

SOCIAL CREDIT

For Political and Economic Democracy

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Weekly Twopence

WE LET THEM STARVE

Lords and Commons alike Sacrifice the Health of British Children to Mammon

IN THE HOUSE OF LORDS

The Cost of Starvation

ON March 18, the House of Lords debated a motion by the Bishop of Winchester on the subject of the slow starvation—euphemistically called malnutrition—of 13½ million people not in heathen China, but in this Christian country. His motion was in favour of an increased supply of milk for school children and its extension to mothers and infants.

The Bishop's speech contained a number of statements which would have galvanised into immediate action an assembly of savages knowing only that there was plenty of food available. But unfortunately the Members of the House of Lords are just ordinary civilised folk educated to believe that the supply of tickets (money) is limited by some divine law, although there are goods in plenty, so the speech had little effect.

Black Magic Defeats Bishop

Evidently the Bishop himself regards the money aspect as all-important. Having told his listeners that "there is plenty of milk available"; that 47 per cent. of the working-class children in Newcastle are below normal weight and 23 per cent. anaemic; that 20 per cent. of the Manchester children have fickets with deformities; and out of 1,000 working women of Aberdeen examined, 500 had anaemia, the Bishop tried to disarm critics of further expenditure—not by pointing to the fact that his God, Who made plenty available, did not make the money system, which was a man-made ticket system and could be changed—but by showing how money spent in preventing starvation would be saved later in medical and hospital services.

"The Times" Report

Lord Strabolgi, who supported the motion of the Bishop of Winchester, was favoured by *The Times* with two lines in the report

of the proceedings. Presumably his remarks were too strong meat for the delicate stomachs of its readers. He referred to the speech by Lord Cavan on the previous day, which disclosed that out of 68 thousand who wished to enlist in the army last year only 28 thousand were accepted. But, most effective of all, he read extracts from two letters he had received from the wife of a "black-coated worker." We cannot forbear to give two quotations:—

"... thousands of children are going short of milk because it is too dear to buy. Yet the Milk Board has money to squander in advertising milk! It is adding insult to injury, . . . every time I see a milk poster I long for a Mills bomb, or the strength to scream until the Government wakes up!"

"It seems queer that all foodstuffs inflicted with a 'Marketing Board' or 'quotas' have immediately become scarce and dear, while producers seem no better off . . ."

We like this lady, and if she will write to us we'll show her something just as effective as, but less messy than, a Mills!

Life or Money?

The other noble Lords seemed concerned more with the financial cost than life. It seems that, on top of all their other worries, the housewives of Britain are shortly to have the inestimable benefit of an enquiry into how they spend any housekeeping money they are lucky enough to get!

Lord Astor even took the debate on to an international plane, and referred to the enquiry into nutrition and public health by a committee set up by the League of Nations last year. Its report is to be presented next September. Meanwhile people starve, and the danger of war constantly increases because, under the present money system, nations can keep their peoples from starving only by giving them work—and employment for all necessitates ever-increasing exports or war.

IN THE HOUSE OF COMMONS "Subsidising Needy Consumers"

MR. JOHNSTON (Stirling and Clackmannan, Western, Lab.) asked the Prime Minister whether he had been informed of the efficacy of recent experiments in this country and in Ireland in subsidising needy consumers so that they had been enabled to eat alleged surpluses of meat, milk, and potatoes off the market; and whether, in view of the savings in public health expenditure, the manifest benefits to agriculture, and the social and economic advantages to the nation of this method of distributing abundance, he would instruct the appropriate Ministers and Departments to prepare further schemes of similar purport.

Baldwin's Callous Reply

MR. BALDWIN (Bewdley, U.):—I am aware of the experiments referred to. The Government are already participating in the supply of cheap milk for school children under the Milk Act, 1934, and further provision for this service has recently been made in the Milk (Extension of Temporary Provisions) Act.

The question whether the Government should co-operate in further schemes for increasing milk consumption will be carefully considered as part of the general review of milk policy which will take place when the report of the Milk Reorganisation Commission is available.

A scheme for the disposal of surplus potatoes at cheap rates to the unemployed was carried out by the Potato Marketing Board at Bishop Auckland last year. The Board do not, I understand, intend to conduct a further experiment this season, when the home crop is in short supply.

In the case of milk and potatoes, these schemes have been operated by or through organisations of producers. The practicability of comparable action with regard to meat must largely depend on developments in the organisation of livestock and meat marketing.

See editorial comment on page 50.

Major Douglas and Alberta

WE have unconfirmed news as we go to press that the caucus of the Social Credit Party in Alberta decided on Monday night "that Major Douglas's cabled ultimatum precluded the possibility of continuing negotiations for him to come to Alberta."

If this report is substantially correct it means that the Alberta Government accepts the resignation of which Major Douglas notified his intention to Mr. Aberhart.

We reported on March 13 the cables which then passed between Mr. Aberhart and Major Douglas, culminating in the cable referred to above, which read:

Early reduction of taxation on individuals and property. Rejection of Loan Council. Redemption and eventual extinction of Alberta's debt by Alberta's credit as explained. Not details but urgent primary and essential steps to Social Credit and Social Dividends. Until policy agreed visit by me premature.—Douglas.

We find it difficult to believe that a government elected to introduce Social Credit and pay Social Dividends could fail to agree to this policy, still less assert that the terms of the cable preclude the possibility of further negotiations.

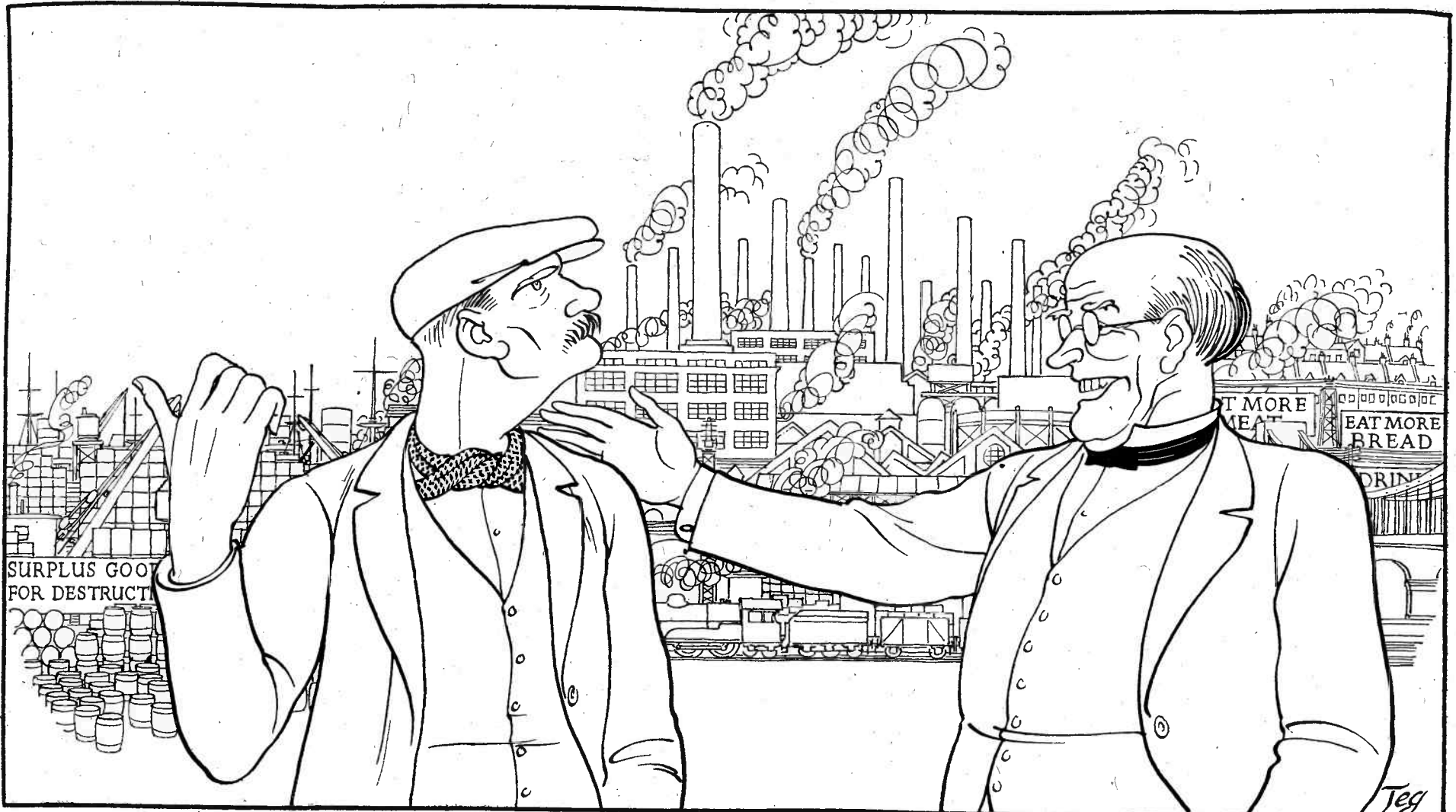
If it is so, then, apart from the retrograde legislation introduced under the advice of Mr. James Magor, Major Douglas's advice on matters of fundamental importance is being rejected.

In that case the responsibility must lie with those who have rejected the advice. The publication of the full correspondence between Major Douglas and Mr. Aberhart should now be called for by the Alberta electorate.

See later news on next page

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By kind permission of the "Catholic Herald"

"OVER-PRODUCTION"

Unemployed: "We're hungry. Give us some of that." Economist: "Ah, my friend, we must put you to work first."

Unemployed: "Why?" Economist: "Well, to produce more, you know . . ."

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Canada's Credit

THE task (as *The Times* calls it, without naming the task master) of the new Canadian Government of putting the finances of the Dominion on a "sounder" basis is not made easier by the resistance from some of the Provincial Governments to being put in a strait waistcoat.

There is every reason to suppose that Major Douglas's exposure of the real meaning and danger of the Canadian Loan Council proposals of Mr. Dunning, Minister of Finance, has been closely examined by more Provincial Legislatures than that of Alberta; and the resultant restiveness is leading to some show of impatience by the financial monopoly, whose relentless striving for world power has been thus impeded, if only for a moment.

As the financial leader writers complain, the procedure to sell the Provinces into bond slavery (under various euphemistic names) is simple and would involve little loss of time. Unfortunately (!) it was too easily assumed that the Provinces would welcome this "easy" way out of their difficulties (the way of the moneylenders) even though, "of necessity," it involved "some" sacrifice of financial autonomy.

"Unfortunately" the opposition has been more serious than was expected and has come precisely from the Provinces—British Columbia, Alberta, Ontario, New Brunswick—for whose management of their finances the monopoly has the least sympathy. Those, that is to say, who are not completely hypnotised, and still show fight when bidden to perform this, that, or the other humiliating trick.

The danger pointed out by Major Douglas was neatly if naively underlined in the *Sunday Times* City column on March 22:

The Provinces will no longer have the power to default on their obligations through excessive expenditure on relief works or other uneconomic measures. I shall be glad to hear of the tightening up of control over municipal finance also.

What an outlook! And how close to the truth was Major Douglas when he said:

Put into the plainest possible language, what is intended is that, should the alternative arise that the individual citizens of let us say, Alberta, has enough money either to keep himself alive, or, alternatively, to pay the taxes necessary to pay the interest on bonds which were created mainly by book-keeping methods, he will be made to pay the taxes, most of which will go to Financial Institutions. Or, perhaps, more accurately, he will be made to pay just as many taxes as possible, leaving him only sufficient purchasing power to enable him to keep at work, provided, if necessary, by issuing more Bonds. [Our italics].

To remove any possible doubt of the deadly accuracy of this prediction, we append the powers sought by the Federal Government in the proposed amendment of the British North America Act:

- (1) To withhold from a Province any grant payable by the Federal Government;
- (2) To pay such grant direct to the creditor of any amount owing to such creditor by the Province because of guaranteed securities; and
- (3) To pay to such creditor of a Province from any revenue received or collected by the Federal Government for the Province.

Another provision is that the Legislature and Province whose securities are guaranteed may allocate any revenue of the Province for exclusive disbursement to meet the principal, interest, or sinking fund of guaranteed securities. All such revenues would be deposited with a trust account in banks set up for that purpose.

Meanwhile, as we reported last week, the nationalisation of the Bank of Canada is forecast by the Minister of Finance. And in this connection certain comments in the City Notes of *The Times* are worthy of special emphasis:

The League of Nations Financial Committee has throughout remained a strong advocate of the independence [from political pressure] of central banks. . . This principle of independence of politics was recognised in the setting up of the Bank of Canada and also the Bank of New Zealand, two of the most recently created central banks.

Yet recently in both cases the introduction of technical monetary questions at General Elections, in which there was a change of Government, has brought about, or threatens to bring about, a reversal of this principle. The reason for this is that during the great depression popular opinion was led to believe that it was largely due to bankers having followed a wrong policy. . . It should not be assumed, however, that Government ownership of the central bank in either of these cases will bring about any change of real importance. It is probably true that neither in Canada nor in New Zealand

From a Seat in the Stalls

Figures versus Food

It is an amazing thing that the Chancellor of the Exchequer can calmly state, as he did in the House of Commons on March 17, that financial difficulties make it impossible to supply our armed forces with home-produced beef.

He didn't say "farming difficulties." If there are no "farming" difficulties, but only "financial" difficulties, surely the farmers ought to know now what is wrong with their farms, markets and produce?

Parliament and Plenty

Mr. Tom Johnston is digging away at the thing that matters, he is trying to do what his constituents want even if they have not yet told him. But that is why he has to sit down under the Baldwin bluster, his people are not his declared supporters—yet.

The reply of the Prime Minister is important because it shows how dangerous the piecemeal advocacy of Social Credit may be. It is not a temporary glut of potatoes which needs to be distributed to a few unemployed families pending the success of restriction schemes to remove the glut (as in the quoted case).

It is a general plenty that needs general distribution. That is what is demanded. We believe that nothing but money, which has a general purchasing power, can achieve this, and that the just price is needed to increase its purchasing power, not to subsidise selected commodities.

But however that may be, plenty for all, with security, in freedom is what we want; and with help we will get it.

Newfoundland's Ordeal

The people of Alberta must feel the hair stiffening on their scalps as they learn the results of Mr. Robert Magor's previous job of work in the first full report of the Newfoundland Commission of Government.

These unfortunates have no redress, they must serve the most cold-blooded monster of financial rectitude.

Among the comments of the report may be found the following:

A study of the codfishing industry makes it increasingly clear that there are too many individuals engaged in it and that the returns from it are insufficient to provide anything approaching an adequate living. A Fishery Investigation Commission has been set up with a view to its drastic reorganisation.

They do not bother to say whether the reorganisation is to be compulsory as well as drastic. Perhaps not.

Seven new concrete bridges have been built. In the case of one of them the local interest may be judged from the fact that each man who worked on the bridge contributed six days' free labour. The policy of "community self-help" has been encouraged, and, for repair work on breakwaters and launchways in almost every instance, all labour was given free.

But this is very remarkable. It sounds like the Garden of Eden. Or does it?

Recent census figures indicate that more than 14,000 children of school-going age in the island do not attend school, and of these 800 are in the city of St. John's.

The remedy is simple. Teachers will soon be found to teach for six days a week—free.

The Forces of Law and Order

All is not quite perfect in this Newfoundland paradise, for

In two cases the public in the outposts have resented attempts to enforce the new Customs laws and officials have encountered a social boycott, which does not make their life an easy one.

This unpopularity perhaps gives the clue to a passage from another part of the report:

The nucleus of a force of rangers, organised on the lines of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, has been established. These rangers will act as forest and game wardens, and later will take over such duties as the collection of Customs and the issue of licences.

A novel task has been found for a section of the community which must have very little routine work in this model slave state.

The work of magistrates has been extended so that they now become local district officers. They are agents of the Government in all administrative matters; they are charged with the important task of fostering local responsibility and initiative; and they constitute a channel of communication between the Government and the people, by means of which the policy of the Government is explained.

Who would have thought it needed explaining?

The Flowers that Bloom in the Spring

All the foregoing quotations are from the account in *The Times* of March 18. This

have the Government any intention of making any revolutionary change in banking or monetary policy.

Fob the poor fools off with nationalisation—it means nothing and sounds nice! And Mr. Norman will welcome it.

is the first news from Newfoundland for a long time. We have watched carefully for any items that creep in, and have long been disappointed.

However, patience was again rewarded by a special despatch from *The Times's* own correspondent at St. John's (N.F.) on March 23. It bears reproduction in full:

With the temperature 70deg. in the shade, the countryside clear of snow, rivers running freely, treebuds bursting, and crocuses blooming, St. John's wonders if it has suddenly jumped from March to June.

During this exceptional spring sealers have easily penetrated to the northern icefields and have reaped a rich harvest, the present catch totalling about 135,000 pelts, or double the catch at this date last year.

U.S.A. Disaster a Financial Blessing

Storm and flood have caused devastation in the U.S.A. which it is estimated will cost £100,000,000 to make good.

No one doubts that the damage can be made good. Indeed the producers of the things that will be needed to make good the damage are delighted at the prospect of more orders for their wares. Also there will be a lot of work for the unemployed.

No one doubts for a moment that the damage can be repaired. The productive capacity of the U.S.A. can easily afford such disasters—indeed, from one lunatic angle—unfortunately the prevailing angle—they are regarded as blessings because they provide a market for abundant productive capacity.

But—when all the destroyed property has been rebuilt with new and up-to-date roads, towns and amenities, it will be represented as a debt to be repaid to the banks which will have lent the money at no cost to themselves.

National Dividends or Destruction

If calamities such as this U.S.A. disaster (known to Insurance Companies as "Acts of God") visited France, Germany, Italy, Japan, and our own country, war could be postponed as long as these countries were occupied making good the damage.

Such disasters would provide work—would solve for the time being the so-called unemployment problem. They would be much pleasanter than war, which is the only other way of providing work for all in a machine-power age.

The alternative is to give up the notion that we must tie the curse of Adam on our backs for ever, and to realise that not work but leisure is what we really want. National Dividends (money to buy the things that are now destroyed and the production for which there is no market) are the alternative to disaster, war and pestilence.

National Dividends are the alternative to the destruction of civilisation.

Debt, Death and Destruction Unlimited

In the *Daily Herald* for March 19, the City Editor draws attention to a recent announcement by the United Dominions Trust Ltd. that it is ready to offer facilities "to enable Government contractors and sub-contractors, large or small, to install new machinery immediately and pay for it over a period to suit the convenience of the buyer." For "contractors and sub-contractors" read "armament manufacturers" and for "United Dominions Trust" read "the Bank of England" which is its largest shareholder.

This is an illustration of the manner in which the debt for the next war is already building up. The financial houses create the credit and lend it to the Government to pay for armaments, and simultaneously create the credit needed by contractors to carry out Government orders. Thus the credit loaned to the Government will serve to cancel the credit loaned to contractors, but as the latter will need to extend constantly once the war is under way, they will never get out of debt. The Government itself will pay the financial houses twice, once through the contractors, and once direct by handing over bonds acknowledging a debt; bonds on which the British taxpayer will be expected to pay interest in perpetuity.

Bankers on the Grid

According to the *Morning Post* of March 20, all the London utility companies are to co-operate with the Government, in a scheme costing several million pounds, to protect the Capital's supplies of water, gas and electricity against air raids. The report states:

The safeguarding of electricity supplies will probably be the hardest task of all, owing to the high degree of centralisation which has been reached in recent years.

The vulnerability of the Grid, with its enormous generating stations, to attack from the air is arousing some concern among those responsible for the defence of London, and the maintenance of its special services, factories, mechanical power and transport.

In times of war, it is pointed out, these vast centres would be an obvious and exceedingly easy target from the air.

Here is a striking example of the evil results of the maintenance of the present financial system. That system tends to centralise control of every industry, and, as is well known, the Grid was a financiers' scheme condemned by many engineers as it resulted in the scrapping of much efficient plant. With many small stations, the risk of London or other large centres, being completely without electricity owing to air raids was remote, but the bankers' scheme has resulted in the setting up of a few huge targets. Furthermore, it is their system, which, by forcing every country to export or suffer ever-increasing unemployment, results in air raids.

MAJOR DOUGLAS AND ALBERTA

THE following letter was dispatched by Major Douglas to Mr. Aberhart on Tuesday morning before he left London and before receipt of the news reported on our front page:—

Dear Mr. Aberhart,

I have received your cable reading as follows:—"Send contract suggested for your colleague stop accompany same with letter stating qualifications and experience," to which I have replied in the following terms—"No contract stop terms Plan Two letter February eighteenth offer of colleague for acceptance Tuesday latest otherwise do best locally."

I feel obliged to point out that the assistance and advice which it is desired to render to the Alberta Government in connection with the reformation of the monetary system is offered at considerable personal loss and inconvenience to those who offer it, since they are not remunerated by financial institutions, and in every case have important responsibilities outside the question of monetary reform, which require their attention. Although I have, on my own account, kept myself at the disposal of the Alberta Government from time to time, I do not feel that it is reasonable that this principle should be extended indefinitely, more especially as it is difficult to see why the generous offer on the part of a colleague to visit Alberta on the terms that I suggested to you on February 18 for my own visit, that is to say; on an expense basis and without fee, should offer any excuse for delay, if the best available advice is desired.

You will remember that I have already strongly advised the acceptance of this offer, and I much regret that, in common with all the previous advice given to you, you have felt unable to take advantage of it. I can

only assume that you must have in mind the pursuit of some policy which does not require the assistance of those who are familiar with the advice already given, and I feel that it would be much better if this policy were disclosed, in order that the public may not be confused in regard to the steps to be taken to implement your election promises.

Should you feel that you can proceed without further advice from outside Alberta, I am confident that it is desirable that you should obtain the co-operation of Mr. Spenser, the late M.P. for Battle River; Mr. Herbert C. Boyd, M.A., of Edgerton; and Mr. Larkham Collins, F.C.A., of Calgary. I trust that you will feel, as I do, that the issues involved are much too serious to allow any question of Party affiliation to influence the action taken.

Yours faithfully,

C. H. DOUGLAS

CAUSE—AND CURE

THE main cause of the world's economic difficulties at the present time is the same in every country, and may be found in the annexation and unjustifiable claim to the monopoly of public credit by financial institutions. And fundamentally there can only be one cure for this situation—to place that credit at the disposal of those from whom it arises—that collection of individuals which we agree to call "the public."—Major C. H. Douglas in the *"Evening Times," Glasgow, May 13, 1932.*

WHY, INDEED?

THE ardent Social Credit propagandist is frequently brought up against the question: "If the Douglas analysis is true, how is it that it does not find acceptance among the orthodox political economists?"

To answer on general lines that the orthodox are always opposed to the heretic is, although true, not very satisfactory; but there are some first-class cases of the heretic being right and the orthodox "expert" being wrong.

When George Stephenson was giving evidence before Parliament on railway matters, he spoke of a possible speed of 25 miles an hour. The experts described this as ridiculous, and another said that the passengers would not be able to breathe if carried through the air at this frightful speed.

A hundred years ago Edwin Chadwick was neither a doctor nor a sanitary expert, but he suggested that plague and cholera, which then raged in this and other countries, might be abolished if a proper drainage system was installed on a national scale. He was ridiculed as a crank, but when he became an old man he saw his suggestion being put into practice.

A few years ago died Oliver Heaviside, an Englishman. Heaviside had some original ideas on the design of the interconnecting wires for the purposes of long-distance telephony. The experts of the day in this country ridiculed Heaviside's theories. A Polish-American, Pupin, followed up Heaviside's suggestions, and long-distance telephony was born. To-day we can speak from Bangkok to New York.

Heaviside also invented a novel and very powerful method of mathematical analysis for dealing with the problems he was considering. The orthodox mathematicians in Cambridge and elsewhere would have nothing to do with this. Heaviside did not enter into lengthy arguments, he simply said "it works." There are now some half dozen books dealing with Heaviside's analysis, but it may be noted, they are written by engineers and not by pure mathematicians.

It would almost appear that when a new question arises, the expert is the last one to go to for an opinion.

Why should we consult a "paid" economist as to what it is we want?

H. H. HARRISON

MASS MESMERISM

THOUGHT DURING A DEBATE

The intelligentsia of the working class are so easily flattered into discussion of intricacies (the leisure and means completely to understand them being purposely withheld), that though their senses and natural instincts rebel against the limitations set upon them by the present financial system, their flattered intellect, itself perhaps an assumption of civilisation, prevents them from ever raising a finger in their own defence.

INFERIORITY

First our money system elevates what it is pleased to term "education." This coveted accomplishment is carefully kept out of the reach of the many, who suffer the belief that, on account of their lack of it they are inferior. Next an "extension" of "education" is offered as a CONCESSION, but no real leisure (by that I mean financed leisure), is offered in which to enjoy the fruits of this hard-won concession, nor even properly to digest them. The consequent intellectual indigestion which follows acts as a complete deterrent to action of the simple, clear-cut cause-and-effect kind, and the whole body of Democracy is disorganised and ineffective.

YET—"A man's a man for a' that"—let's get down (or up) to him and remember that world is his. D.M.R.

WHAT IS SOCIAL CREDIT?

The power to monetise Real Wealth is the power of Credit, and if that power is socially owned, then it is Social Credit.—Major C. H. Douglas.

If the money-monopolists deceive the people once, shame on the monopolists; if they deceive them twice, shame on the people. — "New Era," Sydney, October 10, 1935.

FEEDING THE RAVENS

FATE OF FARMING UNDER "SOUND FINANCE"

By Charles Jones

IT is part of my business to sell artificial fertilisers to farmers, some of whom are a little resentful of the findings of Agricultural Colleges, and more fond of the traditions of the soil on which they were bred. To them the relation between chemical formulæ and fertility is at the best a matter of book learning, and at the worst an affront to that rich lore of inherited experience, plain dung, and weather wisdom which for many fruitful centuries has served to nurse their lavish fields.

The science of the larger crop, the quick succession, and mechanical tillage means to some a repudiation of the picturesque simplicities and sweet homeliness of the industry which founded man's increase, and set going that crude and early wheel which led to the myriad wheels now threatening man's increase. To some, science is plain folly, and who shall say such judgment is false? For the world's fools cancel the gifts of wisdom, and who shall persuade a man that if his acre yield twofold, the half is for destruction?

In the late of last year I met a farmer taking his dewbit of bread and cheese as he leant against a gate beside a

TOO MANY POTATOES

THE Potato Marketing Board was awarded judgment on March 17 in the King's Bench Division for £50, which it sought to recover from a farmer in Kent, in respect of his excess acreage for 1934.

Mr. A. T. Miller, K.C., for the Board, said the object of the scheme was to prevent excess of production over marketability.

Each registered producer had to pay the Board £5 for every acre by which his 1934 acreage exceeded his basic potato acreage.

sidling field, which lay like a touselled rug at the foot of a down. The hill itself was dark and sombre, the nap of downland turf looking heavy like a mantle of thick velour. The tilled field ran as far up the down flank as discretion dared, for where the brown loam ended a ridge of chalk was flung up like a crest of foam. But it was an untidy field, ridged, and rank with seeded weed. Gaunt, black birds foraged among the ridges, and quarrelled hoarsely amongst themselves. I looked again (for townsmen are not wise in these things), and then ventured a word.

"Spuds, Farmer?"

"Aye."

"Bit late lifting them, aren't you?"

"T' raven's ull lift them," said the farmer, laconically.

I stood on one foot awkwardly, and stared at the dull hill till it took on features like a glowering monster crouched under the bastions of a marble sky, and crouched to spring. But a winter morning is an ill time for fancies.

"Don't you plant to reap these days, Farmer?"

"Nobbut I knows."

The farmer gulped his last bolus with the honest satisfaction and careless etiquette of a well-bred animal, and having finished with the concerns of mastication, came alive suddenly and

struck the attitude of debate, chin forward and spread palms lifted to weight a slow tongue.

"'Tis the Taty Board," he said. "You plant ten acres, they says last Spring when I'd filled my papers in. No, says I to myself a little later, I got five-acre field yonder under the big down, fallow—I plants fifteen. So I planted 'em. Ten acres down about farm, and five acres here along. They be Majestics, a good sound taty and a fine cropper. I watched 'em grow, haulms as thick as your wrist, and healthy down under. But I darn't lift 'em. Taty Board says, lift them taties an' we fine you five pun' the acre."

"Why don't you get them out, and then take it to court?"

"There's nary a court for that. Taty Board does the fining and there's the end on't . . . only they calls it a levy to pretend it ain't punishment."

"But they can't do that sort of thing in England! Surely the law doesn't prevent a man working to produce what's needed. Why, the Government is all for making work."

"'Tisn't law, 'tis Taty Board. Taty Board makes its own law, an' no appeal. Same as Milk Board. More'n one's been fined hereabouts. As for Government, they'm gone mad. They undoes wi' their right hand what they does wi' their left. From what I can see, young man, Government wants to make men work by building battleships, an' put 'em off growing taties. Why? is what I wants to know, seeing the enemy ain't in sight, but folks are hungry. I reads that thousands of folks way up north are starving. And my taties rots in the ground, or makes pickins for Elijah's friends yonder. It's beyont me."

"Why don't you organise and protest?"

"When you're farmin' you have to think a twelve months ahead, young man. Keepin' your eye on January twelve-month, an' keepin' your overdraft down is enough for one man, wi'out protestin'."

He went off, and a dog which came from nowhere followed with a queuing nose at his heels.

Somehow it seems a bit vain to go about explaining the values of soluble phosphate in a patent soil-food, under a Government which cuts down crops. It is vain to leave pamphlets with a farmer's wife in the dairy, which prove that the guano of islands in the southern seas, carried in ships over half the world, can make the fields of this fair island fertile. Why should a farmer read them? He is too hard pressed to invest in costly fertilisers; he knows he cannot sell more—money shortage hinders his zest and stifles his market. If his yeoman ideals are tinged with the profounder and more spiritual ideal of service, how shall he feed the hungry children at his doorstep when the edicts of his motherland decree that his husbandry is for the birds of the air? The farmer is not free. His work is being fitted into a financial framework by people who, in all probability, do not know oats from barley. The oldest industry in creation is in utter thralldom to the newest fraud—government by credit control.

Sayings of PROFESSOR PSHAW:



PSHAW, sir! enough of this soft talk of Plenty for All! What we need to do is to grit our teeth, pull together, and fight like true Britons to recapture our export markets; and at the same time be ready to defend our country in the disastrous war which the insane behaviour of our competitors is bringing nearer every day!

Pshaw, sir! Bridges, sir? Aeroplanes? Wireless sets? Of course there's no difficulty in producing 'em! Any fool of an engineer can understand them! But it is hopeless to expect more than a select few to have the brains to grasp even the elements of Sound Economics.

Pshaw, sir! I quite realise that it is often said in a certain sense that the banks create credit, and it may seem so to the untrained brain, but let me assure you, sir, that it takes a thorough training in Sound Finance before you can appreciate that the truth is they do nothing of the sort—they merely lend their depositors' money.

BIOGRAPHY OF AN ENGLISHMAN

John Montgomery Ronald Gray Worked on a ledger all the day Entering figures with his pen, And his weekly value was two pounds ten. John Montgomery couldn't afford Anything much but his bed and board, A weekly "flick," an occasional "show," A pint or two, and a kiss or so, But he showed no signs of discontent As the years went by and his youth was spent With never a chance of child or wife; For earning his living was his life.

Alas! the upstart firm next door Ruined the game for evermore By investing in one of those machines Which enable a typist in her teens To make more entries in a day Than forty clerks, the good old way.

Then up spoke Ronald's honest boss, "Although we're running at a loss And we can't compete with these low-down cads, I'll play the game by you, my lads! I'll do my duty as I must And keep you in work until we bust!"

And so, according to expectation, The firm went into liquidation; And Ronald found such small enjoyment In the state of life called Unemployment That, seeing he couldn't be a worker And wouldn't live as an idle shirker, He turned on the gas, and duly died, And of course the verdict was "suicide."

The parson talked, as parsons must, Of "ashes to ashes," and "dust to dust,"— But what they buried beneath the clay, Under a stone marked "Ronald Gray" Was really (could they but have seen) One-fortieth of a ledger machine.

C.G.D.

Growing Wealth

THE miner was affected principally by the reduction of employment since 1913, of 320,000 men. Machinery, too, had resulted in an increase of output per man shift, from 17.8 cwt. in 1923 to 22.9 cwt. in 1934.—Sir Frank Smith, Secretary, Department of Scientific and Industrial Research, December 13, 1935.

IN THIS AGE OF PLENTY, TOO!

Extract from the evidence of a clothing merchant before the New South Wales Cost of Living Inquiry:

Witness said that his customers bought very sparingly, and were very hard to serve. "They have only a few shillings to spend, and it's very hard to get it from them," he said. "They go for the lowest price—quality hardly counts."

"We can't sell any English stuff to-day—it's all Japanese," said witness, talking of shirts. Witness said that in men's underwear there was now a great demand for "seconds"—goods with slight imperfections, sold at a reduced price. Many men had given up buying underpants, apparently because they could not afford them.

"I don't know what the poor people would have done without the Japanese goods," said witness. — "New Era," Sydney, October 10, 1935.

PEACE AND MAMMON

HOW can anyone hope to see Peace on Earth established at the fag end of an international loan, whether publicly subscribed as "a good safe investment," or left hanging like a Sword of Damocles over the head of a vanquished foe in the form of an eternally unpayable war debt?

Yet these are the means to which pious members of the League of Nations are quite content to subscribe, and one sees no signs of awakening on the part of politicians of any colour. Loans are sacrosanct. Money is a heavensent means of forcing virtue into the barbaric heart. Loan councils are excellent for the souls of any Dominion.

Why turn indignant eyes on Signor Mussolini? His ways are uncomfortably like our ways, and his exigencies are caused by the same stresses as our own.

Unheeded Warnings—Then War

Herein lies the straight answer to those who demand that Sanctions be applied forthwith, come what may. They probably know that Sanctions spell war, but their horizons are so well fenced that the immediacy of the repercussions may not stand out on the skyline. Is it possible that they are really ignorant of the subtle undercurrent that is leading them to take this line of popular appeal? They have small excuse.

The books of Major Douglas are quite cheap, and they abound in warnings of the clearest kind, which he has uttered at frequent intervals during the last 15 years.

In "Warning Democracy" (page 63) he says: "It will have been plain to those who have followed the examination of the relations between Finance and Internal British Politics that the validity of the ideas involved in that examination rests largely upon the acceptance of a somewhat unorthodox . . . theory of World Politics. I think perhaps it would be convenient at this point to state that theory.

"In the first place it is suggested that the aims of national Governments are by no means the same things as the aims of the majority of individuals in the countries they are supposed to represent. Further, that these Governments are far more responsive to influence from financial sources than they are to popular influence. We might almost go so far as to say that the modern Government is quite insensible to popular influence, and that no serious change of policy is effected by a change from one party to another. This is certainly true where the subject . . . conflicts with the interests of Finance.

Great War Loan Fraud

" . . . It therefore becomes a matter of first importance to find out what would be the interests of Finance in relation to the apparently conflicting interests of various national Governments, because if we can get any clear idea in regard to this, . . . then we should be able to obtain some insight into the probable trend of international politics.

" . . . perhaps the question of international War Debts affords the clearest indication of the policy of High Finance . . . the financial representatives of the British Government pledged the credit of the British people to the United States Government. The United States Government issued loans to the population of the United States in exactly the same way that the British Government issued loans to the British people.

"The banks and issuing houses created

new money, lent it to the people to invest in the loans, and held the loans as security for the 'Debt.' In both countries the ultimate owners of this debt were the bankers and not the Governments. . . . in spite of the fact that there must have been numbers of people in important positions, both in Governmental and financial circles, who understood quite well that we never received any money from America either for ourselves or on behalf of our Allies, a financial commission headed by Mr. Stanley Baldwin, concluded a post-war arrangement with financiers in the United States, which committed us to repay, not the goods we had received, but the money which we had not received, on terms more onerous than even those financiers . . . had hoped to procure . . .

"Now, with a full sense of the gravity of what I am saying, I suggest to you that the persons who were really responsible for those Debt settlements . . . were financiers before they were Englishmen. They saw . . . that the power of Finance was shaken to its very base, and that a sacrifice was necessary.

The millions of unemployed, the bankrupts, the suicides, the new poor, those and many others are that sacrifice. I hope those of them that survive feel that their sufferings were in a good cause."

The above was written in 1926, and Major Douglas further added: "I think that the main object having been achieved, the Anglo-American Debt will eventually be scaled down. . . . I believe that there is . . . a 'gentleman's' agreement between the Bank of England, the permanent Treasury

officials, and the Federal Reserve Board . . . to that effect."

On page 71 he also says, "The point to which I have been endeavouring to bring you . . . is that orthodox finance appears to have a subtle connection with force. . . . Force and Finance, if not the same things, are complementary.

"Quite demonstrably, force has brought one nation after another to a certain type of preeminence." (Page 71.)

The present position of Japan, which is now claiming the exclusive right "to issue loans" to China, the attitude of Signor Mussolini and the Abyssinian war, the state of tension which undeniably exists throughout Europe, can without the least difficulty be traced to the door of High Finance.

The whole of the two lectures from which the above extracts have been taken are a mass of illuminating details which are so apposite to the present moment that it has been almost impossible to make a selection. It is worth the modest three and sixpence which is the price of this invaluable book, to study these alone.

The People Must Command

The conclusion that must now be made obliges me to the utmost brevity. Surely no one who has ever read these articles with an open mind can question the necessity of the Electoral Campaign on which Major Douglas has laid such special emphasis as being the only means of awaking a "defective democracy" to a sense of its all-but-forfeited powers, and of the direful necessity of hastening that awakening. M.B.C.

THE CAUSE OF POVERTY

I MUST return to my house-building venture, which I described on February 21, because several readers tell me they have missed the point.

Briefly, I borrowed £1,000 from my bank (which created the money by the act of lending—it didn't touch the money of other depositors, it merely increased my deposit by £1,000).

I spent the £1,000 on having a house built. I sold the house for £1,000, and repaid my bank (which gave me back, untouched, the securities I had handed over to cover the loan).

Now, please recite this little tale from memory, and consider very carefully what has happened, for it reveals the secret of the power of finance.

The point is that money has been created (at the sole discretion of those who control the banks); that its repayment has destroyed it—it no longer exists; but that a price has been left behind, which remains as long as the real thing—the house—remains.

Total prices have increased—real wealth has increased—but total money has not increased, for the buyer of my house has parted with the same amount of money as I paid out in building it. Just as the act of the bank in lending me money increased the total of money in existence, so the cancellation of the loan reduced the total of money in existence—but the price remains.

That is the principle on which "sound finance" works. It is the working of that principle that causes money available as purchasing power to be chronically short of prices. It is the root cause of poverty in the midst of plenty.

NIKE NOUS

MAJOR DOUGLAS AND THE INSTITUTION OF MECHANICAL ENGINEERS

Major Douglas having resigned from the Institution of Mechanical Engineers, of which he was a member, the letters "M.I.Mech. E." should no longer be used in connection with his name.

The paper read at Glasgow on March 7, 1935, before that Institution on "Production and Distribution" to an audience of about 700 (the average attendance being about 70), which was not published in the transactions of the Institution and on which no discussion was allowed, will be reprinted with other matter as an appendix to a new edition of "The Monopoly of Credit," which will shortly appear.

MECHANISATION IN MINES

Mr. H. J. Humphreys, H.M. Divisional Inspector of Mines for the Yorkshire division, giving evidence before the Royal Commission on Safety in Mines on March 10, produced the following figures:

Year	Coal-cutting machines	Conveyors	Coal Output
1909	258	17	2,831,313 tons
1934	1,012	718	15,041,800 "

The 718 conveyors carry one-third of the whole output.

FOR TIRED BUSINESS MEN

A Madeira Travel Bureau has been opened at Dorland House, Lower Regent Street, S.W.1, from which full information regarding the island may be obtained. Full details of hotels, house rents, climate, taxes, etc., are available upon application to the bureau. The special attractions of Madeira as a place of residence for retired business men and civil servants will be explained to those interested.—"Financial Times," March 21.

The special attraction, we feel sure, is connected with the word we have italicised. Good luck to the T.B.M. and the M.T.B.

WHEN ALL GET WORK WOMEN WILL WEEP

There are more than 70,000 men keeping watch on the Tyne. They are watching and waiting for work. Last night I saw a few score of them in the big market here standing in the darkness while an unemployed idealist passionately denounced the folly of war.

Yet the crowning irony in the lives of these already disillusioned thousands is that the war god—and almost the war god alone—is bringing work back to them.—Gordon Beckles in the "Daily Express" of March 12.

The world is waking up to the truth of what we have said for years. That the present financial system can provide work for all in one way only—war.

PARLIAMENT A QUICK STEPPER

If from any speech in the House one begins to see any results within five to ten years after it has been delivered, one will have done very well indeed.—Mr. Boothby, according to a report in "The Observer."

SHOT AND SHELL

"I go the way which fate has shown me with the certainty of a sleep-walker," says Adolf Hitler.—"Daily Mirror," March 17, 1936.

Germany owes Poland about £18,000,000 and it is likely that settlement will be made in war materials, chiefly aeroplanes.—"Daily Mail," February 22, 1936.

There is a strong indication that some form of National Service may have to be introduced if the required number of men for the defence services cannot be found by other methods.—"Sunday Dispatch," March 1, 1936.

The entire credit system of Italy, from banks to pawnshops, is to be nationalised to relieve the country of her financial distress.—"Daily Express," March 4, 1936.

President Roosevelt has asked Congress for another £300,000,000 to "give work" to the unemployed. He stated there were 5,300,000 people still in need of assistance in the U.S.A.—"Daily Express," March 19, 1936.

Export duty on Dutch East Indies native (i.e., unrestricted) rubber raised from 32c. to 33c. per kilogram, presumably because rise in price may attract additional orders. Total stocks at four principal unregulated areas on January 31 was 552,546 tons, or 102,641 tons less than on August 31 last.—"Daily Telegraph," February 20.

Production of coal for week ending February 29, 1936, was 4,921,000 tons by 764,400 workers, as against 4,469,600 tons and 771,500 workers in the corresponding week last year.—"Board of Trade Journal," March 12, 1936.

A new factory for the production of "Elektron" metal (magnesium alloy) in the Manchester district will require about 50 million units of electricity annually. The bulk of magnesium and its alloys is at present imported.—"Industrial Britain," February, 1936.

German exports of fine cutlery in 1935 increased by 7,500 double cwt. (over 17 per cent.). Production of razor blades rose by a million to 700 million, over half of which were exported.—"Financial Times," February 18, 1936.

"While a pint per head a day (of milk) is the amount consumed by the well-to-do a pint per head a week is the consumption of the very poor.

"It is also an unfortunate circumstance that the consumption per head seems to decrease with an increase of the number of children in a family."—Sir F. G. Hopkins, ex-president of the British Association, at the League of Nations Union Conference.

The largest door-making factory in the British Empire, near Liverpool, produced over 600,000 doors during 1935. Additional plant is being installed, to increase the output considerably.—"Industrial Britain," February, 1936.

The German Reichsbank's annual report states that the reintroduction of conscription, by decreasing unemployment and increasing the workers' incomes, has largely replaced the earlier labour-creation measures. Industrial receipts were higher, whilst prices were kept down by adherence to a fixed policy.—"Financial Times," March 18, 1936.

A 70-year-old woman, charged with stealing bottles of milk from doorsteps, was stated to be living on 2s. 9d. per week. She received her old age pension, out of which 6s. went on rent, 1s. 3d. on insurance, and 2s. 9d. on food, etc.—"Evening Standard," March 18, 1936.

THE amount of money in existence varies only with the action of the banks in increasing or diminishing deposits. Every bank loan creates a deposit, and every repayment of a bank loan destroys one.—Rt. Hon. Reginald McKenna in "Post-War Banking Policy."

(See what Nike Nous says above.)

THE WEEK'S BISCUIT

To the Rt. Hon. Neville Chamberlain, Chancellor of the Exchequer, for having stated in the House of Commons that "financial difficulties" make it impossible to issue home-produced beef to the armed forces.

G. W. L. DAY on HATS OFF TO HENRY!

MR. HENRY FORD has let fly in the *Saturday Evening Post* with such accurate marksmanship that I feel like quoting half the interview.

"Our forefathers," he says, "came out from Europe to pioneer in a new land, not because the Old Country gave no further opportunities for pioneering, but because the workings of customs and governments had denied to the common man the liberty to use the opportunities that were about him."

The rest of the interview points out in pithy language how history is repeating itself.

"It is rather a startling thought that, except in three or four favoured parts of the earth, there is less human liberty to-day than there was one hundred years ago.

"The real causes of the trouble are left untouched. Nothing has been done to restore either government or finance to its proper function. They are only means to ends, but the constant effort is to make them primary ends in themselves.

"Our business is living and building a free nation, and all that government or finance can do is to help in this. Government is a collective job which we dedicate to others. **The trouble with government and finance is that our servants have set up as our masters, and they have not proved to be very wise masters.** No government can guarantee security. It can only tax production, distribution and service and gradually crush the power to pay taxes."

Mr. Ford thinks only in terms of providing abundance for everybody, but when he looks at the world he sees the principal energies of men diverted to useless parasitical pursuits.

"What stands in the way of exchanging the goods which people are willing and anxious to make? **What are the two great businesses of to-day? Govern-**

ment and finance. Neither of them creates anything.

"Government and money changing have everywhere become the really big businesses, and that is why producing wealth for use has languished. . . . Instead of producing becoming the programme to abolish scarcity, we have seen the debt business become the only absolute business that has not suffered from the depression.

"Money of itself does not create anything. To regard money as the principal commodity of commerce and to deal in it as such and to regard the making of money as more important than producing goods — that is the central fallacy on which government and finance agree. It is contrary to all experience and common-sense, and its day is short."

He goes on to show how government and finance combine to exert more and more restriction and control.

"Government and finance have another point in common. While both are beneficiaries of freedom and opportunity, they both lean to regimentation. This is a curious fact that will repay study.

"The financiers and the government have still another point in common. Production with them is a secondary thing. When they get into management, they always start to talk about the evils of competition and try to devise ways and means to limit competition. There is no way to limit competition.

"Taxation for purposes other than the supply of necessary government services is a form of government regulation. Since regulation must bar competition, and directly or indirectly fix prices, everything that is obsolete will be preserved, and nothing that means progress will be allowed.

"**It is only another example of how politics and finance unite to stifle progress. The industrial merger is**

one of the favourite devices to this end. Factories are merged for financial reasons, and the first things to happen are the increase of prices and the stopping of improvements in the product.

"We may think that we can trade liberty for security or equality. If we trade liberty, we shall have nothing. And yet we are constantly being advised to trade it."

This is as grim a picture as has ever been painted of the tragedy and absurdity of present-day affairs. Government and finance, which are interlocked, directing the so-called progress of nations towards ends which have nothing to do with the wishes of the people. A horrible Old Man of the Sea tightening his stranglehold on us while we plod dully on, not even trying to free ourselves from his clutches.

"Everything has advanced," says Mr. Ford, "except finance and government."

Not as instruments to serve our interests, certainly, but in their own interests they have advanced. Both are more strongly entrenched. It is more difficult for us to control them, and each year the power of finance-controlled government grows more absolute.

How much longer are we going to sit dumbly submissive watching its power grow? That is what we must ask ourselves. According to what we do to-day, we shall be able or unable to do something to-morrow. If we do nothing for much longer it is quite certain that we shall be entirely impotent. Too late, then, to wake up with a start and strain at our prison bars!

Mr. Ford's article is headed "The Only Real Security." The only real security lies in the will and the determination to claim our individual rights and direct our own affairs. Let us get together and do this before the chance of doing so is past.

THE WAGES OF THE MACHINE MUST BE DISTRIBUTED

A new giant excavator recently built in the U.S.A. removes 30 cubic yards of material at each cut—40-45 tons. The machine can dump material over two hundred feet from where it is digging, so that if placed in the middle of a full-size football field, it could dig 40 tons of material from one touch-line and dump it at the other up to a height equivalent to a seven-storey building.—*"Overseas Engineer,"* March, 1936.

And there are still people who claim that labour-saving machinery does not displace labour!

WHO'S THE BOSS?

At the annual meeting of the Reichsbank in Berlin on March 19 Dr. Schacht, the president (who is also Minister of Economic Affairs), briefly outlined the work accomplished by the Reichsbank since the Chancellor, Herr Hitler, came into power.

He said the Central Institution had been able to finance the Government's work and rearmament schemes without disturbing the capital and money markets. The capital market, which had been ruined by the crisis of 1931, had regained its borrowing capacity.—*"Financial Times,"* March 20 (our italics).

In other words, had fallen in with what the banks—the lenders—had stipulated.

"SOUND FINANCE" 300 YEARS AGO

Sir William Prescott presided at a luncheon on March 20 of the Metropolitan Water Board and, describing the history of London's Water Supply, mentioned how, in constructing the New River during the early years of the seventeenth century, Hugh Myddleton met with much discouragement, and when the waterway was only half completed, he had to cease work for want of funds. Ultimately King James I. found the money.

Even so long ago, then, the bankers were in control. *Where* did King James find the money?

HARD LUCK!

Germany is hoping to increase its exports of coal to Czechoslovakia, but will probably have to agree to increased imports of brown coal in compensation.—*"Financial Times,"* March 20.

THE ORGY OF "CHARITY"

Alms-giving, once born of love and pity, is now more often a refuge for conscience

CHARITY—a much abused word—has been defined as generosity of thought and deed; love; liberality; alms and benevolence; and a charitable institution. How much of that which is to-day termed "charity" could be truthfully put down as "generosity of thought and deed," or "love"? More often it would be truer to say that much which is put down as charity is in reality selfishness—in other words, the desire to spare ourselves the pain of seeing others suffer for something we are too idle to put right.

It is so easy to write a cheque and hand it over to some organisation to spend, or to drop pennies into the boxes rattled under our noses on flag days, and then settle down to the smug feeling of satisfaction that we have done our best for our "less fortunate brethren." But have we?

If we were really doing lasting good why is it that the clamour for help and more help rises so continuously? Day after day circulars tumble through letter-boxes, whilst the eyes of newspaper readers are assailed with specially prepared pathetic advertisements urging them to transfer their individual claims on goods and services to the banking accounts of innumerable concerns purporting to be acting for the good of the community.

It has been said that "a person is a coward unless able to pass a beggar without giving." Whatever the truth of that may be, it is true that unless this pernicious idea that alms-giving, falsely called charity, is an ennobling virtue, can be eradicated from the minds of those people still giving, economic democracy will remain a dream.

This convention of this so-called "charity" is deeply rooted and will take a good deal of spade-work to remove. Like many other conventions, the basis is fear. Fear of the sort, conjured up by Dr. Goebbels when defending the German street collections, that unless the poor are fed they will one day rise up and smash civilisation; fear of the majority of persons in standing out from the crowd. The line of least resistance is preferred.

By doing this, however, they have assisted in building up a tyranny bigger even than Governmental taxation, the more menacing to freedom because the victims are gulled into thinking they are doing it voluntarily.

Richard Jeffries in "The Story of My

Heart" clearly realised the futility of all such "charitable" measures:

There is no virtue, or reputed virtue, which has not been rigidly pursued, and things have remained as before. Men and women have practised self denial, and to what end? They have compelled themselves to suffer hunger and thirst; in vain. They have clothed themselves in sack-cloth and lacerated the flesh—many have devoted their lives to assist others in sickness and poverty."

That the writer knew that needless poverty was existent even in 1843 is evidenced by further remarks:

This our earth produces not only a sufficiency, but a superabundance and pours a cornucopia of good things down upon us. Further, it produces sufficient for stores and granaries to be filled to the roof tree for years. I verily believe that the earth in one year produces enough food to last for thirty years. Why, then, have we not enough? Why do people die of starvation, or lead a miserable existence on the verge of it? Why have millions upon millions to toil from morning to evening just to gain a crust of bread? Because of the absolute lack of organisation by which such labour should produce its effect, the absolute lack of distribution, the absolute lack even of the very idea that such things are possible. Nay, even to mention such things, to say that they are possible, is criminal with many.

Each human being, by mere birth, has a birth-right in this earth and all its productions, and if they do not receive it, then it is they who are injured. . . . It matters not in the least if the poor be improvident, or drunken, or evil in any way. Food and drink, roof and clothes, are the inalienable right of every child born into the light. If the world does not provide it freely—not as a grudging gift but as a right, as a son of the house sits down to breakfast—then is the world mad. But the world is not mad, only in ignorance—an interested ignorance kept up by strenuous exertions, from which infernal darkness it will, in course of time, emerge marvelling at the past as a man wonders at and glories in the light who has escaped from blindness.

The individuals comprising nations are in the main still ignorant of the wool which has been pulled over their eyes. This is particularly so regarding "charities."

Electoral Campaigners are gradually bringing about the result foreseen by Jeffries. Parallel with that work, however, I think it is essential that all workers for Economic Democracy should relentlessly refuse to subscribe to "charitable funds," and, more important still, let it be known why they do not subscribe. There will be repercussions at first, no doubt, but this, like all truth, will ultimately prevail; and when it does "the rehabilitation of democracy" will have been carried a good deal nearer completion.

J.W.C.

FASCISM FROM THE GALLERY

IT is unlikely that many of the non-Fascists who attended the blackshirt meeting at the Albert Hall last Sunday did so with the calm detachment of those in search of knowledge. The anticipation in the highest gallery resembled that at a bull fight or possibly a gladiatorial display.

The number and area of Union Jacks disposed about the immense hall induced no reverence, and repartee was bitter and sharp in spite of stewards who almost outnumbered the visitors, and some police. The well-arranged drama failed to impress. Nor did the spot lights, the fanfare of trumpets or the roll of drums receive better treatment. The top gallery claims the impertinent laugh that pricked the majesty of the "Leader's" entrance, although the gallery below also created a diversion by releasing a rat which was removed after spirited chase by a steward.

The "Leader's" speech might be described as a (very much punctuated) exhortation. His subject was foreign affairs and peace. In the middle of a period extolling the people's will to peace a dazed pigeon was found fluttering round the gallery.

Disregard of Fact

Peace was to be established by friendship with Italy and by treaties with Japan and Germany, providing that Japan might go into China if she would retire from the Indian market for cotton goods, and that mandated territories should be returned to Germany while we retained an air route to India. The first would cause employment in England and the second find an outlet for German goods. Peace would then be established.

The most striking quality of this speech, apart from the emotional tone, was the disregard for fact. That unemployment is a symptom of the healthy progress of mechanised industry; that potential abundance exists; and is, not distributed—these are facts. No treaties will annul them. War itself is based on the economic fact of insufficiency of foreign markets for the industrial nations, markets which are essential for the continuance of industry under the present financial system.

Economic Freedom Needed

The idea that it is possible to fit the facts to a theory, to prevent war by a promise, is ludicrous. There may be a grim interpretation of the text quoted by Major Douglas at the Westminster meeting, "Faith without works is death."

An outbreak will be prevented only by the fulfilment of economic freedom for each country—that is for each individual in each country—and the opening up of new markets by the distribution of abundance, which exists, to satisfy the real want that also exists in the populations of those industrial nations. And it is for the people to insist on such a satisfaction. Emotionalism without facts may be sterile, but it is an outlet for unease of mind.

In the pit of the hall the applause showed some response to the speaker. In the galleries attention was entirely focussed on the interruptions. Few listened to the speech, but clapped and cheered the fights, disturbances and bandaged heads.

The final impression was one of rather brutal hilarity over brawls.

TO "PUBLICITY," SOCIAL CREDIT,
163A, STRAND, W.C.2.

Send me particulars of the little TASK OF HONOUR referred to overleaf. I want to help.

SEE
STAMP
1/4d
PICK
REVERSE

CUT ROUND THIS BORDER

ACTIVE SERVICE

Faith With Works At Newcastle-on-Tyne

With the improvement in the weather more helpers are joining in the canvass, and the aim of this group—the obtaining of 1,000 signatures weekly—has been realised during the past week.

A new club has been started in the Central Division of Newcastle and is called the "West End Democrats." This club is self-contained and self-supporting—2d. per week per member. Although it is only three weeks old it has a membership of 50. It is organised and led by three experienced campaigners, MESSRS. McIVER, GIBSON and TAYLOR. The first-named is an experienced open-air speaker and is generally to be seen and heard in our local open-air forum—The Bigg Market—almost every week-end.

A large group of canvassers has already been recruited from the club's membership, and the following have been out canvassing during the past week: P. McIVER, I. GREGG, J. COOK, S. McIVER, E. TAYLOR, J. SMILES, W.M. THACKRAY, W.M. DOUSE, R. TWINER and J. WALTON.

During the past fortnight the Supervisor has received considerable assistance from Mr. SWABEY of Durham University College, who is gathering experience prior to starting a group in Durham city.

The Campaign and Propaganda Supervisors are co-operating with a view to holding a series of campaign meetings in conjunction with the canvass, and notification of these meetings is to be given on a separate sheet and will be delivered at the same time as the signature forms.

"Task of Honour"

Volunteers for this are warming up and a large proportion have almost completed their task. A full list of sympathisers, together with the recruits obtained from Lord Tankerville's City Hall meeting, has been typed by MISS CLARK and is now available to assist the "Task of Honour" workers. This should prove a most fruitful field in which to obtain new readers.

Another valuable suggestion given by MISS HOPPER was that all canvassers should make a special note of exceptionally interested persons, their names and addresses to be given in to the Secretary for inclusion in this list.

Several members having completed their task have volunteered to repeat it a second time.

Read the Letter on Action on opposite page

Roll of Honour

The following have reported their Task of Honour completed

- | | |
|----------------------|-------------------|
| 30. Mrs. M. MITCHELL | Belfast |
| 31. W. WHITE | Limavady |
| 32. R. C. RICHARDSON | Ledbury |
| 33. K. G. CATMAN | London, E. |
| 34. R. THOMPSON | Gateshead-on-Tyne |

TO EVERY READER

YOU CAN do something to help the cause for which this paper stands—if you will.

Unless you live alone on a desert island, there is at this moment a special little task that *only YOU* can do—waiting to be done.

A simple easy little job which will have far-reaching effects of great importance to the Movement.

FIVE MINUTES EACH DAY FOR A WEEK WILL SEE IT THROUGH.

Will you try it?

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WHO WILL RESPOND? TO THE DEAN OF CANTERBURY'S APPEAL

We have received the following letter from Miss J. L. McCallum of Wimborne:

Dear Sir,—I have received the enclosed [below] gracious letter from The Dean of Canterbury.

The attention he draws to the costly and unremunerated services of his co-Directors, and, further, the appeal contained in the closing portion of Major Douglas's address to the Authors' Club for assistance to the Secretariat at this time, constrains me to draw again on a fund set aside for sickness and old age.

In doing this I have also in mind that quiet army of voluntary workers who, in addition to the Secretariat, are devoting time, energy and money unostentatiously towards the goal we are out to reach, namely, the freeing of humanity from economic thralldom.

In the name of all these workers I enclose a cheque for £5 to start a fund (to be appropriately named) in the hope that the purse-strings of those who have to spare may be opened to help forward this great work.

J. L. McCALLUM

The Deanery, Canterbury

Dear Miss McCallum,

I received with pleasure your letter telling me of your very generous offer to renew the loan of your furnished cottage for the holidays from Easter onwards this year, and that the rent received is to be devoted to the funds of the Social Credit Secretariat.

I know what devoted and costly and unremunerated service my co-Directors of the Secretariat give to the Movement, and it is, of course, a tremendous encouragement to us, and an inspiration, when we find that those outside the Secretariat are so ready and willing to equal and even to surpass that devotion to our common cause. You indeed set a fine lead and I hope that many may follow it.

Yours very truly,

HEWLETT JOHNSON

[Miss McCallum's most generous donation is placed at the head of "The Cottage" Fund which has been started as a result of her offer of the rent of her cottage for the holidays (see advertisement on back page).—Ed.]

"THE COTTAGE FUND"

THE subscriptions listed hereunder have been received from readers who have been inspired by Miss McCallum's generous offer to give the rent of her cottage to our funds. As we are sure that many others will wish to show their appreciation in the same practical way we hope to publish further lists in future issues. Those subscribing to this fund are asked to accept the publication of their name or *nom de plume* as an acknowledgment of their gift.

	£	s.	d.
J.L.McC.	5	0	0
Two Friends	12	0	0
A.M.L.	1	1	0
J.Y.W.	1	0	0
J.L.	0	10	6
R.H.	0	2	6
H.S.	0	5	0
C.S.L.	0	3	0

THE WEST COUNTRY

A small but deeply interested audience listened in the Bideford Town Hall on March 16 to speeches on Social Credit by Lt.-Col. J. Creagh Scott and Mrs. H. M. Clifford, C.C.

As a result of the meeting a Study Group was formed, and Mrs. Clifford hopes to initiate the Women's Crusade in the near future.

BOOK REVIEWS

Truth About the Slump

Amongst those who are dissatisfied with the present money system, there are two schools of thought: (a) those who think that this system works badly owing to the ineptitude and lack of foresight on the part of its controllers; and (b) those who believe that a small and unobtrusive ring of men are directing the system towards an objective at variance with the interests of the public.

The author of this book* is numbered amongst the latter school, and he has certainly produce powerful arguments in favour of his contention that a comparatively few men purposely control the economic life of the world. Briefly his thesis is that certain international financiers, mostly Jews, are aiming at world hegemony, and are particularly hostile to democratic and Christian ideals. He is careful to disclaim any anti-Semitic bias, and points out that international finance works alike to the detriment of Jew and Gentile. His account of the formation of the Federal Reserve Bank, and the part played by the money monopoly in introducing Bolshevism into Russia is particularly interesting.

Mr. Field deals with events up till 1931 only, and does not appear to have considered Major Douglas's remedy for the economic chaos, which he recognises. Nevertheless, I strongly recommend this book to Social Crediters for its wealth of information concerning men and events connected with the underworld of finance. K.M.

* "The Truth About the Slump," by A. N. Field. Nelson, N.Z.: A. N. Field, P.O. Box 154. 4s.

BECOME A BILLSTICKER

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Social Credit and the Labour Party

This booklet* is an attempt to persuade supporters of the Labour Movement to adopt Social Credit as part of their political programme.

A change is recognised as imminent, and various risks and dangers are analysed at some length, most of which the author believes can be avoided by adopting the peaceful Douglas solution. The Socialist policy of emphasising the nationalisation of the means of production yet ignoring the science of credit, which is the modern instrument of distribution, is shown to be mistaken.

The author apparently believes that the uniting of the Labour and Social Credit Movements is desirable and possible. It is unfortunate that he himself betrays some concern as to the effect the National Dividend would have upon the workers — as workers rather than as consumers.

J.C.

* "Social Credit and the Labour Party," by Edwin Muir. London: Stanley Nott, Ltd. 6d.

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A Christian's Resolutions for 1936.—Reprints of page 171 of SOCIAL CREDIT for January 10, containing the Dean of Canterbury's New Year article is available at 1s. 2d. a hundred, postage extra.

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Suitable for sticking on the back-windows of motor cars, the slogans shown above and below, printed in black or red, ready gummed on the face, are available from Publications Dept. SOCIAL CREDIT, 163A Strand, W.C.2, 6d. a set, post free.

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CORRESPONDENCE

Nail This Slander

A friend of mine, whose companion had left a temporarily vacant seat before the meeting at Westminster on March 7, was approached by a well-dressed woman who asked to be allowed to sit with her for a short time. After a few preliminaries she observed, "This Major Douglas pretends to be an engineer. No one seems to know how he earns his living. Of course he is not an engineer," etc., etc. My friend, unfortunately, remarked that it was quite obvious how her new-found acquaintance earned her living, whereupon the stranger disappeared hurriedly.

Will any Social Crediter who has a similar experience please take particular note of the exact words used, and, if possible, obtain the name of anyone using them, together with an as accurate description as possible, and forward them to the Secretariat?

C.H.D.

"The Cottage" Fund

As last year, we cannot read Miss McCallum's challenge unmoved, and again write to say that we have taken it up by promising the Director of Revenue £12, i.e., £1 a month for 12 months.

It is more than ever necessary to support Major Douglas now. His speech at Westminster on March 7, reported in SOCIAL CREDIT of March 13, shows again that he is the world's greatest statesman. It is a privilege to be able to lend him any aid, however small.

London

THREE FRIENDS

Action

Concluding his address at the Central Hall, Westminster, Major Douglas said: "It is even now ACTION that is our only hope." The East London branch of the United Democrats is pursuing a policy of action on the lines of the Electoral Campaign which Major Douglas himself has initiated.

In the 20 constituencies in East London, many of which are held with small majorities, there are literally thousands of houses awaiting their turn to be aroused to the possibilities of action. It is only a question as to whether those professing to follow Major Douglas have enough confidence in the leader of our movement to engage in the action he recommends.

Our rallying-points will be advertised each week in this paper. One hundred campaigners are required to make the voters of East London and the Members of Parliament understand the meaning of ACTION. Readers who can reach East London for an hour's work ANY EVENING are urged to write to the undersigned or to meet the squad at the points advertised, on Tuesday or Thursday next week.

HERBERT DIXON

(East London Supervisor)

28 Chigwell Road,
South Woodford, E.18

The Social Crediter in War

During the Central Hall meeting on March 7, Major Douglas referred to the inevitability of a world war. This is an exceedingly grave statement to anyone knowing the weight of his prophecies; so much so that we (and I am sure I am voicing the minds of all loyal Social Crediters) would be very glad to be told what we should do, when war does start, involving this country in fighting abroad, from the point of view of Social Credit high policy.

I have come to a personal decision, but would abandon it if it clashed with official advice given for the ultimate benefit of the movement.

W. H. V. DAVIS

[This matter is of such grave consequence that it would be impossible to deal with it in a footnote. Full attention will be given to it editorially at an early date.—Ed.]

An Example from New Zealand

My method of getting subscribers to SOCIAL CREDIT may interest you. I start out on a straight canvass of shops, offices and houses. I average one sale in six houses at the first call. I then post a copy each week for four weeks to the purchaser, after which I send a copy with the following comment:

Your subscription to SOCIAL CREDIT is paid for more issues. It is urgent that my account with the Secretariat be kept in credit. Owing to the distance, this can be done only by the kind co-operation of subscribers in paying well in advance.

12 issues 3s. 6d. posted
24 issues 7s. od. "
1 year 14s. od. "

After sending a further couple of copies, I call personally and find that 90 per cent. are happy to pay for the copies sent and to

continue taking it. Most of them are dilatory in renewing subscriptions; but the paper has made its appeal, the habit has been formed, and it is only a question of writing or calling and a little tact in order to get the subscription.

I generally get three months for a start. The second time it is usually easier to get them to pay six months by pointing out that it saves both their time and my own.

My surplus copies I sell wherever I can, in the street or at houses.

The above plan works because I am one of the unemployed and work only two days a week on relief work.

I shall certainly maintain the sales and increase them slightly; but with other work for Social Credit my time is occupied to the limit; and I will really have to dig out a little more remunerative work this year. Food is cheap, but my family and myself must have clothing.

Your paper is "the goods," but unless the reading of it is followed by some definite ACTION, my time, your time, and the readers' time is wasted.

ARTHUR BULLOCK

Wanganui, New Zealand.

When Not to Measure

Beachcomber's "Broadside" may be very true, but I for one am duly grateful to Sir John Orr and his colleagues for their painstaking research into the incidence and causes of malnutrition to-day.

A scientific investigation is never foolish, the precise statement of established fact is of permanent value, statistically and historically.

If the cost seems disproportionate to the nature of the enquiry, we must console ourselves with the reflection that it is the price of National Government, which sees black white, and white black, until a weighty commission has pronounced authoritatively, and silenced obstructive criticism once and for all.

Norwich

H. C. KING

[Yes, we drew this distinction editorially last week. But we need to abolish poverty not to measure it, to distribute plenty not to measure it like scarcity. This is the trap laid by Sir Josiah Stamp.—Ed.]

"Man" and Mandate

I note you say that "it is the policy—not the politician or party"—that we want the electorate to vote for, and that "it is the mandate—not the man—that matters," but the simple fact is surely obvious that under the present system which operates as the parliamentary "representation" of this country no policy of reform is possible except through some "man" (or woman) who is willing to stand by the demand of his or her electorate, if and when he or she is returned as the successful M.P. It therefore follows that the "man" (or woman) does matter very much indeed and is actually the principle factor of vital importance.

Legally it has been laid down that in Britain—

"our representatives are not, in law, delegates whose power is limited by mandate from their constituents"

and that—

"we in fact and in law, have always had a 'dictator' in the shape of an all-powerful legislature."

In face of this present legal state of the British constitution it would unfortunately appear that there is no valid reason why elected members of parliament should vote in accordance with the demands of their electorates, or even yield to any such pressure.

Glasgow

R. ERNEST WAY

[We submitted the above letter to the Director of the Electoral Campaign who comments as follows:—

R. Ernest Way and others make exactly the same mistake in their attitude to the Douglas Social Credit political technique as opponents of Douglas Social Credit money technique have been making for the past seventeen years, i.e., raising futile objections under a misconception of Douglas's proposals. If Mr. Way and others would only realise that such self-evident objections as they raise will certainly have been previously and fully considered and accounted for by such a brain for technique and accurate thinking as is possessed by Major Douglas, they would, I feel sure, come to the following decisions:—

- I will make every endeavour to understand exactly what Major Douglas is trying to tell me.
- So, without argument, I will paraphrase in writing what I believe it to be.
- Send it to the Secretariat to endorse or refute.
- Pay my subscription to cover this and other services received.
- Then, and not until then, will I begin to criticise it.

If only everybody had acted upon this before starting to criticise Douglas Social Credit money technique, instead of bickering, arguing and contending about things they did not understand, what progress we should have made by now with it.—G.F.P.]

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Announcements & Meetings

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

Belfast Douglas Social Credit Group
Group Headquarters: 72, Ann Street
Office Hours: 2.30 to 5.30 and 7 to 10 p.m.

Cardiff Social Credit Association
The meeting on Monday, March 30, will be held at the Engineers' Institute, Park Place, at 8 p.m.

Cardiff Electoral Campaign
A meeting of campaigners and all interested will be held at 10, Park Place, on Thursday, April 2, at 7.30 p.m.

Glasgow Social Credit Association
Meetings each Wednesday at the Rooms, 200, Buchanan Street.

Liverpool Social Credit Association
Meetings held in Reece's Cafe, 14, Castle Street, first Friday each month, 7.45 p.m.

East London United Democrats
Campaigners' Meeting Place, Tuesday, March 31, and Thursday, April 2, outside "Princess Alice," Romford Road, Forest Gate, 8 o'clock prompt.

National Dividend Club
Electoral Campaign.
At all meetings time will be set aside for comments, discussion, questions and answers, for our mutual assistance in the Campaign.

All enquiries should be addressed to the Honorary Secretary: Capt. T. H. Story, 28, Ashburnham Gardens, Upminster, Essex.

The next meeting of the Club will be held in Capella's Restaurant, 11, High Holborn, W.C.1, 1st floor, at 6.15 p.m. on Thursday, April 2. Speaker: Miles Hyatt, Esq.

Bayswater
Address to be given by Mr. J. E. Tuke at the Ethical Church, Queen's Road, Bayswater, W.2. "A Better World: the Ethical Case for Social Credit," at 6.30 on Sunday, March 29.

To Let
Furnished cottage with lounge hall, living room, kitchenette, two bedrooms (3 beds and bed-settee); Bournemouth Pavilion, etc., 20 minutes by bus; close to golf links. Woodland and moorland walks nearby.

Bound Volumes
Orders for bound copies of Volume II of SOCIAL CREDIT (from February 8 to August 2 last year) can be accepted. These volumes include a comprehensive index.

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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.

SOME IMMINENT ECONOMISTS

No. 3. Commander Stephen King-Hall

By Frotti

DEAR Mister Old Been,
I have long had my eye upon prolific goings on of talented Cdr. Stephen King-Hall, sir, known to thousands of Radiant Children as Stoneless Stephen. Now I think it is times for venturing upon further commendations of this gent-johnny, perhaps, what?

Something Very Extra
Dear Fruit, I felt at once that this was something very extra. It is one thing to spoon-feed poor over-worked adolescent chappy with patent economical ideas, but quite others to succeed in same undertakings with clear-headed and uncontaminated intelligences of child-persons.

A Tame Economicalist
However, when it became clear that he was ticked off for advancements, he very shortly was retired from active labours and took up post of tame economicalist to an evening paper. And thus, having hitched his wagging to a "Star," so to speak, he now enters upon well-earned rest, and enjoys the squire of catering for its readers.

These are tipsical samples of his stilishness, sir.
"The Dominions will think twice before borrowing, and the investor will hesitate

* RADIANT CHILDREN'S CAROL
"When King Stephen last looked out
It was made the rule
That the poor must do without—
There was too much fuel!" etcsoforth.

to lend, until there is some prospect of the overseas countries being able to market their agricultural exports."

Very originous, what? And from that it follows, I think, that emigrations must stop, until Jappy-chappies (who are only heathen-fellows with no respects at all for financial laws) step in and make Australia prosperous upon deprecating yens and such like other experiences, which are so dredded by F. W. Hearse.

"Furthermore, we must remember that from a long-term point of view our population in Great Britain is likely to decrease in numbers and (a less appreciated fact) the proportion of old to young will increase to an extraordinary degree."

How happily choiced, sire, are his expressions. From a long-term point of view! Or from a short-term, too, I ween. And from either of these points of view, as he says, general mortality, and especially infant mortality and youthful suicide, is likely to increase to an extraordinary degree. Stephen is nothing if not franked.

"It would be definitely harmful to spend public money in assisting emigration which is economically unsound."

The points being (1) Dominions cannot borrow, and will not borrow, so cannot admit peoples; (2) the persons will in any cases die off sufficiently quickly and more economically at home under long-term conditions.

But amidst all these verbiages, old Salt, truisms but trite, Steppy's real tittle to infamy is one singular sintillating sentence, a sentence which will ring down through the ages like an Alarm Clock.

"MEN WITHOUT CAPITAL ARE AN ENCUMBRANCE."
By capital, of course, he has one meaning and one alone—Money.

Encumbrances
Men may have brain-powers, Napoleonic driving-forces, genius, perfect physical strengths, and still be encumbrances, dear old encumbrance, don't you think? Watts, Edison-Bell, Macaroni — the whole Soviet Union indeed, where there is no Capital, are nothing but encumbrances. I shall never again read Keatings, Stoutfellow, Woolworth, Tennessee, and such other versifiers, who have cucumbered the earth, sire, for so long and so needlessly. Not even Steppy himself—

But I am, perchance, wrong here. Even if Steppy has no Capital, and he will may not have, he certainly has very Sound Credit in Threadneedle Street, I should deduct, or he would not be Starring all over the place in this way.

For which, Sirrah, I admire him with all my mite.

Yours invidiously,
FROTTI.

THE ROYAL ACADEMY PORTRAIT
Reproductions in colour of the portrait of Major Douglas by Augustus John, R.A., can be supplied to readers at 8s. each post free. This portrait by a famous artist will be of great historic interest in the future, but when the present supply is exhausted no further copies will be made. Don't leave it until too late!

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 (1/2d. stamp) to The Only Democrats, 163A, Strand, London, W.C.2. Volunteers to help in the Campaign are wanted.

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)

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.
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