The Financial System is so constructed that no nation can ever buy all it produces.* There is a gap between what we can produce and what we can buy—a big gap which increases with the increase of machinery.

Let me put it in another way. Every factory which makes boots pours out a stream of boots and also a stream of money into people's pockets. (It doesn't *make* money; no one can do that except the bankers—or counterfeiters.)

Now if Finance worked properly the stream of boots and the stream of money into people's pockets would, in the long run, exactly match one another *both in volume and in speed*. I mean, if the factory turned out a pair of boots priced at 12s. 6d. *every two minutes*, then it would also pay out wages, salaries and dividends at the rate of 12s. 6d. *every two minutes* to its own workers, staff and shareholders. Remember, it is only through wages, salaries and dividends (which are really just deferred wages and salaries) that people get incomes to spend.

But industry doesn't—it can't—pay out incomes as fast as prices.

This is the mechanical defect which turns the whole world topsy-turvy. It makes us poor when we ought to be rich. It piles up colossal debts. It enslaves us to the Power of Money when we ought to be free. It forces us to go to war when we all long for peace. It condemns us to lifelong toil when we ought to be enjoying leisure.

But—it is the mainspring of the immense power wielded by the men who control Finance, those who alone have the power to create and to cancel money. It supports the greatest hidden tyranny the world has ever known.

Not only have the people insufficient incomes to buy more than a fraction of the consumable goods they produce, but the whole of the Western World is completely and hopelessly in debt on account of capital—non-consumable—goods. As only banks can create money, it is to them we are really in debt, and our debt is increasing by leaps and bounds every year.

They own us, lock, stock and barrel, and they force us to live under a system which is making slaves and paupers of us. They wield the greatest power in the world.

When Major Douglas made his discovery sixteen years ago and realised what it meant, he tried to get these facts made known, and also how the gap could be bridged without depriving anyone of a penny. He showed how poverty could be abolished for ever.

But he soon found out what he was up against! Newspapers depend on their advertisers. Advertisers

\* Previous instalments of this elementary explanation of Social Credit written for the million were published in our issues dated June 21 and 28, and July 5.

depend on Finance. And Finance at once decided to fight Douglas with Silence. After that, nothing about his discovery was published in the Press.

Years passed, and history began to fight on his side. Somebody once remarked that it was a curious thing how facts behaved as if they were in the pay of Douglas. The greater the world productive power became, the greater became the gap; and so the worse things grew—just as he had foreseen.

Some of our Dominions began to take an interest in Social Credit (as Major Douglas's proposals are sometimes called)—Australia, New Zealand, Canada, Alberta. America took notice, too.

Now, to-day, tens of thousands in New Zealand are said to be in favour of the Douglas proposals; Australia

has fought elections on this issue, and Alberta is hoping to begin to apply the remedies (which we shall come to later) before the end of this year. In fact, Major Douglas has visited Alberta by request to advise the Government of that Province, and his first report was published in the issue of this paper for June 21.

As to Europe, there is scarcely a country which is not taking an interest in the new ideas. Earlier this year Major Douglas gave a lecture in Norway before King Haakon and some of his Ministers.

Within a very short time now this question of whether we shall claim our rightful inheritance of wealth, or continue being made poor artificially, will probably split the world in two.

So let us see exactly what these proposals are.

(To be continued)

## Sunrise in the West

### Two Important Campaigns Open on the Pacific Coast

#### British Columbia

REFERENCE was made in SOCIAL CREDIT of May 10 to the report that a petition was being circulated in British Columbia calling for a Commission of Inquiry on monetary reform. The latest news, however, is more encouraging still. Social Crediters in British Columbia, like those in Victoria on the other side of the Pacific, have decided that a campaign for getting voters to demand a National Dividend is as practical a course for them as we consider it to be for us in Great Britain. The pledge sheet takes the form of a preamble, headed "Demand the National Dividend—a sane electoral policy for Canadians," and followed by an "Elector's Demand and Undertaking" which runs: "I, the undersigned, being a duly qualified elector in the constituency of .....in the Province of.....do hereby affirm:

1. That science has made abundance for all possible, and that poverty, therefore, is quite unnecessary;
2. That sufficient goods to satisfy all human desires can be, and would be, made, but production is restricted because the people lack the money to buy them;
3. That as, according to recognised authorities, money can be made of anything, there is no physical reason why the supply of money in the hands of the Canadian people should not at all times enable them to purchase and consume all the goods which Canadian industry can produce; and
4. Therefore: Poverty can be abolished by means of a National Dividend paid to every citizen of Canada;
5. It is the proper task of the Government of Canada to get expert advice on how this National Dividend shall be established, but to be of service it must not increase taxes, or prices, nor must it deprive any owners of their property, nor decrease the value of that property

6. Now, believing that Parliament exists solely to make my will prevail,

THEREFORE, I PLEDGE MYSELF:

THAT I WILL NOT VOTE FOR ANY FEDERAL CANDIDATE WHO WILL NOT PUBLICLY UNDERTAKE THAT THIS, MY DECLARED ELECTORAL POLICY, SHALL BE GIVEN PRECEDENCE OVER ALL OTHER LEGISLATION AND PLACED ON THE STATUTES OF CANADA WITHOUT DELAY.

A space is left below for the signature. Details of how the scheme works in practice will be published in SOCIAL CREDIT when they arrive. Meanwhile our congratulations and best wishes to British Columbia on feeling ready to take the plunge into the waters of action.

#### California

The current issue of *Controversy* (San Francisco) is chiefly devoted to publicity for the newly-launched League for National Dividends. This campaign, originating in San Francisco, may well spread far beyond the limits of California, and has behind it influential backing both in men and money.

California has been through hard times recently compared with its earlier comparative prosperity, and Upton Sinclair's campaign for Governor a year ago, with his

slogan, "End Poverty in California," undoubtedly did much to focus popular attention on the paradox of poverty in plenty, while failing completely to offer any effective means for translating the demand into terms of reality. The demand for a National Dividend was the missing keystone in Sinclair's campaign.

The League for National Dividends is wise enough to wish to employ any existing mass pressure to demand results, no matter where or how the necessary "head of steam" has been generated. Readers of SOCIAL CREDIT may recall that in the issue of May 17 I suggested that the Townsend scheme for old-age pensions, which claimed millions of signatures throughout the United States and forced itself on the attention of Washington, was nevertheless vulnerable from the fact that it voiced mass emotion while having no reserve of correct technical knowledge to back it. There were signs, however, that its leaders in California had begun to recognise this and to appreciate the fact that Social Credit, based as it is on a technically complete diagnosis and a more comprehensive moral and physical foundation than was the case for pensions, offered them a way out of their blind alley which could enlarge the scope of their activities beyond all their hopes. There has been no time yet to judge whether any considerable backing for the League is likely to come from Dr. Townsend's followers; without them the League may well make history in 1935, with them it cannot fail to do so.

The page setting out the League's programme begins with the words, "Enrol me in the fight for National Dividends to abolish Poverty in the midst of Plenty," and ends with space for the signature of the sender and for names and addresses of others who will be interested. The principles to be endorsed are as follow:—

1. Science has made comfort and security possible for every citizen of the United States.
2. The destruction of food and clothing will not distribute them to those who need them.
3. Production is restricted only because of a lack of consumer purchasing power.
4. To overcome this lack, purchasing power in the form of new money must be issued by the Government as potential production warrants it.
5. This purchasing power must be distributed direct to the people by a National Credit Authority, in the form of National Dividends and a Retail Discount on prices.
6. This Dividend must not increase taxes. It must not be accompanied by inflation. It must not involve confiscation or socialisation of private property. It must not decrease property values. It must not interfere with private profits from legitimate enterprise, nor with wages or salaries for services rendered.

An editorial note states: "As soon as sufficient funds are available we will put the programme on the radio. If you can afford to do so, contribute to this fund. Remember, the money monopoly will not finance a fight against itself."

The League's programme, unlike the Electoral Campaign in this country, includes specific minimum figures—for a start, 40 dollars a month for every man, woman,

and child, together with a 25 per cent. retail discount. Major Douglas has taken the view that in Great Britain it would be unwise to name any definite figure, since this must depend on an ascertained ratio of consumption to production for which the statistics are as yet available only in scattered and incomplete form.

The basis for the American figure, however, does not rest upon guesswork, but upon the recent report of the National Survey of Potential Product Capacity, an agency of the Civil Works Administration of the United States Government. The substance of the report has been issued in book form under the title *The Chart of Plenty*, and even if only half its findings have been accurately recorded it spills the beans completely, officially, and once for all. The Director of the Survey, writing in *Controversy*, explains its objective as "discovering what desired goods and services the American people might expect if production was limited by physical factors only." ("Desired" goods and services amount to the standard worked out by bodies of recognised authorities as essential to health, a reasonable level of comfort, adequate education, and so forth, for each individual American.)

Sixty picked technicians financed by the Government, and as the result of a year's research, have come to the conclusion that if the existing plant and man-power in

the United States were fully employed in the production of goods and services for the consumer, the total output, valued in 1929 dollars, would be not less than 135 billions, or an average per family (of four) of approximately \$4,400 (about £800).

This is the figure arrived at from a survey of existing plant capacity. Social Crediters need no reminding of the immensely rapid technical development of every kind which would almost inevitably follow on the application of the Just Price and National Dividend. £200 a year per person is already a physical possibility for the United States; we in Great Britain might get half as much, or a quarter; only comparable figures can show.

"It is not necessary," writes the Editor of *Controversy*, "for the average man, unless he so desires, to study the technical details of the plan to be used," and he continues, "International finance and the money masters of the country will fight this plan, for it will destroy their enslaving racket. They will carry on campaigns of intimidation and public misinformation. They will not attack the details—they will merely try to make the whole plan sound ridiculous." He gives the figures quoted above, and concludes, "What are we waiting for?" It looks as if California, for one, has decided to wait no longer before claiming her inheritance.

J.D.B.

## "The Yanks Are Coming"

ANYONE who served in the late war will remember the relief with which the news was received that America really had joined the Allies. At last our fight was their fight and from that moment it was felt that ultimate victory was assured. Even the music-hall dirty of the period expressed this new hope with its exultant: "The Yanks are coming . . ."

Much the same feelings as those of 1917 have been aroused in me by reading certain correspondence and articles on Social Credit from the United States. The American Colossus is preparing to take a hand in the game, and, once enough of the quick-witted and determined citizens of the New World have absorbed the fundamental ideas of the New Economics as profounded by Major Douglas and circulated by his followers in that continent, the final victory over the Money Monopoly will be at hand.

The literature responsible for my present elation comprises a series of articles by, and a separate account of the activities of Mr. J. Crate Larkin, Secretary-Vice-President of the Larkin Company Inc. of Buffalo, N.Y. The Larkin Company, capitalised at twenty million dollars, is engaged in the manufacture of paint, clothing, furniture, soaps, cleaning preparations, perfumes and toilet articles, food products and pottery; and its distributive activities comprise wholesaling, the operation of chain food stores, department stores, gasoline stations, a public warehouse, and direct-to-consumer selling both by mail and house-to-house. Consequently it contains within itself the experiences of both producer and retailer.

Mr. Larkin himself combines the rôle of a big business man and an enthusiastic Social Creditor.

As a propagandist he is excellent. An article by him in *New Democracy* of September 1, 1934, is as good a bit of Social Credit writing as I have read. He is a prominent contributor to the press on the same subject,

and is the author of a pamphlet entitled "From Debt to Prosperity." He frequently addresses public meetings and is engaged with others in pressing for Social Credit legislation in Congress.

But what is even more to the point, Mr. Larkin has carried out actual experiments with Social Credit in his own business, and is convinced that the Retail Discount and the National Dividend are the only practical methods of introducing the prosperity to which our present power-machine age entitles us.

For several years the Larkin Company has extended to its three thousand employees the privilege of buying at a discount in its own retail stores, which of course assists them to bridge the gap between their incomes and the prices of the goods they help to make.

In March, 1933, at the time of the Moratorium in the United States, the Company foresaw what might take place, and prepared scrip for their employees to use in its stores. I have seen two specimens of the "Larkin Merchandise Bond" valued respectively at one dollar and twenty-five cents; they are in effect privately issued local currency. About 36,000 dollars worth of this scrip was issued to anyone who wanted to be paid in this manner. Many local cinemas, chemists and grocers offered to accept this scrip, which naturally facilitated living for the Larkin workpeople. The scrip was withdrawn when the banks eventually reopened.

An experiment of this kind, and on this scale, cannot fail to produce its effect in a country like America where the absurdities of poverty in plenty are even more glaring than elsewhere. Would that a few of our own merchant princes had the vision and the enterprise of Mr. Larkin. Meanwhile the veteran troops on the Western Social Credit Front take off their hats to him, and hail him as one of the leaders of reinforcement which from the ends of the earth, from Australia, New Zealand, Canada and the United States, are hurrying to our assistance. K. M.

New and unfamiliar concepts are still necessary for the progress of science.—Sir James Jeans in "The New Background of Science."

The world can be changed in a brief space of time. If but one-half the intelligence and effort which nations have hitherto directed towards the collective organisation of society for war were directed towards the study and collective organisation of society in the light of this knowledge, it would result in it becoming visible on all hands that civilisation can be altered so radically and so quickly that the outlook of humanity on nearly every fundamental matter can be changed in a single generation.—Benjamin Kidd in "Science of Power."

## New Address

All departments of the Social Credit Secretariat, including the Weekly paper SOCIAL CREDIT and other publications, are now housed at

163A, Strand, London, W.C.2,

close to Aldwych Tube Station.

All communications should bear the words "Social Credit Secretariat", or SOCIAL CREDIT, as well as the above address.

## ACTIVE SERVICE

### Liverpool Smashes Records

### Three New Teams Start with a Bang

#### Liverpool's 2000 a Week

Week ending June 15

2186 signed

One every five and a half minutes.

Week ending June 22

2183 signed

One every six and a quarter minutes.

#### First Blood for Birmingham

The Supervisor of the Electoral Campaign in Erdington has now reported that the Electoral Campaign proper has started there. The results he reports are certainly startlingly good when all circumstances are taken into consideration.

On the first round they canvassed 484 houses and collected 301 signatures in forty-nine man-hours. This, for a first go-off, seems to us really excellent, but it is even more excellent when you come to consider that they were not only working municipal houses, where it is proved possible for a single collector to obtain twenty-eight signatures from twenty houses in 105 minutes, but also they were working the owner-resident type house, where only three signatures could be obtained from twenty-five houses with the expenditure of two man-hours.

Later on it is hoped that Erdington will be able to test 100 per cent. municipal house districts, and then after a few weeks practice we shall expect to see them sending in slogans starting "Wake up, Widnes," "Nippy on at Newcastle," and other challenging remarks of that kind.

#### South Paddington Shows Fight

With 304 signatures in fifty hours South Paddington's lady supervisor shows what can be done by sticking to it. We offer her our congratulations. Not content with that she has four new recruits to show for the week's work, and the team had three campaign letters in *The Paddington News*, one of which set out the Elector's Demand and Undertaking in full.

This supervisor is sending round a recruiting letter from which we cannot help quoting the last paragraph: "My challenge to you is that if you will 'phone or write telling me when you are willing to give at least one hour of your time to canvassing, I will arrange for an experienced person to work with you at that time."

#### Felixstowe's Fine First Figures

After calling at 518 houses this team has collected 597 signatures and only fifty-three refusals. No time is

recorded for 283 of the signatures but the remaining 314 were collected at the rate of one every six and a quarter minutes. The supervisor found that his canvassers have been greatly helped by having every leaflet stamped with the names of three responsible people who are members of the Group. *Try it out, everybody, after your first thirty days; we want reports on this.*

#### Consistent Times from Southampton

The last two weeks' figures speak for themselves—544 in forty-five hours, average one every 4.9 minutes; and 349 in thirty-two and a half hours, average one every 4.2 minutes.

"I have been successful," writes the Supervisor, "in arranging for the commencement of a small group in Portswood, consisting entirely of ladies. The leader made a start herself, and collected fifty-nine signatures at the rate of one every three and a half minutes (all in). This is one of the new workers trained by the Shirley team leader. These fifty-nine are not included in the returns, as there are more to come in. Our main problem is recruiting, but we have formed a women's recruiting section of which we have great hopes."

#### The Campaign in the Press

In addition to the letters in *The Paddington News*, an excellent article introducing the Electoral Campaign appeared in *The Outpost* for June, and received pride of place as the opening article under the title "Shorter Working Hours have arrived, but—". *The Outpost* is the official organ of the Northern Ireland District Council of the Union of Post Office Workers. Some good work, here, by the Belfast Group.

*Red Tape*, the organ of the Civil Service Clerical Association, also has a campaign article in its July issue, entitled "How to Distribute Abundance," by R. C. Proctor. We shall be glad to hear of other publications which have opened their pages to the subject of Active Service in the fight for plenty, freedom and leisure for all.

#### An Adventure in Richmond

A somnolent evening produced a very favourable background for some rapid canvassing and I was able to collect twenty-six signatures from forty houses, following the recommended procedure of the double call, in a time period of fifty minutes. This result was obtained in a poor street in the Richmond (Surrey) area.

The doors being already open enabled me to secure contact with the minimum amount of waiting and little groups of neighbours chatting reduced the work of distributing forms appreciably. I dissipated very little energy, and received in the result a wonderful stimulant.—*Richmond Canvasser.*

## Frotti's Queries

By MILES HYATT

### No. 1: What Means It?

Dearest Editorial Chap-laddy,

Here is indeed extraordinary notice-board that I remark every yesterday from my train-windows. Truly it is suburb! But what means it?

"BRITAIN STILL FORGING AHEAD UNDER NATIONAL GOVERNMENT."

O, Kind Sir, Mr. Editor, I am completely dumbfegasted. Truly it is altogether too difficult a slogan, and I have found several meanings to it:

(1) That Britain, with assistance from National Government, is still forging cheques on the future.

(2) That more things are being made in forges than Britain can consume under sound finance.

(3) That, despite National Government, Britain is still "over-producing."

(4) That it may be misprint for "foraging." (This one makes sense).

Anyhow, at bottomsides of poster is indeed a veritable truth

"SOUND FINANCE ALWAYS PAYS!"

Yes indeed — But whom does it pay? Not your obeisant serpent,

FROTTI.

## The People's Rights

By the Rev. J. Stuart Roach, Vicar of the Parish of Noosa, Queensland. Published by the Social Credit Press, 20, Queen Street, Melbourne, Australia. 9d.

This pamphlet gives a good description of present day conditions, and an outline of Social Credit on popular lines. The remainder of the pamphlet is a full justification of Social Credit from the moral point of view. The author realises the "... wonderful field of work for the Church, once the continual worry of the struggle to finance the work under almost impossible conditions were lifted..." and shows that there is no foundation for the common fear that the so-called "something for nothing" of the National Dividend would demoralise the nation.

# The Elector's Demand—New Form

A new edition of the Elector's Demand and Undertaking is now available, embodying improvements based on canvassing experience. Supplies may be ordered at once.

Pages one and two are unaltered. Page three contains a simplified elector's demand and undertaking, having the same effect as before. The appeal for funds has been removed and there is space for two more signatures. It is reproduced below.

The back page has been entirely redesigned, the upper half being devoted to some instances of terrible poverty and its consequences, each with the reference so that it can be verified. Space for three additional signatures is provided, and the elector is clearly urged not to sign on both sides, as shown below.

This will be known as Leaflet No. 5 in future, taking the place of the old leaflet. Prices are the same as before, and are set out on page 351.

Reproduction of Page 3

## **WE WILL ABOLISH POVERTY** **ELECTOR'S DEMAND AND UNDERTAKING**

1. I know that there are goods in plenty and therefore that poverty is quite unnecessary.
2. I want, before anything else, poverty abolished.
3. I want, too, national dividends distributed to me and every Briton so that we can buy all we want of the goods that are now destroyed and the production that is restricted.
4. These dividends must not increase prices or taxes or deprive owners of their property or decrease its relative value.
5. In a democracy like Great Britain Parliament exists to make the will of the people prevail.
6. So I pledge myself to vote for any candidate who will undertake to support the abolition of poverty and the issue of national dividends and to vote consistently against any party trying to put any other law-making before this.
7. If the present M.P. here won't undertake this I will vote for some other party and keep on changing until my policy has been achieved.

Signed ..... Signed .....

Signed ..... Address .....

Space for further signatures overleaf.

**ALL THESE SIGNATURES WILL BE TREATED AS CONFIDENTIAL**

Reproduction of Back Page

## **LEST WE FORGET**

Six men and women were charged with obstruction at Bow Street Police Court. They stood together over a grating to get the warm air from the kitchens of the Strand Palace Hotel. Stated the police have trouble because of the "down-and-outs" who congregate there at night time.—*From The Times*, 28/3/33.

Mr. and Mrs. William Smith kill their daughter and commit suicide because of unemployment, and being too proud to apply for relief. Afraid of destitution.—*From The Daily Express*, 16/1/35.

Mr. Vaughan, aged 50, loses job. Left home every day to prevent his wife worrying, so keeping up appearances of being employed. His body found at foot of Beachy Head. Only £20 left. "This poor man acted nobly to save others worry, and was himself overcome by the worry."—*Dr. Hoare, the Coroner.—From The Daily Mail*, 8/3/35.

Ivor Hughes charged with theft of a bicycle pleads he stole it because his wife and child were starving. Probation Officer, W. G. Robinson, found in their home a piece of bread with some bones. "There was an abundance of pawn tickets." — *From The Daily Express*, 21/5/35.

"I am starving. I swear I have not eaten for four days," declared a grey-haired woman at Clerkenwell County Court when sued for rent. "My husband has searched the streets day after day in an endeavour to get work, and when he has returned I have had neither food nor fire for him. During the War my husband employed nearly a thousand people, but bad times have struck us, and we are absolutely down and out."—*From The News Chronicle*, 18/5/35.

Stole for her children. Death from starvation was close to Mrs. Perring as she swayed in the dock. She stole a loaf to feed her two children. — *From The Daily Express*, 19/2/34.

**DO NOT SIGN HERE IF YOU HAVE SIGNED OVERLEAF.**

I have read the Elector's Demand and Undertaking overleaf and hereunder sign it.

Signed ..... Address .....

Signed ..... Address .....

Signed ..... Address .....

## **Watch the Wireless**

A correspondent tells us (who unfortunately have no time to listen in) that the other day she heard an "uncensored" broadcast debate between Sir William Beveridge (of the London School of Economics) and Lord Ponsonby, in which Sir William Beveridge mentioned that he was always being bombarded with letters about Douglas Social Credit.

We should be grateful to any readers who would keep a special ear for the wireless and let us know of such

remarks. We hope it will not be long before references are made by broadcasters to being bombarded with letters about the Electoral Campaign for the Abolition of Poverty.

**"I have an invitation to a dance but I don't think I will go" because it is my night for working at the Electoral Campaign.**

## CORRESPONDENCE

## A Tip for Press Correspondents

Relative to your request for Social Crediters to reply to newspaper correspondents, may I add that most letters on unemployment invite response.

Where, however, an address is given it is advisable to forward a copy of the letter direct, with a covering note, explaining that it is against the policy of most of the national newspapers to publish anything derogatory to the present monetary system.

Winchmore Hill.

E. TYSALL.

## Boosting Sales

The local newsagent told me on Friday that his sales of SOCIAL CREDIT were still improving and he had had so many requests for Social Credit literature as a result of the published list in SOCIAL CREDIT that he was ordering a stock and making a window display. This is a tip which I think is worth passing on, *viz.*, make a contract with a prominent newsagent in each district and undertake to boost his sales if he will display the poster and literature and notices of meetings.

Westerton.

C. W. RYDEN.

## Who Grows Money?

Re your publication of Mr. Southon's letter in your issue of June 28, I fail to see how his illustration throws light on the A + B theorem.

The payments are: £405 to the owner of the oak tree; £82 as wages; £113 as profit; total cost £600. Total purchasing power distributed £600. Where is the anomaly—the lack of purchasing power?

In your comment at the foot of the said letter you mention *investment*. Investment produces lack of purchasing power admittedly. But this is no proof of A + B.

"DOUBTER."

[(1) "Doubter" should read our footnote again, and ask himself where the £405 which the owner receives comes from. Who distributed it, and what costs were incurred in its distribution? To make it easier, let him suppose either (a) that there is no money in existence to begin with, *i.e.*, that the owner was Adam, or (b) that there was £1,000 in existence, and also goods priced at £1,000 (the orthodox belief).—Ed.]

## The Snowball Idea

I have recently become an enthusiastic supporter of your Social Credit movement and have persuaded several of my friends to order regular copies of your paper from their newsagents.

I extracted a promise from each of them that they would also enrol a new subscriber and persuade him, in turn, to do the same.

If all your present subscribers would each start a new chain on their own your circulation might soon exceed that of any other journal.

E. LIDDELL ARMITAGE.

[Thank you for the suggestion. Another very useful way to help is to support our advertisers and mention our name with every order.—Ed.]

## John Bull Opens an Eye

I must draw your attention to the following which I have just come across, in—what do you think?—SOCIAL CREDIT, *The New Age*? No, *John Bull*:—

## THE HUMAN MACHINE

Don't be Dumb!

Although we live in an age of machinery, surrounded by mechanical marvels, we do not often appreciate the real lesson of the age. We have yet to realise the true function of the machine.

That function is the creation of leisure. The work done by the machine, done easily and without effort, is a symbol—marking man's mastery over his environment, his freedom from sheer brute labour, his opportunities for new and higher development. Through the proper use of the machine man can now release his energies for other things than brainless toil.

So many people do not appreciate leisure and ease because they wrongly believe that effort is a criterion of value. They think that a job done easily cannot possibly be a job done well. They think it is clever to make everything as difficult as possible.

To overcome difficulties is one thing. To create difficulties in order to overcome them is another—and a stupid one. But there are plenty of people who, unable to turn their work

into play, go one worse, and do their best to turn even their play into work.

It's silly and stupid because in the brain man has one of the finest machines in the world. Properly used the brain can make life easy, work simple, and the most arduous tasks light. It all depends whether you use the brain to look ahead and think—or to look ahead and worry.

It all depends whether you organise your life or just muddle along. It depends on whether you consciously think out ways of easing your labours or take whatever troubles and difficulties the world cares to throw in your path. It depends in fact on whether or not you use your brain.

There is no value in effort for its own sake. It is the ease with which a job is done that marks out the skilled craftsman from the beginner and the bungler.

The art of life is to create leisure. It can only be created by doing work easily and effortlessly. And that can only be done by using our brain machinery to perform the one task that it—and no other machinery in the world—can do, to think.

Good old John! One more push and you'll go social credit. Use your brain machine in accordance with your own directions, shut your eyes, hold your breath and take the plunge!

I thought this is too priceless for me to just attempt a "letter from readers." It would be hard to think of a better opening for canvasser's preliminary letter, though I doubt if national dividends were within a hundred miles of John's thoughts. Strange how they shy at the mention of money when eulogising leisure.

W. ADAMSON.

P.S.—Doubtless your attention has already been drawn to the editorial appearing in the *Daily Express* of July 1—a preliminary shuffle to the great dust-dance. I trust that many other Social Crediters will have "dropped them a line."

## Jumping to Conclusions

"The usual opposition case is that there is enough purchasing power—that is total individual incomes are sufficient to pay total prices, and it is only because some have an unfairly large share that others go short."—SOCIAL CREDIT, June 28, page 318.

## "ASCOT RACES"

"One big bet at the meeting was £12,000 to £10,000 on Field Trial, but the parties concerned were probably less worried about winning or losing it than the man in the street would be over his modest 'bob.' It is all a matter of comparison."—*Sporting Chronicle Handicap Book*, June 29.

Bootele, Liverpool.

J. R. STEWART.

[The fact that there is maldistribution does not mean that that is the cause of our trouble, because you can have maldistribution of an insufficiency as well as of a sufficiency. If maldistribution of a sufficiency were the trouble the terrific taxation of the last fifteen years should have brought us nearer the millennium not further away from it.—Ed.]

## HELP!

in the Electoral Campaign will be secured from a careful and constant study of the historic Special Campaign Number of SOCIAL CREDIT—price only 1s. 6d. a doz. Every likely recruit should be supplied with one. Major Douglas himself appeals to you to see that everyone gets a copy. It tells you everything you should know about the Electoral Campaign: its origin and the reason for it; why everyone, without exception, should understand it and work for it; how to start in a big way, or in a small way, or single-handed. It contains the vital matter of Major Douglas's famous Buxton speech (originally 6d.). It cannot be repeated at the price when present supplies are exhausted. Groups are advised to replenish their stocks whilst present supplies last. SOCIAL CREDIT, 163a, Strand, London, W.C.2.

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Special Electoral Campaign Number of "SOCIAL CREDIT" (Postage 1d.) ... 2d.

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**The Douglas Manual**, by Philip Mairet ... 5s. 0d.  
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*For readers with no previous knowledge of the subject*

The A.B.C. of Social Credit, by E. Sage Holter... 2s. 6d.

Ordeal by Barking, by W. Allen Young ... 2s. 0d.

Books bearing on the subject, but not solely devoted to Social Credit:—

**This Age of Plenty**, by C. Marshall Hattersley. 3s. 6d. and 6s. 0d.

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The Community's Credit, by C. Marshall Hattersley ... 1s. 0d.

Pamphlets by Major C. H. Douglas:—

**The New and the Old Economics** ... 1s. 0d.

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS AND MEETINGS

*Notices will be accepted for this column at 6d. a line, minimum three lines.*

*We suggest more extensive use of this column by affiliated groups for making their announcements. At present many groups notify their members by post, which costs both labour and expense that might be greatly reduced by a notice in this column. It would then only be necessary to draw the attention of the members to the fact that they would in future find all announcements concerning them in SOCIAL CREDIT.*

*Notices must reach the publishing office by the Monday morning before the date of issue.*

### Belfast Douglas Social Credit Group

The Headquarters—Princes Chambers, 72, Ann Street—are now open each afternoon and evening for the purpose of answering enquiries regarding Literature, Lectures, Meetings, etc. Meetings are being held at the above address as follow:—  
For Men—on Thursdays, at 3 p.m. These meetings are intended for those unemployed especially. Public meetings on Thursdays, at 7.45 p.m. Admission free.

### Manchester Social Credit Club

A Social Credit Club has been formed in Manchester and will meet on the first and third Tuesdays of every month at the Grosvenor Hotel, Deansgate. Time 6.30 p.m. onwards. First meeting third Tuesday, i.e., July 16. Open to visitors.

### Devonshire

Will any Social Crediters resident in or near KINGSBRIDGE, interested in the formation of a local Group please communicate immediately with W. H. Hudson, 1a, Oakwell Crescent, Leeds, 8?

### Visitors to Norway

Will any Social Crediters who are intending to visit Norway (for however short a period) and who are willing to do a little light and pleasant holiday propaganda there please write to the Director of Overseas Relations, Social Credit Secretariat, 163a, Strand, London, W.C.2, as long before their visit as possible?

### Back Numbers of "Social Credit"

These can be supplied in mixed bundles of fifty for 1s., carriage paid. Apply SOCIAL CREDIT, 163a, Strand, London, W.C.2, enclosing 1s.

A limited number of bound volumes of SOCIAL CREDIT, Vol. 1., are available at 10s. 6d. each, and binding cases at 3s. 6d. each, carriage extra, from SOCIAL CREDIT, 163a, Strand, London, W.C.2.

### Also Among the Prophets

Whatever you may think about Douglas Credit I venture to prophesy that the movement will become one of the great movements of this century.—*Mr. W. J. Brown, General Secretary of the Civil Service Clerical Association, speaking at their Annual Conference.*

## The Earl of Tankerville

*Offer to Speak at Public Meetings*

The Earl of Tankerville has generously offered his services as a speaker at public meetings in support of the Electoral Campaign.

Full particulars will be supplied on application to the Secretary, Social Credit Secretariat, 163a, Strand, London, W.C.2.

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## APROPOS

### Of Everything in General and Nothing in Particular

#### Mental Defectives

A great deal of print has been used to eulogise the "beautiful and artistic" work of Mental Defectives.

One cannot help wondering if the gentlemen so filled with enthusiasm at their Exhibition have ever heard of Buried Treasure, and if so, if their mental efficiency is sufficient to enable them to grasp the simple fact that to-day the bulk of English Artistry is never known or seen. It is condemned "to go to work to earn the cash, to buy the grub, to get the strength, to go to work, R.I.P."

The reason mental defectives can produce such good results is because they are provided with free food and shelter and materials with which to employ "all the time there is."

The Mental Deficiency of our Rulers, Financial, Parliamentary and Judicial, is such that they fail to understand the simplicity of Social Credit and to act in accordance with it.

So they provide Deficients free, and refuse Efficients enough to keep body and soul together, let alone giving them materials to employ their *Unpaid Leisure!*

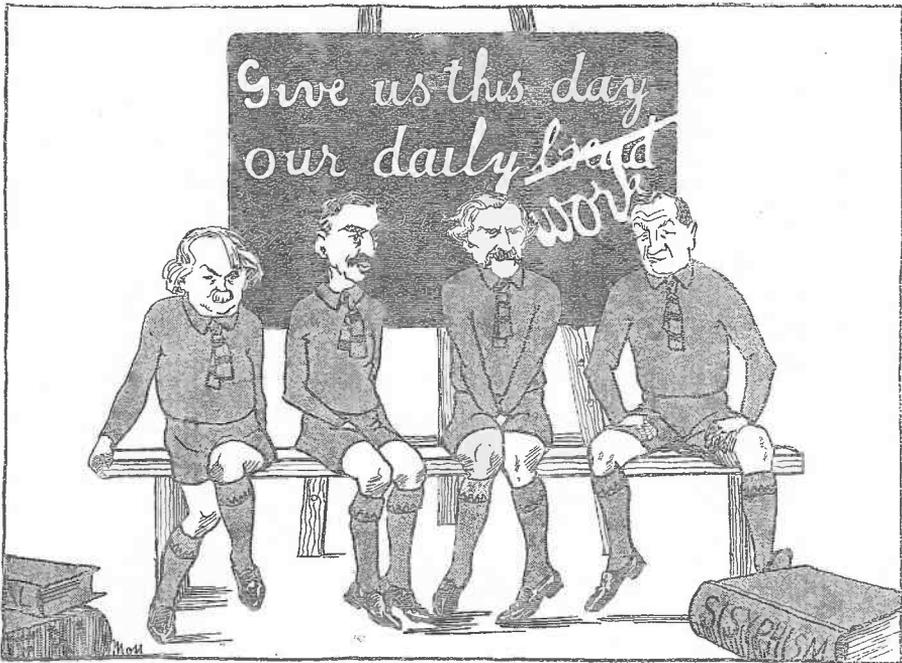
#### CAMPAIGN SONG

Some folks ask for "Work,"  
 Some folks do, some folks do;  
 And some folks try to shirk,  
 But that's not me, nor you.  
 Long live the Social Crediters  
 That ask for time to play,  
 It's a safer stunt,  
 No matter what some folks say.  
 Some folks sit and jaw,  
 Some folks do, some folks do,  
 They won't come off their floor,  
 But that's not me, nor you,  
 Long live the Social Crediters  
 That canvass night and day,  
 It'll do the trick,  
 No matter what some folks say.

MERRY-BEE.

Here, take this purse, thou whom the heavens' plagues  
 Have humbled to all strokes: that I am wretched  
 Makes thee the happier;—heavens, deal so still!  
 Let the superfluous and lust-dieted man,  
 That slaves your ordinance, that will not see  
 Because he doth not feel, feel your power quickly;  
 SO DISTRIBUTION SHOULD UNDO EXCESS,  
 AND EACH MAN HAVE ENOUGH.  
 —"King Lear," Act IV. Sc. I.

### Sisyphists All



#### The Sisyphist

Because work is necessary to produce wealth, he imagines that work is wealth, and that wealth is to be measured by the amount of work expended in producing it.

Of course he would not actually say this. He does not even know that he thinks it. Neither does he act on it in his personal affairs. He does not, for instance, write his books on papyrus with a quill pen and sepia: he uses paper and a fountain-pen, or at least a steel pen and manufactured ink. If he wanted to hang up a picture in his home he would not try to drive the nail with a pebble from the garden: he would use a hammer. Yet, when he comes to think of society as a whole, he urges it to do the exact opposite, and so do his opponents.

A cabinet minister would not try to "make work" for himself in his own home: but his contribution to the solution of his country's economic difficulties is to try to "create employment" for the poor.

To this habit of mind Frederic Bastiat, a French economist who wrote in the eighteen-forties, gave the name of Sisyphism. Sisyphus, in Greek mythology, was condemned, in punishment for his sins, to spend eternity in rolling up a hill a huge stone, which rolled down again as soon as it reached the top. His sterile labours furnish an excellent symbol for the policy of "making work" instead of distributing the product.—From "Life and Money," by Eimar O'Duffy.