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For Political and Economic Democracy

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Weekly Twopence

New Year Message

FROM THE DEAN OF CANTERBURY

THIS New Year cannot be fundamentally happy unless our minds seek worth-while objects, and a worth-while object has seldom been better expressed than by Dr. Albert Schweitzer in his last book as—"the maintenance of life at its highest level and the furtherance of life. The maintenance of one's own life at the highest level of becoming more and more perfect in spirit, and the maintenance at the highest level of other life by sympathetic helpful self-devotion to it."

Schweitzer practises what he preaches. As doctor, scholar, theologian and musician of world-wide fame he yet devotes his genius to human life at its lowest levels and administers a humble hospital in an African forest.

Schweitzer is great enough and wise enough to aid the most needy,

for no solid and lasting advancement in life is made save on a common front. Those backward Africans matter and their start is important. None can move far in advance of the rest. I cannot safely advance if I neglect my family and friends. Neither can my class or group safely advance if it neglects other classes or groups; nor my nation if it is heedless of the fate of other nations.

□
The Christian religion, which is realist to the last degree, bids us consolidate our advance by tending those who are held up by lack of the most elementary needs of physical life, food and clothing and healing. The handicapped, undernourished, over-harassed millions, which still constitute an army that could encircle our island home should they join hand to hand around its whole coast-line,

thus form the major challenge to the church. Christ's criterion of the nature of the final judgment shows his mind on the point: "I was hungry and ye gave me meat"—or withheld it.

We must make secure our advance by starting at the beginning as He would start and banish poverty and insecurity. Their tolerance is a crime and a disgrace in a day when technology has increased our powers of production a hundredfold and made need an anachronism. To enjoy plenty for ourselves, heedless of Lazarus at our gate, lands us in hell and the world situation today is sufficient commentary of the fact.

□
I desire with all my heart that Britain shall possess and enjoy a wider culture, a more leisured, a

more generous, a more free and intellectual, a more beautiful and joyous and spiritual life, but I know that the starting point lies right down there in the physical needs of the undernourished masses and in their freedom.

Plenty, and freedom with it, is possible for all. Plenty without added taxation is the possible achievement of modern industry.

But it will never be realised until you and I, the common men, and the plain Christians, rise to the height of our responsibility and demand that what can be done shall be done.

At the behest of Him who came to give life and to give it more abundantly let us act, insistently and without delay, and pave the way for happier new years.

Hewlett Johnson

BUDGET PLANS: MORE TAXES

Sacrifices For the Rich, the Poor and Posterity

100 MILLION REDUCED TO POVERTY, DESPAIR

MR. HAROLD BUTLER, director of the International Labour Office, broadcasting a New Year's message to the United States entitled "What the slump has done for social progress," uttered the devil's sentiments—probably with the best intentions (which pave the way to hell very nicely).

Looking back on the slump, he said it had done a great deal for social progress. Its primary effect had been unemployment.

The I.L.O. world unemployment index showed a peak in January, 1933, of 320 per cent. of the 1929 figures.

"In the 16 countries which had unemployment records there were no fewer than 30,000,000 wage-earners, representing perhaps 100,000,000 men, women, and children, reduced to poverty and despair."

We had learned that it was not true to say that any honest man could find a job. We had learned that the problem of unemployment prevention was not a matter for private citizens but for nations and Governments.

The unemployed could not be left to starve. We had learned the lesson that the solution lay in the development of social security.

THE NEXT DEPRESSION

He cheerfully looked forward to the next depression, hoping "there would be less distress and destitution than in the past."

Mr. Butler voiced the devil's policy that work is the purpose of man's existence—that man must not be allowed to partake of the bounty of nature and the machine except as a reward for labour.

Like the Bolsheviks, the Fascists, the Nazis, and the World Planners, he exalts a means (work) into an end.

That is anti-Christ.

L200 MILLION TO "MAKE WORK"

BRTAIN'S financial conjurers are now busy hatching the next Budget Day bad egg. It will be a L200,000,000 loan at 2½ per cent. to "provide for increased capital construction."

And on top of this, we are reliably informed, Mr. Chamberlain will produce from his little black bag these other neat schemes:

BEER TAXATION.—An extra penny a pint will go on the price of beer.

MORE INCOME TAX.—Another threepence in the pound on income tax, binging the rate up to five shillings.

MORE CUSTOMS TARIFFS.—Duties on imported silk, cotton and woollen goods will be increased to "help the protection of home industries."

Bigger grants for defence; to local authorities in depressed areas, for new housing schemes, national health.

See How It Grows

Thus after April the Government will begin to pile another huge packet on top of our glorious British National Debt—that monument to bad arithmetic.

The National Debt is a lusty babe. Look at this:

1914	...	...	...	L649,770,000
1924	...	...	...	L7,680,623,000
1934	...	...	...	L7,945,194,000

Now add L200,000,000 and the answer is a lemon—squeezed dry.

Posterity, expected to pay for it, cannot supply the labour, the skill, the raw material, the machinery, the land or the time. All that is available here and now and we shall supply it.

We shall sweat and worry and work and convert existing material into the goods the Government wants made.

And bad arithmetic will make our children work and worry and sweat to earn the cash to pay the taxes.

And just to keep us happy and contented while we toe the line we shall pay more for our beer and clothes.

And if we earn a bit of money, that will be taken off us, too.

Have You Seen It?

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Turn The Pages

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Food "Snobbery"!

"IF HERRINGS DIDN'T SMELL..."

IF herrings didn't smell so strongly when being cooked, Britain would be a better-nourished nation!

This was what Professor V. H. Mottram, of London University, told health visitors and school nurses in conference at Bedford College, London.

Herrings are full of nourishment, but—"poor people don't like having them because the neighbours know what they've got for breakfast," said the professor.

Also—"poor people look on herrings as a mark of poverty."

Professor Mottram advocated a pint of milk per head per day, and hoped that the Government could be persuaded to make the price cheaper.

Eggs were valuable food, but their present price was prohibitive for many families. He thought a penny was a reasonable price for an egg.

The public should eat more cheese and water-cress.

The Economy League, that dismally-named institution, considers that much can be done to improve the national standard of cooking by the proper training in domestic science of girls and young housewives.

Their plan for a national effort, with official inspiration and backing, includes a proposal that future housewives should be encouraged to choose food wisely and cook it well, instead of buying it in preserved form or ready cooked.

Will someone please tell the professor and the Economy League that if the food is made available to the people (the food is there, but as things are they can't buy it) they will eat—and to hell with the smell.

WORDS TO THE WISE

The Charge is Murder

GIVING evidence at the inquest on the three members of the R.A.F. killed in a crash near Hebden Bridge, Yorkshire, Flying Officer P. Colvill Hilton admitted that "no stations in the Air Force are equipped with instruments for blind landings."

The airplane—a bomber—was one of seven which left Northern Ireland on December 12 for Finningley, near Doncaster. Only one arrived at its destination, the other six all crashed or made forced landings.

Since this incident, as reported in SOCIAL CREDIT for December 18, it has been announced that the R.A.F. is to provide cheap planes on which to train men in night flying.

Men are so much cheaper than machines! Now we learn that the R.A.F., which must be prepared to fly in all weathers, has no stations equipped for blind landing.

Men are cheaper than blind landing instruments, too.

The charge is murder and it is against those who impose a policy of financial economy at the expense of human safety. N.B.—Money is only tickets, and, given sufficient tickets, planes and instruments can be produced as required.

Railwaymen's Demand

THE claim of the Associated Society of Locomotive Engineers and Firemen for a 36-hour week, pay increases, and other concessions has been rejected by the Railway Staff National Tribunal. It would have cost £10,000,000, and the cost of granting equal concessions to all classes of railwaymen would be £50,000,000.

"All the earnings of the railways could not suffice for such a sum in addition to present wages," the tribunal states, "even if all classes of investors, including debenture holders, were deprived of the whole of their interest and dividends."

The railwaymen failed in their demand because, since the cost has to come out of income, it was not a reasonable demand.

If the railwaymen would demand a National Dividend, which is a reasonable demand, with the unity with which they make demands for higher wages—and demand it in the proper way—nothing could resist them.

And they would not then need to demand higher wages.

The Slum Nightmare

THERE has been a good deal of crowding over the 1935 Housing Act which comes into force this year. On New Year's Day

1,282 local authorities came under the overcrowding provisions of the Act, and in six months' time a further 36 authorities will be included. Even then, there will still be 59 towns and districts which are not covered by it.

It is hardly even a half measure. Overcrowding which exists on the day the Act comes into force will not constitute an offence. It is only fresh overcrowding which is condemned. And no landlords or tenants can be prosecuted unless alternative accommodation can be provided by the local authorities; yet it is admitted that in those areas where overcrowding is most serious the local authorities are finding it practically impossible to find alternative accommodation.

The reason for this is that figures, not human needs, at present govern housing. Out of 339,538 new houses built during the year which ended September 30, only three were built in Merthyr!

'Flu Facts

NEARLY 300 people in Britain have, so far, died from influenza.

The Ministry of Health tells how to avoid 'flu by taking these "sensible precautions."

Rooms should be well ventilated and airy, but not draughty.

Nourishing food is desirable. It is often a good thing to take cod-liver oil as well.

Gargling is useful. The gargle can be made by adding to a tumbler of warm water either a tablespoonful of compound glycerine of thymol or just enough permanganate of potash to give the liquid a pink colour.

Avoid crowded places.

Nice of the Ministry. But their advice does not help the impoverished millions who (a) cannot get nourishing food, anyway; (b) cannot afford anything above the barest necessities, which bars medical necessities such as the prescribed gargle; (c) cannot avoid crowded places without falling out of work for a few days, which, under the present crazy economy means loss of money.

Milk for Mothers

THROUGH the co-operation of the Milk Marketing Board, the Commissioner for Special Areas, the Jarrow Borough Council and the local milk distributors, it has been possible to arrange for the supply of a pint of milk per day at 2d. per pint to selected expectant and nursing mothers and to children under school age in the Jarrow district.

It seems a case of a mountain producing a mouse, but at any rate it is a step in the right direction. The obvious question is: why the 2d. and why the distribution should be limited to so minute a fraction of our population.

Pupils Worse Off than Convicts

MR. H. M. DARLING, of Cardiff, declared during a debate on homework at the Nottingham Conference of Secondary Schools' assistant masters, that boys in certain schools of the country are in a worse situation than convicts. They have harder work to do, he said, under worse taskmasters and in poorer buildings, and their food is inferior. Many children, especially in South Wales, are seriously underfed. Several of his own pupils have only a piece of bread and a cup of water for breakfast. Children who enter school full of the joy of life leave it four years later "old men."

"Typewriters for Wool"

UNDER this heading a well-known German firm of typewriter manufacturers is advertising its wares in Australia. The advertisement explains that a barter arrangement has been made and that Germany is taking Australian wool in payment for typewriters—"when you buy a typewriter you help to sell Australian wool!"

Meanwhile, thousands are under-clad in Australia, and as they have not the money to buy clothes, these typewriters will be used presumably to write sales letters to increase Australian exports!

Modern Debtors

A YEAR has passed now since the introduction of the new Money Payments Act which was intended to relieve the congestion in our prisons, crammed full with debtors. Under this Act nobody is supposed to be imprisoned for debt unless he defaults deliberately.

Something like 20,000 men and women who who would otherwise be in prison are now set free, but in many ways they are little better off than they would be under lock and key.

The new Act allows the Court to place a defendant, who has been given time to pay his fine, under the supervision of somebody appointed by the justices.

In effect, this means that the police may visit a man's employers and enquire about his earnings, and in many other ways embarrass the debtor and his family.

He has, in fact, become a sort of ticket-of-leave man.

"HUMAN nature has not changed much during historic times, though its customs have; and if it is to be radically changed changes will be necessary in that part of the social system which affects inheritance and education for it is by these influences and these alone that human nature can be changed.

"To change human nature is hopeless, at least immediately, hence our only alternative, if we would accept misery, is to change the system; and it is by a change in the social system that every advance in the past has been made.

"The changes from religious intolerance to religious tolerance, from slavery to free labour, from aristocracy to democracy, have all been changes in the social system which have left human nature intact, merely changing its customs."

From "The Politics of Utility," by James Mackaye:

Mrs. Palmer's Corner for Women

CHILDREN - CANNON-FODDER ?

THE expert's mind is a curious and wonderful thing. Undisturbed by what may be happening in the world, he spends long hours dealing in the things from which the human element is absent. He also deals with statistics. With these he can, on occasion, do wonders.

Sometimes he rushes out to tell us what he has discovered. He fails to notice that in the light of day his facts bear a different aspect.

He thinks no other branch of knowledge so important as his own.

Nothing else can account for the sweeping assertions he will make about men and women.

Professor Sir Leonard Hill, F.R.S., wrote in the *Evening News* recently, "My Warning to England." He has been studying population figures, and says that if our birth-rate continues to decline as at present, the population of England and Wales will be reduced to twenty million by the year 2036.

This he would consider an unmitigated disaster to the Empire.

There is no need to quarrel with the conclusion he has drawn from his experiments on his account of the rise and fall of population in other parts of the world.

But Professor Hill has preconceived notions concerning economics and morality.

He says: "White men (other than the

Russians) for the sake of individual comfort and a good time, are choosing to check their breeding."

Note what he implies:

(1) *There is something wrong in wanting comfort and a good time.*

(2) *That in the nature of things you can't have a good time and children, too.*

(3) *That the chief reason for having children is to keep up the population of the country.*

All of which is false.

When a woman first thinks about having a baby she wonders what sort of life her child is likely to have. Will he be strong? Will he be happy?

The fact that she is helping to keep up the population is not likely to occur to her.

ONCE heard a man tell a gathering of women that he was ready to send his only son out to the colonies because his dearest wish was that his boy should live to serve the Empire.

They received his remark with silent contempt. They simply didn't believe him.

Women know that systems are made for men, not men for systems. They want to know that their sons are likely to have a fair chance of liberty and happiness.

Can they be sure of this today?

Less now than ever. The best education the country can afford does not ensure against unemployment. The most carefully invested money has a habit of dwindling.

There are few middle-class parents who can afford a large family with tuberculin tested milk at eightpence a pint, and English butter, eggs and fruit priced as luxuries.

To add to her anxieties the middle class mother cannot open a paper without reading of the importance of correct feeding and hygiene to the health of the family. A well-balanced diet is never cheap.

A friend of mine allows fifteen shillings a head per week to provide a first-class liberal

diet for her growing youngsters. This includes the eightpenny milk. She does not consider any other safe.

Even fresh air is expensive. Can anyone find a decent house in a healthy suburb at less than 30 shillings a week?

Now it is the middle class that Sir Leonard Hill blames for the falling birth-rate.

He does not state what he considers a middle class income, but Sir Robert Kindersley, director of the Bank of England, would tell him that only four per cent. of the

Note the Date—January 22

Special Meeting of the National Dividend Club
CALL TO ACTION
FOR WOMEN

population enjoy eight pounds a week, or over.

Where, then, is the money to come from? So out of touch with reality is Professor Hill that he does not even refer to this aspect of the problem.

INSTEAD of troubling about what may happen in a hundred years' time, the Professor might devote a little thought to the following problems:

(1) *Is there any relation between the falling birth-rate and the general feeling of insecurity that prevails in this country today?*

(2) *Do women think of their children as potential cannon-fodder?*

(3) *Why is tuberculin tested milk eightpence a pint?*

Let Professor Hill set to work to make England a land fit for babies to live in if he wants the stork to get busy again.

HE MIGHT BEGIN BY ADVOCATING A NATIONAL DIVIDEND FOR EVERY ONE BORN IN 1937!

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HOPE FOR FARMERS

SPEAKING in the House of Commons in the debate on the meat tariffs, Major R. H. Dorman-Smith, M.P., President of the National Farmers' Union, said that he did not think that the method of taxes and restrictions was the right and final way of helping agriculture.

He would much prefer to see our people provided with more money to spend so that they could give a fair and reasonable return to those who produced goods in this country. The time would come when the Government would be forced to consider how purchasing power could be expanded.

Major Dorman-Smith has spoken out in the true interests of every farmer in the country. His need is for such unified support as will enable him to press on for RESULTS.

Anyone who is connected with the farming industry and who will give this help to his own representative is asked to write to C. Howard Jones, Jude, Kingsley, Bordon, Hants.

ABDICATION RETROSPECT

Wheels within wheels of political intrigue behind the Royal drama discerned, examined, assessed . . . the main issue remains clear.

IN his New Year Message to his people His Majesty King George VI. said: "I follow . . . a brother whose brilliant qualities gave promise of another historic reign."

It is suggested from all authoritarian centres that silence is the most fitting comment at the present time upon our untimely loss of those brilliant qualities.

We shall not keep silence.

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The drama of those first ten days of Black December was of a tense and exhausting quality. Even the spectators felt bruised in body and spirit.

For, as the Bishop of Ripon, Dr. G. C. L. Lunt, has said: "It has been true of our late King and of his people that 'our wrestling was not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.'"

The feeling of the "man in the street" is that there was a lot more in the whole business than meets the eye, and more citizens are beginning to echo a sentiment that has been expressed thus:

"In the past there have been many rebel subjects, but never before a rebel King. What will future generations make of our treatment of him? I believe they will say we were history's worst fools."

DIVIDE AND RULE

A large body of sincere opinion was shocked at the idea of their King marrying a lady who had figured in two divorces. The fact that this does not, in a country where divorce is legal, give them the right to demand that the King shall choose between abdication and renunciation of a kind of marriage which is open to any of his subjects, is not the point. Nor is it the point that a large body of sincere opinion was impatient of what it considered cant, and was in favour of not interfering with the King's private life, and a further body of sincere opinion would have welcomed the informality and unconventionality of the King's choice of wife and Queen.

The point is that here is a cleavage of opinion—and that is meat and drink to those exploiters of the public whose motto is "Divide and Rule." Here was the issue upon which, by working quickly, and giving no time for scattered forces to combine, a King could be hurried off a Throne with the maximum of bewilderment and the minimum of serious opposition.

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As a real reason for precipitating a crisis which could culminate in the abdication of a King of England, and particularly such a popular King, the question of the King's marriage must seem ludicrously inadequate.

This inadequacy will become more striking as we begin to examine some of the possibilities, which must be conjectural since they are not publicly admitted.

Nevertheless, the marriage was at once the occasion used for the attack, and was appropriate to the fundamental nature of the issue which was being fought to a finish.

It seems certain, now, that there were at least two battles in progress—the one an attack by institutionalism on the individual, the other a piece of what Woodrow Wilson called "hot successful commercial rivalry."

No clash on such a scale, in the world of real politics, takes place in a vacuum. There are threads and cross-threads . . .

THE SOUTH WALES TOUR

Vivid in the minds of the public when the storm broke was the King's vigorous criticism of the plight of South Wales.

The fact that the so-called constitutional crisis was precipitated immediately after this incident was noted in the Special Crisis Edition of SOCIAL CREDIT of December 5.

No conclusion was drawn from it. Very naturally it was seized upon by large numbers as being the real reason for the crisis.

It is important therefore to get this matter in its proper perspective; and it will be found on examination that neither in SOCIAL

CREDIT editorials, nor in the articles by Major C. H. Douglas published during the crisis, was there any reference to South Wales other than the one instance referred to above.

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The leading article in SOCIAL CREDIT for November 27, entitled "Something Must Be Done," contained these remarks:

... there is a danger that the ballyhoo surrounding the KING'S visit to the South Wales shambles may exploit the healthy sentiment for a very human Monarch, and raise false hopes in the hearts of despairing millions for measures which he is constitutionally powerless to initiate . . . He has power of advice in matters of government, but no power of action. No new action can ever be initiated by him.

It is to be hoped that, moved by the suffering of the unhappiest of his subjects, he will not walk into what has every appearance of a well-laid trap . . .

Perhaps it was a trap for others besides the King.

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There is no constitutional procedure by which the King of England can present a Bill to Parliament.

By the Editor

Apart from his ability to give advice to his Ministers, which advice they are not bound to take, the King has only one effective power of action.

He can refuse to give the Royal Assent to a Bill—a prerogative which has not been exercised since 1707, but which none the less exists.

SOCIAL DYNAMICS

It is worth considering what are the circumstances in which a King could exercise this power—which is not a power of veto, but the power to refer a decision of Parliament back to the people.

It could not be exercised in respect of a Bill which was likely to receive the approval of the people. That would merely return the Government in greater strength following a General Election. It would weaken the prestige of the Throne, and make the King unpopular.

Only in special circumstances could assent be refused to a Bill about which the public was indifferent, or about which there was great controversy.

Those circumstances would be the existence of some very powerful interest, or interests, on whom the King could rely for support.

This would presuppose the existence of other powerful interests supporting the Cabinet.

The people would not come into this in a realistic sense. Both the King and the Cabinet would be tools in the hands of rival gangs able to command the publicity required for election purposes.

Such circumstances are rather obviously the negation of democracy, but there are strong grounds for suspecting that they exist, and that they supply a background for the drama we have lately witnessed.

The King could with complete assurance refuse his assent to a Bill which was obviously contrary to the will of the people. For the Government would be defeated and the King's influence and prestige would be most firmly established.

Universal Conscriptio comes immediately to mind, at this time, as an example of the sort of thing the Cabinet wants to impose on the people, and which the King could safely oppose, if presented in such a form.

BLUNDER OR PLANT?

It is unlikely that the Cabinet would really challenge the King upon the grounds of his "interference" in South Wales.

He had no power to initiate reform.

Many other influential people were saying the same sort of thing about poverty and malnutrition.

He had already said his say.

It would be an extraordinarily inept blunder to launch an attack so soon after the event, unless they wanted to focus upon it all the public attention that was not glued to Mrs. Simpson.

Is it possible that the King's visit to South Wales was deliberately engineered in order to provide a fragrant red herring?

It is entirely possible.

Anyone knowing the strong views held by Edward VIII. on the needless suffering of the people in the Distressed Areas could suggest a tour in South Wales.

The King would naturally assent vigorously, and push hard behind the officials charged with organising the tour.

He could be confidently expected to depart from the official schedule, make "indiscreet" contacts, and generally let off steam in public and furnish the popular newspapers with first-class news, and the big industrialists with a grievance.

He would in fact give *The Times* an opportunity to rebuke him ponderously and obliquely.

The leading article in *The Times* of November 24 was a veiled attack on the King. The time has not yet arrived for the open hostilities of December 8 and 9.

The method used was to criticise another newspaper which had applauded the King's outburst. The alleged importance of the Throne as an institution and the relative

unimportance of the individual occupying it—the real issue—were stressed in its leaders both of November 24 and 25.

The evidence available is entirely compatible with the possibility that the South Wales incident was a plant.

On the other hand the King's behaviour in South Wales may well be regarded as another item in his well-known dossier of outrages on officialism.

It may be added to his habit of inspecting troops without warning; of badgering Whitehall bosses to hurry up with those State documents; of paying unofficial visits to foreign capitals without by your leave from Anthony Eden; and all the other tricks which endeared him to the public and gave the wicked to blaspheme.

Just an item on the bill.

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It is unquestionable that these traits were a thorn in the flesh of the Cabinet from the outset.

The young King found himself in receipt of about £50,000 less income than his father, and was forced to reduce staff at Sandringham and elsewhere.

There was no chance for him to buy any popularity.

AS a result of the conditions produced by the European War, the play of forces, usually only visible to expert observers, has become apparent to many who previously regarded none of these things. The very efforts made to conceal the existence of springs of action other than those publicly admitted has riveted the attention of an awakened proletariat as no amount of positive propaganda would have done. C. H. Douglas, "Economic Democracy," 1918.

It is equally certain that the more pompous dignitaries of the Church were affronted at his scant respect for formal religion. One of them even complained that he had a private religion.

The behaviour of our Archbishops left no doubt on this point. Their glee at his departure was indecent. The marked difference between their comments and his own after the event can be most charitably ascribed to a difference of breeding.

All these represent undertones of hostility to King Edward which would account for the implacable diligence with which he was hounded when the time came.

They were scarcely sufficient to account for the crisis itself.

The fear that the King might of his own initiative refuse assent to a Conscriptio Bill is not likely to have had serious weight with the Cabinet.

In the first place there are, at a pinch (!) other ways of securing sufficient recruits; the offer of better pay and better conditions of service for example.

Such distasteful measures, however, would

scarcely be necessary. As will be shown shortly in an article in SOCIAL CREDIT, there are devices by which "modified" conscription can be presented to an alarmed public in a guise which will receive almost universal consent.

Almost. For the voice of the conscript is of little account.

GANG WARFARE

There is a mass of evidence, too voluminous to be noted here, but noted in part in SOCIAL CREDIT recently, to connect this affair with the commercial and financial gang warfare between the house of Morgan and the house of Rothschild.

The contest has left its marks on the history of Britain most severely in the past twenty years.

The funding of our debt to America (largely owned by the Morgan interests), engineered by Montagu Norman and Stanley Baldwin, was one up to Morgans and one down to Rothschilds.

Britain's sufferings in consequence of this manoeuvre were incidental to it.

Our departure from the Gold Standard (in the absence of Montagu Norman) restored the balance somewhat—and O. M. W. Sprague, virtually Morgan's nominee at the Bank of England, had to withdraw.

In the unsettled state of Europe, Rothschilds have been at a disadvantage against Morgans with all the wealth and credit of America to play with.

They did have one advantage in England, however. The association of the house of Rothschild and the house of Windsor dates from the reign of Edward VII. at least.

Before the war the financial group at court were all Eastern in their interests. The names of Rothschild, Cassel, Baring, Sassoon, Montefiore spring to mind.

The first member of the Royal Family to associate frequently with the Morgans was the then Duke of York.

He was staying with Morgan during the month before the curious abortive but sinister incident when a loaded pistol was thrown at King Edward's feet.

The friendship between Morgan and the Archbishop of Canterbury is well known.

The line-up of Baldwin, the Archbishop, *The Times* (whose fulsome article on "The House of Morgan" has been noted), the B.B.C. (Norman controlled), against Edward and for the present King, is complete—and truly Morganatic!

And the departure of the Duke of Windsor to the Rothschild Castle, when every house in Europe must have been ready to welcome him rounds the story off neatly.

There must have been some reason for that particular retreat to outweigh its very bad publicity value.

It is enough to conjecture that Morgan is rejoicing and Rothschild licking his wounds, and that we may very soon expect to see a new funding of the American debt, probably, as forecast last week, with the revenues of a nationalised or rationalised coal industry as security.

Possibly even we are nearer than before to a return to the Gold Standard.

THE CLEAR ISSUE

While these conjectures may be very near the truth, they represent only the material and rather sordid influences which were ready to take advantage of any difficulty in which King Edward became embroiled.

The fact remains that he took his stand upon his rights as an individual against the institution which would constrain him—and that he weighed the Throne against those rights on the one hand, and the possible disturbance of his people on the other, and found it wanting.

So he abdicated. May good fortune attend him wherever he goes, for he has shown the world that what matters is life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

In his passage he has laid bare, for us all to see and learn, the completeness of the Cabinet dictatorship under which we now exist.

A Cabinet which can dispose of the King of England in ten days, his case unheard by the people, without protest from Parliament, can do anything with us for just so long as we allow it to do so.

SOCIAL CREDIT

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Vol. 5. No. 22. Friday, January 8, 1937

A Cock-eyed World

PETROLEUM magnate Sir Henri Deterding has given £1,000,000 to Germany to finance the purchase of Dutch agricultural produce.

He hopes this will enable German people to buy up all the surplus agricultural products in Holland. His object was to help Germany solve food problems as best protection against Bolshevism.

It certainly won't solve Holland's agricultural problem, as there is nothing like a brisk demand to speed up supply—and Sir Henri is not made of money.

He wants people in Holland to support him—by sending money to Germany so they can buy Dutch food.

Now it is up to Lord Nuffield to send a couple of million to Holland so that the Dutch can buy our cotton, coal, steel and other surplus products.

The idea that our own people might like some cash to buy some of our own goods, and that our own producers would benefit just goes by.

By the way, Sir Henri believes "that not gold, but labour and its products, should provide the means of international barter." Human labour is a source of energy. If Sir Henri would substitute "energy" for labour he would both be more scientific, and also give petrol a chance.

It is ludicrous that half-baked theorists should be able to impose their idiotic ideas on other people just because they have money to burn.

Tolerance

THE unanimity of Social Crediters throughout the world on the issue which was decided on Black Thursday, December 10, has been remarkable.

Every Social Credit paper at home and abroad was for the King against the Bankers' Cabinet.

Less than twenty letters disagreeing with our attitude have been received, hundreds have written to support us.

This has been in spite of the quite genuine objections felt by many to the institution of divorce.

To all those who are represented by the minority of adverse letters we commend this letter which was printed in the *Daily Mirror*, December 8:

I believe that the King, in his desire to marry Mrs. Simpson, is making a mistake.

I am an old man—getting on for seventy now—and to my mind a woman who has divorced two husbands is an unsuitable person for the throne of the British Empire.

But I ask myself—are not my views applicable to the situation only as it stands now? This marriage is not for the moment, and in ten years' time who can say what point the changing standards of morals will have reached? Things are happening today that would have shocked me deeply had they occurred ten years ago.

The average age of the Cabinet is nearly sixty. Their views are approximately mine. They dare to condemn. I only regret.

Purse-Proud

MR. L. P. LORD, newly-appointed manager of the Nuffield Distressed Areas £2,000,000 Fund, has been talking big about his new job. For instance:

"Some people have the idea that it is to be given away. It is absurd. It is to be invested in industry in the distressed areas—to start it up again."

"One of the fund's biggest troubles is likely to be social cranks who are full of ideas as to how the money should be spent."

"We have an office now and a staff—and last, but not least, a wastepaper basket. This may quickly be filled."

Another of his *bons mots*, indicative of his self-esteem, is that before he got the job he had already visited the distressed areas and "just trotted round as an ordinary private individual."

Now he has a waste-paper basket for the ideas of ordinary private individuals who are more concerned for human suffering than for bumptious asses.

I'm flat broke you're flat broke we're all flat broke. We're just a vast army of mugs, a mighty army of peoples who cannot pay their bills . . .

Says WILLIAM N. CONNOR
who calls our monetary laws—

Economic Hara-Kiri

IT is a depressing and unpleasant fact that 65 per cent. of this nation's wealth is owned by two per cent of the population. That means that it's a battleship to a bent pin that you're a mug.

And as for me it's as sure as God made little apples that I'm another. We're all mugs.

We're just a vast army of mugs—countless as grains of sand upon the sea shore; a mighty throng of peoples who cannot pay their bills.

The simple fact that we spend more than we earn has terrifying and bewildering repercussions.

It changes our whole lives. It works stealthily on our shifty minds. Because of it the Gas Light and Coke Company, to whom all men are indebted, eats its smelly way into the sacred privacy of our subconscious. Myriad gas-men ride softly in upon our secret dreams—a great host carrying wrenches wherewith to cut off the vapourings of distant gasometers.

Our boots leak and we cannot get them mended.

We shave with old razor blades and the fur grows long and dank upon our chins.

Our children ask for fourpence to see Donald Duck and we thrust our hands deeper into our pockets and bow our heads in silent shame.

Hungry relatives yearn for bread and we give them a stone.

We drink, but our hands grope in vain for the extra shilling that will make us drunk.

Our clothes bulge and hang awry upon our bilking frames and we walk delicately so that none shall see the holes that are in our socks.

We peer furtively around corners to guard against unexpected creditors.

I'm flat broke.

You're flat broke.

We're all flat broke and, if there be one hiding among us with fourpence net as he stands, then out with him I say! By the whiskers of the Official Receiver he is the Enemy!—a possible creditor!—one that must be outwitted, outmanoeuvred, bamboozled, swindled, cheated, lied to, flattered, fawned upon and subjected to every form of devilment that the debtor's feverish brain can invent.

The whole structure of Society is aimed against the debtor, and as the vast proportion of Society can't pay its whack, then our laws relating to monies become a sort of economic hara-kiri.

The dice are loaded against us, but thank God we don't fulfil our obligations. In spite of it all we face the future quietly and with rare resolution.

Our letter boxes are crammed with bills, no electric light casts its genial glow, the telephone stands silent and dead, bailiffs know us by our Christian names, and we ride often and far in Black Marias, but we stand four-square to a clamouring world, and since no one owes us money, we whisper generously, "Forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors."

Now, to business.

First and foremost, at the apex of all creditors, are bank managers.

A towering Everest of money-jinglers who probe the dirty secrets of our bankrupt souls.

Above all stands The Rt. Hon. Montagu Collet Norman, P.C., D.S.O., Governor of the Bank of England. Look at this picture of him for a moment—there upon his face is

the faint breath of a smile. The Prince of Gold is pleased. No one has ever yet cut his gas off. No one has written him saying:

"Dear Sir, Unless"

Landlords don't throw him shivering into the street. Serene and powerful he goes his debtless way—the perfect creditor.

But in the vast sea of money that he sails—Lord High Admiral of the Pound Sterling—are the hidden rocks of Bankruptcy—the swift, swirling currents that sweep the hapless debtor on to the gates of Brixton.

Rt. Hon. Montagu, we with our busted boots, salute you! You belong not to our world but to the realms of glittering riches. You go your way and we will go ours.

You juggle with the wealth of nations.

We diddle around with the baker's bill.

But we are undaunted.

There are ways of cheating Mammon.

There are methods of tricking bailiffs.

There are means of staying on the right side of the frowning walls of Brixton.

Some of these devices will now be described.

Let every debtor attend!

Let every ear be open!

Let us start with that abomination—Income Tax.

This sounds odd to the professional debtor, but there are novices in insolvency, who, in the past, have had money and, of course, have neglected to pay their income tax.

It is a most disturbing thought to a

From Shelf Appeal, the well-known marketing paper

thoroughgoing debtor that this monstrous levy cannot really be avoided. It is depressingly true that at some time or other you've got to pay.

Should any of you be pursuing deeply-laid schemes as to how to evade the net of Somerset House, I beg of you to remember the moral of what happened to the really big income tax evaders.

They sit gloomily making mail bags in deep dungeons.

Their faces are thin and worn. Their hair is grey and deep lines rut their weary faces. They have tried a fall with the Tax Collector and they are still dazed at the fiendish trickery of the man. No! If you want a really quiet spot, go looking for gas leaks with matches—it's quieter and safer than taking on Somerset House.

Now for a lesser menace—the Bank Manager.

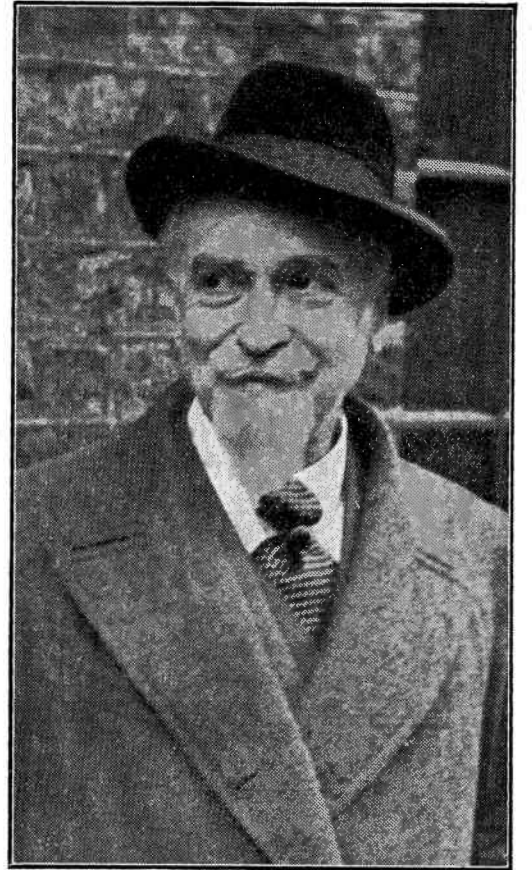
Never be honest with a Bank Manager. Never let him know that you are bust to the wide. Always carry a copy of the *Financial Times* under your arm when you go to see him.

It is imperative that you do not bluster with him—reserve all your rhetoric and abuse for the milkman—a milkman, for some peculiar reason not yet definitely established, can be persuaded by verbal violence to yield up milk, eggs, butter and, on occasions, tinned fruits.

But bawling out the Bank Manager is useless. Let him see that you understand full well that overdrafts are probably one of the most profitable sources of banking revenue. Suggest, with a touch as delicate as that of a fairy's wing-tip, that were it not for big fat overdrafts (yours included), he would not be in the fine position that he is.

Hint to him that he would not live snugly in Dunrovin (semi. det., 4 bed, 2 sit., elect., c.h.w., 2 mins. trams), were it not for the lucky fact that there were one or two fellows

ACE CREDITOR



The Prince of Gold is pleased — Like Duggie HE never owes

such as yourself who were temporarily hard up for funds.

Never address a Bank Manager as "Mr." Always call him by his surname. If, by any strange accident, you do get hold of a little money (no, true debtor ever considers this possible), put it in the bank and then whip it out again immediately. Surprisingly enough this creates a good impression.

The banks call it "a quick turnover on a lively account." Banks like this. They say it shows fluidity. Every bank manager likes enormous numbers of petti-fogging transactions in the shortest possible space of time.

It means more work for the staff, and provided it's maintained, it will ultimately mean a bigger staff. This tickles the head man no end, for it means that the branch becomes bigger and more important. Some of the biggest bank branches in the country are supported by a swarm of professional debtors, who make innumerable cheques out for sums no larger than fourpence a time.

Thus we render a notable social service.

Then we have the Gas Company.

Now the Gas Company is a surprisingly benevolent organisation.

Although I have never met the Principal Gas Man—the power behind the gas works, it is obvious that he is as genial and kindly a fellow as "De Lawd" in "The Green Pastures."

The boys down at the Gas House will give you every chance to come clean.

What a contrast in comparison with the surly curs who profiteer on the electricity supply.

No money—no light! And that's that.

But even the Gas Company, after a time, loses patience. And then the debtor must work swiftly with slimy cunning and deadly guile.

Let him first write to the Head Office and make enquiries about being put on the industrial tariff. Follow this by a sharp request to the local office for them to give details of constant hot water systems.

You are now at a crafty game—playing for time.

They will not cut you off while apparent new business is being contracted.

Regardless of any reply they make, write a furious letter to the Head Office demanding a reply to your previous letter. Carefully put this in an envelope addressed to the local office.

This gets 'em dazed.

Now complain to branch office ten miles away that you suspect a gas leak. The whole thing is easy. It has infinite possibilities. They don't know where they are.

They feel that they are doing you a wrong. You don't know where you are either, but that doesn't matter—the gas won't be

Continued on Page 5

ONLY REVOLUTION, NOW, CAN SAVE US FROM THE NIGHTMARE OF WAR

400 Strike For Safety In London "Suicide Way"

FOUR hundred parents living in the Westway district of Shepherd's Bush have decided to keep their children from school as a protest against the failure of their attempt to secure a 30 miles-an-hour speed limit along Westway.

Three children have been killed on this stretch of road in a year, and 20 have been injured in the last month. Parents call the road "Suicide Way."

This resolution was passed:

"The residents in the Westway area resolve that their children will not attend school, where this necessitates crossing Westway, until the speed limit is imposed."

There have also been pictures in the evening papers of school children lined up across the road to compel motorists to slow down.

The people want better, safer roads. That is clear.

The particular methods adopted by the aroused citizens of Shepherd's Bush are not very effective. And they should not demand a method—the imposition of a speed limit.

They should demand safety on the roads. At least, however, they are waking up to the idea that roads are for their convenience, Town Councils and Parliament are for their service.

A stumble in the right direction.

Village Demands Better Bus Service

A PRIVATE bus service between Datchet and Slough (Bucks.) once served the residents well. London Transport came, bought out the private service.

Now, say Datchet residents, eight or nine people are left behind every time the bus leaves for Slough.

Datchet Council have written to the Ministry of Transport asking them to deprive the L.P.T.B. of their monopoly.

In a letter to the Ministry the council say: "No complaints were necessary in the days of private enterprise, and we therefore ask if the L.P.T.B. can be deprived of its monopoly on this route, and a private service substituted, for the convenience of those for whom buses should be run—the public."

The L.P.T.B. state that representations on the subject have reached them from a local Datchet committee, and are still being considered.

If the people of Datchet and Slough are not satisfied with the transport service they can get a better service by continually pressing for it, unitedly.

P.R.S.

IS ON PAGE 8

ECONOMIC HARA-KIRI (Continued from previous page)

cut off for many a long day, until this gorgeous pandemonium and delirious confusion is cleared up. You see the thing has possibilities . . . Expert debtors have been doing it for years. To ordinary, dull solvent clods, a gasometer is a thing of terror. But to the cunning impecunious, it is a friendly structure and an almost inexhaustible source of free heat, light and power. Long live the gas workers—and the jovial band of great-hearted fellows who never let London down.

There's a moral in this—remember that it's never too late to owe a bit more.

And now for a few final words on the department of those who are bust to the wide.

The Way Is Open For United Action By The People

By G. W. L. DAY

GERMANY cries vengeance at Spain over a seized Nazi cargo steamer. **Spain** cries vengeance at Germany over German reprisals. **Germany and Spain will blow up, any minute. Another war will begin.**

Britain watches uneasily. More than once last year we shivered on the edge of the precipice. Can we get through another year without toppling over it?

Meanwhile British professional politicians prate in this manner:

"War can be averted if the Powers in the League of Nations are prepared to go to the extent of military action in the cause of peace."

Winston Churchill, Mr. Attlee, Mr. Lloyd George, Sir Archibald Sinclair and others sign a manifesto:

"War can be averted and a stable peace permanently maintained if the nations which are members of the League will now make plain their determination to fulfil their obligations under the Covenant and to take any measures required for the prevention or repression of aggression, including, if necessary, military action."

"Only so will the peaceful settlement of international disputes become possible."

ONLY REVOLUTION, A BLOODLESS REVOLUTION, CAN SAVE US FROM WAR. THE REVOLUTION THAT WILL DETHRONE THE POWER OF FINANCE THAT CAUSES WAR BY CAUSING HUNGER, THROUGH LIMITATION OF SUPPLY OF THE WORLD'S PLENTY.

That is why Hitler cries vengeance at Spain. Germany is hungry.

Economic War

Limitation of supply is the principle on which the economics of every country is built.

There is only so much food, clothing, fuel and so on available, therefore if Jones has more of it, Smith and Brown must have less of it. You can win a safe and settled income only at the expense of somebody else.

In the same way, a nation can go forward towards prosperity only by thrusting another nation back.

So already we are at war, and the difference between economic pressure and machine-gun bullets is really only technical.

The one method of warfare ends in the other. Military warfare is merely an intensification of the commercial struggle, and so long as statesmen go on believing that their job is to "cure" unemployment by capturing foreign markets, we shall always have this same sinister force shoving us on towards the edge of the abyss.

Nor is it the slightest use sermonising people about the evils of war, or making sentimental appeals to various nations to give up their commercial conquests so as to ease the strain.

They will give nothing up except under compulsion and at the same time the strains will increase automatically, since production is expanding through the use of machinery while the available supply of undeveloped markets is all the time contracting.

Abolish Hoarding

Although we pretend to set store by sermons and sentimental appeals, what

Give up skulking. Come out into the open. Look your fellow men straight in the face and remember, they, like you, wallow in debt.

Let your manner, when meeting your fellow creatures, be always winsome and pleasant. Extend the hand of friendship to all men. Could advice be more excellent? Could advice be more moral?

This warm geniality that I recommend will bring you new friends, new funds, new and tolerant creditors.

Bailiffs will be forgotten. Creditors a mere figment of the brain.

nations really rely upon is the use of force. Where wealth is strictly limited, those who have less will attack those who have more.

Major Douglas compares our present artificial situation with that of a party of men crossing the Sahara Desert with a limited supply of water for the journey. Evidently it is both sensible and necessary to ration the water, and force may be needed to prevent injustice.

But if the same party of men is crossing Lake Superior, the rationing of water would obviously be absurd. There would be no incentive for the various members of the party to fight for a bigger share out of the communal keg, since the keg could be refilled from the lake as often as necessary.

The only point which remains to be settled is whether we are in the position of the Sahara or the Lake Superior party.

Scarcity to Plenty

One of the propositions on which Social Credit is based is that we have passed from an age of scarcity to an age of abundance; from an age of production by hand labour to one of production by solar energy. (Machines are driven by energy from the sun stored in coal, oil and so on.)

Restriction schemes, sabotage of national wealth, world unemployment are all symptoms of the arrival of Plenty.

In the United States, where they specialise in research, serious attempts have been made to calculate America's possible production with her present capital plant. The figures for even these are positively startling, and there is no reason why capital plant shouldn't be greatly increased.

Everyone knows how production was speeded up during the war. This was because the primary aim was more food, munitions, aeroplanes and so on.

In peace-time the primary aim is financial profit based on artificial scarcity—or it is more work for everyone, or bigger exports—all of which means which have been elevated into ends.

Power of Finance

The way to abolish war, then, is not to abolish nations and set up a super-state governed by the Bank of International Settlements, but something which is almost the reverse of this.

Scarcity, economic insecurity, cut-throat commercial competition between nations—all these arise from the unnecessary struggle to get "a living" when all that goes to make good living is artificially being kept in short supply. Upon this artificial shortage rests the power of Finance, which at one and the same time creates a war situation and cunningly offers to remedy it by Finance-controlled Internationalism.

The true remedy lies in abolishing the artificial shortage.

This can be done by distributing the wealth of nations among their peoples, who should demand the National Dividend which is being withheld from them. If this were done, the populations of the world would be able to buy the products of their own industrial systems and the terrific unnatural strains which now exist would at once be eased.

We Must Use Force

Individual people would have at any rate enough to live on, no matter what happened,

ASK — AND IT SHALL BE GIVEN YOU

There is obvious and acute poverty. Most people have less than they want. There is a general feeling of fear and insecurity. Individuals fear the loss of their jobs, which means the loss of their incomes. Businesses fear the loss or shrinkage of their markets, which means the loss or shrinkage of their incomes. Nations fear one another. The whole world fears war.

The shops are full of goods which the shopkeepers want to sell to the public who want them but cannot afford them.

The factories are full of goods which the manufacturers want to sell to the shopkeepers. The transport undertakings, and all who provide service want to sell service.

Each nation has so much goods and services that it strives to export the "surplus" to foreign markets.

There are not enough buyers to provide the markets that nations, businesses or individuals need in order to get rid of their goods and services.

Goods and services can be produced in abundance—the very things EVERYONE WANTS. There is such plenty for all that NO ONE NEED GO SHORT. Thus poverty today is a crime which need not be.

The FIRST thing to be done, therefore, is for the people to DEMAND, CLEARLY AND UNITEDLY, access to all the available goods and services they want; in other words, to demand monetary or other effective claims which will enable those who want them to enjoy the goods and services that are now being wasted or restricted.

These goods and services that are now being wasted, or restricted in production, are unused national wealth which the people of the nation would like to have distributed to them.

Everyone hates waste, especially when there is unnecessary poverty because of it. THE DISTRIBUTION OR DIVIDING UP OF THIS UNUSED NATIONAL WEALTH is what everyone wants—and no one need be the poorer for it; all would benefit by it.

It is fatal to argue about causes, remedies, parties, persons, or methods, because universal agreement is impossible on these matters. It is imperative to DEMAND, clearly and unitedly, THE RESULT THAT THE PEOPLE WANT—described above—on which THERE IS UNIVERSAL AGREEMENT.

Union is strength; when all the people are united in demanding the same thing—and that thing is possible—their strength will be irresistible, and THEY WILL GET WHAT THEY WANT.

The demand must be made in such a way (see elector's demand on back page) that prices and taxes are not allowed to increase. No one need lose in this age of plenty.

It is up to the people themselves to realise these obvious things, to put aside the futility of party politics, and to demand that the persons who are paid to represent them in Parliament shall urgently instruct (not beg) the Government to carry out the WILL OF THE PEOPLE.

This is the simple means of securing an answer to the Great Universal Problem of Poverty in the Midst of Plenty, which is the Root Cause of War. The time for action before the next great war is short; the matter is desperately urgent.

It is up to you. You have some faith in yourself and in your fellows. Even if it is only as a grain of mustard seed, when all are united it will move the mountain of plenty to the door of all who want to enjoy it.*

*Available as a leaflet. See Miscellaneous Notices on page 6.

(Continued from previous column)

and at the same time manufacturers would have a constant, steady market for their goods.

There would no longer be strong forces impelling governments towards war, because populations would be prosperous and contented and there would be no need to continue the fight for foreign markets.

Only one thing stands in the way of this happy solution and that is the power and prejudice of the most powerful vested interest the world has ever known. It is unfair to suggest that bankers wish for wars. They dislike them, but unfortunately they dislike still more the prospect of losing their power by any radical change in the financial system.

Force must be used to compel them, and only one force is great enough for the task. This is the united will of the people, clearly expressed. The way lies open yet for a bloodless revolution—the greatest revolution in history.

★ When A New Parliament Meets

LET us imagine a new Parliament has met; the first few days, in which the memory of the election is still strong upon members, are not yet expired.

The earliest opportunity for action occurs in the debate on the Address. After the Speech from the Throne has been delivered, the House of Commons debates for a few days upon the reply to that Address.

And any dissatisfaction at the action or inaction of the Government, as expressed in the King's Speech, must take the form of an amendment regretting that such and such a policy has not been mentioned in that Speech, or has been mentioned in it.

Mr. Brown and Mr. Jenks note the absence in the King's Speech of any mention of the Government's intention to cancel the policy of the last Government with regard to the great Land Development Company formed by the Duke of Battersea, with its proposed obnoxious by-laws, special police, and other features odious to the populace.

On this point the elections turned, and, like Chinese labour, the elections turned on it by a spontaneous effort of the populace, in spite of the vigorous, not to say frenzied, efforts of the bosses; among whom must be included

FIFTH INSTALMENT OF THE PARTY SYSTEM, BY HILAIRE BELLOC AND CECIL CHESTERTON, THROWS A FURTHER SPOTLIGHT ON THE WAY IN WHICH THE PARLIAMENTARY RACKETEERS OF THE FRONT BENCH RUN THE HOUSE OF COMMONS. THIS DAMNING INDICTMENT OF THE PARTY SYSTEM WAS WRITTEN 25 YEARS AGO. EVERY WORD SEEMS AS UP TO DATE AS WHEN IT WAS WRITTEN.

of course not only the leaders of the two Front Benches, but the whole vast machine which, by secret funds, innumerable paid agents, local and central, etc., "runs" a General Election.

Well, Mr. Brown and Mr. Jenks put down an amendment on the paper, humbly regretting that His Gracious Majesty (who is by a Constitutional fiction the author of his own speech) has not promised to cancel the Duke of Battersea's little job.

Nothing can prevent these gentlemen putting down the said amendment. So wide are our liberties that unless the phrases chosen contain expressions which the officials of the House (who are part of the machine) consider offensive or intemperate or frivolous, nothing could prevent Mr. Brown and Mr. Jenks from putting that amendment down.

Now, the curious reader will note that nothing prevents any one of the remaining six hundred men from putting down the amendments, or, to speak more accurately, nothing prevents the so-called "Opposition" half from doing so; for it is part of the game that an "Opposition" man putting down an amendment to a Government policy will not spoil his future chance of a salary, contract, baronetcy or what not, on condition that he puts nothing down which has not been allowed by secret understanding between the two Front Benches.

When, therefore, it is heard that Mr. Brown and Mr. Jenks, manfully sacrificing all hope of baronetcies, contracts, or salaries, have put down their highly representative amendment, a dozen or twenty amendments will appear on the paper dealing with as many different subjects, many of which probably were not and could not be in the mind of any of the electorate at the time of the election. Any subject will do so long as it serves to swell the list.

Therefore, even if discussion were not limited, and if the rules of the House allowed discussion to be free, Mr. Brown and Mr. Jenks' amendment might come very late in the list, and some other hare might have been started to entertain the public, so that their action should fall flat.

But these "even ifs" do not apply.

□ □ □

IN the first place there is your "Official Opposition Amendment." You may protest that the Constitution and the very theory of self-government can know nothing of an "Official Opposition"; that the phrase in connection with self-government or representation is ridiculous; but it is the chief reality of the machine and the most notable wheel in the empty grinding of Parliament.

HOW PROMISED LEGISLATION IS SHELVED FOR EVER

The Official Opposition Amendment must be taken first.

It is, of course, upon some subject agreed upon between the bosses, and not within a hundred miles of the popular mandate which Mr. Brown and Mr. Jenks have attempted to express.

What of the other amendments? Are they taken by lot in the order of time in which they were set down? By no means. They are taken in the order in which the Chair decides, and the Chair is of course one with the two Front Benches in such matters.

I mean where the matter is of real and sufficient gravity. For here, as elsewhere throughout this book, it must be protested that among the wheels of the machine that which is least open to criticism, and among the decayed functions of Parliament that which preserves the old and free conditions most, is the Chair.

Subject to the rules and traditions which

men in their quixotic desire to represent their constituents:—

□ □ □

(1) Any Member of Parliament may bring in a Bill; he may do so under what is called the Ten Minutes Rule, or he may do so in a more thorough manner if he happens to have the luck of the ballot.

Members ballot for the right to bring in so many Bills; and each individual member's chance may be ascertained by dividing the number 670 by the number of days which the party bosses allow for this amiable and harmless entertainment.

Sometimes they will allow as much as, say, twenty-five days; then Jenks and Brown may count on having about one chance in twelve between them; but if they only allow a dozen days, then Jenks and Brown have only one chance in twenty-four.

Let not the reader imagine that bringing in a Bill is the simple thing that laymen would take it to be. The Bill may be out of order; it may be supposed to cover the ground of what the Government have already decided to do, or it may contravene any one of those obscure and almost innumerable rules which not half a dozen experts have mastered in the last thirty years.

A Bill brought in under the Minutes Rule is of course an absurdity from the point of view of getting anything done. Bills are thus brought in only to give public notice of the grievance they are to remedy, or the right it is hoped to confer.

But a Bill brought in through the luck of the ballot has the advantage of a whole afternoon's debate.

What then?

Well, after that there is nothing, unless the two Front Benches agree to allow further stages; the bringing in of a Bill simply means an afternoon wasted in academic debate.

A Bill becomes an Act of Parliament only after it has been read a first time, read a second time, debated in its general principles, then sat upon by a Committee, special or general; then in its amended stage read a third time, then passed by the House of Lords and assented to by the Crown.

The two Front Benches, having control of the time of the House of Commons, always see to it that no Bill which does not suit their convenience shall proceed beyond the first formal stage. And none ever does.

When you read in your paper of how the Hon. Charles Lake cleverly piloted the Washerwomen's Bill through Committee, and after years of struggle made it law, "though it was but a private member's Bill," you are reading one of those conventional falsehoods which are used to deceive the public.

There is no such thing as piloting a Bill. What you do, if you have a private Bill to which the bosses cannot object (as we may conceive the Hon. Charles Lake's Bill to have been), is to put pressure by means of lady friends or your newspaper, or in some other way, upon the bosses, so that when they can allow time in a slack moment the whole of the stages shall be gone through. The Bills that pass in this way have never any real significance.

We need hardly say that Jenks' and Brown's Bill to prevent the Government backing up the Duke of Battersea's concession, even if they had the luck of the ballot, would never go to Committee.

But would it be divided upon?

It might or might not be divided upon, according as the two Front Benches chose. It might be decided that the matter was of such importance that a bare afternoon's discussion was not enough for a division to be allowed upon it.

Or again, an amendment might be accepted and debated in its place; at any rate the poor off-chance of bringing in a Bill is useless.

□ □ □

(2) A Member with a similar luck in the ballot may use his day to bring in a motion.

A motion, of course, is of no legal effect whatsoever. It is mere hot air. It has one

advantage of provoking a division, but here again that division will or will not take place, precisely as the Front Benches may decide.*

Upon Brown and Jenks's motion, if they have the luck of the ballot (say one in twelve or one in twenty or one in thirty), and bring it in, no division will be taken: the Front Benches will see to that.

Of course, it need hardly be pointed out that Brown and Jenks bringing in a motion or a Bill to this effect could only be done if it were done with the utmost secrecy.

If the two Front Benches got wind of it, nay, if any but a few of their hundreds of supporters got wind of it, the bosses would arrange with some hack who was waiting for a salary or a title to put down a fictitious motion upon the paper.

Once a man has a motion down, no similar motion can be debated; but, by a rule invented for the purpose of carrying on the machine, a motion may be kept on the paper, although the mover refuses to have it debated.

(Continued at foot of page 7)

*When one of the joint authors of this book brought in his motion for the auditing of the secret Party Funds, the Front Benches put up an amendment which turned the debate into a discussion upon the abstract economic merits of Free Trade, and to this day no one knows the opinion of any member of the House of Commons, as expressed by vote, upon this most corrupt feature of all the corrupt features of Parliamentary life.

Announcements & Meetings

Notices will be accepted in this column from affiliated Groups 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.
Supplies of the pamphlet "Social Credit Restated," a rejoinder to the Rev. Prof. Corkey, and other literature, can be obtained.

Cardiff United Democrats
Meetings each Wednesday at 34, Charles Street, at 8 p.m.

Glasgow Douglas Social Credit Association
A public meeting will be held in the Central Halls, 25, Bath Street, on Tuesday, January 12, at 8 p.m. Speaker: Mr. George Faulds, F.E.I.S. Subject: "Social Credit as a Substitute for War." Chairman: Mr. MacLennan. Admission free. Bring a friend.

Gravesend
Readers in this district willing to form a Social Credit Group please write to Miss L. M. Green, Fort House, Gravesend.

Liverpool Social Credit Association
All enquiries welcomed. Hon. Sec., Miss D. M. Roberts, Fern Lee, Halewood Road, Gateacre, Liverpool.

Lectures and Studies Section. A course of lectures leading to the examination for the Diploma of Associateship of the Section, will begin at 8 p.m. on January 15, 1937, at the University of Liverpool.

Lectures will also be arranged in Wallasey and Birkenhead.

Calendar and Prospectus: 3d. (post free 4d.), may be obtained on application to E. J. Pankhurst, 38, Moor Lane, Liverpool, 23.

National Dividend Club
Special meeting, Friday, January 22. Call to action for women. Speaker, Miss de Castro. Time and place to be announced next week.

Poole and Parkstone Group
Every Tuesday, 7 p.m., The Studio, Hermitage Road, Parkstone. Enquiries welcomed.

Miscellaneous Notices

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"What is it all about—this Social Credit?" The article on page 5 entitled "Ask and It Shall Be Given You" explains briefly yet pithily. It is available as a leaflet at 4d. a dozen (or 2s. for 100; 8s. for 500; 15s. for 1,000) post free from SOCIAL CREDIT, 163A, Strand, London, W.C.2.

Social Credit literature (including all Major Douglas's works), leaflets and pamphlets can be had from the same address. List on application. Please enclose stamps for replies.

Can You Help?—A friend of mine, whose literary capacity is out of all proportion to his bank balance, is prepared to contribute his talent in the cause of Social Credit, but needs a typewriter. If any reader has an old machine to give away, or sell at a "trade price," I shall be very pleased to hear from him.—T. H. STORV, 28, Ashburnham Gardens, Upminster.

Back numbers of SOCIAL CREDIT (recent issues) 50 for 15s. post free, from SOCIAL CREDIT, 163A, Strand, London, W.C.2.

Press Cuttings Bureau, H.M. KING EDWARD VIII. Comments and facts about the attack on the King and details of the King's movements are wanted. Scrutineers: please note NEW address, Mr. T. L. Mawson, Petit Port, St. Brelade's, Jersey.

Wanted, someone to take over a small boarding-house (Commercials, etc.), in a country town. For particulars apply, with references, to Miss Iles, S. Mary's, Playhouse Yard, E.C.1.

Concert in aid of SOCIAL CREDIT FUNDS. On Sunday, January 10, at 6.30 p.m., at The Studio, 76, West End Lane, Hampstead. Haydn Violin Concerto in G (AGNES TOWNSEND), songs with violin obligato (NINA VINESTA), and solos by the promising young violinist, JOSEPH GERRARD. Accompanists MADGE MURPHY, ARTHUR L. JEUNE.

FROTTI, for services rendered to MISTER BALDHEAD the First, is elevated to the PIERAGE

HIS FIRST DAY IN THE HOUSE

FOR services rendered during recent aggression of Mister Baldhead the First to the Thrown, affectionate Editorial Fellow, I have just been eliminated to the Pierage. In consequence I can truthfully say that by my own efforts I have riz to be a member of the Ledger Classes of this fare and sniggering land.

On December 17 I have took my seat under the title of LORD FROTTI OF LOMBARD STREET, and having received the Oaf, as per regulations required, settled down to listen to businessses of the day in a crowded House.

The first eyewash upon the errata was a singularly moving speech by LORD MONKSWELL on the subjects of saving money.

It seems that the noble lord is rightfully distressing, because money which was formerly invested is now distributed as largesse to the working classes, who spend it on spirits and tobacco.

This is truly horrid, Sire, and reminds me of old-time hysterical romancings about ancestor-fellows of LORD MONKSWELL, in which fellow-chappy says, imperious-like, "Varlet, cut me a sangwich," and he flings him "a well-filled purse."

Or, if he has no heavy purses about him, it is a "rich gem" that he flings at him, or even, in exceptional cases (with mustard in the sangwich), a "bag of gold."

This is the sort of thing that LORD MONKSWELL is afraid LORD MOTTISTONE keeps on doing to the Poor.

For LORD MOTTISTONE took up the extraordinary attitude that there was no danger yet! The Poor, he said, were investing £1,347,000,000 this year, up to October, and in 1932 it was only £1,173,000,000, each—I think he said each, or may be it is all collective securities.

There was thus no fear that if we went on raising the standard of living of the poorer classes, we were condemned to a pauper's funeral. If we managed to escape a great war or other calamity, he foresaw a period of ever-increasing prosperity.

It is true, he agreed, that people ought to be encouraged to plan their lives, save a bit for the good of the State, and then spend the rest on a good life and not fritter it away.

He confessed that he personally had never

yet succeeded in making income exceed expenditure, however, and therefore the State must not rely on him. High taxation was the cause rather than frittering away.

Which, Sire, could not apply to the improved Poor, could it, since they are not taxed, much, except indirectly?

It is their bounden duties to eat less and less, give up smoking and save us from a porker's grave.

Other Piers of the Ream then rose up to quote more Figures. LORD TEMPLEMORE quoted four sets, all different, SIR JOSSER STUMP's being easily the slimmest, and concluded that on paper we were absolutely rolling in prosperiousness. LORD ARNOLD very properly here appealed for more paper and figures, urging the need to get up a Committee to get up some statics on the subject.

VISCOUNT MERSEY, after declaiming that INSURANCE meant PROSPERITY, said that 60 years ago his grandpapa saved half his income, but he himself was only able to save a quarter. His consolation was that it was going to the Exchequer, where he hoped it was doing more good.

LORD FROTTI of Lombard-street then rose amid cheers to make his maiden-aunt speech.

He said that, while he was in favour of everybody saving the whole of their income, nevertheless, he hoped that the Exchequer itself was acting rightly with all the monies it received from LORDS MOTTISTONE, MONKSWELL, TEMPLEMORE and others.

He desired to know if the Exchequer was saving too, and investing this money honestly, and if it would shortly declare a national dividend on it.

At this point, sire, there were howls of "Order!" "Sit down!" "You dirty cad!" "Throw a bottle!" and other expressions of disapprobations.

Regretfully I was compelled to stop my orating and leave my seat. It seems that in some way I have blotted my copy-book, old dear, but I cannot tell how.

Please tell me if I said anything improper? Disconsolately,
FROTTI

More FROTTI next week

When A New Parliament Meets QUESTIONS IN THE HOUSE

Continued from Page 6

The hack, therefore, will put down a motion, covering the point which Brown and Jenks are going to raise, leave it indefinitely on the paper, refuse to have it debated, and so prevent its arising in the House at all.

Thus a Liberal manufacturer may solemnly put down a motion to discuss the sale of peerages; a Jew may put down a motion to discuss the abuse of money-lending; a High Churchman a motion to discuss the practices of the High Church; a Catholic a motion to provide for the inspection of convents, and so forth.

The action is, by the custom of Parliament, taken in the Pickwickian sense.

□ □ □

(3) Brown and Jenks may ask questions.

Such a point has the degradation of Parliament reached that this shred of the old representative power is truly, literally, and without exaggeration, the only active part of that power now remaining.

Small and inept as it would seem among a democratic people and in a free assembly, it is today, in comparison with the rest that goes on in Parliament, of capital importance.

The Chair rules that no Minister is bound to answer a question. How old this ruling may be is not the point; it would in theory

seem to limit the value of questioning so strictly as almost to destroy it.

As a matter of fact, however, some sort of answer is usually attempted.

Nineteen-twentieths of the questions asked concern administrative points to which the answer is not a Minister's, but that of a permanent official for whom the Minister speaks in the House.†

Three whole quarters of an hour a day are allotted to questions, and a supplementary question may be asked, arising out of the original one.

But though questions are thus valuable as advertisement, they are quite useless as a means of action.

With these methods—bills, motions, and questions—the power of Brown and Jenks is exhausted. We have seen that as methods of action all three are useless.

In other words, no representative action on the chief matter of a general election, if that matter has proceeded from the electors and does not suit the private interests of the professional politicians, can take place; and, so far as the representative power of members is concerned, the House of Commons is dead.

†This is notably the case with Foreign Office questions, as has been conspicuously apparent in the last two Parliaments, where the Foreign Minister had no personal knowledge of foreign affairs, nor of the languages, places, peoples, etc., involved in them.

Here's a New Year Gift suggestion!



A most acceptable New Year present for anyone interested in the Movement—including yourself! is one year's subscription to **THE FIG TREE** (the new quarterly review edited by Major Douglas) at 10s. 6d. post free.

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- 1935 12 h.p. 6-light Saloon, Black, Brown trimming.
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NEW MOVE IN ALBERTA

Cabinet Reported Preparing 100 per cent. Douglas Social Credit Plan with Help of Mr. John Hargrave

WHAT IT MEANS TO SOCIAL CREDITERS

"AT the outset it must again be emphasised that a distinction should be drawn between any particular plan for the utilisation of the public credit when control of it has been acquired and a strategy for acquiring the power to deal with the public credit.

"If this distinction be understood it will be realised that plans for dealing with the public credit are wholly premature while the power to deal with it has not been attained."

(Extract from First Interim Report on the possibilities of the application of Social Credit Plans to the Province of Alberta).

* * *

In *The Times* of January 2 it is stated that "A hundred per cent. Douglas Theory plan," prepared by a number of members of the Alberta Legislature on the advice of Mr. John Hargrave is ready for submission to Mr. Aberhart and the Party Caucus.

The Times has previously made inaccurate statements in regard to Social Credit matters in Alberta, and, although taxed with these inaccuracies, has not corrected them, and it is therefore possible that the statement in question is equally inaccurate.

Taking it at its face value, however, it is one of the importance of which evidently calls for comment.

The Hope of Millions

Let us first emphasise that there is one wish on the part of all of us. May the hopes, not merely of the people of Alberta but of millions of Social Crediters in all quarters of the world, raised as they were by Mr. Aberhart's electoral victory of 1935, be justified at an early date.

Fundamentally, it is a matter of small importance through whose agency a satisfactory outcome is attained. And nothing is

more certain than that victory over International Finance is, of all the tasks in the world, impossible of accomplishment by one man, as, no doubt, Mr. Aberhart himself has now come to realise.

Further, since Mr. Aberhart refused the advice of Major Douglas, and the assistance of a thoroughly qualified substitute, to pilot the action to be based on their advice through its preliminary difficulties, it is completely reasonable both for Mr. Aberhart to take other advice and for anyone who feels that, in these circumstances, they can be useful, to offer it.

The Factor of Responsibility

But we are compelled to point out that Mr. Hargrave has no authority to pledge the credit of the Social Credit Movement, in general, and, most particularly, not that of Major Douglas, to any plan or course of action.

Mr. Hargrave is the head of the self-styled Social Credit Party of Great Britain, which we understand to be the new name for the Green Shirts, a party itself quite insignificant in numbers and directly opposed from its very name to the known policy of the Movement in general.

For the activities and organisation of the small band of Green Shirts, as apart from their policy of self-advertisement, we had the greatest respect. For the Social Credit Party of Great Britain as such, we have none.

It is beyond any possibility of discussion that the difficulties which have arisen in Alberta are directly traceable to a wrong conception of the function of Government and to the fundamental defects of the Party

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Contents of Supplement issued this week: Major Douglas Answers Questions. S.C.S. Publications Department in 1936. Free-Lance Tactics. Special Article by the Editor of SOCIAL CREDIT. Major Douglas on The King and The Money Power.

THIS WEEK!

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(21)

system, as such; and while the overwhelming nature of the electoral victory in Alberta has obscured these defects, it has in no sense removed them, and it is quite obvious that their vital nature is now about to become apparent.

To put forward a Social Credit plan for Alberta without having obtained the necessary control of the credit system of the Province is equivalent to beginning a war by explaining all the unpleasant things you are going to do to your enemy when you have beaten him, and laying before the opposing generals your plans to achieve that desirable end.

The nature of *The Times* despatch makes it clear that that amiable news-sheet is delighted to regard this situation as a test case.

We have no knowledge of the nature of the proposed Plan, and are quite willing to believe that as a measure for a completely

autonomous organisation it may be admirable.

There is in existence a Plan for Alberta, quite probably, because of the experience behind it, superior to anything likely to be produced without that experience. But it would certainly not succeed without certain preliminary successes which, so far from having been achieved, have not yet even been attempted. We wholeheartedly wish Alberta the best of luck.

If the Plan fails, however, it will not be because of the inclusion in it of measures designed to embody what *The Times* refers to as "a hundred per cent. Douglas Theory," but because of the failure of judgment in putting forward such a plan at all in such circumstances. And it will be that judgment which is at fault and not any particular conception of economics.

This matter cannot be too clearly recognised at this stage.

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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 this my policy, and to vote consistently against any party trying to put any other law making before this.
7. If the present Member of Parliament here won't undertake this, I will vote to defeat him and his successors until this, my policy, prevails.

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