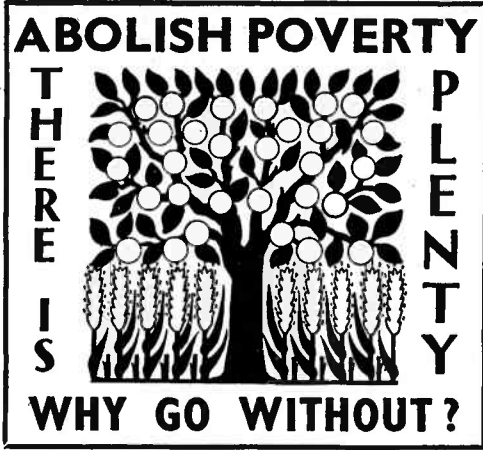


SOCIAL

For Political and
Official Organ of the



CREDIT

Economic Democracy
Social Credit Secretariat

Vol. 3. No. 4 Registered at G.P.O. as a Newspaper

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 1935

Weekly Twopence

ABERHART FORMS HIS CABINET Determined to Maintain Credit and Meet Obligations GOOD LUCK!

MR. WILLIAM ABERHART	Premier and Minister of Education.
MR. JOHN W. HUGILL, K.C.	Attorney-General.
MR. WILLIAM N. CHANT	Minister of Agriculture and Minister of Trade and Industry.
MR. C. C. ROSS	Minister of Lands and Mines.
MR. W. A. FALLOWS	Minister of Railways, Telephones and Public Works.
DR. W. W. CROSS	Minister of Health.
MR. CHARLES COCKCROFT	Minister of Municipal Affairs and Provincial Treasurer.
MR. E. C. MANNING	Provincial Secretary.

NO member of this Cabinet, nor any other member of the Party has ever before sat in a legislative assembly. Mr. Hugill, who is the senior partner in the legal firm of Hugill and O'Keefe, was Alderman of the City of Calgary in 1921-22.

They start with a clean sheet, and the best wishes of every man and woman in the world who has a spark of good feeling and good will.

The Premier's First Statement

From a general survey I have every reason to believe that a real problem lies before me. Upon careful analysis I am satisfied that the new Government can bring the Province to its feet. We are determined to maintain its credit and to meet all its obligations.

In an interview the Premier said: "I feel like a young horse who wants to get going, but please give me time, and please be patient." He added that he had wired to Major Douglas asking how soon he could come.

Major Douglas's Position

The following statement appeared in the *Manchester Guardian* and elsewhere on August 29.

It is understood that Major Douglas, the leading propounder of Social credit theories, has not yet decided whether to accept an invitation to go to Alberta to give active assistance to Mr. Aberhart.

A correction of this statement has been made by Major Douglas, who has not been officially called upon by Mr. Aberhart. The decision does not lie with Major Douglas who is a civil servant, appointed for two years by the late Government of Alberta as Chief Reconstruction Adviser.

Pre-election Common Sense

Those who talk about Mr. Aberhart's plans as wild and unpractical should take to heart the following three quotations from his campaign speeches. They put cut and dried plans, and the ballyhoo of his opponents neatly into their proper place.

We will make a plan for Alberta as soon as we get the facts, and it cannot be done until then. We must get the facts first.

You don't have to understand electricity before you make use of an electric system, as it is installed by experts.

If we are so foolish and fanatical as they say we are, why don't they let us hang ourselves.

The Nominations

Calgary and Edmonton both return six members, and had twenty and twenty-seven candidates respectively. In the remaining fifty-one constituencies four had five candidates, twenty-eight had four candidates, and the rest had three.

The Final Result

The full strength of the Social Credit party is fifty-six, with an opposition composed of five Liberals and two Conservatives. The Conservatives were definitely opposed to Social Credit, but it is quite possible that the five Liberals owe their election to the fact that they did not oppose Social Credit.

IN THIS ISSUE

Major Douglas on Alberta	-	26
Overseas Notes	-	27
The Social Credit Movement	-	27
On the Eve of Battle	-	28
Canadian Notes	-	29
Book Reviews	-	30

would have been for some other party. It sounds silly, and is.

Nobody Asked You, Sir, She Said

Mr. L. A. Taschereau, the Premier of Quebec, has gratuitously announced that "Alberta must understand that it is useless to count upon the Provinces of Quebec and Ontario to finance the various projects which they intend to put into operation."

He also predicted that there would be new elections in Alberta before six months. It is much more likely that there will be new elections in Quebec.

A Saskatchewan Experiment

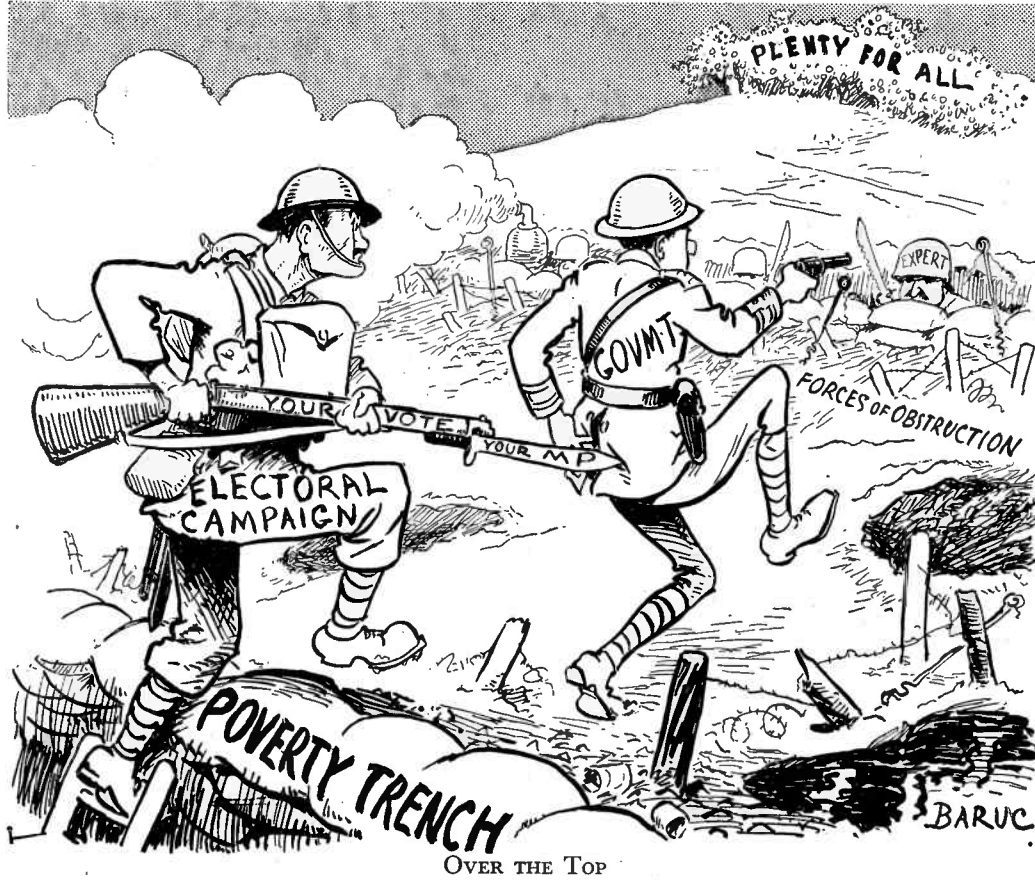
The wording of the following item from *The Times* of August 31 is particularly interesting as a description of a *fait accompli*.

The town of Eaton in Saskatchewan has just successfully carried out an experiment on a social credit basis in improving two of its main streets.

Farmers indebted to merchants hauled the gravel and the merchants had their tax arrears credited with the money equivalent of the services of their farm debtors, and the municipal authorities got the finished roads. The farmers paid their accounts, the merchants paid their taxes, and the community secured the new roads without a single dollar changing hands.

The Voting

An analysis of the voting is not yet possible, but the full return will be available shortly. There may be attempts to prove that the Party does not represent a majority on the grounds that it was returned with an absolute majority in all the single-member constituencies. The arithmetic of this sort of suggestion will be complicated, and will depend partly on the assumption that if a large number of the voters voted Social Credit without using second preferences, the second preferences, had they been used,



OVER THE TOP

VICTORY FUND

LAST Friday the Dean of Canterbury announced the opening of a Victory Fund in honour of the first Social Credit Government in the world.

The fund was opened by Miss Ethel Birnstingl for sums of one shilling and upwards.

The following sums were received by Tuesday, September 3. All contributions will be acknowledged in SOCIAL CREDIT only, under *nom de plume* if desired:—

LIST OF SUBSCRIPTIONS.

	£	s.	d.
Miss Ethel Birnstingl, Henley	5	0	0
The Very Rev. Dr. Hewlett Johnson	5	0	0
N. H. Lamb, Esq., West Hartlepool	5	0	0
Clive Kenrick, Esq., Edgbaston	5	0	0
R. S. Gleadow, Esq., W.1	5	0	0
F. Wyatt-Smith, Esq., W.1	5	0	0
H.S.	3	3	0
Frewen Moor, Esq., Norwich	2	2	0
Mr. and Mrs. Powell, N.W.2	2	0	0
R. W. Hannagen, Esq., Cardiff	1	1	0
Miss J. T. Mander, Tunbridge Wells	1	0	0
The Rev. Stewart Mechie, Inverness	1	0	0
A. T. Shippey, Colchester	0	15	0
Rev. G. R. Robertson, Dundee	0	10	0
Tallyballydonald	0	5	0
Mary and Dora, Glasgow	0	2	6
H.O.; A.W.L.; A.J.L., each 2s.	0	6	0
Miss M. de Castro, Bournemouth; P. H. G. Smith, Wimborne; C.S.C.; Cassowary; Timbuctoo; R.H., each 1s.	0	6	0

£42 10 6

FIRST BLOOD

WE hold at headquarters a definite undertaking from a sitting Member of Parliament. He sympathises with and endorses our policy and has invited us to bring the pressure of his constituents to bear upon him to implement their desires.

The campaign to achieve this is now proceeding in his constituency.

As soon as he is satisfied that a majority of his constituents desire him to do so he will sign the candidate's declaration that he will carry out their wishes **IRRESPECTIVE OF PARTY.**

Bechuanaland Petition Fails

CHIEF Tshekedi of the Bechuanaland Protectorate recently addressed a petition to The King on the subject of the Proclamation by Sir Herbert Stanley, High Commissioner in South Africa. General sympathy has been felt for Chief Tshekedi as these proclamations are believed to be correctly described in the petition as a breach of the treaty made with Queen Victoria's ministers, and cutting at the very root of native liberties and institutions.

The King has been advised by the Secretary of State for the Dominions to disallow the petition, although it appears that the petition is made against the actions of the minister's own department.

The official mind seems to be crystallising in regard to petitions, and petitioners.

G. K. Chesterton on Alberta

The overwhelming victory of the Social Credit Party in the Alberta elections is an event of great significance around which a cloud of mystification has been raised. Observing the event as it occurs, we see no reason to take it as proof or disproof of the truth of the Major Douglas theory, nor do we care whether or not Mr. Aberhart is its orthodox exponent. . . . The points that really matter seem to be the clearness of his majority, the absence of panic in Alberta upon the publication of the results, and the expressed caution of Mr. Aberhart when he discusses his plans for the future. He does not strike the note of an insane visionary, and he may well be left with the support of his own people to carry his principles into practice. And his main principle seems to be to finance consumption, rather than to finance production under a growing burden of debt. . . .

The apparent success of Mr. Aberhart in Alberta will not be proof that Social Credit is the sole monetary doctrine for the world; and the apparent failure of Mr. Aberhart will not be proof that financial orthodoxy alone will save the situation. We say the first because our own ideas are more in the direction of an organic state than of an organised state. We say the second because attempts will probably be made to frustrate the success of Mr. Aberhart's plans.—"G.K.'s Weekly," August 29.

MAJOR DOUGLAS
on ALBERTA
SEE NEXT PAGE

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A Journal of Economic Democracy
The Official Organ of the Social Credit
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163A Strand, W.C.2. Tel. TEM 7054.

Subscription Rates, home or abroad, post free:
One year 10/-, six months 5/-, three months 2/6

Advertisement Rates: See page 32.

Vol. 3. No. 4. Friday, September 6, 1935

Larceny — Suicide — Delinquency

IT is very unfair of some people to carp at our noble Money System for failing to provide enough work. Think of the terrific stimulus it gives to inefficiency and then measure this in terms of man-hours.

Glance from the top of a London bus through the window of one of our bigger business houses and observe the scores and scores of pale-faced clerks industriously scribbling in ledgers. Think of the millions who are fighting the demon of Sales-resistance with every trick and artifice of the commercial tactician.

And finally consider all the bobbies detectives, judges, magistrates, criminal psychologists, writers of thrillers, probation officers, prison governors, doctors and missionaries, all actively engaged in combating and exploiting crime.

Imagine the widespread dismay and distress if crime were allowed to decline! Surely there would be a great outcry from all these worthy people whose livelihood depends upon the man who strangles his grandmother for her insurance money and little Johnny who pinches a bottle of ginger beer off a street stall?

Luckily there is no cause for alarm. The statistics of crime in England and Wales, which have just been published, show that the criminal industry is still in a flourishing condition and that an overwhelming proportion of it is directly due to poverty and unemployment among the working classes.

In 1933, 62,660 people were found guilty of indictable offences compared with 64,958 in 1932. Of the 49,026 dealt with in the adult courts, 73 per cent. were found guilty of larceny, 26 per cent. were fined and 33 per cent. were sent to prison.

The number of boys and girls found guilty in the juvenile courts of indictable offences was 13,364. Of these 96 per cent. were found guilty of some form of theft.

In reviewing the five years from 1929 to 1933, the report says the cases of violence remained more or less constant while the sexual offences decreased. But the numbers of thefts and frauds increased each year up to 1932 and then fell slightly in 1933. Thus crime followed the curve of depression.

Of breaking and entering cases, the figures for 1933 showed an increase of 52 per cent. on those for 1929.

The report guardedly admits that industrial depression and unemployment may have an influence on the figures and adds "Probably also delinquency among children is affected by unemployment. When home conditions are harder and there is less pocket money available there may be an increased tendency among children to pilfer."

The figures for suicide are even more striking and show quite unmistakably the connection between self-murder and economic distress. The suicides rise steadily year by year from 4,054 in 1925 to 5,657 in 1932. In 1933 there is a slight drop to 5,543. The cases of attempted suicide rise continuously from 1,981 in 1925 to 3,299 in 1932. In 1933 the figure is 3,354.

I forget to mention that 284,528 people were found guilty of road traffic offences in 1933 and another 30,630 transgressed the Revenue laws—mostly by failing to take out a licence for a car or a dog. Since nearly all the legislation in these days is restrictive, there is every chance that these satisfactory totals will increase, thus providing further revenue in fines and affording much needed employment for, etc., etc.

Where work is the principal aim, we cannot blame any salaried official for emulating the tactics of the much maligned plumber and increasing the scope and volume of his labours by every means within his power. Nor can we blame the Government for passing a few laws to give them a leg up.

After all, we have never told the Government that it is not work we require. If on thinking it over we decide that what we really want is the fruits of work, namely a fair share in the enormous potential plenty, we must up and say so, remembering that all governments are a little hard of hearing.

To help you we are setting up some loud-speakers through our Electoral Campaign. Why not make use of them?

G. W. L. DAY.

MAJOR DOUGLAS ON ALBERTA

THE interest which has been excited by the sweeping victory of the Social Credit Party in Alberta in the provincial election which has just taken place, is not, I think, unjustified. Those who are concerned with monetary science are aware that a verdict has been given against orthodox financial policy. Students of politics recognise that, for the first time in modern history, a Government has been elected against the wishes of those financial powers which, for the most part, control all Governments; while the general public senses instinctively that the problem of poverty amidst plenty is about to be tackled (perhaps for the first time) without fear of vested interests.

An Unparalleled Achievement

Fifty-six out of a total of sixty-three seats in the Legislature have been won by the Social Credit Party. Mr. William Aberhart, to whom this result is, beyond all question, mainly due, is a leader of great force of character and sincerity, and has the population of the province behind him to an extent which, so far as I am aware, is without parallel. He has not himself been a candidate, but, as Premier, will remain the political leader of the new Government, as he has been of the party during the period of propaganda and political organisation. A safe seat will, of course, be provided for him.

Our Objective is Identical

For reasons which are fairly obvious, strong efforts have been made to suggest that there is radical difference between Mr. Aberhart's views and my own. So far as objectives are concerned, such a difference is non-existent. To the extent that the application of Social Credit in Alberta has reached the stage of plans, it is my own opinion (and here, of

course, I speak only for myself) that Mr. Aberhart has successfully drawn a picture to the electorate by means of which he has depicted an objective subject in terms which could be understood by a rural population. I should be surprised if he or they attach any special importance to any details of this picture. I feel confident that both his own judgment and the force of circumstances will lead him to adopt methods which will enable him to implement his promises. Politics in Alberta, and, indeed, in the whole of Western Canada, is a deadly serious business. The condition of affairs is bad, and, is getting worse. Alberta itself is a province of immense natural resources, almost wholly unexploited, and its population is hard-working, decent and reasonable. But it is determined to have a square deal, and I believe that, under Mr. Aberhart, it will get it.

Opposition to be Expected

Since the application of Social Credit principles involves the use of financial credit for the benefit of the general population rather than the banking system, it is certain that the new Government will meet with all the opposition that can be provided by International Finance. Whilst this opposition may delay the result, I do not think it will ultimately affect it.

The repercussions upon both the Canadian Federal election and upon the Social Credit Movement, which exists in practically every British Dominion overseas, are likely to be great, with consequent, and probably irresistible, pressure upon the policy of the British Cabinet at home. So far as Canada is concerned the problem of debt, more particularly in the Western Provinces, has now reached a stage in which either fresh methods must be used to deal with it or repudiation must

become inevitable. Taxation has definitely come under the influence of the Law of Diminishing Returns. Properties are being abandoned from sheer inability to pay the tax upon them, with a result that a smaller and diminishing base for the tax structure is left to bear the load. The result of the drying up of purchasing power and the draining of the resources of the country to meet the demands of the Eastern creditors has had, among other effects, that of so reducing the traffic of the railways that they are faced with bankruptcy or worse. Every prediction of post-war Canadian Governments has been falsified, and practically no promises affecting the security and prosperity of the individual have been kept.

There is no belief in any of the old parties, and it is by no means improbable that, even in the short time available before the Federal elections of October 22, a new party, possibly headed by Mr. Stevens, the revolting Conservative Minister, may obtain the balance of power in co-operation with the Alberta Provincial Government, and transfer the Social Credit victory to Ottawa, with results not only very important in themselves, but quite probably decisive in the coming New Zealand elections, which are already certain to turn upon the question of Social Credit.

Such results may quite possibly occur even in advance of any actual concrete achievement in Alberta, in the field of practical economics, while the successful inauguration of even the early stages of a reformed financial régime, effective if abolishing the absurdity of scarcity amidst riches, will, beyond question, provide an object lesson capable of modifying world politics.

August 30, 1935. C. H. DOUGLAS.

From a Seat in the Stalls

Old-Fashioned and Barbarous!

The *Times* of August 20, under the heading "The Autocrat of Abyssinia," reviews a book entitled "Abyssinia on the Eve" by Ladislas Farago. From this we learn that "Abyssinia has an immemorial civilisation so old-fashioned as to appear almost barbarous to the outside world." And that "It is interesting to note that Ethiopia has no national debt, and until a special patriotic tax for buying ammunition was introduced this year there was no direct taxation." It appears that Italy has been selected to teach these old-fashioned Ethiopians what way they should go, and the benefits that may accrue to them through mortgaging their country and themselves to a banking system which will certainly give them in exchange an ever-increasing National Debt and taxation, if nothing else that they really want.

Fixing Responsibility

Speaking at Sunderland last week, Lord Runciman brightly remarked that "The trade depression would never have been so acute but for the politicians who allowed industry to get so deep into the hands of the bankers." Before Social Crediters throw their hats in the air they should note that the attack is on persons and not on the system which causes those persons to react. Politicians are not more wicked than the rest of us, and they must needs yield to pressure; and bankers are most able and admirable servants of a defective money system.

Do not blame the politician, tell him what you want. If, after that, bankers will not co-operate, then the politicians can start sacking them, which is possibly what Lord Runciman has in mind.

No Love Lost By Labour

For those who believe that Social Credit has any hope of support from the Labour Party, as distinct from individual members of the party, many of whom are very good friends of ours, the following from the *Daily Herald* leading article of August 27 should be illuminating:—

At the moment, the financial crisis in Alberta is not of considerable dimensions, and is certainly quite manageable.

That is, however, hardly a tribute to Social Credit. Rather it is due to the general feeling

that this extraordinary monetary theory will not be really put into practice . . .

That is, in one way, a pity. A practical trial of Social Credit would demolish its pretensions. Unfortunately, it would also demolish Alberta.

This would be too high a price to pay even for the discredit of Social Credit, much as those who are working for social reconstruction on Labour lines would like to see that will-o'-the-wisp extinguished.

We bet they would.

Unemployment "Assistance" Board

Somebody ought to re-christen the Unemployment Assistance Board. The Malnutrition Assistance Board would be a better title for it, and the Board of Education might be named the Board of Starvation.

The Manchester Education Committee (more power to its elbow!) is fighting the pair of them. The Education Board says that free meals should be given only to children actually certified by a doctor to be suffering from malnutrition; whereupon the Unemployment Assistance Board steps in and takes these free meals into account when assessing an unemployed family's income.

The *Manchester Guardian* points out the extreme meanness of the procedure. The Unemployment Assistance Board holds that even when actual malnutrition has existed and is only being kept at bay by free school meals, it is still right to knock something off the family income in respect of these free meals. So if a certain number of free meals is keeping a family just above the starvation line, the Board's deduction shoves them down below it again!

Consumers Are So Cussed

"Altogether the immediate outlook for American business is excellent, and I can give no better summary of it in a few words than that which was given to me by a leading Wall Street authority to-day: 'Probably the greatest optimism,' he said, 'that has been displayed this year is now prevailing in financial, industrial and mercantile circles. Congress's adjournment is strengthening sentiment and augmenting confidence in the outlook for the remaining months of the year. The time is at hand when further expansion of buying is to be expected, and

the only drawback to this is the amount of resistance to be encountered from the consumers who are now becoming thoroughly aroused to the rising cost of living.'—*The Scotsman*, August 30.

If we 'ad some 'am, Bert, we could 'ave some 'am and eggs—if we 'ad some eggs.

Darwin Up To Date

Followers of Darwin have described how in the days when the world was young life consisted in battles of swallowing between rival amoebas, the bigger ones absorbing the smaller ones and becoming more gigantic with each successful assimilation.

This delightful picture shows us exactly where to place modern business in the evolutionary scale, for the very same process is now taking place between rival commercial organisations. Big businesses swallow little businesses. For example, an American enquiry covering the years 1925 to 1930 shows that in the State of Illinois, out of 1,000 new shops, 314 had disappeared by the end of the first year, 474 by the end of the second, and 587 at the end of the third. These were small independent businesses.

Also a recent issue of *The Times* says, "The smaller quarries are gradually being eliminated, the work being concentrated at a small number of large quarries . . . with the result that the number of persons employed is dropping."

Finance is self-centralising.

Scaremongering

No doubt we shall continue to read of pseudo financial panics in Alberta, rushes to remove bank deposits, falling stocks and all the other scare claptrap from the kind of newspaper that does that sort of thing.

Those who are inclined to take a more responsible line will, we feel sure, follow the excellent lead given in *The Times*, special article of August 31, entitled "Poverty in Plenty," which concludes (see page 29):—

"In the meantime it is to be hoped that nothing will be done either by hot-headed reformers or wild scaremongers to destroy the credit or future prospects of the province."

"Coast To Coast" CANADA and ELECTORAL POLICY

IT is to be hoped that no new reader mistakes this paper for an organ of opinion. As Major Douglas wrote not long ago, it is an organ of policy; that is to say, it exists to achieve a definite objective, not to run a pleasant debating club. Its very beginning was the direct outcome of his great speech at Buxton, when he defined the proper function of democracy as being to decide *what is to be done, but not how it is to be done or who is to do it.*

Protection Against Fraud

This paper accepts that statement as both true and of fundamental importance, but what I should like to reiterate here, more particularly for the fast-growing number of readers overseas, are two points which touch every one of us, whether we agree with this abstract definition of democracy or not. The first is that to demand results is the only safe way to protect ourselves against fraud. By fraud I mean the sort of *imposed and diluted* social credit that the financial interests will eventually offer us, which they are probably already resigned to offering us, if we make the serious tactical error of demanding *methods* rather than *results*. They can easily divide and confuse us on questions of technique, for they are experts and we, for the most part, are not. There is hardly a country with whose social credit history I am familiar where they have not already had considerable success in doing so. Whether they succeed further depends on the peoples' success or failure to close their ranks and demand those results which, as we know, only social credit can give. If we ask for a national dividend as our right, on the simple lines laid down in the Elector's Demand and Undertaking (page 32), we can't be cheated.

The Devil Drives

The second point is that *time is limited*. I wish I could feel sure that even among those working to save democracy there is a full realization of this fact. Within the next three or four years various alternatives, or a combination of them, face Great Britain and the world. War, revolution, wide-spread epidemics (due to progressive malnutrition and the decrease in resisting-power), or, to avoid these, an iron dictatorship compared with which the present régimes in Russia or Germany will seem almost innocuous. Fear for one's own safety is a bad incentive to action, and I mention this aspect of the matter simply because it cannot fail to be at the back of everyone's mind, and had better be taken out and looked in the eye before it is replaced by some more fruitful emotion. If anyone still doubts the possibility of dictatorship in Anglo-Saxon countries (imposed always, of course, in the name of liberty, and with a minimum of uniforms), he does not yet appreciate the truth of the motto by which modern governments live, "Needs must when the devil drives." They have no choice; Major Douglas has made it clear enough for anyone to understand in his Alberta report, and the treatment of the unemployed both in Canada and elsewhere in recent months is bearing him out to the letter.

Canada is World Centre

At this moment, ludicrous as it may sound to those who have not considered the matter, the centre of the world's stage is not in Geneva, or Rome, or Moscow, but in Canada. There the battle is joined which will decide the fate, not only of nations, for they do not matter, but of men and women and children, who do. Albertans have challenged the Money Monopoly by demanding results, through the medium of a government pledged to the abolition of poverty. To debate at such a point whether this or that member of the Alberta Social Credit League committed himself to technical statements incompatible with those of Douglas, and still more to accuse them of not understanding the intricacies of the subject, are courses, as I suggested last week, which would show a complete lack of appreciation of the dynamic possibilities of the situation, and might, in fact, become actively dangerous. It has been said that the enemies of social credit will try to "confuse" Douglas and Aberhart in the popular mind. But from the strategic point of view nothing could be better. It seems to me equally likely, however, that they will try to split them in the popular mind, by magnifying the importance of any discussion of technical discrepancies, where they exist, and ignoring the fact that the two men are essentially at one in objective and increasingly so in strategy. There have already been signs in the London press that this course is

being pursued, and I shall be surprised and pleased if Canadian comments do not confirm it. To discredit the popular leader who raised public enthusiasm, by setting him against the technical consultant from overseas who in the nature of things cannot do so, is the course I should pursue if I were behind the Economic Safety League, or importing Vancouver professors and Washington feature-writers to do my dirty work.

Once Aberhart was removed as a dynamic force, finance probably feels, rightly or wrongly, that it could prolong technical discussion in Alberta till the cows came home and died in their stalls for lack of feed. If anyone in the province feels worried about the technical position of the Social Credit League, I will ask him to remember that Major Douglas remains the economic adviser of the provincial government, whichever party is in power, and that Mr. Aberhart has more than once expressed his full intention of asking him back to formulate a plan of action for the province.

The Federal Elections

The Federal elections have now been fixed for October 14, and the relation between them and the Alberta situation is a complex matter which is keeping the keenest Canadian observers awake at nights. At one time there were rumours that the Social Credit party and Mr. Stevens' Reconstruction party would join forces, but this has since been denied and it seems unlikely that any positive alliance will occur. A defensive alliance, however, should be by no means impossible, especially since Mr. Stevens' statement, reported in *The Observer* of August 25, that in view of the overwhelming support for Mr. Aberhart in Alberta, "it is obviously the duty of the federal authorities to give every reasonable co-operation and assistance to him in carrying out the policies which have been so definitely endorsed."

Let us assume that the Reconstruction party carries a large proportion of urban seats in Ontario, and a certain number of rural

constituencies there and in British Columbia, Stevens' own province. He can probably count on the support of the U.F.A. federal members if some of them retain their seats, and in any case if, as seems likely, they are replaced by members of the Social Credit League, the two parties between them may well have a large minority in the House of Commons, the one pledged to social credit, the other at least to sympathetic and prompt investigation of the possibilities of monetary reform. Under these circumstances it would be difficult, if not impossible, for a Liberal government at Ottawa to interfere with such provincial action to secure political control of credit as Major Douglas might advise the provincial government to take. (In all this, of course, I am assuming that there will be no conflict of social credit forces anywhere in the federal field; such a development would quite clearly be disastrous.)

The Morning After

Assuming, then, that the Liberal party is returned to (doubtful) power, the question of the utility of an electoral campaign on the same general principles as that in Great Britain naturally arises. I described at the beginning of this article the two factors which make a demand for results of practical urgency, whatever may be the theoretical position, and it is difficult to escape the conclusion that what might well be desirable in the provincial field is urgent in the federal. It must not be forgotten that such a campaign is genuinely non-party in a sense which no other can be, and that it is beyond question the quickest way of rousing a whole people to the full realization of what their united votes can do. According to circumstances, it may act either as a threat (as in Great Britain), or as a non-party vote of confidence and support.

In the unlikely, but not impossible, event of a coalition of monetary reformers being returned to power, the usefulness of such a campaign, for the reasons just given, would be in no way lessened, and this would be

THE SOCIAL CREDIT MOVEMENT

A BRIEF SUMMARY OF WHAT IT MEANS AND WHAT IT WILL ACCOMPLISH

Supporters of the Social Credit Movement assert that under present conditions the purchasing power in the hands of the community is chronically insufficient to buy the whole product of industry. This is because the money required to finance capital production, and created by the banks for that purpose, is regarded as borrowed from them, and therefore, in order that it may be repaid, it is charged into the price of consumers' goods. It is a vital fallacy to treat new money thus created by the banks as a loan, without crediting the community, on the strength of whose resources the money was created, with the value of the resulting new capital resources. This has given rise to a defective system of national loan accountancy, resulting in the reduction of the community to a condition of perpetual scarcity; and bringing it face to face with the alternatives of widespread unemployment of men and machines, as at present, or of international complications arising from the struggle for foreign markets.

The Douglas Social Credit Proposals would remedy this defect by increasing the purchasing power in the hands of the community to an amount sufficient to provide effective demand for the whole product of industry. This, of course, cannot be done by the orthodox method of creating new money, prevalent during the war, which necessarily gives rise to the "vicious spiral" of increased currency, higher prices, higher wages, higher costs, still higher prices, and so on. The essentials of the scheme are the simultaneous creation of new money and the regulation of the price of consumers' goods at their real cost of production (as distinct from their apparent financial cost under the present system). The technique for effecting this is fully described in the writings of Major C. H. Douglas.

The adoption of this scheme would result in an unprecedented improvement in the standard of living of the population by the absorption at home of the present unsaleable output, and would, therefore, eliminate the dangerous struggle for foreign markets. Unlike other suggested remedies, these proposals do not call for financial sacrifice on the part of any section of the community, while, on the other hand, they widen the scope for individual enterprise.

THE foregoing statement distinguishes the Social Credit Movement from all other movements for social or monetary reform. No other school of reform makes the assertion set out in the first sentence, yet the evidence presented by perpetual poverty (*i.e.*, lack of purchasing power, or money to spend), side by side with more goods and services (*i.e.*, the product of industry) than can be sold, points to the truth of the assertion, which holds good during both booms and slumps.

To say that the statement is untrue in war-time is, first, to admit its truth in peace time, and, secondly, to imply that poverty cannot be abolished without international strife — which is absurd.

Only Banks Create Money

The second sentence above gives the key to the explanation of chronically insufficient buying power, by pointing out that, under the present system, money is *created** by the

banks, who *lend* it (although it has cost nothing to create) to industrialists on condition that it is repaid to them.

Money is worthless in itself (it is neither food, clothing nor shelter), and its use is similar to that of a ticket, except that the purpose of tickets is generally to entitle the holders to acquire specific things, whereas money entitles its possessors to any kind of goods and services.

In form, money can be anything con-

* "Banks lend by creating credit: they create the means of payment out of nothing."—*Encyclopædia Britannica*.

"I am afraid that the ordinary citizen will not like to be told that the banks can and do, create and destroy money. The amount of money in existence varies only with the action of the banks in increasing or decreasing deposits . . . they who control the credit of the nation, direct the policy of governments, and hold in the hollow of their hands the destiny of the people."—*The Rt. Hon. Reginald McKenna, Chairman of the Midland Bank and former Chancellor of the Exchequer.*

particularly the case since it is almost out of the question that such a coalition would be powerful enough to force through a controversial programme, without such support. It might be several years before an enthusiasm comparable with that in Alberta could be developed throughout the Dominion for social credit, whereas an electoral campaign could quite probably be carried through in a shorter time than in this country, in spite of our much smaller distances. Of course, pledges through the mail or as the result of broadcast appeals might play a big part, and it is unlikely that the energy and resource of Canadians would fail to finish the job successfully if they once undertook it.

J. D. B.

Social Credit Movement (continued)

venient, from figures on cheques to specially printed pieces of paper or metal. The particular form which money takes has no relation to its worth, and that its creators, the banks, should treat it as repayable to them does not imply that they sacrificed anything when they lent it, for *it did not exist before*, and was created by the stroke of a pen.

When individuals or industries lend money, they are justified in demanding its repayment unconditionally, because, not having created it, they would have to make a sacrifice if they were to part with it permanently. Now, in order that industrialists who obtain money from the banks can eventually repay it, they have to collect it from the purchasers of the goods they sell, for, since *only banks* can create money, that is their only source of income. When the money is repaid to the banks it is automatically cancelled out of existence. Yet, in the course of its circulation through industry, this created money has built up costs which, even after the cancellation of the money, remain attached to the things the money has made it practicable to produce.

The Basis of Credit

The Social Credit case, therefore, points out that, since the banks create money on the basis of (1) a functioning industry, (2) a consuming public, and (3) stable government, which together may be defined as the "Social Credit" of the community, repayment of bank loans is impossible, unless the community is credited with the monetary value of the created resources.

Even partial repayment under present accountancy methods must result in a surplus of goods which are unconsumable, not because they are not wanted, but because purchasing power is insufficient to buy them.

This defective system of bank-loan accountancy has reduced all industrial communities to a condition of perpetual scarcity, despite the potential abundance made possible by modern science. It has further involved them in a load of fictitious debt to the banks which can never be paid off.

The cause of the present distress having been analysed, the obvious remedy is pointed out in the second paragraph of the Social Credit case. This is, to place in the hands of the members of the community enough purchasing power to enable them to buy everything they are able and willing to produce.

The Remedy for Poverty and Insecurity

The method of doing this is fully described in the writings of Major C. H. Douglas, who first analysed the root cause of the trouble. Essentially, it will be by means of National Dividends, which means an income for every member of the community, in addition to any money brought in by work or savings, so that the things now destroyed and the production restricted can be bought.

The necessary money will be created, and will not be raised by borrowing or taxation. Where there is real wealth, there is credit; where there is credit, money can be issued upon it. Inflationary results will be obviated by a retail-price subsidy regulated to enable the home market to absorb what it wants of the home production.

It is not necessary for people to understand the technical method by which they can obtain money to assure them a comfortable life and the abolition of poverty. But it is necessary for them to realise that these things are possible. They have then only to instruct their elected representatives in Parliament to demand that the government shall do what they want.

A National Campaign

The Social Credit Movement are organising a National Electoral Campaign to urge the people to express their will to abolish poverty, and secure a National Dividend, by means of their Parliamentary votes. All who give their support are asked to communicate with the Social Credit Secretariat, 163A, Strand, London, W.C.2.

On the EVE OF BATTLE

DURING the past year the Social Credit Movement has been engaged in a process of readjustment from the stage of propaganda to the requirements of the stage of action upon which we have entered. It was inevitable that this period should be fraught with great difficulties, serious differences and much misunderstanding. During the fifteen years in which Social Credit spread from the mind of one man to secure the support of a vast world-wide Movement, propaganda was all-important. We were a propaganda-minded Movement—in fact, the propaganda-minded Movement of the world. But we knew that the establishment of Social Credit would involve action, for there can be no justification for the existence of the Movement if it is not that it shall make Social Credit an established fact.

Though we knew that propaganda must give way to action, at the time of the Buxton Conference the Movement was adjusted both mentally and structurally to the requirements of propaganda. The readjustment demanded for action was greater than perhaps any other Movement has been asked to make—for not only was a structural readjustment necessary, but also a complete mental re-adjustment.

Time is Short

Re-adjustment is taking shape. The difficulties and misunderstandings which rent the Movement during these months are being rapidly overcome. However, if we mean to get Social Credit established we must get down to the job with greater determination and a higher sense of responsibility than has been displayed so far. To anyone who is not blind it must be plain from the rapid deterioration of the plight of the world that the time available for effective action to be taken is short. We are swiftly moving from a situation in which persons may be said to be in control, to one in which events will take charge. In other words, the situation is rapidly getting beyond the control of persons.

If we are to gain our objective of Social Credit we must exert ourselves to secure control over the situation before we reach the point at which the cumulative effect of the results of the present system render disaster inevitable. Some people talk glibly of the possibilities of the present system being continued indefinitely, but every Social Creditor knows that this is pragmatically impossible.

The Critical Hour

If we do not attempt to apply balm to our minds or shirk our responsibility in the matter, we must recognise that the break up of civilization has begun. We have arrived at that point to which Major Douglas refers in the last chapter of "Social Credit":—

The position will be tremendous in its importance. A comparatively short period will probably serve to decide whether we are to master the mighty economic and social machine that we have created, or whether it is to master us; and during that period a small impetus from a body of men who know what to do and how to do it, may make the difference between yet one more retreat into the Dark Ages, or the emergence into the full light of a day of such splendour as we can at present only envisage dimly.

It is this necessity for the recognition of the psychological moment, and the fitting to that moment of appropriate action, which should be present in the minds of that small minority which is seized of the gravity of the present times.

The stark fact is that we know there is nothing—absolutely nothing—which stands between humanity and certain disaster except Social Credit. This throws a responsibility upon every Social Creditor personally such as a grouping of individuals has seldom been called upon to vindicate. The important words in the quotation from Major Douglas are "who know what to do and how to do it". Just, as no Social Creditor can escape his personal responsibility in the present situation without annihilating his self-respect, so no Social Creditor is equipped to face up to that responsibility without knowing just what he has to do and how he will do it. If he has not this knowledge, he may act in perfect good faith, and yet his action may be more disastrous than helpful in gaining our objective.

To view the task in perspective it is necessary to have a clear mental picture of the structure of society under the present system. This can be pictured as a vast pyramid. At the apex of the pyramid we have finance in a position of complete control over the entire pyramidal structure. The methods by which it has gained this position and retains it by its control of the monetary

A Striking Call for United Action

by

L. D. BYRNE

Director of Organisation,
Social Credit Secretariat

system are familiar to us all. Whether finance has gained this domination of society by accident or design is quite immaterial. The fact is that finance is the supreme effective sovereign power and the individuals in whom this power is vested have gained their positions under the impulse of the will-to-power.

Divide and Rule

Now the feature of this structure of society deserving the most careful attention is its almost perfect adjustment to the retention of tyrannical powers by finance. Imagine the vast pyramid representing our social structure to be divided horizontally in several divisions. These represent the various strata or classes of society. Economic conditions render it easy to accentuate these social divisions, and to create and foster class segregation and class antagonism.

Eve of Battle

It is an old game, as old as civilization, to divide and rule. By having the community divided against itself in this manner, the tyranny of finance can ensure retaining its sovereignty at the apex of the pyramid. The social groupings nearest the apex enjoy the greatest measure of economic security, and the lower down in the structure the individual finds himself, the less security and freedom he will enjoy. Thus there is always a pressure from the top by individuals to keep those below them in the pyramidal structure from jeopardising their position—and a pressure from below of those individuals striving to gain a more secure position, which, in turn, accentuates the pressure from the higher social strata.

Not only is society divided against itself in this manner, but the entire social structure is divided vertically into various political camps—each in conflict with the other. And the entire community is divided further by a process of grouping in small pyramidal structures within the great pyramid of society. These small pyramids are, for the most part, the various industrial and com-

represented by a circle. The circumference of the circle being the democracy and the centre of the circle the administration. Now individuals who are economically secure and free, as recipients of a National Dividend will submit only to that administration which gives effect to their will. In other words only persons who can command the voluntary respect of their fellow men will attract service—workers and so forth—and it is only such men who will administrate. By the actions of the economically-secure democracy at the circumference of the circle, the members of the administration will be automatically voted into their positions at the centre of the circle, and they will retain their administrative position individually only so long as, individually, they give the democracy what it wants.

This democratic order of society is the opposite of the tyrannical structure represented by the pyramid. The task of the Social Credit Movement is to change the rigid pyramidal structure to this democratic structure. Before this can be done the sovereign power of finance must be defeated. Finance will not be defeated and the social structure will not be changed by merely talking about it—that is by propaganda. It can be done only by action.

Main Considerations

The main considerations in reviewing this question of action are:—

(1) No sovereign power which has gained its sovereignty under the urge of the will-to-power has ever been, or ever will voluntarily abdicate its sovereignty in any circumstances. It is as certain as anything can be certain that such a power can only be forced to abdicate. This involves challenge to its sovereignty, then conflict, and finally its defeat.

(2) Finance retains its sovereign powers by its control of the financial system (and through it the entire economic life of communities), and by its policy of dividing the people against each other. So long as the latter can be maintained, so long does finance remain in security—for no effective protest against the tyranny of finance is possible from any section of a community divided against itself. Any challenge to the power of finance by a section of the community will be opposed by the rest of the community and, because of the threat to civil peace thus created, opposed by all the sanctions of the state which exist to maintain law and order.

Therefore the policy governing any action to compass the defeat of finance must counter the "divide and rule" policy of finance with a policy of "unite." It will be perceived later that only by the application of such tactics will it be possible for the people to range the sanctions of the state on their side and in opposition to finance.

(3) It is useless to expect effective action against finance to be initiated from "key persons". Such persons have attained their positions on account of their adjustment to the requirements of the present system and can retain their positions and influence only by defending the *status quo*. Effective control resides in the apex of the pyramid and can be used at any time to bring pressure upon individuals by threatening their positions in the social structure.

(4) Time is the essential factor in regard to what action is likely to be effective, and the point at which action can be taken. No fundamental change such as Social Credit demands—changing, as it does, the social structure—is likely to be achieved except at the point of acute crisis when the position is wobbling in the balance. It is at this point that such change is possible—and therefore any action likely to be successful must be directed to prove effective at this point.

At such a point of acute crisis a *coup d'etat* by force could be engineered by finance—and therefore any effective action must be assured of success even against such a move by finance.

Ineffective Methods

Now the foregoing considerations narrow the field in which action can be taken, and



MR. L. D. BYRNE

the nature of that action. Several of the methods which were advocated prior to Buxton—and, for that matter, still claim some support, probably through misunderstanding—are entirely ruled out.

It would be ridiculous to attempt to gain our objective by creating a Social Credit political party. Apart from the fact that there is no time, this would be causing a further division within the community; it would automatically result in the united hostility of existing parties and their supporting organisations, and would be playing right into the hands of finance.

Any attempt to attain a mass demand for Social Credit would be equally useless and highly dangerous. Any such mass demand would, of necessity, be vague. It could not be backed up with any technical knowledge of Social Credit, and it would be the easiest thing in the world for finance to engineer the adoption of some scheme having a vague resemblance to Social Credit but inherently unsound in its technique, to label this scheme Social Credit and, when it failed, to say to the people—"There you are, we told you this hair-brained scheme of Social Credit was unsound. Look at the disastrous consequences of your demand. You are responsible for this mess. Now, don't you think you had better leave it to us to pursue a sound financial policy?" This should convince the most ardent propagandist that, beyond a certain point, Social Credit propaganda by itself can be dangerous.

Essentials of Action

Many organisations have pressed for enquiries into the financial system, with particular reference to Social Credit. All these have proved useless. But let us suppose that the entire electorate could be successfully mobilised to press for a public enquiry into Social Credit as a means of dealing with the present situation. The effective control of the conditions under which such inquiry would be controlled by finance. The personnel of any commission of enquiry, the evidence which was taken, the time expended over the inquiry, would, in the last resort, be decided by finance, and the investigation engineered to defeat the purpose for which it was established.

In the light of the foregoing analysis it should be plain that the essential factors governing action to gain the establishment of Social Credit are:—

- (1) The action must be timed correctly.
- (2) The political and social environment at the time action is taken must determine the nature of that action.
- (3) No action against the existing credit monopoly can be effective so long as the community remains divided against itself and an easy prey for finance. To be effective it must cut right across the existing divisions created by class barriers and party political divisions, countering the technique of "divide and rule," employed by finance, by uniting the community.
- (4) Effective control of Parliament to the end in view is essential if the actions of the State are to be mobilised against finance—and this situation must be achieved before the power of finance can be overthrown.

Preparation for Action

These facts, so plain to us now, were not even dimly comprehended by our propaganda-minded Movement prior to Buxton. Throughout the years of the propaganda stage requests for action were made to Major Douglas, and suggestions were put to him to centralise the Movement so as to organise in readiness for action. All these well-meant suggestions were discouraged by him. "Wait," he said in effect, "it is useless to organise until you know what you are organising to do. When the time for action comes, we shall know what action we have to take and organise accordingly."

(Continued on next page)

SOCIAL CREDIT SECRETARIAT VISITORS

Any person wishing to see the Secretary should make an appointment. The Secretary will be available for interviews during the afternoon only, on Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday.

On Tuesday, owing to the demands of getting SOCIAL CREDIT ready for the printers, he will not be available.

This ruling is rendered necessary by the great pressure of work which has been thrown on the Secretariat as a result of the rapidly developing situation towards Social Credit.

L. DENIS BYRNE,
Director of Organisation.

**Social Credit Secretariat,
163A, Strand, London, W.C.2**

mercial organisations concerned with the economic life of the nation. The individual is dependent upon his position in one of these minor pyramids for his purchasing power—his licence to live within the social structure. In the last resort control over the conditions under which purchasing power is granted emanates from the apex of the greater social pyramid through the apex of each minor pyramid. Consideration along these lines of the structure of society under which we live should reveal the almost impregnable position which is occupied by finance.

Nature of our Task

Let us compare with this pyramidal or tyrannical social structure which exists, the social structure which will be created by the adoption of Social Credit. This might be

A POINTER TO SUCCESS

Curious Attitude Taken Up by The Economist

THE *Economist* of August 31, commenting on the Alberta election results, points out that the financing of the dividend by any form of retail turnover tax would be a "burdensome and apparently pointless form of redistributive taxation," and that to attempt to finance it by loans "would be merely to increase the deficit and indebtedness of the Province." In any case it says such expedients would not be genuine "Social Credit" for "The essence of that doctrine is the financing of free consumers' credits by a steady and permanent creation of new money."

Money for Alberta

There is no need to quarrel with this definition, incomplete though it is, and I find the subsequent statement of the difficulties to be overcome of great interest; it is as follows:—

"But how is Mr. Aberhart, as Prime Minister of Alberta, to create new money without transgressing the limits set by Canadian banking law? He cannot found a Government bank and issue an unlimited amount of notes. For the Bank Act of June, 1934, provides that from the day on which the Bank of Canada commenced business the maximum of notes issued by a chartered bank should not exceed 'the amount of the unimpaired paid-up capital of the bank' on that day; and that subsequently the

maximum should be progressively reduced. The only other possibility before Mr. Aberhart would presumably be to found a Government bank and issue unlimited credit irrespective of cash reserves. He has already spoken of using the 'real resources' of the Province as a 'basis for credit.' Such credit would not be convertible into cash and would only be usable within Alberta if its citizens chose to accept it. If they did so accept it, however, and it was expanded indefinitely, it would eventually dwindle in value in terms both of commodities and of the Canadian dollar. In any case, there are further legal obstacles to any such scheme. The Bank Act of June, 1934, provides that a 'bank cannot issue notes or commence the business of banking until it has obtained from the Treasury Board a certificate permitting it to do so.' Mr. Aberhart cannot set up a new bank, therefore, without the Treasury's permission. But even if he obtained permission, the amount of credit which the bank could issue would be severely limited. For the Bank of Canada Act provides (clause 27):—

"Every chartered bank shall . . . maintain a reserve of not less than 5 per cent. of its deposit liabilities within Canada and such reserve shall consist of a deposit with the Bank (of Canada) and of notes of the Bank held by such bank.

"Unless therefore, Mr. Aberhart can devise

some form of tax certificate or I.O.U. which will be accepted as currency by the citizens of Alberta, but not regarded as such by the Dominion lawyers, it does not seem likely that any genuine Social Credit scheme will be attempted in that Province."

Victory Expected

Thus *The Economist*, in common with some Social Crediters of whom we have heard, anticipates defeat. But does it really? As one of the innumerable loud-speakers of finance surely this is not the line it would take if it did? Would it not be more likely in such circumstances, to suggest that there is nothing to stop Social Credit being given a fair trial in Alberta, and its fallacies exposed for all time? But, in view of the quotation above, should the defeat it professes to expect occur, it cannot very well suggest that the Douglas proposals have been so tested.

In the circumstances, I regard this defeatist propaganda as most encouraging, the difficulties to be overcome are great, but not necessarily insuperable, and this admission of their existence is of value as explaining in advance any delays which occur in the transition from poverty to plenty.

"Where there's a will, there's a way," and who can doubt the will of Major Douglas, the economic adviser to the Alberta Government? His tenacity is proved by the way in which he has hung on during the past sixteen years despite attacks from every quarter, not excluding even from some whom he thought friends.

M. JACKLIN.

The Campaign in Kent and Sussex

Rochester, Gillingham, Dartford, Faversham, Tonbridge and Lewes. Will everybody in these constituencies who is interested in Social Credit or the Electoral Campaign, please send a post-card to the Secretariat, 163A Strand? We have something for them which should be of particular interest.

A Canadian View

By William Rose

(Contributed)

FOR the first time in history, two major political parties will go before a people with a common credit plank almost guaranteeing that whichever wins the other will force it to take action. Of Canada's four federal parties, the Conservatives will probably disappear, the Farmer-Labour group (C.C.F.) win a handful of seats, and the battle be between the Liberals and the new Reconstruction Party, led by Hon. H. H. Stevens, former Minister of Trade and Commerce in the Bennett administration.

Sweeping, But Vague

The Liberals have declared for a nationally-controlled central bank instead of the present Bank of Canada, which sticks out in the same places as the Old Lady of Threadneedle Street. Mr. MacKenzie King, Liberal leader, has made some sweeping, if vague, pronouncements about controlling the nation's currency and credit in the interests of the people. "Once a nation has surrendered its control over money," he says resoundingly, "usury is in the saddle and democracy in danger." Or words to that effect.

Just in case he forgets he said this, Gerry McGeer, leading Canadian bank-baiter, confirmed Soddysite, author of "The Conquest of Poverty," Lord Mayor of Vancouver, and Member of the B.C. Legislature, will be ready to remind him at the right moment. McGeer has a federal nomination in the forthcoming election, and he will probably win. In that circumstance, Mr. King will probably have to take some historic step or other, or alternatively see his caucus but wide open by the irrepressible McGeer. Gerry will not be alone. The entire representation from West of the Great Lakes is money-mad too.

New Party's Platform

Mr. Stevens's pronouncement is not so broad as, but considerably deeper than, that of Mr. King. He will nationalize the Bank of Canada outright. He will also hold a complete monetary enquiry, in which he will invoke the world's best brain to design the world's best money system for Canada. He suspects that money may be more important than any other public question. He is an economic nationalist, and he believes financial policy should be subject to public policy.

Lest anyone doubt Mr. Stevens's sincerity in this regard, remember that it was he, when efforts were made to strangle the now-famous Mass Buying Inquiry, who declared that "parliamentary committees were born to die," and who insisted that a Royal Commission be appointed with himself as chairman.

A Lesson In Finance

Diametrically opposed to each other in practically every plank in their platforms, the two major parties come together on the money question. This makes money the main issue, and as they discuss it from every stump and soap-box in the country, the public at large will get a lesson in finance. The residue should reflect itself in an accelerated growth in the Douglas Movement. Better organized than ever, the Social Credit Movement is ready to handle the heavier traffic. A National Dividend campaign has already begun in British Columbia, while the issue involved will probably be kept alive by Major Douglas in his Alberta recommendations, backed by the enthusiasm stirred up by William Aberhart.

The Hour of Decision approaches. Simultaneous with the election of Canada's new credit-conscious Parliament, or within a few weeks, the Tasmania Report will come down, New Zealand and Britain will go to the polls. The whole job is moving ahead together, and one or the other of these jurisdictions may take the fateful step forward or back. Only a bankers' debt inflation will stop this snowball rolling now, and that is not impossible. Just as J. P. Morgan made a "social" call on Stanley Baldwin, Montagu Norman embarked for Canada "on a holiday." With all the travelling done by Mr. Norman, and the critical situation in Canada, this jaunt has the characteristics of a busman's holiday.

POVERTY IN PLENTY—The Plight of Alberta

(Reprinted from *The Times*, August 31)

ALBERTA, one of the youngest Canadian provinces, which has gained sudden notoriety through electing the first Social Credit Government in the world, has always been a pioneer in progressive legislation.

Birth of a Province

It was created out of the old North-West Territory along with the adjoining province of Saskatchewan nearly 30 years ago, and as a Liberal Government at Ottawa had given it its charter, the first provincial Government was Liberal in name and in policy and held sway until a few years after the War. For most of that time the Premier was the late Arthur L. Sifton, the elder of two brothers who did much for Western Canada. He had vacated the office of Chief Justice to guide the destinies of the young province, and under his wise and far-sighted rule true and lasting progress was achieved.

Those were stirring days. Immigration was at its height. The scattered trading posts of the old frontier days, where few but half-breed voyageurs, Indians, Mounted Police, and the Hudson's Bay factors were known to go, soon became thriving centres of trade as the country filled up. At first old country stock predominated, and the older settlements, such as those round Calgary, High River, and Macleod, are still in the main of pure British blood.

Boom and Slump

As the number of immigrants increased so the stock became more varied. Thousands of farmers anxious to better their condition left their homes in the Western States, and bringing their all with them as in the old prairies schooner days migrated across the frontier to settle in the new country where land was either free or dirt cheap. They brought with them as well many of those new-fangled notions of democracy such as primary elections, the initiative, the

referendum, and the recall which already found much favour in some of the Western States, particularly in Oregon, which was always held up as a model of what a modern democracy should be. Before long Alberta was experimenting along the same lines.

The Melting-Pot

In the years just before the War the character of the immigrants changed greatly. They were more and more recruited from Eastern and South-Eastern Europe. Galicians, Bulgars, Poles, Rumanians, Italians, Greeks, and even Syrians flocked into the new districts as they were being opened up for settlement. Edmonton, the capital of the province, which had been thought by many to lie too far away in the north, was now seen to be in its true place in the centre. Vast new areas were thrown open to the west for agriculture along the new trans-continental railways that crossed the Rockies by the Yellowstone Pass and even farther north, where experiments had shown that wheat could be grown, in the region of Athabasca and Peace River. The throngs of new settlers pouring through Edmonton day after day, drawn from nearly every nationality under the sun, often recalled the rush to a football match. Hotels were always crowded out, people sleeping in baths, on billiard tables, in corridors, anywhere they could lay their heads.

Then came the slump in railway construction and the War. Immigration ceased, and though attempts were made to revive it by public assistance, it never became again what it had been, and at last died down altogether. Business began to dwindle, and people had time to meditate on their hardships. Great discontent prevailed.

Farmers' Despair

Many had settled in distant regions where they had been promised railways, but the tracks never came near, and they were left

The Banker

He is probably the only known instance of the possibility of lending something without parting with anything, and making a profit on the transaction, obtaining in the first instance his commodity free.

MAJOR C. H. DOUGLAS, in "The Engineering of Distribution"

out in the wilderness with little prospect of marketing whatever crops they raised. In the southern part of the province there was a wide belt of land that was burnt up by drought year after year. The verdure of the spring soon gave way to a deep *terra cotta*, and crops were ruined in a dry spell to which there seemed to be no end. Huge irrigation ditches helped only those along their immediate course, who had to pay highly for their lands. The price of everything the farmer wanted rose, and kept on rising. Most of them had to face heavy mortgages with extortionate interest, liens on their land for machinery they had been inveigled into buying, though they could have got along well enough without it, and burdensome and often crushing contracts, which became so prevalent that laws had to be passed declaring them to be legally void unless they had been ratified by a Judge of the county court.

The U.F.A.

Such grievances led to the formation of the United Farmers' Party, who succeeded the Liberals in 1921 and remained in office until their defeat at the present election. Hard times and the latest slump have swept them away, as they did the Liberals before them. Alberta and Saskatchewan, as the most recently settled parts of the Dominion and the farthest distant from great centres of population and industry, have suffered first and most of all.

With vast stores of unmarketed grain reposing in the elevators with little chance of ever being sold and fields lying idle and untilled, the farmer of the prairies is able to realise as few others can the meaning of the words "poverty in plenty." His desire is for more secure markets, steadier prices for his products, and fair charges for the supplies, services, and goods he requires, as well as cheap and easy loans to tide him over such hard times as he is now experiencing. He wants simply a secure livelihood. Schemes of co-operation, restriction of production, regulation of markets, financial aid from Governments: all these have been tried, but nothing has staved off the evil day. It is no wonder that these people in their despair have clutched at any straw. Whether social credit can solve their difficulties will not be known until some definite scheme has been presented and tried. Many will feel that no system can make matters worse.

A Warning

In the meantime it is to be hoped that nothing will be done either by hotheaded reformers or wild scaremongers to destroy the credit or future prospects of the province.

EVE OF BATTLE—(Continued)

Before he went on his tour to Australia, New Zealand, and Canada, Major Douglas agreed to the establishment of a Social Credit Secretariat, and he became the Chairman of its Advisory Council on the understanding that this departure from the established principle of avoiding any form of central organisation was the first step towards the action stage. The Secretariat which was established at that time was not an executive organisation but merely an advisory body and a central clearing house. In this capacity it was gathering up the threads of the Movement in readiness for the requirements of the approaching action stage, for Major Douglas had laid it down in "Economic Democracy," and it was generally accepted within the Movement, that "centralisation is the way to do it, but it is neither the correct method of deciding what to do, nor the question of who is to do it." It was plain that, once the nature of the action was decided and the Social Credit Movement had to set about organising to carry out this action, centralisation would be necessary.

On his return Major Douglas called together representatives of the Social Credit Movement to a conference at Buxton, where on June 9, 1934, he delivered his historic address. With the genius for dissecting and analysing which he had employed in laying bare the working of the financial system, he exposed the core of the social and political structure. He told the Movement that at last, in his opinion, the time for action had arrived; he told us the nature of the action which must be taken and the reasons for it.

With acclamation the representatives of the Movement accepted this welcome news—and they had reason to do so, for though the tremendous importance of the Buxton address was not grasped at the time, and the reaction to it was mainly instinctive, a cold consideration of its message reveals that the same fundamental rightness, which is the hall-mark of Social Credit, stamped every sentence. Every Social Creditor should not have merely read the Buxton address, but re-read it over and over again, for its importance to the world and to us in particular cannot be exaggerated.

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ACTIVE SERVICE

Notes on the progress of the Electoral Campaign were crowded out last week by news of the results of getting the people of Alberta to vote for what they want. But despite heat and holidays the campaign has forged ahead.

Relief Work

One Group has had much success with the collection of signed pledges from those waiting at the local Relief Pay Station. Approximately 400 pledge forms were distributed, and a week later 155 were collected bearing 257 signatures. Many others had signed and forgotten to bring their forms, these will be collected in the following week.

In this manner 257 signatures were collected by six workers (three distributing and three collecting) in six hours. An average of less than 1½ minutes for each signature.

The Campaign Supervisor responsible for this record-breaking idea reports as follows:—

Two workers should attend each pay day, as the job is a little more than one can handle owing to the numerous questions.

A rather forceful method of approach is necessary as the recipients of public assistance, in the main, are so apathetic as to be their own worst enemies.

I am confident that a country-wide attack on

all Outdoor Relief Pay Stations will bring results in one month which will shock Montagu Norman and Coy.

To summarise:

Action at each Pay Station should be

1st week—Distribute leaflets.

2nd week—Collect leaflets.

Note particularly any who seem pleased and/or enthusiastic and give them two more leaflets and ask them to get their neighbours to sign. Those who have forgotten to sign or bring back their leaflets should be impressed with the need to act for their own benefit.

3rd week—Collect leaflets again, i.e., those previously forgotten and those given to enthusiasts the previous week.

Tynemouth is Busy

The Supervisor reports that a new record was made last week when 825 signatures were collected. Next week he hopes to get 1,000, and no doubt he will.

Wolverhampton Sets to Work

The Supervisor is disappointed with results to date, but admits to securing forty signatures by himself in one evening. This is setting the pace for his team, and for others.

Work in Erdington

A team of four people secured 111 signatures from eighty-nine houses in one evening recently. The best results so far obtained by the Group.

BOOK REVIEWS

Economics for Ourselves*

This book, with the sub-title "A Survey of the Economic Consequences of Independence and its Possibilities," is interestingly written, and sketches out in two lines of thought the way in which the Free State might work out its national welfare.

It challenges the usually accepted idea that the banks should have the monopoly of credit creation, and claims that this should be one of the chief functions of Government, so that without loans or taxation, public works, housing and industrial development should be made possible by National Credit carefully kept in due relation to the national output of real wealth.

The writer considers that, for Ireland at present, the suggestion of National Dividend and the Price Discount would be premature, until there was a closer balance as between agriculture and industry. The book should be of considerable interest to Mr. Lloyd George.

J.E.T.

* By the Goban Saor. Dublin: The Talbot Press, 89, Talbot Street. 2s.

Made in Japan

IN the publisher's blurb the reader of this book* is told that the author is an economist of "international repute," and, further, that by reading it he "will have an intelligent idea of what is really happening in Japan to-day." We question this second statement, for while Mr. Stein gives much information of the sort that any business man spending a few months in the country might glean, he fails entirely to explain to the expectant reader the ability of Japanese manufacturers to undersell competitors, whether occidental or oriental.

Mr. Stein's conclusions are that this competitive ability may be accounted for by the low standard of living of the agrarian population, which permits low prices for basic foodstuffs and, in turn, low wages in industry; by the depreciation of the yen; and by a high degree of mechanisation in the modern factories. But none of these factors can account for prices sixty, seventy and more per cent. below those of competing countries. Less still can they be accepted as explaining Japan's ability to undersell the Indian cotton mills in India, an ability which resulted in the simultaneous closing down of fifty-three mills prior to the restriction of Japanese imports by quota.

There is no doubt this competitive ability rests primarily on some system of what Major Douglas has described as "payment from two sources," i.e., the utilisation of the nation's credit to subsidise prices. But on this fundamental point Mr. Stein has little to say, and what he does say is contradictory. On page 122 he states that Japanese export trades are not directly subsidised by the Government, a statement he subsequently qualifies by admitting that subsidies are paid to shipping, and to the motor and the iron and steel industries, the last by remission of taxation.

Other industries, he avers, receive help only in the form of tariff protection and the grant of monopolies in the home market. But later (pages 129-132) he refers to the foundation by the Government of special banks to grant credits to industry, and to the two laws providing for the establishment of industrial associations. If we accept his figures, over 500 such associations have been

formed, and, to quote his own words, "Government subsidies are granted to both types of association" (i.e., to those dealing with home trade as well as to those dealing with exports), and "Both types of association are relieved of all taxes."

Had Mr. Stein confined his investigations to these matters, his book might have given the enlightenment his publishers claim for it; but unfortunately he was satisfied to follow in the footsteps of previous investigators, and therefore it contains nothing new upon a subject which is of pressing interest to the whole world. In these circumstances it is not surprising that he comes to the following depressing conclusion: "At present the only hope lies in a natural recovery of international trade, a recovery which will surmount man-made obstacles . . . In the meantime the bitter struggle for markets continues."

And, let us add, must grow more bitter until, quite inevitably, it leads to war—unless, in the time left to them, the industrialised countries adopt the now well-known method of financing consumption at home, and thus convert this bitter struggle into a friendly exchange of surpluses.

J. DESBOROUGH.

* *Made in Japan.* By Guenther Stein. London: Methuen & Co., Ltd., 7s. 6d.

Awareness and the Neurosis of Declining Years*

This is No. 14 of the Individual Psychology Pamphlets and contains five essays. Of these, the first by Dr. J. C. Young, M.C., M.D., M.S., resolves itself into a circumlocutory peregrination around the blessed word "awareness"—which being interpreted seems to mean what our grandfather's called Common Sense. Three other essays, those by Dr. Mary Ferguson, Dr. Hilda Weber, and Dr. F. V. Bevan Brown are highly technical and require a medical dictionary to make them intelligible to the lay mind. Personally I can only feel that it is fortunate such a book is not generally to be found in the home circle.

Centrally placed (is this purely accidental, or is it a happy chance?) is the short article by Dr. O. H. Woodcock, which is full of succinct sayings and charming wisdom: e.g., "Life has no meaning if it has no interest: to have no job is deadening: to have no purpose is death . . . What is to be done for . . . people who are drifting to a miserable old age. Let them learn to do something for others." (My italics.)

He also says, "The present state of affairs calls for action by all those who realise that our national heritage of liberty of thought and action is threatened on every side."

"Those who have known the joys of freedom must fight to keep it and must persuade their successors that no temporary amelioration of economic conditions can compensate for its loss." To this end all ages must make common cause." (My italics.)

One conclusion of these matters might be to urge all men and women who have "turned 50" to devote at least some of their thought to the consideration of the very useful and ennobling Art of Growing Old Gracefully.

M.D.C.

* By Drs. Mary Ferguson and others. London: The C. W. Daniel Company. 2s. 6d. net.

CORRESPONDENCE

From Lord Tankerville

Nowadays I go about with a "Form 6" in my pocket. One is constantly getting signatures from unexpected quarters. I suggest that all readers of SOCIAL CREDIT should do the same. "Every little helps," and recent results have shown me that one misses many little opportunities, and sometimes rather important ones, by going about "unarmed." I am being brought more and more to realise what a very "deadly little weapon" the Elector's Demand and Pledge Form is becoming in our fight for Freedom.

TANKERVILLE.

Are Social Crediters Spongers and Sweaters?

I am impelled to ask this question by the message from the Dean of Canterbury in the issue of SOCIAL CREDIT for August 16.

This message implies:

(1) That the majority of those who call themselves Social Crediters are failing to support their own headquarters, and paper, and are therefore, in effect, accepting the charity of the self-sacrificing few who do support them. (None can question their value nor that it is a privilege to have Major Douglas as Chairman.)

(2) That their failure to give adequate support results in sweated labour on the part of the staff. £1,300 a year for a staff of seven people who are doing the most important paid jobs in the world! (It makes me sick.)

I know from experience that one can sell subscriptions to SOCIAL CREDIT, and one can sell the new revenue stamps—I have sold enough of the latter, since they were issued, to pay my minimum quota of 3s. 4d. a month to the Secretariat several times over. Therefore, those who cannot pay their quota in cash from their pockets, can earn it and something more besides, for local activities. There is no reason for not doing one's bit, and failure to do it because of disagreement with some particular action of the Secretariat, in most cases lacking knowledge of all the circumstances, or for any other so-called reason, is merely a piddling excuse.

London, S.W.5. J. DESBOROUGH.

Love's Labour's Lost

My one-time song of Hope has become a dirge.

From its birth to its present year of disgrace I have supported the *Daily Herald* and extended its sale, hoping it might survive through the most troublous times. I prayed for it; I now curse it.

Its sub-leader on "Social Credit" on Tuesday last would make the departed Keir Hardie, William Morris, Hyndman and others pray for levitation beyond astral contact with such garbage from a moon-ruled midden of Mammon.

In Socialism's early days some of us faintly visualised the futility of "party" effort, and that concentration on measures instead of men and parties, through the Initiative and Referendum, would expedite progress at a truer pace. The Socialist movement, however, retarded its own advancement by identifying itself with the Trade Union movement in an endeavour to uplift it politically from an ideal which had never carried it above WORK and WAGES and a selfishness centred in each union's separate survival.

The *Daily Herald* is the voice of this lower level—the poor things, bereft of social consciousness and social responsibility.

It ceases to be on order forthwith for Newcastle-on-Tyne. ROBERT STEEDMAN.

A Generous Suggestion

I subscribe to four Social Credit magazines, and whenever I write to three of them—as I often do—it is to beg them to become more like your SOCIAL CREDIT. That's what I think of you.

There are several minor suggestions I could make that I feel would improve SOCIAL CREDIT, but your Electoral Campaign is of such vital importance that I will confine myself to that.

The data you have given regarding the number of signatures obtained per hour is very interesting, but to me it only aggravates my curiosity as to its value in comparison to what must be done to accomplish the desired result. In other words, what has been done, how fast are we moving, how much more remains to be done?

Another thought, which probably could not be "put across" is this. There are Social Crediters scattered in many parts of the world the total number of which, if concentrated in any one country, could force action in a very short time.

As an example, in the States we have many groups, but no definite strong acknowledged leadership. All we can do is educational work. To a lesser extent the same conditions exist in several other countries. If any one country gets the National Dividend the good results cannot be kept secret and the other countries will benefit immediately from the example.

Social Crediters in the States, Canada, South Africa, and other places cannot help you with their time, but they could concentrate their money in England where there appears to be the best organisation and opportunity to get results.

Therefore, if you say the word, I, for one, am ready to agree not to spend any money for educational or propaganda work or to renew any expiring subscriptions to any Social Credit magazines with the exception of SOCIAL CREDIT.

Probably you could obtain more canvassers if you were able to furnish all supplies free. In other words, you need money more than men.

Possibly the human weaknesses of the thousands of us scattered throughout the world will deter us from giving up our own little personal activities, but there is the chance that enough of us will be broad-minded enough to appreciate the necessity of quick action in ONE country if the whole world is not to go to perdition.

California. BERNARD ROWNTREE.

P.S.—We "foreigners" could also help by writing to our friends and relatives in England if we feel we must be doing something. Or letters from us to English newspapers might receive more consideration than from those nearby.

[For tactical reasons we have decided against publishing total figures of the Electoral Campaign, although current results are frequently given in our Active Service columns. Mr. Rowntree's offer of financial support is both generous and welcome, but it cannot be expected that the rapidly growing organisations in various parts of the world will curtail promising activities in order to give exclusive support to us in Britain. There must, however, be many who think like Mr. Rowntree, and they have our assurance that money contributed will be spent to the best advantage.—Ed.]

The Compensated Price

I am very interested in your ideas and am going to help all I can with regard to the political campaign.

As a farmer I am wondering if you could not arrive at practically the same result by working through the present marketing schemes, as they will have the machinery for gaining information regarding production and price regulation.

Could not the dividend be paid in the form of deficiency payments as is working so well with regard to wheat?

The greater the production the lower the price would be, but the greater the deficiency payment. This should satisfy the "cheap food" people and yet insure a profit to all producers; but not excessive profits ever.

I happen to know that we would have had the Wheat Scheme adopted for other farm products but for the difficulty of finding a source for the fund out of which to make the deficiency payments.

A PRACTICAL FARMER.

[The deficiency payments are clearly an application of the compensated price mechanism, and it is interesting to hear that it is working so well. Like most of the measures undertaken by the present administration the object, no doubt, was to raise prices and it is therefore also interesting to observe that it has not done so.—Ed.]

The Labour Party and Social Credit

Will you permit me space to make some observations and protestations? Firstly, I wish to protest at the continual references to the Labour Party. Some have been slighting, others sardonic, and all contain veiled hostility to that great machine which many of us are working hard to convert. It might be remembered that their efforts have done much to make working conditions tolerable and have bred a new spirit into public policy, though often their efforts are misdirected.¹

If reference must be made to party policies, or the exponents of those policies, I suggest it be done frankly, pleasantly, persuasively and with the avowed object of winning support among leaders and adherents of the party or parties referred to.

I protest at the superior tone adopted in the reply to Sir F. D. Acland, M.P. (see page 13, SOCIAL CREDIT for August 23, especially first sentence in Col. 4). If the Rt. Hon. Gentleman wished to have technical details elucidated, surely the Secretariat were able to quote or refer him to various responsible authorities in a manner calculated to encourage and not to antagonise.²

I have been an enthusiastic member of a party (not now so influential) in whose party organ a similar policy is adopted. I found the public did not like such methods, and much time was wasted in discussing outraged public loyalties and injured personalities rather than basic principles. Surely a result to be avoided.

Perhaps you will give a small space each week to Social Credit technique in tabloid form³ for those (and they are many) who are not content with blind obedience to any theory which they are asked to accept.⁴

What to Read

THE WORKS OF MAJOR C. H. DOUGLAS:—

- Economic Democracy (4th Edition) 1934) ... 3s. 6d.
The original statement of the philosophy and proposals of Major Douglas.
- Credit-Power and Democracy (4th Edition, 1934) ... 3s. 6d.
One of these two books is essential for the serious student.
- Social Credit (3rd Edition, 1933) ... 3s. 6d.
Contains the philosophical background of the subject and includes the Draft Scheme for Scotland.
- The Control and Distribution of Production (2nd Edn., 1934) ... 3s. 6d.
Warning Democracy (2nd Edition, 1934) ... 3s. 6d.
- The Monopoly of Credit ... 3s. 6d.
The latest technical exposition, and includes the Statement of Evidence before the Macmillan Committee.
- The New and the Old Economics ... 1s. 0d.
Contains an exposition of the A + B Theorem.
- These Present Discontents: The Labour Party and Social Credit ... 1s. 0d.
- The Nature of Democracy ... 6d.
The Buxton Speech.
- The Use of Money ... 6d.
The Christchurch Speech.
- Money and the Price System ... 3d.
The Oslo Speech (reduced price for quantities).
- Social Credit Principles ... 1d.

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A very readable exposition for the newcomer.
 - The A.B.C. of Social Credit, by E. Sage Holter ... 2s. 6d.
 - Ordeal by Banking, by Allen Young ... 2s. 6d.
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The views expressed are shared by a number of "Co-Crediters," but I trust you will believe them to be conceived in a helpful and not an acrimonious mood.

I cannot close without congratulating you and the staff of SOCIAL CREDIT upon the dexterous handling of available data and information, the wonderful presentation and commentaries and humorous Frotti's verbal gambols, and, above all, the inspiring note of enthusiasm which makes it a paper to look forward to reading and a torch to lighten the way of groping democracy.⁵

ARTHUR MOORE.

[¹ We assert that Labour is a diminishing factor in production, and that the need is to abolish poverty not to represent it. This may account for the unvarying hostility of the Labour Party to Social Credit, as manifested lately in their recent committee consisting solely of professed opponents of Social Credit, their efforts to counter Major Douglas on his recent visit to Norway, and the leader in the *Daily Herald* referred to elsewhere in this issue. Individual members of the Labour Party are open to conversion—we wish our correspondent success in his efforts.

² The reply is in accordance with our policy. We want him to demand results as an M.P. As an individual—there is "What to Read" and our propagandists.

³ We endeavour to do so, and always have articles understandable by the newcomer.

⁴ Who asks for blind obedience to any theory? Goods are being destroyed, and production restricted. Use your vote to demand their distribution from those who are responsible. The essence of the Electoral Campaign to Demand Results is the elimination of theory.

⁵ Thank you most sincerely.—Ed.]

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Belfast Douglas Social Credit Group

Forthcoming Visit of Lord Tankerville to Ulster
Full particulars may be obtained at the Headquarters, Prince Chambers, 72, Ann Street, which are open each afternoon and evening. Public Meetings are being held as follows:—
For Men (Unemployed especially) on Thursdays, at 3 p.m. For Everyone, on Thursdays, at 7.45 p.m. Admission Free. Discussion.

"Social Credit"

Connaught Hall, Y.M.C.A., Newcastle-on-Tyne
On Wednesday, Oct. 2, Dr. Tudor Jones. Lecture "How To Make Parliament Obey You." Chair to be taken at 7.30 p.m. Admission free. Collection.

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To Brewers: Wanted change of tenancy by Social Creditor, now North. Small modern hotel or Public in or near London. Full particulars Box T.B., SOCIAL CREDIT, 163A, Strand, London, W.C.2.

Sheffield

A cordial invitation to all Social Crediters in the district is given to attend the Electoral Campaigners' meeting held every Friday from 8 p.m. to 10 p.m. at Cambridge Arcade (2nd floor). Helpers of all capacities are urgently needed to make the work successful locally.

Liverpool Social Credit Association

Meetings open to the public held on the first Friday of every month, in Reece's Café, 14, Castle Street, Liverpool, at 8 p.m. Hon. Secretary: Miss D. M. Roberts, Fern Lee, Hallowood Road, Gateacre, Liverpool.

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Will someone help me canvassing in East Fulham. My supervisor is turning snooky.—Vibeke Lamb, 25, Redcliffe Gardens, S.W.10.

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Two regional Conferences of Supervisors and Secretaries of Groups affiliated to the Social Credit Secretariat will be held:—

- (1) In London on Saturday and Sunday, October 5 and 6.
- (2) In Newcastle on Saturday and Sunday, October 12 and 13.

The two Conferences will be identical. The intention is that the London Conference should serve the West, South, Midlands, Eastern Counties and Home Counties; the Newcastle Conference, the North and Scotland. However, Groups will be free to select the Conference which will be most convenient.

By holding two Conferences and thus reducing travelling expenses, and by arranging for accommodation and meals at a moderate inclusive cost, it is hoped that Groups will be enabled to send all their Supervisors and their Secretaries.

The purpose of the Conferences is to prepare those responsible for local administration of the Movement's activities for the period of intensive effort which is before us. Full information will be communicated to all affiliated groups.

L. D. BYRNE,
Director of Organisation.

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FAMOUS BRITISH ARTIST
MAJOR C. H. DOUGLAS
A.M.I.Mech.E.
by
AUGUSTUS JOHN

A limited number of Medici reproductions in colour is available, price 1/8 post free each. This portrait was exhibited at the Royal Academy in 1934, and in years to come will be of great historic interest.

PORTRAIT

By H. R. Purchase

Signed copies of the lino-cut of Major Douglas, as reproduced in Social Credit of November 30, can be supplied at £1.1.0 each, post free. A small number of copies, signed by Major Douglas, and mounted at £2.2.0 post free.

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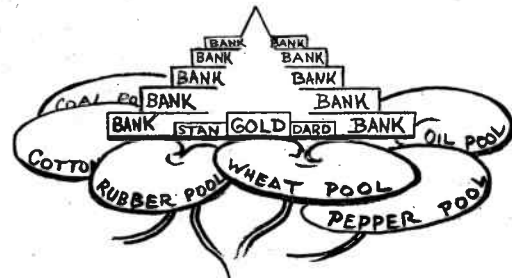
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plants and rendering even old favourites inconspicuous.

There have been periods when the growth was almost phenomenal, as, for example, between the years 1920 and 1930.

From being found at one time only individually, it can now often be counted in twos and threes, or more, in a single locality, generally in main thoroughfares; it has in fact crowded out in many parts the once far commoner *Publicus Vulgaris Britanica*.

Would You Believe It?

Searching through the *Sunday Graphic* last week for some reference to affairs in Alberta, we came across this, in a feature entitled "Would you believe it?" "Douglas Reid, aged nine, and Tom Donnelly, aged eleven, have established a world record by picking 257 four-leaved clovers in four days, at Edmonton, Alberta." That is all the paper had about Alberta, but it is more than the *News of the World* had. Every other paper commented on the Social Credit victory.

This Age of Plenty

Mr. Bourne, of Westgate-on-Sea, was out of work for 14 months. He and his wife and three children were living in one room at his mother-in-law's house.

Mrs. Bourne became desperate. "If you have to struggle day after day so hopelessly and bitterly just to live," she said to a reporter, "what is the point of living at all?"

Much easier to die, when you see days and days ahead of you of just half-living."

So one day she tried to put an end to it by attempting to gas two of her children. She was tried, found guilty and sentenced to three years' penal servitude, but was let off with two months' imprisonment in Holloway Gaol.

"I was overwhelmed by the kindness of everyone, from the prison authorities to the letters from unknown unemployed people," she said, after her release.

Human beings are not inhuman: only the systems they serve.

A Scotsman's Way

The dogs are beginning to bite, and the caravan's moving on a bit quicker!

A Scotsman did a costing do.

Hey! Ho! said Norry:
Because his experience urged him to
With a "sorry Norry! those shillings and pennies?"

Hey! Ho! said Montagu Norry.

So down he sat with a thoughtful look.

Hey! Ho! said Norry:
And quietly wrote an arresting book
With a "sorry Norry! those shillings and pennies?"

Hey! Ho! said Montagu Norry.

And that book laid bare a banking lie.
Hey! Ho! said Norry!
Causing some wealth—but much poverty.

With a "sorry Norry—whose shillings and pennies?"

Hey, Ho! said Montagu Norry.

Then, up in the present it showed the past.

Hey! Ho! said Norry!
And everyone cried, "This shall not last";
With a "Norry sorry—our shillings and pennies?"

Hullo! said Montagu Norry.

Now Britain's a land both fair and free.

Hey! Ho! said Norry.
So Douglas, he asked of Democracy
To vote for that land without Poverty:
Hullo! said Montagu Norry.

They demanded RESULTS, and they got their will.

Hey! Ho! said Norry.
And they're thankful and happy and Poverty's Nil.

Ah! sorry Norry—those shillings and pennies
Don't matter now, Montagu Norry.

CIEL-CUE.

ELECTORAL CAMPAIGN

Below is the form Parliamentary electors are being asked to sign. Please read it carefully, sign (if you have not done so already) and send it (½d. stamp) to The Only Democrats, 163A Strand, London, W.C.2.
Will you ask others to sign this demand and undertaking? Supplies of the form (Leaflet No. 5) can be had (see col. 4 of this page).

**We Will Abolish Poverty
Elector's Demand and Undertaking**

1. I know that there are goods in plenty, so 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.....
Address.....
(Signatures will be treated confidentially)

Volunteers for Help

I want to make my vote effective, so I volunteer to work.....hours each week at delivering and collecting these forms, in a district convenient to me, for the next six months, or until further notice. I will try to induce all my friends to do likewise.

BLOCK Name.....
LETTERS Address.....
PLEASE Address.....

**ELECTORS
Demand National Dividends**

Leaflet No. 4
For Recruiting.—Contains a space for address of local group or supervisor. For distribution at meetings, or delivery by post or from door to door after collecting signed demand forms.
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
Elector's Demand and Undertaking.—The instrument of the Electoral Campaign, in purple on orange or purple on white.
(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
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. Space for 24 signatures.
(carriage extra) 27s. 6d. for 1,000; 3s. for 100; 1s. 6d. for 50; 9d. for 25.
Obtainable from the offices of SOCIAL CREDIT, 163A, Strand, London, W.C.2.

SLOGAN STAMPS



Stamps in two and three colours in this attractive design are now available at 1d. and 6d. each, or in sheets of twenty-five at 2s. and 12s. a sheet respectively, post free. The penny stamps are in two shades of green and white and the six-penny stamps in two shades of green and yellow.

**SLOGAN LABELS
at 16 a Penny**

These labels are available in the Electoral Campaign colours, orange and purple, are ready gummed, and bear the following inscription:—
"The Abolition of Poverty. Demand it! Clearly, Simultaneously, Singlemindedly. Vote for it, Unitedly, Consistently and Parliament will obey you."
The price of these labels is 1s. for one dozen sheets, post free.
By using these stamps and labels and selling them to friends and sympathisers, you will extend our influence, increase the sales of SOCIAL CREDIT and help our funds.
Groups which have nominated a Supervisor of Revenue to work the Group Revenue Plan G.R.1, can obtain supplies of stamps and labels at special reduced prices for resale. Individuals who are not members of Groups, can also purchase supplies at special prices for resale by undertaking to work the Individual Revenue Plan P.R.1.
These two plans are intended to help finance the Secretariat, your paper, and local activities.
SOCIAL CREDIT, 163A, Strand, London, W.C.2.

GET TO KNOW ABOUT THEM

ANNOUNCEMENT

IT has been arranged, by co-operation, for a well-known Boarding School to enter, at practically nominal fees, a limited number of pupils (fifty) for training in education, health and in the real standards of life, so as to fit them to discern and rightly use the demands of our times for their success and happiness. The fees are fifty guineas per annum, inclusive of extras (except personal needs), but parents are desired to state whether they are able to pay the higher fee of sixty guineas per annum in order that other children may enjoy the benefits offered. The school has a University Staff, a perfect health record, and vegetarian diet is a feature of the school.

All applications, which will be dealt with consecutively, must be made by parents or guardians to:—
Dr. H. MARSH, Litt.D., M.R.S.L., M.R.S.T.,
Pointon,
Billingborough,
LINCS.