



# COMMENTARY

Perhaps you've read these items in your newspapers—  
our comment will give them a new significance

## The Illusion of Freedom

BY 86 votes to 70, the Oxford Union Society has carried the motion "that the freedom of the press under present circumstances is an illusion."  
The occasion was the banning by the Proctors of a new undergraduates' journal called *The Oxford Camera*. Oxford undergraduates might be interested to realise how much freedom a national newspaper would be allowed if it decided to attack some important vested interest.

## Holidays With Pay

A MINISTRY of Labour Committee is enquiring into the question of paid holidays for over 14,000,000 workers, and a majority, supported by the trade union representatives, favours making paid holidays a statutory obligation.  
Apart from the financial difficulties, which could be adjusted quite simply, there is no reason why all of us should not have paid holidays.

## Why Not Cheaper Postage?

THE Post Office made a net profit in 1937 of £10,625,341. Since this was £124,659 less than the £10,750,000 which has been fixed as the contribution from the Fund to the Exchequer, the amount of the deficiency has been paid over by the Fund.

This means that the whole of the profit, plus an additional sum of £124,659 taken from the Post Office Fund, has gone where it will do no good to Post Office users.

Why was it not applied to reducing postage rates?

## Social Debt

THE public debt of Canada is \$8,000,000,000. The people of Canada are paying \$700,000,000 in taxes annually, said Sir Edward Beatty in a speech at Windsor, Ontario, on December 8.

## Thomas Gilfillan

IT is with sorrow that we announce that Thomas Gilfillan, an Officer of the Glasgow Group, has passed on.

His enthusiasm for the cause of real freedom, in spite of severe physical handicap occasioned through the great war, was outstanding, and his presence will be greatly missed by all who came in contact with him.

Our condolences are extended to all his relatives and friends.

## Mexico To Be Self-Sufficient

THE programme initiated by President Lazaro Cardenas to make Mexico economically self-sufficient took a long step forward yesterday, says *The Times* New York correspondent, writing on January 20, with the issue of a Presidential decree according to which Customs duties on imports are doubled—and in some cases trebled.

Duties on classes of goods imported primarily from Germany, which ranks second to the United States as an exporter to Mexico, have been increased far less than on American exports.

It is said that the Mexican Government's attack on foreign industry has led to a stoppage of private credits and to a withdrawal of foreign cash balances from Mexico.

## The Naval Race

JAPAN is laying down three new battle-ships of 46,000 tons, which are 4,000 tons bigger than the world's largest fighting ship, the H.M.S. Hood. She is also building five cruisers of 7,000 tons, eight destroyers of 1,800 tons and six submarines.

To meet this menace, America is building two new battleships of 41,000 tons instead of 35,000 tons as originally intended. Both Great Britain and France will also probably

increase the size of their new ships, and it is expected that Germany and Russia will follow suit.

## Two Ways

M R. HAMILTON FYFE, in a press article, writes:

*Policy is decided, not by this or that politician who happens for the moment to be in this or that office, but by the powers which are behind Parties.*

*Simon, Hoare, Eden, took the same line at the Foreign Office, Chamberlain's step into Baldwin's shoes has made not the slightest difference. Both have to do what will please the monarchs of finance and industry.*

To which may be added, such a state of affairs will continue, whatever political party may achieve office, until the electors themselves make decisions on policy, and vote on their own agenda only instead of on those made by careerist party politicians.

## Doctors Under a Cloud

L ORD HORDER says that the family doctor is obstructed in his work, has lost caste, is discouraged, and feels insecure about his own future and the future of his profession.

Finance is the cause of it. M. Stefan Zweig says that Medicine has been dehumanised and that the family doctor is dying out. At the same time, he says, the man in the street feels the need for him more and more.

## Banks Force U.S.A. Railway Bankruptcy

A NOTHER of America's great railways, the Erie, operating about 2,700 miles of route, has gone bankrupt. Its bankruptcy, says the *Financial Times*, was hastened by the depletion of cash owing to the payment of bank loans. The banks which made the loans and also had Erie Railroad deposits demanded payment of the maturing loans.

## Bank Holidays in South America

A GLANCE at this little booklet, free on request from the Bank of London and South America Ltd., 6, 7, 8, Tokenhouse Yard, London, E.C.2, will reveal to the innocent enquirer just how innocent he is of other parts of the world.

*Folks! We simply do not know how to enjoy ourselves or what we could do with the banks if we were all of one mind. In South America they will have their holidays.*

*Think of the state of Amazonas, Brazil, with twenty-nine bank holidays, or Argentine with twenty-four. The minimum is Paraguay with thirteen, and then compare this freedom with the paltry six days when Monty Norman lets us off the leash.*

*It was always drummed into me that South Americans were an inferior race, but I am beginning to realise that the boot is on the other foot. P.L.*

## What's Wrong

A DISCUSSION between factory girls and domestic workers ended in an uproar at the Domestic Services Exhibition which was held at the Royal Agricultural Hall recently.

When it was said that girls today were "dance mad" both parties to the discussion expressed strong disapproval to this, and one girl in the audience shook her fist at the speaker.

Domestic drudgery would be abolished under a sane economy, while homes would be built more to the requirements of mothers and servants, and labour-saving devices would be within the reach of all. Today there is no virtue in needless household drudgery performed in out-of-date premises.

Given an age of leisure and with all conveniences at hand, it is quite likely that many women (and men) will prefer to do the bulk of their own household tasks in place of requiring so much hired help.

At least people will be in a better position to please themselves, and it will be possible to make domestic service worth while.

While we get the government we deserve, it is also true that we get the servants we deserve. Servants are quite within their rights in demanding decent conditions of service.

New Series  
by Miles Hyatt—2

# THE LAW'S DELAYS

*And one of the lawyers answering saith unto Him, Master, in saying this Thou reproachest us also. And He said, Woe unto you lawyers also! for ye lade men with burdens grievous to be borne, and ye yourselves touch not the burdens with one of your fingers.*

*Woe unto you lawyers! for ye took away the key of knowledge: ye entered not in yourselves, and them that were entering in ye hindered.*

LUKE XI. 45-52.

IN these passages "lawyers" signify not only those who administer the law, but, of course, those who make it—the lawgivers, as we should call them.

Of what are they accused for which they must soon answer? Of two things; the constant infliction of ever-increasing and intolerable burdens on the individuals whom they are supposed to serve; and the suppression of the knowledge that freedom is possible for all—more, the creation of hindrances and legal impediments to those who have found out the truth and are preparing to act upon it.

Governments and the minions who do their will exist today merely to inflict burdens upon people, in accordance with the will of their financial masters; and with these latter you are getting back very close to the real presence of the Evil One.

Lawyers do not share their own burdens, as Christ says. They create work by means of taxation, but that work their fingers never touch.

They let people starve and want for warm houses and clothes, but they themselves live safe and sound in Westminster or Kensington, holiday on the Riviera, and dine whenever they are hungry.

The laws are all designed to protect the financial institutions and to hide the simple fact that money is only an abstraction, a ticket for the enormous wealth of real things that we have learnt how to produce with so little effort on the part of men, and want so much to use.

Sometimes men find out the truth. That was the case in Alberta. The people there determined to enter into their own heritage and the freedom that was theirs by right.

But have they yet done so? No. As they were entering in, the law came forward to hinder them.

Tricks and devices such as vetoes, prosecutions, appeals to the courts, and every lawyer's dodge that could be played is being played even now—and still the people who know the truth are hindered from entering in upon their heritage.

But it was Christ, too, Who said that if we have faith we can move mountains.

Social Credit is the belief that in association individuals can get what they want—and before this faith the jerry-built mountain of cards which the lawyers have constructed against us will fall as did the house which was builded upon sand.

## LECTURES and STUDIES

Courses available at lecture centres or by correspondence. CALENDAR AND PROSPECTUS, 3d., obtainable from Headquarters, or from the Information Supervisor of the nearest Group. All applications to join Correspondence Course to Miss Brill, Social Credit Secretariat Limited, 163A, Strand, W.C.2.

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## PRESS CUTTINGS

### Change of Address

The SOCIAL CREDIT Press Cuttings Bureau will be directed in future by MR. D. A. WATSON, Summerhill Villa, Samares, Jersey, to whom all cuttings should be sent. This cancels the previous temporary arrangement.

# THE FIG TREE

A quarterly review edited by  
Major C. H. DOUGLAS

DECEMBER ISSUE

contains contributions by

The Editor Those Who Are Not For Us  
Miles Hyatt Our Cities of the Plains  
Sir John Boyd Orr Scotland and the New Age of Plenty  
The Earl of Tankerville Learning to Walk  
Elizabeth Edwards The Democratic Field  
Norman Webb The Downfall of Beauty  
Major Douglas on Why Bother About Finance?  
C. Howard Jones Geoffrey Dobbs  
J. Scott Kyle Frewen Moor  
A. Hamilton McIntyre M. C. Bond



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## SOCIAL CREDIT EXPANSION FUND

Administrators: Lord Tankerville, Messrs. A. L. Gibson, Arthur Welford and Geoffrey Dobbs

AS notified in SOCIAL CREDIT, December 17, this special appeal was launched by Major Douglas to promote the further expansion of Social Credit principles.

All monies drawn from this fund, whether for use at home or abroad, will be at the sole discretion of Major Douglas.

Overseas subscribers may specify that up to 50 per cent. of their donations should be expended in aid of Social Credit activities in their own country.

In the present chaotic state of the world the importance of such a fund cannot be overestimated, and our readers are asked to help to the utmost, at the same time not forgetting the normal requirements of Headquarters.

Please make all cheques payable to Social Credit Expansion Fund.

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Mrs. Palmer Asks —

# What Is The Purpose Of Education?

(Comments After The Teachers' Conferences)

IN the first two weeks of January the educational societies hold their conferences, and we naturally look to these occasions to gain some light on the policy of those who have the responsibility of teaching our children.

Just a year ago a front-page article in the *Times Educational Supplement* stated that although 22 centuries had passed since Aristotle had first declared that there was no agreement as to the purpose of education, the perplexities he described had not yet been removed.

The year that has passed seems to have added nothing to the solution, judging from the reports of the conferences given in the *Supplement*. The numbers published on January 9 and 15 are extremely disappointing.

Sir Kingsley Wood delivered the presidential address at the London meetings held in University College. His speech was a mere catalogue of what had been done during his term of office to extend the pension scheme to the black-coated workers, provide medical care for working boys and girls, and to improve housing conditions, etc., etc.

Those of us who read his speeches are familiar with this dreary list of State charities, growing rapidly from year to year.

As Mr. Lansbury once pointed out to him, one of the signs of real prosperity would be a lesser demand for the health services, not a greater.

But this point seems to escape most

teachers, who by their attitude are acquiescing in the plans which are removing responsibility from the individual and vesting it in the State.

## Can They Give Us Clear Guidance?

IN proposing a vote of thanks, Lord Dawson of Penn did not forget to trot out his own pet theory, that the nutrition of a family depends to a large extent on the knowledge of the housewife as to the choice and cooking of food. Education and health must go side by side, etc., etc.

No mention of the fact that the less money you have the more limited the choice, and the more difficult your task.

It is no wonder that after speeches so utterly lacking in inspiration the conference itself was disappointing. If this is all that the teachers have to offer us, it is time that we had something to say about the future of our children.

To get down to brass tacks; we cannot expect clear guidance from people who are constantly putting the cart before the horse. An example of muddled thinking, which, I hope, cannot be taken as widespread among language teachers, was given by Sir Malcolm Robertson.

He said that when every thinking man and woman knew that we were hovering on the

brink of another world catastrophe which might easily spell the end of all that we held sacred on earth, it was more than ever necessary that those who travelled abroad should know something of the language of the country they were visiting.

## Are Dons The Better Democrats?

DOES he not know that a common language did not prevent the Yankees from fighting the Southern States, the Irish from breaking with England, and Franco from raising his standard against his own Government; and that even if the whole world spoke Esperanto, people would still be forced to fight for foreign markets, as Japan is fighting now?

While speaking at a conference at Oxford, Mr. R. D. Say pointed out that in the vast new electorate, those who had received more than the legal minimum education were outnumbered, and the votes of all the dons of Oxford and Cambridge could be offset by those of the females working in one cigarette factory. The responsibilities of democratic citizenship must be driven home to the individual.

Mr. Say believes that because a "female" in a factory is not highly educated, her vote is of less value than that of an Oxford don.

In other words, it is her duty to become an expert, so that she may tell the Government how to do its work.

Yet all the study in the world has not taught Mr. Say the meaning of democracy, or he would know that it is impossible for the electorate to decide on methods of achieving a policy.

All it can do is to indicate a result—choose between a high or low standard of living, for instance. Of this a "female" in a factory is quite as capable as an Oxford don.

## Teachers Will Find Solution Here

I HAVE taken these examples at random. They are not isolated. They merely go to show how chaotic are the minds of those who have charge of the education of this country.

I repeat what I said last year, that no real progress will be made until it is decided what is to be the purpose of education.

Perhaps it will help to state what it is not.

It is not intellectual discipline for its own sake, nor technical training for economic reasons.

It is not training for citizenship, nor even the formation of character.

Teachers will find the solution of the problem which has baffled them for 22 centuries in these magnificent words:—

"That the end of man, while unknown, is something towards which most rapid progress is made by the free expansion of individuality, and that, therefore, economic organisation is most efficient when it most easily and rapidly supplies economic wants without encroaching on other functional activities."

## Odd Bits, Culled

By MRS. PALMER

### The Power That Money Brings

MR. H. P. DAVIDSON, our host, the famous banker and president of the American Red Cross, was then dying slowly.

"Mrs. Davidson was looking after him. Sometimes in the evenings he would describe his experiences as a financier; how it had been possible to mould the policies of countries, sometimes almost buying up Governments.

"He told of the power the possession of money gives—a power more autocratic than kings wield in the modern world, and unfettered by responsibility to anybody."

From the "Silver Fleece" by Robert Collis (Nelson)

SPEAKING of conditions in the Special Areas, the Chief Medical Officer of Health is unable to record any general improvement.

"Not only," he says, "do they remain relatively worse than the more prosperous areas, but also the differentiation is more pronounced."

NO one can rest content with our present achievement, when it is remembered that 16 per cent. of the young children in the country enter school already damaged in health.

—Leading article, "Times Educational Supplement," January 8, 1938.

From the same leader:—  
When a nursery school was opened in Wales, it was discovered that at first the children over five, who had lived largely on a bread and butter diet, disliked valuable health-giving foods, such as carrots and onions, green vegetables, and puddings.

Why?

MR. MACPHERSON LAWRIE, speaking before the Food Education Society, said that however hard individuals, societies and legislators might work to promote health, our best efforts were partly frustrated by a vast counter-organisation which lived on advertising and encouraging the consumption of manufactured and impoverished food-stuffs.

It was bolstered up by a complementary organisation concerned with the manufacture and distribution of drugs.

As a result 95 per cent. of our national schoolchildren had decaying teeth.

DR. GRACE LEYBOURNE, in a lecture to the Eugenics Society, said that hardly less than £200 a year was required on the average to keep a boy at a boarding school from 13 to 18, and perhaps as much at a preparatory school from eight to 13.

Yet these expensive educations were regarded as almost indispensable to a boy if he was to gain distinction in a later life. Was the cost responsible for some of our small families?

She considered that it was.

## Round And Round . . .

THERE was a ball went round and round  
With clouds and mist and dew on it,  
The yellow sunlight warmed the ground  
And plants and people grew on it.

The shoots grew up, the fruit fell down,  
There was no other way for it ;

The people starved in every town  
Because they could not pay for it.

The common people could not pay—  
It makes me laugh to think on it—  
Unless they laboured every day  
For paper with some ink on it.

The wealth and power which set them free—  
The more they did employ of it,  
The more enjoyment there could be,  
The less they could enjoy of it.

The ball still rolls upon its way,  
They don't know what to do with it :  
It will get richer every day—  
The joke gets richer too with it !

GEOFFREY DOBBS

## Conversation Piece

Bill: Hullo, Jim! Haven't seen you at the centre for some time.

Jim: No, old chap, but I've still got a heart. The minute I can manage it you'll see me there.

Bill: I know you'll help when you can.

Jim: I do. It's a fact I do something every day for Social Credit. I've got the ONE GOOD DEED A DAY habit. I've sworn an oath. Never a day of my life passes but what I do something for Social Credit.

Bill: That's the stuff, old man.

Jim: If a Boy Scout can do it surely I can. I'm over 21, you know. With a cause like ours, I'd feel a worm if I didn't. You know, Bill, I want to sleep at night and I've got a conscience.

Bill: What sort of things do you do if you haven't got time to come to the centre?

Jim: Just depends. Sometimes I go and sell someone a paper. Sometimes I leave a paper in the train or bus or drop it in someone's letter box. If I'm writing to a friend I mention some point of Social Credit. I write to the newspapers. I send stamps to Headquarters or send off press cuttings. I may have an opportunity of talking to someone, acquaintance or tradesman. I always keep a stock of leaflets, and if at the end of the day I haven't yet done my good deed I just slip out and put a pamphlet or two in someone's letter box. It doesn't matter so much what you do as long as it's something. I won't let people forget.

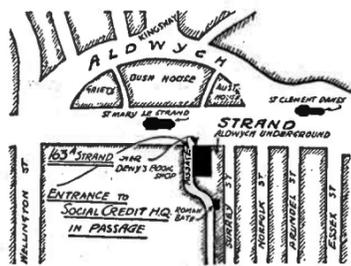
Bill: We must get others to do this. It's the spirit that wins.

Jim: It's little enough, I know. I wish I could devote my life to the cause. But, Bill, don't believe people who say they'd help if they only had the opportunities. People can always do something if they really want to, specially the women. You can't deny that. THE FACT IS THAT WHEN WE WANT SOCIAL CREDIT HARD ENOUGH TO KEEP ACTING AND WORKING FOR IT—then—WE SHALL GET IT.

A conversation faithfully recorded by E. LIDDALL ARMITAGE.

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Vol. 7. No. 25. Friday, January 28, 1938

**Two Ways—****T**HE U.S.A. Department of Agriculture has disclosed its plans for the 1938 cotton crop.

Last year the crop was nearly 19 million bales. This year the aim is to reduce this figure to 10½ million bales.

Such a policy of restriction necessitates the abandoning of approximately 8,500,000 acres now used for cotton growing.

The Department expects to succeed in its birth-controlling objective through the use of *Agricultural Adjustment Administration funds* by paying planters about \$25 per acre for abandonment.

A little arithmetic will show that for this destructive policy \$212,500,000 can be found.

Further, this amount of money, which is to be paid to planters for *not* growing cotton, will later on be charged into the prices of the cotton which is allowed to grow.

This is quite clearly an act of economic war against every consumer of cotton in the U.S.A.—an act of war committed not by German, Russian, or Italian dictators, or by Japanese militarists, but by an enemy within the frontiers of the U.S.A. itself, and which is apparently strongly entrenched in the U.S. Government Departments.

**I**T can fairly be assumed that the officials responsible for this policy of financing destruction are conscious that such a policy would not be tolerated by the people if they understood what it meant.

Otherwise, there is no point in the careful and clever language which primarily serves to disguise the policy whilst pretending to explain it.

Such phrases as "crop control" and "planned production," "quotas" and "rationalisation" do not convey to the common man the idea of "restriction" and "destruction" to which they really refer.

This campaign of deception is deliberate, its effects are hypnotic, and while the policy is inspired by the money-creators, the spell-binding art itself is practised by public men who find it easier and more profitable to conform to—rather than criticise—the money-system itself.

Thus the policy of "control" (destruction) will be whitewashed very cleverly to represent a means of saving the American cotton-planter.

The plea is made that he must be protected by a "plan" to ensure *good prices* for his crop. It is pointed out that a bountiful harvest means a *fall in prices* and ruin for the producer.**T**HE fact that consumers have not the money to buy abundance is ignored, because to attract attention to that fact would be to criticise the existing money-system, and that must be avoided at all costs—hence the only alternative is to forestall abundance, to plan restriction!

The very fact of having to restrict production to enable the producer to obtain remunerative prices, proves the viciousness of the present money-system, for it means the producer cannot recover his financial costs without victimising the consumer, and at the same time sabotaging a great part of the common inheritance.

What can be said of a money-system that transmutes the large bounty of God (which we pray for in the churches) into a condition of ruin for the producers?

It is time a change was made.

The very fact that restriction and destruction are being financed, proves that expansion and distribution can be financed instead, *if we want it so*.

The \$25 per acre paid for sterilisation could just as easily be paid to consumers to buy more cotton, in which case it would have been a real Dividend to the consumer instead of a debt for something he has not received.

**BY G.W.L. DAY****Where Is Our Counsel  
For The Defence?****A**T the moment of writing, France is passing through one of her periodic crises. While the franc oscillates on the Bourse like a fever chart, the various groups of professional politicians rush from conference to conference plotting and counter-plotting to manipulate the situation in their favour, and their leaders tell the Press what they will do if they are put into power.

M. Paul Reynaud, who was tipped for the post of Finance Minister, says the trouble is that the country has not been told the truth and so does not realise how near France is to disaster.

**"To save France financially," he says, "there must be a total change of attitude and of policy. We can't afford to be romantic in money matters. Finance is a matter of arithmetic."**

I suppose that at any given period in history there is some set speech which is voiced by the popular leaders of the day with the wearisome monotony of a much-played gramophone record.

Among the military nations of ancient times it was usually that the nation was growing soft and losing its warlike spirit. Today it is that the Franc, Pound, Guilder, or what not is in danger and we must face facts and tighten our belts.

**M. REYNAUD** says that to save France financially there must be a total change of attitude and policy. What does he mean by this?

Firstly, he assumes that Frenchmen intend to go on playing the economic game of Beggar-my-neighbour in accordance with the rules laid down by the financial priesthood; and, secondly, that in order to meet the demands of this unpleasant game they will sacrifice their aims and desires.

To make the situation a little clearer, suppose that it is actually the familiar card game known as Beggar-my-neighbour which is being played between the French people and the banks, between rival manufacturers, rival shopkeepers, and so on, and that the entire economic life of France is made to depend upon this game. We should then have a situation exactly parallel to the one that exists.

**M. Reynaud's statement would then read: "France has not been told the truth and so does not realise how heavily the nation has been losing at cards."****"To prevent the country losing still more points, Frenchmen must sacrifice their natural desires and aims in life, working**

harder and spending less. We can't afford to be romantic about cards. Beggar-my-neighbour is a matter of arithmetic."

**I** HAVE singled out M. Reynaud, but almost any other prospective Finance Minister would say much the same thing. None would dream of querying the rules of the game which all Frenchmen are playing, still less whether they wish to play any such game at all.

It is exactly the same in this country, of course. When the next General Election comes—in May, some predict, not because we want one in May, but because certain political leaders decide to foist it upon us as a tactical manoeuvre—we shall be asked, in effect, whether we wish to play the game with two packs of cards each, or one; whether we wish the Joker to be included in the pack; and so on.

Now this is very much like being tried for murder, and Prosecuting Counsel asking: "Did you commit the crime on the afternoon or the evening of the date in question?"

**This is an improper question because it assumes that the accused did commit the murder, whereas, in fact, the trial is taking place to ascertain whether he did or not.**

If the accused is ignorant of legal procedure he may be flummoxed by such a question, especially if Prosecuting Counsel is an aggressive sort of a man. He is therefore protected by his Counsel for the Defence who, if a leading question is asked, immediately jumps up and objects.

Now the unfortunate voters are invariably asked leading questions at Elections. For example, "Do you wish more work to be created by this method or by that?" "Do you wish the Pound to be saved by Conservative or by Socialistic methods?"

**T**HE answer to both these questions is that we want enough money in our pockets to buy the things we need and to which the present advanced state of industrial technology entitles us. The methods are not our concern.

But where is our Counsel for the Defence? Who is there to jump up and protest on our behalf when the questions put to us at Elections are improper ones? At present the majority of voters know of no one and do not even realise the necessity for one.

But the Electoral Campaign aims at explaining the necessity, and possibly, when the tricks of electioneers are more widely realised, the electors will realise their own responsibility and, making their own agenda, will sit in judgment.

**What National Dividends  
Would Mean To Me****I** AM one of many thousands to whom the National Dividend would be of especial benefit. The powers of Science and Medicine have advanced so enormously during the past century that there are thousands being saved from premature death each year. All very satisfactory—but what happens afterwards?

Weakened and exhausted by a long and serious illness, they are not in a position to take their places in the hectic competitive life of business and industry immediately.

They need a long period of rest, good food, and freedom from worry to re-equip them for the strenuous battle of life. But all too often this is not possible.

They and their dependants have no money except a miserable pittance of a few shillings "National Insurance Disablement Benefit," and they have to return to work far too soon with the inevitable result that they soon

break down again—and, with a weakened resistance, perhaps far more seriously than last time—and become a burden to themselves and their fellows.

I am more fortunate than most—a Benevolent Association, generously supported by my professional colleagues, is helping me while I am slowly recovering my health and strength.

But it should not have to be so. From the abundant supplies of the necessities of life, all should be able to have sufficient to supply their needs at such times without worry of how to get the means of payment for them and without having to accept charity, however generously it is administered.

The National Dividend would relieve us of our worry and the community would benefit by having less sick and suffering persons within it. The National Dividend must be the first step towards any real drive for National Fitness.

**STANLEY Y. MITCHELL****THE MIXTURE AS  
BEFORE: By Geoffrey  
Dobbs****THE WAY OUT**, by Sir George Paish (Ivor Nicholson and Watson, 6s.).**F**OR a world sinking under a fantastic load of debt the way out is through the "resumption at the earliest possible moment of lending" by the creditor nations (p. 157). The cure for a cut-throat fight for export markets is, of course, more exports, and "a return to gold at the old parities would seem to be advisable" (p. 72).

If Germany and Italy will be good and turn "democratic," and if Italy will kindly give up Abyssinia, Britain and U.S.A. might lend them some gold at a low rate of interest. "Such movements of gold to the debtor countries would probably do more than any other step completely to restore world confidence and to bring about a great and permanent recovery in trade" (p. 158). So much for the realism of the book!

It remains only to add that Sir George Paish was Adviser to the Chancellor of the Exchequer and the Treasury during those glorious years (1914-16) when both exports and foreign lending were at a maximum, and when, for instance, Italy was able to obtain "the higher food standards which her people enjoyed during the war, when they were able to buy what they needed by means of the immense credits furnished to them by the Allied Governments" (p. 46).

A return to the time-honoured methods of those happy days is evidently ardently desired by the author. The book is so liberally sprinkled with the words "peace," "good-will," "co-operation" and the like, that they cease to have any meaning, and although the author undoubtedly has the best intentions, they are of the sort which pave the road to an old and familiar hell.

**★ LETTERS ★****Forms****I** HAVE found a use for official envelopes which Government departments shower on us with their various inquisitions, demands and accounts. If there is delay in payment or answering questionnaires, quite a lot of envelopes with free postage can accumulate. These I use to convey a package of our stuff, inviting the recipients in the department concerned to read enclosures. The Public Assistance Board send out requests from employers of persons whose families are on the Means Test for details of their pay, etc. These should not be answered at all. With respect to previous rating questionnaires, I have been informed that the authorities have not previously taken action against those who ignore or fail to answer the questions. The assessment is fixed and it is up to the individual ratepayer to appeal if he thinks it is too high. I should imagine, too, that the ignorance of a large proportion of ratepayers would make their filled-in forms quite useless.

PASCO LANGMAID

Cardiff

**Bouquet****M**AY I be allowed to speak a word in favour of Mr. Ernest Sutton, of Bruton Place, London, W.1, who consistently supports our paper by his advertisements of guaranteed new and second-hand motor-cars.

I have just had a very satisfactory deal with his firm. I had a somewhat old, high-powered and very fast car, a Railton Terraplane, of 29h.p., and, wanting a newer and cheaper car to run, I got into touch with Mr. Sutton and have completed a very satisfactory transaction with him. I hope that he is as satisfied with the deal as I am.

The service which Ernest Sutton, Ltd., is prepared to give seems to me much more complete than I have come across in 42 years of motoring. It has been a great pleasure to do business with him and I shall certainly hope to be able to do further business with him when opportunity arises.

JAS. EDW. TUKE

Welwyn

First encourage people to try small things. Don't necessarily tackle the financial system straight away—tackle the local district council because there is a hole in the road and make them put it right. When you have got a number of people to see that you have got a hole in the road put right, they can set out to get a new road, and so on. The principle is to try it on the dog!—Major Douglas at Westminster, March, 1936.

**Page Devoted To News Of Those Who Have Found That 'Hole In The Road'**

**YOU CAN MAKE YOUR RATING AUTHORITY REPRESENT YOU**

THE following is quoted from Memorandum by the Central Valuation Committee on the Preparation of the Third New Valuation Lists :

*If any rating authorities under-assess properties, from a desire not to offend their own ratepayers, or to secure an advantage over neighbouring rating areas, or for any other reason, the other rating authorities and the county valuation committee should not hesitate to make the fullest possible use of the powers of objection and proposal given to them in the Act.*

*Good faith and efficiency on the part of all the local authorities concerned in this matter are so important that if, after the third new list has been made, the Central Valuation Committee have grounds for believing that there is neglect or evasion of duty in any area, and that the neglect or evasion is not being adequately dealt with by the local authorities primarily concerned, the Committee will consider it their duty to take such further action as will lead to the fulfilment of the purposes for which they were constituted and the proper attainment of the objects of the Act.*

This somewhat dictatorial passage is addressed to Assessment Committees and Rating Authorities outside London on the occasion of the preparation of the third new valuation lists. What is this Central Valuation Committee which will step in to prod Assessment Committees?

The Central Valuation Committee consists of 32 members, 24 appointed by associations representing local authorities and eight appointed by the Minister of Health; the members of Assessment Committees are appointed by the councils in county boroughs, and by the rating authorities—non-county borough, urban or rural district, councils—in other Assessment areas.

So that both these Committees represent US, the ratepayers.

Why, then, is one urging the other to disobey our will in assessing more strictly without promising to reduce the rate, so that we pay more money in rates?

ALL over the country groups of people, indignant at the way their own representatives are increasing the amount to be levied in rates against the ratepayers' expressed wishes, are getting together in action. They feel that this misuse—for our oppression—of laws made for our convenience has gone too far.

The immediate point of attack is the making of new assessments. It stands to reason that those of us who simply cannot pay more in rates are not any more able to do so just because the provisions of an Act passed 12 years ago say that we must; and higher assessments mean, in all probability, higher rates.

Assessment Committees are appointed by the rating authorities, and the rating authorities are the county and non-county borough

councils, urban and rural district councils. Members of these councils are our representatives elected by ourselves to do our will.

Action consists in gathering the united will of the ratepayers and focussing it on these representatives so that they carry out our will in the matter in spite of memoranda from central powers.

"It is my business to yield to pressure," said Mr. Roosevelt. So with the rating authorities; and if we don't apply pressure, they will yield to anti-democratic pressure from elsewhere.

To be effective we must unleash on to the rating authorities a pressure greater than any that could be applied by any committee at all—the pressure of the will of the people.

Then the rating authorities will be able to stand up to these suggestions by central powers, and instruct assessment committees not to raise assessments. But they can only face the central power when they have our energy mobilised behind them.

So if we do not want assessments to increase we must act now to make our representatives represent us.

**HOW TO ACT**

1. Make out forms like the following for every ward of the district :  
To the Councillor of .....Ward.
  2. Pass these round in the wards named so that every elector who is in agreement may add his signature.
  3. Meanwhile, give the affair all the publicity possible.
  4. Present the completed forms separately to each councillor, accompanied by further publicity and some demonstration that you mean what you say.
  5. (a) If the councillors agree to obey the will of the people and instruct the Assessment Committee not to raise assessments, then keep them to their word.  
(b) If they will not obey the will of the people, continue demonstrating, continue publicity, and at the first opportunity turn the councillor out of the ward and elect someone who has agreed to carry out your will.
- But in any case, insist on RESULTS—no rise in assessments.

**Residents Seek Minister's Aid In Transport Fight**

THE Minister of Transport is being asked by Old Coulsdon (Surrey) Residents' Association to use his influence in getting them a better bus service.

It is complained that the present service is so inadequate that many people are late for business and children have to walk two miles to school.

A suggestion was actually made at the last meeting that residents should all boycott the buses and run some sort of service themselves.

It was not adopted, and the appeal is being made to the Minister as an alternative.

An official of the Association said:

"When the buses reach Old Coulsdon at the time people want to go to work they are so full that often nobody can get in.

"The service runs approximately every 15 minutes. Intending passengers wait for the next bus and find that full. I have known people to stand about from 8.15 a.m. to nearly nine o'clock before they could get a bus.

An official of the L.P.T.B. said: "The Board are prepared to provide two more

double-decked buses an hour, to run through Old Coulsdon and feed the railway station.

"The difficulty is that the Traffic Commissioner will not allow them to be taken along Marlpit Lane, which they would have to use, until the road under the railway bridge is kerbed by the local authority."

It is no good just being apologetic and blaming the Traffic Commissioner. It is the job of the L.P.T.B. to solve these problems and provide an efficient bus service.

**SCHOOL STRIKE IN TEESDALE**

THE opening of the North Riding Council Schools for the winter term was marked by a school strike at Holwick-in-Teesdale.

The authorities had decided to close Holwick School as from the beginning of January and convey the children to Mickleton. Protests from the village were made, and last week a village meeting sent a letter to the authorities to the effect that the children would not go to school at Mickleton.

The bus which had been chartered to take the children to school at Mickleton went to Holwick, but had to return empty, the children who had appeared for school at Holwick as usual, refusing to go to Mickleton.

The children intend to go to their village school each morning and if the door is locked to return home.

The village is united against the present transference scheme. The chairman of the

parish council, Mr. Fred Shield, said that the school authorities had yet to give a satisfactory reply to the parents as to why the Holwick School was being closed.

The school had been redecorated only a few months ago; the headmistress, Miss Lawson, was well liked and the children were progressing satisfactorily.

If it was because of the small attendance, there had been less in years past, and once when only eight children had been attending the school was kept open.

The village is so upset with the attitude of the education authorities that the present strike may last some time. The villagers have asked if there is anything wrong with the school, and if so, they are prepared to provide any reasonable amount to bring the school up to present-day requirements.

**DEMOCRACY IN BRIEF**

A SPECIAL meeting of the Esher District Council is being held to consider the proposal of the Ministry of Transport to construct a by-pass road at Esher.

Fears that the proposed road would be built across the local commons were confirmed when a deputation from the Thames Ditton and Weston Green Residents' Association visited the Ministry.

Many protest meetings have been held, and an Open Spaces Protection Association has been formed, which, when the public inquiry into the scheme is held, will brief counsel to present its case.

A NUMBER of public and private bodies in the North of Scotland have decided to appeal to Parliament for rejection of the Caledonian Water Power Bill, against which Inverness County Council decided a few days ago to offer formal opposition.

An attempt to hold up the Great Western Railway £100,000 development plan for Porthcawl, which provides for a new station on the present site with seven

passenger platforms, will be taken by the ratepayers' association unless the level-crossing in the centre of the town is eliminated.

The plan is based on the level-crossing remaining where it is.

**Sheffield Leaflet**

● Sheffield ratepayers united in a demand that a threatened increase in rates should not take place. The leaflet describing their victory is selling fast. Wherever the fear of higher rates is growing this leaflet finds ready readers.

Prices for Sheffield Leaflet  
12 for 3d., 25 for 6d., 50 for 1s., 100 for 2s., 500 for 10s., or 1000 for 18s. 6d., post free

**Birmingham Leaflet**

● This is the leaflet with the striking illustration showing how interest on Municipal Debt is overtaking the receipts from Rates. It is an eye opener.

Prices for Birmingham Leaflet  
12 for 3d., 25 for 6d., 50 for 9d., 100 for 1s. 6d., 500 for 6s. 6d., 1000 for 12s.

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**Announcements & Meetings**

All London Residents and Visitors are welcome at the Social Credit Rendezvous, 163A, Strand, W.C.2 (entrance in Strand Lane, close to Aldwych Station). Meet your friends at lunch time. Tea, coffee, sandwiches, etc. Open meetings every Thursday at 8.  
Thursday, February 3, Mr. John Mitchell: "Clarification in Propaganda."

Bangor (Co. Down) Social Credit Group, 65b, Main Street, Bangor, open from 3 till 10 p.m. every day. Public Meetings: Every Wednesday at 7.45 p.m. Reading Room: Social Credit literature available. Whist Drives: Every Thursday at 7.45 p.m. Tickets 1s. Meetings for Ladies and Unemployed in the afternoons. Particulars obtainable at Headquarters. Refreshments obtainable at moderate charges. Bring your friends for tea.

Birkenhead Social Credit Association. Enquiries to the Hon. Secretary, 16, Tilstock Crescent, Prenton, Birkenhead. Phone B'head 4405.

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

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

Bradford United Democrats. All enquiries welcome; also helpers wanted. Apply, R. J. Northin, 7, Centre Street, Bradford.

Brighton and Hove D.S.C. Group (Peacehaven Sub-Group). Meetings at "Skyros," Edith Avenue South, Peacehaven, fortnightly, at 8 p.m. Next meeting, Tuesday, February 1.

Liverpool Social Credit Association. Enquiries to Hon. Sec., Miss D. M. Roberts, Greengates, Hill-side Drive, Woolton, Liverpool.

National Dividend Club. Help of all members most urgently needed every Thursday, any time between 5 and 8 p.m., Social Credit Rendezvous.

Newcastle D.S.C. Group. Lockhart's Café, Nun Street, at 7.45 p.m. Meetings for members only first and third Thursday in each month. Meetings to which the public are invited will be held on the second and fourth Thursday in each month, at which speakers will deal with various aspects of Social Credit. Enquiries to Mr. R. Burton, Hon. Sec., 61, Bideford Gardens, Monkseaton.

Poole and Parkstone Group. Every Friday, 7 p.m., The Studio, Hermitage Road, Parkstone. Inquirers welcome. Social Credit and other literature on sale at Brankstone Chine Café.

Portsmouth Douglas Social Credit Group. Please note in future our meetings will be held each THURSDAY, 8 p.m. 16, St. Ursula Grove, Southsea. All welcome; discussion; questions; admission free.

Southampton Group. Public meetings every Tuesday at 7.30 p.m. for lectures and discussion. Advisory Council Meetings (open to all members) 7.30 p.m. first Friday of each month.—2, London Road.

Stockton-on-Tees S.C. Association. Public meeting will be held every Tuesday in the Allotment Holders' Assembly Rooms, Farrar Street, commencing at 7.45 p.m. Addresses, debates and discussions. All are cordially invited. Admission free. Social Credit literature on sale at all meetings.

Stoke-on-Trent. Will anyone interested in Social Credit please communicate with Miss F. Dixon, "Linden," Brownhills, Tunstall?

Sutton Coldfield S.C. Group. Next meeting, 8 p.m., Friday, February 4, in Central High Schools, Victoria Road. Mr. P. R. Masson will discuss the "Advantage in Taking the Social Credit Diploma."

Tyneside Social Credit Society. In addition to enquiries, welcome all those anxious to develop the movement in the North—suggested support, financial, active or both. Help us to help you. Please communicate with W. L. Page, Bambridge Studios, High West Street, Gateshead.

Wallasey Social Credit Association. Public Meetings first Tuesday in each month at the Sandrock Hotel, New Brighton (Rowson Street entrance) at 8 p.m. Enquiries to Hon. Sec., 2, Empress Road, Wallasey.

Wolverhampton D.S.C. Group. Fortnightly meetings in the Ante-Room, Central Library. Next meeting, Tuesday, February 1, at 8 p.m.

**ESSEX COUNTY CONFERENCE**  
Arrangements for this meeting have been completed, and it will be held in Cannons Restaurant, Duke Street, Chelmsford, at 3 p.m. on February 5. This is not a public meeting, but is expressly reserved for those Essex Social Crediters who are in full support of the Social Credit Secretariat, and the objective is the furthering of the campaign in the county against rates and assessments. If there is anyone who wishes to attend, and who has not yet notified me, I shall be very pleased to hear from them.  
T. H. STORY  
28, Ashburnham Gardens, Upminster, Essex.

**Miscellaneous Notices**  
Rate 1s. a line. Support our advertisers.

A reader in Johannesburg asks whether any Social Crediter can supply either a complete set of quotations from Major Douglas's speeches and writings dealing with war, or the page or other references to such statements. Reply to Box M.W., Social Credit Secretariat, 163A, Strand, W.C.2.

For Sale. All proceeds to the funds through the generosity of the artist—two beautiful woodcuts by Bernard Sleigh, R.B.S.A.—"Elfland," £2 2s.; "Lydstep," £1 10s. Apply, Mrs. Palmer, c/o Social Credit.

Lewes Y.M.C.A. February 17, 8 p.m., a free lecture by the Marquis of Tavistock, entitled "Poverty and Over-Taxation, and the Obvious Remedy."

Remember, Remember. Slogan envelopes, 7 1/2 in. by 5 in., printed on the back with facts to remember, "when you have a meal," "when you read of the threat of war," and "when you pay taxes." Six for twopence, post free, from Social Credit, 163A, Strand, W.C.2.

Lt.-Col. J. Creagh Scott, D.S.O., will speak on January 31 at the Economic Reform Club, Great Cumberland Place, W.1, at 7.30 p.m.

**DOUGLAS SAYS—**

SO far from taxation being a natural and inevitable state of affairs, it is an inversion of the facts. The State should give, not take away.

WE have to establish the supremacy of the plain man over the expert.

WHAT I mean is that nothing is more foolish than to tell an expert how to do a job, but you have every right as a plain man to say what sort of job you want done.

SAYING what you want done is called policy, it is directing attention to ends not to means.  
—Southampton, February, 1935.

NOW the very fact of taxation as a general principle is an assertion of the fact that we are dispossessed of our share of the common property. You do not pay for permission to enjoy privileges which belong to you.—Oxford, November, 1934

JUST as Christianity has not failed because it has never been tried except as an abstraction, so in my opinion democracy has never been tried.  
—Southampton, February, 1935

**Something For Nothing?**

THE sun is free;  
The air is free,  
And so is the sea.  
The sun and moon guide  
Each ship-helping tide  
Right up to the quay.  
When our gardens are dry,  
We get rain from the sky  
Without paying a fee!  
When the sunshine is hot,  
You will find quite a lot  
Of free leaves on the tree!

So nothing we pay  
For the shade at mid-day—  
Or the shelter from rain  
When we thought it was hot  
And then find we forgot  
That umbrella again!  
When the winter comes round  
And the snow's on the ground,  
Without paying a sou  
The leaves are not there,  
For the branches are bare—  
To let the sun through!

When the earth on the farm  
Contains things that do harm,  
We pay nothing at all  
For the good healthy frost  
That comes without cost  
At the end of the fall.  
When the winter is past,  
With its unpleasant blast,  
Does it cost us much money  
To push the Earth over  
Till we are in clover,  
With England all sunny?

If National Dividends are  
Something for nothing  
(Which I don't agree)  
They will certainly not be the first things  
that are so, and if their rhythm won't fit  
into this rhyme,  
Don't blame me!

NO. National Dividends are certainly not "Something for nothing." They are something for the brains, the labour, the striving, the hoping, the despairing, the succeeding, the failing, the patience, the sacrificing, the determination, the vision, of the people of past ages who, by their scientific and inventive genius have left to the world discoveries, powers, and machines of incalculable value, to lighten our labour, to reduce our pain, to brighten our recreations, and to change our "unemployment" into leisure.

Had the people of their day known of the inestimable benefits which those devoted men—and women too—were conferring upon the world, they would have showered them with untold riches, whereas the sad fact is that most of them died in poverty. Those riches are still owing to these pioneers, discoverers, inventors, though many of them have now been dead for centuries. What are we to do? Leave the debt unpaid? Why should such a debt as this go unpaid? It cannot be paid to them, but it can and shall be paid to their heirs. Something for nothing? Not a bit of it! Something for the greatest achievements of mankind. And who are the heirs but all of us? Each and every one of us is an equal inheritor of these discoveries and inventions which have made plenty possible, and it is to ourselves that this debt shall be paid.

The inventors and scientists would have wished it so, for with their traditional devotion to their ideas and ideals they were working for those who should come after them, and they knew it, though others did not.

NATIONAL DIVIDENDS to pay this great debt can be issued periodically to each of us without sacrifice and without taxation.

Lacking National Dividends, what is happening to this truly marvellous inheritance? It is being filched from us by an outworn system of economics kept on its last legs by international finance—the ruler of governments.

But though governments without the specified support of the people are weaker than finance, with our support they can right wrongs and carry out our wishes without hindrance.

Members of Parliament are our servants for this purpose. Demand, then, National Dividends, that this vast debt can be paid to the rightful heirs of the greatest men and women who ever lived, that we may have sufficient money with which to use to the full their marvellous inventions, and that the contentment, freedom, and security of us all—especially of the poor—shall form a suitable monument for ever to their glorious achievements.  
A.E.L.

**Life is "Too Easy"**

THE REV. N. V. GORTON, headmaster, Blundell's School, said recently that he believed undergraduates were obsessed with a sense of a collapsing world; that they felt that life was embittered from the start. He went on to say:

"It is probably due to the fact that things are so easy for you, and there are so many interesting and superficial things to do.

"You are losing a sense of spirituality and just when it comes to facing difficulties you are conquered, and you put them aside weakly. I do not think the difficulties of this generation are anything like the difficulties faced in the New Testament times or the Dark Ages."

These words prove that the speaker is entirely out of touch with the mind of youth, and with the problems they have to face.

The young are unhappy because the old tell them lies, of which the following are a few examples:—

"You can't have prosperity without preparing for war."

"It is necessary to solve the unemployment problem."

"The aim of life is work."

And so on.

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# The Struggle Against War

**WAR has been going on in Spain for more than a year. War has just broken out in China. War continues in Ethiopia. To-morrow, doubtless, it will be Syria's turn, or Morocco's, or Brazil's, just as a beginning.**

Systematic slaughter is going on in Madrid, Shanghai, Addis Abbaba, Jerusalem, Tchong-Tchéou and Cuba; and from the Rome-Berlin axis to the London-Paris tandem, passing through the disturbances at Geneva and the little "chat" in the Pacific, a contemptible diplomacy can think of nothing better than the ratification, in the name of International Law, of the most monstrous murders, confining itself to keep a rough account of the massacres, while, in the wings, the merchants of sudden death, the white slave traffickers, all the profiteers of universal destruction are raking in the profits while rationalising the massacres.

★

**THE old profiteering world counts in this manner on prolonging by a few moons its gangrenous and hopeless existence, ready to smother in the egg the promises of a civilisation that is making heroic efforts to be born again from so much poverty and so many corpses.**

For it is quite obvious that, in this case also, the profiteer is obsessed by the sole idea of placing his shoddy goods

while picking up here and there a few drops of this precious purchasing power which machinery has killed by hunting the consumer from what is called in nigger-drivers' parlance "the work market."

One no longer kills people in order to seize their produce; one bombards and hammers them in order to force them to consume; one scatters them with death that they may raise their standard of living.

Here again, in a word, Universal Abundance, following in the wake of the former scarcity of everything, has profoundly changed the character of international conflicts, and it is on these new data that the so-called parties of Progress and Revolution should modify their old doctrines, henceforth powerless to control the tragic march of events.

★

**A VERY simple calculation shows, indeed, that a third of human activities is at the present time "reabsorbed" in the manufacture of armaments which threaten in their turn to "reabsorb" the remaining two-thirds.**

The "reabsorption" of the excess of riches which is thrown into the sea or burnt in gigantic fires, is merely a solution similar to the "reabsorption" of the excess of workers by throwing them as food to the sharks, or by delivering them up to torpedoes and incendiary bombs.

The monster War, by its power to destroy collective wealth appears thus as the safety valve of capitalistic profit, which can live only by the exchange of rare products—not devaluated by abundance.

So it is easily to be seen that there can be no lasting peace under a régime which only enriches itself from the sale of poverty and death, which can only sell by opening markets by force or by blocking frontiers, and which as a whole, being incapable of distributing the collective wealth, is powerless for that very reason to make use of the progress of science and technique for anything but physical destruction and the destruction of mankind.

★

**THE struggle against war must therefore begin by the building up of distributive economy throughout the world, and firstly in our own country.**

But the former (or old) champions of Socialism prefer to present us with this idle picture of two enemies—that of the democracies and that of the Fascists — which must inevitably join combat until one of the two antagonists is *hors de combat*. And it is thus that the Left is losing its great influence for peace, by taking the *union sacrée* which has already brought us five years of slaughter.

We have simply forgotten that there is not just democracy on the one side and Fascism on the other, but a democratic capitalism which is playing a very close commercial game, and a Fascist capitalism which is imposing on others its military game; we also forget that the former is supplying iron, arms, engines and oil to the latter to give him the means of "reabsorbing" the excess (surplus) common to both.

Jean Nocker in "L'Oeuvre."

## YOUR PLACE IN THE SUN—4

# THE RIGHT TO SAY 'NO'

**L**AST week I gave you the definition of freedom: *the right to accept or reject one thing at a time.*

To accept—or reject. Notice that freedom has a negative as well as a positive aspect.

You may possess the right to accept one thing at a time. But unless you have also an equal right of refusal you are not free.

You are in the position of a customer who, on entering a shop, is told that he is at liberty to spend his money on just whatever he pleases—but that he's jolly well got to spend it on something. That man is not free.

**T**HE example is ridiculous, you say. In a shop it would be, but it does not overdraw the peculiar tyranny which goes for political freedom in this and every other country today.

In Nazi Germany the electors are absolutely "free" to say "yes" to Hitler's policy. But they mustn't say "no."

Just the same in Communist Russia. There the electors are "free" to say "yes," but not "no," to Stalin's policy.

**I**N this country the same applies, but the issue is confused by the elector being given a choice of two or three yes-men, all representing the same basic policy which, stripped of its trimmings, is that of soaking THE PEOPLE.

Yes-man Con supports extra sacrifices for the workers, yes-man Lab extra sacrifices for the employing class, yes-man Lib a little more sacrifice all round.

**I**F you happen to object to sacrifices anyhow, you find that the electoral machine provides no means for you to voice your objection. The most you can do is refuse to vote.

And now we are told that an Act of Parliament is contemplated which will inflict fines upon those who do not vote.

If we allow this Act to come into force we shall be virtually in the same straight waistcoat as the Germans and the Russians.

**T**HE electors' demand on the back page, which we invite you to sign, is a great uncompromising NO to sacrifices of any description for anyone.

That is (a) why it is regarded as worse than poison by the hidden enemy, and (b) why you should make it your first duty in life to get more and ever more people to sign the demand.

W.W.

## MEANINGLESS

**M**R. SPENCER LEESON, headmaster of Winchester, in a lecture to the Association for Education in Citizenship, said citizenship must be governed by sanctions, but human sanctions in themselves were insufficient, since they might tend to the enthronement of the State. The ultimate basis of true citizenship must be religious in the broadest sense.

And left it at that. Douglas has explained fully that there must be a philosophy behind every policy.

What we should like Mr. Spencer Leeson to explain is exactly what philosophy, or religion, he has in mind.

Without this his words are not of very much help.

**Group relationships, such as the State, are of good only if they make for the well-being and progress of every individual composing them.**

## Happiest Days?

**M**R. E. T. ENGLAND, in his presidential address to the Incorporated Association of Headmasters, said that for many persons school days were the happiest in their lives.

If this is true, what are we to think of modern life?

★

**M**R. JOHN BELL, St. Paul's School, said he could not help thinking there was something seriously wrong with a system which took boys at a tender age, and forced them into a groove in which they remained until they had finished their university course.

He could not help thinking that the demand for over-specialisation which resulted from the standard set in scholarship examinations for universities was largely responsible for the start of this very harmful process.

## CLIPPINGS From The World's Press

**O**F all the institutions which should serve society, and facilitate the relations and transactions of its different sections, the money system is one of the most perverted.—*Ireland Today.*

**I**N research we need a lot of intelligent ignorance.—*Readers' Digest, U.S.A.*

**T**HE right to petition Parliament was formerly very much and rightly valued. . . . but it is not unkind to say that, as we have universal suffrage, votes are of more account than names on a roll, even if they should all be genuine. — *The Western Morning News.*

**I**N this atmosphere it is not strange that fascist parties have multiplied. The green-shirted *Integralistas* in Brazil now number over 500,000. — *Fortune, U.S.A.*

**T**HE Canadian people need to ask themselves individually where they can expect to be in the event of another depression. They need to join in making an effective demand heard throughout the country that there shall be no more slipping back into depression. *There is no other way to hold the slippery politician but to apply the demand for results.* — *Ottawa Evening Citizen.*

**T**HE problem raised by the attitude of the Alberta Government is much more than a simple question of procedure and jurisdiction. It is a matter of the struggle to free people from the toils of High Finance. It is a matter of giving human values their true place in the economy of a people. What Social Credit seeks is a human economy, an economy which adapts the national wealth and credit of the nation to the needs of man, and which subordinates him in no way to the lunatic dictation of Finance.— *Camille L'Heureux, in "Le Droit," Ottawa. Translated from the French.*

**W**HAT interests us in the Alberta dispute is the spectacle of the head of a government who undertakes seriously to struggle with High Finance. This is interesting because it is so rare —Aberhart will have the credit for having given us an invaluable display; a challenge to the domination of the Money Power. If this challenge does not spread to all capitalist countries, the capitalist system will fall under the weight of its own abuses.—*Translated from the French of Eugene L'Heureux, in "Action Catholique," leading Catholic paper in Quebec.*

## The Modern Flat-Earthers of Finance

**I**N 1837, *Chambers' Journal* for May 20th published an article on the new system of postage.

It was a reply to Rowland Hill's pamphlet advocating penny post. Said the critic:

"He proposes that all letters under half an ounce in weight shall be carried to any place in Great Britain, no matter what be the distance, at the uniform rate of one penny; of course, making the profit to government depend on the vast increase in the number of letters sent. But this principle, which is perfectly sound, he proposes to carry into effect only by making all letters payable by the sender, either in the shape of money to the post-office keeper, or by a stamped cover which shall have previously been purchased from the office for a penny. We consider this as perhaps one of the most visionary schemes ever put forth by a writer on finance. Mr. Hill, like most political economists, commits the blunder of making no allowance for the passions, the feelings, the habits, the prejudices, and stupidities of mankind. At present, everybody knows how to put a letter into the post-office, but under the system proposed, only a section of the people would know how to proceed. Reader, imagine for a moment the idea of everyone having to buy stamped covers beforehand for his letters, or having to pay a penny with every letter he submitted to the inspection of an office-keeper! You here see that nothing like delicacy of feeling or the preservation of secrecy, is taken into account; every soul who sends a letter by post comes under the scrutiny of an officer of the government. But that is not all; the payment of the penny is fully as solid an objection. People will pay postage when they get a letter, their feelings at the moment inducing them to give any reasonable sum that is demanded, but few like to pay money along with a letter.

A century from now, no doubt, the humourist journals will find a rich seam of jokes from the solemn writings and speeches of those who fulminate against Social Credit and the Douglas theory to-day. They are so cocksure the simplest things will never work; here is an extract from a letter written by a man who claims to have been studying economics since 1892!

"... the Douglas theory. My reply is that nobody in this world can calculate 'the total prices of consumable goods' at any time. Nor can I imagine any reason for demanding that the people's income should equal the 'prices of goods they produce.' Poverty we shall always have with us, on The Highest Authority..."

What a poverty of understanding is here! —what a poverty of goodwill, of faith, of intelligence! There are still people about who believe the earth is flat, but they are harmless. The modern flat-earthers of finance are dangerous, they obstruct peace, security and life itself.

# NEWS FROM THE ALBERTAN FRONT

## PREMIER ABERHART'S NEW YEAR MESSAGE TO ALBERTAN PEOPLE: 'ONWARD'

IN his New Year Message to the people of Alberta, Premier Aberhart said: "As a new year dawns, it is my pleasure and privilege as head of the government of this province to wish the people of Alberta and of Canada a full measure of happiness and prosperity."

"Alberta is a wealthy land, one of the brightest stars in the group of provinces that comprise the Dominion of Canada. This is a province of glorious opportunity, beckoning for construction and development."

"It is the purpose of this Government to do all it can to enable our people to share in the prosperity that they should be assured of in what is their own great natural heritage."

THE New Year Message of the Lieutenant-Governor, J. C. Bowen, began with: "To every citizen of Alberta may I extend heartiest greetings and best wishes for a happy New Year."

"The year just closing has been one of quite general prosperity. For the most part our agriculturists have reaped a fair harvest. Conditions for the primary producer are brighter, price levels are on a remunerative basis for farm products. General business conditions have maintained a satisfactory rate of improvement. As a people we have much to inspire profound gratitude."

### Tyranny, Slavery

ON January 3, Mr. Glen L. MacLachlan, M.L.A., Chairman of the Alberta Social Credit Board, said that two objectives lay ahead for 1938.

One was mobilising the collective will of increasing numbers of people for a secure sufficiency in freedom made possible by the resources of the Province, and the other was the subordination of financial machinery to the interests of the people. Financial tyranny held the people in economic slavery and that slavery had to be broken the same as physical slavery was terminated.

Summarising the political and economic situation existing today, Mr. MacLachlan declared it was a straight conflict between the legally entrenched monopoly of credit and the legally elected Government of Alberta.

### Policy For All

THE three Prairie Provinces of Canada are represented on the Royal Commission on Dominion-Provincial Financial Relations (Rowell Commission) by Dr. John W. Dafoe, who as Editor of the *Winnipeg Free Press* since 1901, has come to be considered as a

supporter of the West, who will not let his sectional interests blind him to what is the best policy for Canada as a whole, told a Canadian Club audience in an address on January 3 that Canada's economic interests "are so divergent that it is beyond the wisdom of man to devise national policies of common and equal benefit to all."

The late King George V did not so despair. At the opening of the World Economic Conference, he said:—

"It CANNOT BE BEYOND THE POWER OF MAN so to use the vast resources of the world as to assure the material progress of civilisation."

### Says Gray

IN our issue of January 7, we quoted from the address of Mr. E. L. Gray, M.L.A., Liberal Leader, to the young people of the Province. He has now been addressing the Edmonton Women's Liberal Association and is reported to have said on January 4 that unless opposition parties offer "very definite, constructive, progressive policies," loyalty of rural Alberta supporters of the Social Credit Government will not be challenged.

We find ourselves in a measure of agreement with Mr. Gray and look forward to reading his party's programme offering GREATER FREEDOM IN SECURITY than the simple demands made by the rural population upon the present Government; elected to carry out those demands.

### For Rowell

IN his commentary of January 5, "Mac," of *The Albertan*, presents what he considers a real brief for the Rowell Commission.

He writes: "My Lord, did you ever attempt to make toast in a gas oven? Or did you ever do the weekly wash without a washing machine? Or did you ever attempt to get along without an icebox, electrical or otherwise?"

And I am quite sure he would say NO to all our questions.

Therefore I would continue: "My Lord, that is all that is the matter with Canada. Give the people those things which are necessary and there will be jobs making them. Kidney pills are a poor substitute for washing machines. There is no substitute for refrigeration and breakfast would be much nicer with fresh toast from a real toaster."

"Mac" continues: "You are invited to discuss the matter with the good wife, and I will bet she thinks the brief is quite all right. And in your own mind you also know that this is the core of the matter."

R.A.D.

The aim of the Social Credit Movement is to enable every member of the community to gain access to the plenty which is the heritage of civilisation, so that he may construct for himself an existence according to his own ideas.

Taxes are the reverse of National Dividends

## New Radio Counter-Blast To Opposition

In A Letter From An Albertan M.L.A.

AT the present time the outlook in political democracy in the Province of Alberta is very good. Our opponents are using all the tactics available in order to split public support. The old line political parties have tried to join their forces in a unity movement in order to defeat this Government in the next general election.

Recently the leaders of the different parties in the unity movement have started to scrap among themselves, perhaps for fear that some of them may lose some personal opportunity which may never come their way.

In the Lethbridge by-election held December 2, the Government candidate lost to the Unity candidate. Had their scrap occurred prior to the by-election, the opposition forces would not have been successful.

Although the greatest number of the voters of the Lethbridge constituency are residents of the city of Lethbridge and it is difficult to get the city people to support Social Credit, yet according to our campaign in the said Riding we were confident of winning in spite of it being only a two-cornered fight. Our loss was really a great surprise.

HAVING held over 140 meetings in the past two years, I can safely say that the Government has made tremendous gains in its support in the rural constituencies, where the majority of the electors are farmers and labourers.

The Unity forces, with the exception of the Liberal Party, at their recent meeting at Red Deer, have, according to press reports, selected J. I. McFarland as chairman of the Provisional Unity Council.

Mr. McFarland, the report states, is a well-known Calgary multi-millionaire and former law partner of Rt. Hon. R. B. Bennett, K.C., the Federal Conservative leader. Mr. McFarland was the head of the Canadian Wheat Board under the Conservative administration.

The opposition is broadcasting three times a week from the Edmonton and from the Calgary stations and they also have the press at their disposal.

To meet the unfair criticisms and attacks, the Government has formed the Department of Public Relations under the Social Credit Board. This Department is issuing regular bulletins to all the Study Groups in the Province.

BESIDES the regular Sunday broadcasts of our Premier, the Social Credit Board has been arranging and handling a weekly broadcast from Edmonton and from Calgary.

This will now be intensified, when these broadcasts during the week-days will be carried on the same basis as the Sunday broadcasts, that is, they will be sponsored by the Group organisations of the Province.

I am herewith enclosing copies of broadcasts which were sponsored in Alberta over all radio stations, by the Chartered Banks of Canada. In my opinion, such broadcasts did not reach first base.

Messrs. Powell and Byrne are doing great work in this Province, and although the opposition has no use for them, they are highly regarded by the Social Credit members.

## Letter To Mr. Crowther, ECONOMIC EXPERT

84, Bunbury Road, Northfield, Birmingham.

Dear Mr. Crowther,

I am very interested in the 20 points of policy announced by the Liberal Nationals.

These include:

Increase of old age pensions  
Pensions for spinsters at 55  
Pensioning of permanently unemployed in the higher age categories

all of which presumably entail higher national social service expenditure.

Other points are:

Shorter hours in industry  
Holidays with pay  
Improved working conditions in industry

Approved rates of pay  
all of which entail increase in industrial costs.

If the hours reduction means a corresponding reduction in wages, there will be a reduction in the standard of living; if wages are not reduced, the best that can be achieved is the maintenance of the present standard, but one of the other points is

*The raising of the standard of living.*  
As any attempt to increase taxation in order to meet the additional national expenditure would lower the purchasing power of the individual, the standard of living would be lowered!

So where is the money to come from?  
Can you give us an article on this, please?

Yours faithfully,  
C. YARDLEY

Mr. Geoffrey Crowther,  
"News Chronicle,"  
Bouverie St., E.C.4.

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- I know that there are goods in plenty and therefore that poverty is quite unnecessary
- I want before anything else poverty abolished
- I demand too that monetary or other effective claims to such products as we now destroy or restrict shall be distributed to me and every Briton so that we can enjoy all we want of them
- These distributions must not deprive owners of their property nor decrease its relative value nor increase taxes or prices
- In a democracy like Great Britain Parliament exists to make the will of the people prevail
- So I pledge myself to vote if I can for a 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
- 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

Signed .....

Address .....

*This is the form for Parliamentary electors to sign. It should be sent to United Democrats, 163A, Strand, London, W.C.2. Signatures will be treated confidentially.*