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NEWS • VIEWS • COMMENTARY
**COMMENTS**

**Life in the Lambeth Walk**

In the recent inquest held on the four little children who were burned to death in a house in the Lambeth Walk, the jury found that the house was “wholly unfit for habitation for such a young family.”

The Coroner, in questioning Mr. F. P. Watson, Lambeth Borough Council Surveyor, asked:

“Is it not unsatisfactory that such premises still exist in London?”

Mr. Watson replied:

“I agree. There is so much to do, but it cannot all be done at once.”

It can be done. A time-limit can be put on slums—say three years—at the end of which time there need not be a single unhealthy house.

The men and materials stand ready. Only the dead hand of Finance is holding us back. End the domination of Bankers, and we shall have no slums. For it is the Bankers who have made slums in the cities, and deserts in the country.

**Circumstances Alter Cases**

In the debate on the Czecho-Slovakia (Restrictions on Banking Accounts) Bill, Captain Euan Wallace (Financial Secretary to the Treasury) said that “speed was of the essence of the case” (Daily Telegraph, March 23, 1939).

On the same day, in the debate on the terrible incidence of tuberculosis in Wales revealed in the recent report by Mr. Clement Davies and his colleagues, Mr. Elliot, Minister of Health, said that “the stress is shifted from butter to guns.”—Financial page of the Daily Telegraph, March 20, 1939.

For thousands of the masses there will be little difference. They were already living on margarine. If anything, the making of guns will put more butter within their reach.

Only Social Credit can bring the piping times of peace-time plenty, instead of the present peacetime stagnation.

But then there would be no “speculative attractions” for anti-social stockbrokers. And the guns would be well placed trained “on change.”

**Butter and Guns**

“In the sphere of domestic business, the obvious need for an acceleration of rearmament, with its possible implications of ‘mobilisation of industry’ in one form or another, increases the relative speculative attraction of armament shares, especially in the aircraft group, but dims the prospects of shares dependent on luxury spending and a revival of international trade. In other words, the stress is shifted from butter to guns.”—Financial page of the Daily Telegraph, March 20, 1939.

**Uphold British Stewardship**

A German paper, Deutsche Dienst, is reported in the Daily Telegraph of March 23 as having said of Sir Samuel Hoare:

“Herr Hoare.—Following the methods of the lying British Press, you attempted to exploit an anxiety psychosis as a moral and political combat. You would do better to busy yourself with those horrors that mark the historic oath of the British Empire.”

It is true that with Newfoundland groaning under the heel of financial dictatorship, starvation in the West Indies, St. Helena and the Gold Coast, man-made deserts in Canada and Australia, unrest in Ireland, Palestine and India, slums and squalor at home, and debt everywhere, we have no reason to point the finger of scorn at any foreign nation.

**Sergeant Starvation**

The War Office has announced that a mechanised demonstration column representing all arms of the Service, will tour parts of England and Wales in June and July.

It will concentrate on Cardiff and Newcastle. Among the other towns to be visited are Swansea, Brecon, Pontypool, Wolverhampton, Crewe, Sheffield, Barnsley, Bradford and Durham.

The recruiting campaign should do well, for it is Britain’s starvation belts that are being covered, and starvation has always proved a most efficient recruiting sergeant.

A square deal for the civilian would bring thousands of men to the colours to defend their heritage. Starvation can only fill the Army with unwilling slaves. Already at Canterbury they have a depot for fattening the civilian for the next banker-inspired slaughter.

**The “Free” Press**

Sir John Anderson, replying to Mr. Garna-Jones, said that the Press had given immense assistance by editorial space devoted to national service, and he thought it reasonable, in order to secure necessary emphasis and repetition, that part of the publicity campaign should consist of display advertisements paid for by the Press.

But there would be no “speculative attractions” for anti-social stockbrokers. The guns would be well placed trained “on change.”

Mr. Lees-Smith said that the health of schoolchildren was accepted as normal simply because it was average.

Mrs. Tate insulted the working woman by saying she couldn’t cook.

Mr. Elliot fell back on the “free milk” catchword.

Mr. Kenneth Lindsay agreed with everything that was said about under-feeding, but could propose no remedy.

The Consolidated Fund No. 1 Bill was passed and everyone went home feeling that he had done his duty.

The Pensions at 50 Scheme will either make the Members of Parliament do what the people want or replace them by people’s candidates pledged to put pensions before everything else. If you want life you must fight for it. Only pressure will bring plenty within your reach.

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COMEDY OF ERRORS

Food And Money In Germany

By Arthur Brenton

The news that Hitler has called Dr. Schacht back from the USA will come as a bit of a shock to those wise- acres of the London Press who were telling us not long ago that Schacht "does not count in German high politics." Certain credit-reform commentators, too, will have to admit that it was premature for them to have interpreted (as they did) the dismissal of Schacht from the Reichsbank as evidence that Hitler was determined and able to cut loose from Norman and the Bank for International Settlements as representing central-bank domination of his monetary policy. At the time of that event it was pointed out in these notes that it was quite an open question whether Hitler had repudiated Schacht or Schacht Hitler.

Indeed, it is part of the unwritten understanding between Ministers and Bankers in every country that, in form, the Ministers shall give orders, or make requests, to the Bankers. Last week, for instance, the newspapers announced that Sir John Simon had thought fit to stop Czechoslovakian holders of deposits in London banks from withdrawing them; that he had accordingly asked those banks to implement this policy, and that those banks had agreed.

Few people, either in the streets or in the press, ask themselves what made Sir John think fit to do this, and take the responsibility of doing it. But no student will doubt that the initiative came from Threadneedle Street, and that the readiness of the London banks to take the serious step of impounding, even temporarily, the deposits of clients, was due to their knowledge that it had the sanction of the Bank of England.

In The Star of last Saturday (late edition) there is a special article about Germany's internal financial condition. It has been computed, as the recall of Schacht the writer (who is anonymous) says that the dismissal of Schacht was due to his "insistence that State expenditure should be cut down." This word "insistence" heightens the probability that it was Schacht that sacked Hitler. And so does the reason for the insistence. For Schacht, says the writer, foresaw that undiminished expenditure would force the Reichsbank or the Finance Ministry, or both, to handle (or try to) a fiscal situation which might get beyond control. Hence it may be supposed that Schacht's attitude to Hitler was something like this: "You get on with it; I am not going to take any responsibility." If that is so, the recall of Schacht suggests that Hitler is ready now either to cut expenditure or to make terms with Basle for assistance in maintaining expenditure. What those terms might be need not be speculated about because we know that in principle they would subserve Basle's policy. In fact, Basle's imperative duty, which is to see to it that whatever happens in the military field of activity, there shall be no major disturbance of the balance of trading opportunities shared by the countries which it represents.

This is not to say that Basle directly works out and imposes rations on these countries. That is not necessary because big capitalists of all nations are always out to nx up deals with each other; and since their experience tells them that all parties to deals must expect to give and take, their negotiations tend towards the establishment of some more or less just distribution of trading opportunities. They are thus furthering for their own purposes the policy of Basle. Capitalists, like bankers, are not sentimentists. To both there is neither Jew nor Gentile when business can be done. And thus, for example, it comes about that we see the Federation of British Industries trying to bring off a deal with its opposite number in Germany even while the instinct of the British people is intensely hostile to such a thing. How they look at it is like this: If we can't prevent German victories, let us get a rake-off from the exploitation of them. Most immoral, I know; but nevertheless horse sense unless or until the moralists can show how to arrest Germany's military conquests. After all, what do these conquests bring about? Something not unlike the situation in America after the Civil War, when the independent States came in under one supreme Government. And let it be noted that soon after the Great War an American statesman said of the enormous plant and resources of that country that they were a "millstone round our necks" unless foreigners sent plenty of orders for the products of that plant. In other words, self-sufficiency, under our orthodox monetary economy, is a mirage which recedes at the same pace as you enlarge your boundaries. No matter whether you do it by negotiation or by force. Self-sufficiency is always outside the area of political control, making faces through the window. It is a bird that you'll never capture until you put salt on his tail. The salt is, of course, the Social Credit compensated price-discount.

The writer of the article just referred to makes some remarks about inflation in Germany that were anticipated in a general sense in an article in The New Age a year or two ago. The theme of the article was that inflation could take place even without any alteration in the ratio of price-levels to income. Well, the aforementioned writer describes this inflation as now taking place in Germany. It is an inflation concealed behind a degradation of quality. The Nazis have "insisted on an intense deterioration of quality," says this writer, adding the somewhat curious comment that by this means "the worst results of inflation without the fear of inflation." Perhaps they have from the point of view of the issuers of statistical statements; but what about the man in the street and his boots? Listen:

"The quality of things like shoes, for instance, has been reduced to the kind sold by cheapjack in fairs. The price paid for them is the former price of good shoes. So it can still be claimed that prices have not risen, or have not risen much. Woolen goods, as we know them, do not exist in Germany to-day. There was a rush to Austria for such goods when Austria was annexed, but Austria was soon cleared out. Artificial wool is made from wood, just as in Italy it is made from milk. The best wool only contains 40 per cent. of real wool. By law, however, this is called pure or real wool.

"Sausage, the great German standby, is not much more expensive than it used to be, but it now contains a certain amount of sawdust. This, by a new"
"Where There's a Will—"
By Melanto

WHEN the inventor set out to contrive machines that reduce labour and increase production, it was with the deliberate intention of creating more leisure and at the same time more wealth. He certainly never foresaw the present paradoxical results of his ingenuity. Should we (as electors of Parliamentary representatives) allow the excellent aims of the inventor to miscarry in the insane fashion they do? We are supposed to elect a Government to act for the common weal, but judging by the following facts we certainly have not succeeded very well.

It is known that:
1. The minimum sum required per head of the population for a sufficiently healthy diet is 15s. per week.
2. Four and a half millions have only 4s. per head to spend.
3. Nine millions have only 6s. per head to spend.
4. Half the population is inadequately fed.
5. A quarter of the population is definitely under-nourished.

This large proportion of the people of England is half-starved, and it cannot be said that the Government (the misgovernment would be nearer the mark) is not in full possession of the facts, nor can we suppose that Parliament has no power to alter these pernicious conditions. It therefore only remains that the will is lacking.

Is it held that it is not in the public interest that the people should be adequately fed? Is it intended that they shall continue to be half-starved while the sagacity of food is permitted in order to maintain prices which the people cannot pay? That would indeed appear to be the case, there is no other explanation, except that the financial system acts as a means to keep the people in subjection deliberately.

We must therefore conclude that we have not paid enough attention to our electoral privileges. We have failed to control our Members of Parliament. Our Minister of Finance has exhorted us to ignore our needs as soon as they get into office, because we permit them to do so.

One cannot but suspect the rule of Parliamentary advancement to be "the professor the mental vacuity the more exalted the office," for no good, honest men would act so to the detriment of a nation had they both power and inclination.

We are further informed "that the reserves of mutton and lamb in the country are abnormally high."

No shortage of food obtains and one wonders of what use are abnormally high reserves to empty bellies in the absence of purchasing power to fill them.

Plainly the shortage of money is the immediate cause of the distress of these starving millions, money that costs nothing to create but is deliberately withheld by a private company, acting, not in the interests of the people, but in the interests of its own lust for power to keep us subject to itself, while we, as electors, do nothing to prevent it.

There is no obstacle to an immediate alteration of our financial system if the power-lust of financiers (a numerically insignificant proportion of the population) be set aside in favour of a general emancipation. What is required is the popular will to achieve this end.

The rapidity with which the Government has acted on occasions when it suits them has demonstrated the Government's capacity to act; only the will is wanting.

The WILL OF THE PEOPLE must prove itself effective, expressed through its representatives, and without delegation of power. Then the POWER of the people will prevail over the power of the stealthy financial tyrant.

"WHAT'S WRONG WITH THE WORLD?"
By G.W.L. Day

Is.
FROM PUBLICATIONS DEPT.,
163A, STRAND, W.C.2
A Revealing Letter
By R. G. S. Dalkin

The following was sent as a letter to The Barnsley Chronicle in reply to a follower of Henry George:

I would assure Workingman Student that I am well acquainted with the work of Henry George, and I do not disparage its value. But that does not prevent me from seeing the money monopoly, under existing conditions, as stronger and more dangerous than the land monopoly. I oppose all monopolies that obstruct the best possible welfare of the common man.

It has evidently escaped W.S. that the landowner cannot pay in land. He has to meet his obligations in money. If he cannot somehow get money from his possession of land, it will pass from him—either by sale or seizure. The owner of any fixed asset is in the same position. Thus both are at the mercy of the policy of the money monopolist, since that policy decides the extent to which money can be acquired from the possession of anything. Clearly, then, the creator of money is master of all.

W.S. makes a mistake common to all single taxers. He assumes that if one does not exalt the single tax as the grand (and exclusive) solution of our economic problems one is necessarily opposed to it. That assumption is quite wrong.

Does W.S. seriously think that the power which abolished the money monopoly years ago—the power which abolished the money monopoly in theory, but who cannot recognise it in practice—should not be necessary in this year of shortage, as it does, prevents the adequate sale of the products of the land, ownership of the same is a doubtful blessing, as any farmer will tell you.

W.S. is a student gone astray. It should not be necessary in this year of grace to argue about the creation of money by the banking system. It is an established practice admitted and explained by many eminent authorities, including several banking people.

W.S. might profitably give some study to the processes of banking. Any standard textbook on the subject will show him he is wrong. The Macmillan Report is informative on this point. See page 34 especially. He will learn that banks depend absolutely on the creation of money for their continuance. They could not carry on without it. The creation of money by book-entries is what Euclid calls a self-evident truth. You don’t argue things of that kind.

Your correspondent has sadly misread his Douglas.

Such a study as I suggest will reveal to W.S. the nature of the “reserve principle” and the process of cancelling money. The self-imposed limitations of the banking system will become clear, and then W.S. will regret having asked such silly questions.

Potential production at this time can be measured by the high power turbine: distribution is determined by a money system measured by the water wheel. And yet the first depends on the second. Is it any wonder that half the people of our nation are under-nourished, and nearly all the people under-supplied through lack of money? Clearly, the need is that the people should have new purchasing power, created by the nation and backed by the nation’s power of production: protected, moreover, from the invasion of all monopolies.

REPLIES TO CORRESPONDENTS . . .

H. T. Lindsay: If you wish to make sure of future copies of this journal, you would be wise to become a subscriber, and to enclose the necessary payment in advance, this because it may not be possible in future to issue Social Credit through the normal channels of the newsagents.

J. B. Smith: We have had similar reports from various quarters saying that Pensions at Fifty is not Social Credit, but this sort of thing cannot come from people who understand Social Credit or the Campaign for Pensions. We agree, however, there may be many who understand the monetary technique proposed by Social Credit in theory, but who cannot recognise the dynamic aspect of Social Credit when they see it in action. The important thing is there are some who can.

T. Jones: The delegation of power to any individual whatever on matters of policy is the very opposite of Social Credit, the power of the people to not only decide policy, but to change it quickly if they want, must be consolidated, and their power of choice in this matter can properly be only represented. The power of the technician to carry out his job is subordinate to the power of the policy decided by the people.

T. Hopkins: We have no information as to the meaning of the latest reshuffle of financial technicians in Germany. The recall of Schacht may have something to do with the fact that the shares held by the Reichsbank in the B.I.S. at Basle are now supplemented by those held by the Bank of Czechoslovakia. We have not the figures of all the shares held by the various Central Bank members of the B.I.S., but the Reichsbank held 19,772 shares, as do at present the Bank of England, the Banque Nationale de Belgique, the Banque de France and the Banca d’Italia.

The Anschluss of Austria made the Reichsbank the holder of the Austrian National Bank’s 4,000 B.I.S. shares, and the recent events in Czechoslovakia will make the Reichsbank become the owner of another 10,000 shares of the B.I.S. held by the Narodni Banka Ceskoslovenska. If you work these figures out, you will find that the Reichsbank will be possessed of 29,772 shares, the Banca d’Italia has 19,772 shares, so that the Axis has a total of 49,544 shares, whereas Great Britain and France together have only 39,544 shares. No wonder there is a search for a united front on the one side and a recall of Schacht on the other.

These figures are taken from a note by the Basle correspondent of “The Financial Times” of March 24.

Suicides

We hear a dreadful tale of suicides committed after the German occupation first of Austria, now of Czechoslovakia. Let us not forget the similar tale of suicides which occur upon the occupation of countries by the concealed Dictatorship of Finance. When, soon after the war, the League of Nations put a financial dictator in charge of Austria, bankruptcies and suicides increased with a bound. And when Mr. Montagu Norman became Governor of the Bank of England, i.e., when he assumed supreme control in England, bankruptcies and suicides at once began to increase rapidly.

Let us beware when our attention is directed to the ends of the earth that we are not being fooled at home!
The Pensions Movement

The steady growth of this movement is still maintained. New members have joined the Pensions at 50 Association this week from no fewer than seven different new constituencies, namely: Aberdeen North, Birkenhead East, Rotherham, Stockport, North-East Derbyshire, Portsmouth Central, and Halifax.

This makes 72 different constituencies now, in which there are members of the Association. The demand for pensions of £2 a week at 50 is growing, and every week sees an increase in its power, for members have voted for it actually.

There are many other Pensions Associations forming now in various parts of the country; one has formed in Wales and the members (or at least some of them) are preparing to march to London, according to news reports.

We wish to warn everybody who wants pensions against the utter futility of such tactics as marching to London, demonstrating, petitions, or deputations to public men, or even collecting signatures. As a means of power to get what you want, such tactics are useless—because they are powerless.

This does not mean, of course, that men and women who want pensions themselves are powerless; far from it; but it does mean that just as the fundamental facts about money are cleverly suppressed and witheld from the people, so too the facts and technique of power also concealed from the people.

The ordinary individual is mis-educated to believe that passing a resolution and then going home has achieved something in the field of power. It has not.

The resolution has no effect in the world of reality unless it is backed by a powerful sanction put into use to bring the resolution into operation.

Whenever men and women unite (whether they pass resolutions or not) to implement their common will by what powers they possess, they are practising Social Credit in the dynamic sense, as distinct from the monetary technical sense.

And it is the dynamic aspect of Social Credit that is the most important aspect at the present time, and will remain so until the majority of people in this country are living in the highest standard of freedom, security, and plenty that our combined resources of knowledge and raw materials can give.

Just now the standard is only one quarter of what it could immediately be. But just talking about it will not mend matters by itself. Sanctions of power must be used to implement the desire of the people for a better standard of living.

How can this be done?

Well, if you will examine the question of the individual man's sanctions as relating to society, you will find he has two basic sanctions applicable individually and unitedly in an effective way.

Those two sanctions are (1) the political vote, and (2) the choice of where he shall spend some of his money.

The Pensions at 50 Association is unique in that it offers an opportunity to every elector in the country to use his or her vote for pensions at 50, and it gives an immediate increment of power to every member who joins, for his power is multiplied exactly by the number of others already joined in his constituency.

This is better—because it is real in the power sense—than collecting signatures or marching in the rain.

It is better than deputations because it aims to send representatives to talk and vote in the House of Commons, rather than make ineffectual requests to Cabinet Ministers who have been selected by the opposition, and elected at the polls on framed-up programmes.

Pensions for all of £2 a week at fifty are a practical proposition.

The money can be found without taxation or borrowing, if the people who want pensions will unite and vote for them.

The vote is growing larger every week; the unity is growing; the power is growing.

If you haven't joined, why not join now? You will be welcomed into a fellowship of men and women who are Social Credit realists.

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- Help to bring light to the people.
- They will respond.
- Start the ball rolling in your district now.
- It is easy.
- It is practical.
- It is Social Credit in a dynamic form.
- Do your bit to elicit the will of the people.

You are the one
To strike the match
To light the fire.
Your Member of Parliament will see the light
When he feels the heat
Beneath his seat.

Send for some "Pensions at 50" matches today.

[Note: We will gladly arrange free distribution of any quantity donated by persons who themselves cannot undertake this task.]

Prices Post Free
50 100 250 500 1000
1/6 2/6 3/6 5/- 9/- 18/-

(Please make postal orders or cheques payable to J. E. Tuke.)

"PENSIONS AT 50" ASSOCIATION
163A STRAND, LONDON, W.C.2
LAST WEEK’S APPEAL FOR SUPPORT and the Result

THE Directors of the Social Credit Secretariat Limited held a meeting on Monday last, March 27, 1939, at their offices at 163A Strand, London, W.C.4, to consider the affairs of the Company. As a result of the appeal made last week in these columns for support from the readers of Social Credit, a number promised quarterly subsidies and enclosed the first instalment with their letters. The total under this heading amounted to £22 13s.

In addition, donations were received to the amount of £32 17s. 6d. The Directors are very grateful to each of those who subscribed, but in view of all the circumstances, they have had no option but to call a preliminary meeting of their creditors for Thursday, March 30.

As we go to press before this date, it is impossible to give to our readers any indication of the result of this meeting, but we still hope that readers will enable us to keep the paper alive in one form or another. One reader has written in offering £10 on condition that 50 others will do the same, to provide a fund of £500 to enable Social Credit to live another year. Who will join in this effort to make up the required number?

There may be others amongst our readers who are willing to donate at once smaller amounts, or to levy themselves quarterly for this direct and specific purpose.

All such are invited to send us what they can if they wish to the paper to survive and render a service which the cause of freedom and security can ill-afford to lose. [At the time of going to press a further £7 13s. 6d. had been received.]

TO WOMEN

By Winifrid E. Fish

ALL creative thoughts and ideas rise from a very deep level of human nature, it is the level in which we use our feeling and intuitive qualities. This basis of fundamental human nature is so complex, so difficult to control and understand that most of us are chary of facing our deeper selves, so we live preferably on the surface of life, settling things by old accepted rules and regulations, because it is so much easier than to make an effort for something new which may provide a true answer to our problems. Thus our feeling-life lags behind our knowledge of material things and this disparity results in the terrible tangle of our social and economic life, and the devastating state of the world as a whole.

Social life is, however, riddled with illusions and self-deceptions and there is very little genuine power that is not mixed up with the mind, which only finds satisfaction by controlling and limiting the freedom of others. This will to power permeates society, and is responsible for the growth of the financial system in the direction of an ever-increasing contraction of the means of life, for the will and ability to withhold and restrict food, shelter and clothing is the most primitive and the most effective way of obtaining and keeping this unjustifiable power. It is at the bottom of the miserable situation of to-day, and until we realise it and alter our economic life and the whole system of distribution, no political movement nor any social effort for betterment will be of the slightest avail.

The financial system as it operates to-day is the great enemy of life and therefore of woman. It is of paramount importance that she should understand this and use her influence to alter it.

If we follow closely the disastrous events which are piling up so rapidly around us we must remark that industry concentrates more and more on the production of inanimate things. It is an extraordinary evidence of the complete distortion of people’s minds that money should so readily be forthcoming for the manufacture of armaments, whereas agriculture, the one industry upon which we depend for every atom of food we get, is neglected and deteriorating. The same tendency is to be seen in all countries, for it is the natural outcome of a national and international policy ruled by will to power. If this process goes on unchecked it will eventually lead to the complete annihilation of life itself.

Man developed the power of thought in order to conquer nature and subdue her to his needs and that the power of thought has brought him an ever-increasing consciousness of himself and the surrounding world. Our intellectual awareness has outrun our feeling development, and that our conquests in the material world have made us overvalue the intellect to the detriment of the much deeper layer of human nature which is expressed by feeling.

Over-intellectualism is far more disastrous in women than in men. For in fact, although all creative life emerges from the intellectual and feeling centre of humanity, feeling does not, and cannot, play the same role as it naturally does in women.

If the world is to be changed from its present course of destruction, it must change first in the realm of feeling, and in this change women must be the leaders. Women feel that they have not yet attained an equal status with men and that on this account they are still deprived of their full rights. If they go on waiting for them to be given, however, they will have to wait a long time. In reality, it is not a question of equal rights at all nor a question of getting something they have not got. The whole point lies in the fact that women have not yet accepted nor understood their true nature nor made their real contribution towards life as a whole. They will only realise their particular quality and power when they have accepted their share in the world’s work, and when they at last take responsibility for the dire and unnecessary destruction of life which we are witnessing to-day.

It will only end when a feeling strong and deep enough impels people to say: this must stop. If women realise at last that the preservation of life in this world depends upon them and what they do, they will find a way to change these forces of death into a new fulness of life. By so doing they will recognise their true meaning and position in the world and attain those things which they feel they still need.
ON THIS EARTH—

By Nicholas Mere

Business is Business

An interesting matter was raised in the House of Commons by Mr. Garro-Jones (Abertillery, N. Ward). The Member elicited the fact that the Press had not been approached to publish the advertisements calling for voluntary National Service without charge to the Treasury. Finally, in question and answer, to a very logical arrangement, Mr. Garro-Jones said:

Why should the Minister show such a tenderness for the pockets of the Press when he is prepared to receive any amount of voluntary service from poorer people?

So that, in the newspaper world, we have not yet got within bawling distance of the conception of banks, insurance companies, and all the desirable sinews of war before conscription of life is commenced. The brave, open, generous, large-hearted, noble, magnanimous, bountiful, liberal, open-handed, munificent where the devil are we? Oh, it’s the Press we are talking about. The Press, then, whilst yawping about the matter of voluntary service, has not volunteered to take advertisements voluntarily, on the same voluntary basis as those who give their services voluntarily. This should be recorded in the British Museum for posterity—the printed word has its price, and 1939 showed its largartedness.

Be Generous

The Times has very kindly given to Oswald Mosley two paragraphs about his meeting at Ilford. Whilst it is in the "giving away" mood, The Times might also give space to his article in his own paper, "1,000,000 Britons shall not die in Money Lenders’ Quarrel." You may not admire his politics, but he is hammering on our-ansil, and is welcome to it. He writes, "For the oil wells of Rumania finance invites the youth of Britain to conscription in the above order; and then we start fair and square. And while we are at it, all bank overdrafts could be conscripted as well. In the same issue, and as fresh air is always welcome, here is an extract from a letter in the same paper from B. H. Liddell Hart, who is only a soldier. He writes:

The Totalitarian State is the total-compulsion State, to which the individual is enslaved. For us to adopt compulsory service under pressure of their challenge would be a definite surrender of our own vital principles—an admission of spiritual defeat. Universal compulsory service is fundamentally incompatible with the claim to be defending the principle of individual freedom. To cut off the incentive to freely given service is to dry up the life-source of a free community.

On Our Own Doorstep

It would take a lifetime for an intelligent man to get a fair working grasp of the central countries of Europe. Looking over a few European maps, date 814, 1100, 1723, 1494, 1792 and 1815 A.D., apart from the fact that these central countries appear like a huge bone picked up by one dog and then another, one is forced to ask, "Who owns the earth?" We no sooner learn the geography of Catalonia than we are jerked to the lesson of learning about Ruthenia. "We are not!" I hear you say. "All right—I was just trying you. And here is my epilogue:

New rates: Edmonton 14s. 1d. (8d increase); Friern Barnet 11s. 4d. (10d increase); Lambeth 12s. 3d. (unchanged); Windsor 11s. 9d. (1s. increase).

Bankers’ loan charges on all these would be more interesting information than even to be able to sing the Treaty of Westphalia in 1648, with the financial critics of the evening papers playing the rests to you with a mangle. This is a rest--

CURRENT ADVICE

Go on! Hate Hitler as you hated the Kaiser, and you’ll get just as much out of it for your trouble. The financiers will see to that.

CURRENT CAKE

Great words of wisdom by Lady Astor, a representative of the Will of the People. "We are in the limelight, you are in the darkness." This, according to the News Chronicle, at the Jubilee Luncheon of the L.C.C.

CURRENT COMPLICATION

A letter in The Times signed “Astor” is composed of five questions, one straightforward sentence, and two slabs of quotations from an address by Professor Arnold Toynbee. It is all about compulsion. We are in favour of compulsion, which is conscription, in the following order: Conscription of banks, insurance companies, property, and then life. Here is an offer to the noble Lord. He has wonderful opportunities from his unique position to make an example himself and get conscription in the above order; and then we all start fair and square. And while we are at it, all bank overdrafts could be conscripted as well. In the same issue, and as fresh air is always welcome, here is an extract from a letter in the same paper from B. H. Liddell Hart, who is only a soldier. He writes:

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There is a new phrase in currency—“Financial Democracy.” My own explanation of it could be compared to a Big Banker—I mean a really big one, who calls himself a Democrat because he would let a common man, say an engine driver, drive the engine of a train on which he was a passenger. We shall perhaps hear more of the phrase later on. My point in mentioning this is to draw attention to the scant notice made of the following extract from the Star of Hitler’s speech:

THE END OF REPARATION

“We have no intention of doing any harm to the rest of the world, but the harm they have done us had to be made good again.

“I believe that substantially we have already come to the conclusion of this unique reparation.”

There are financial chestnuts to be pulled out of the fire; we say, let them burn. But Democracy in the best sense of the word will be well advised to tell the chairman and directors of foreign oil companies, etc., to do the job themselves this time. It is no man’s job to die for money made out of an inkpot.”
Potential Purchasers

By Ashley Vine

Food, warmth and shelter are essentials we must have, and any Man, System, form of Government, Association of People, or anything else which prevents the distribution of these essentials is depriving people of their just rights, and is a menace to Society. Man wants and should have the proper means to exist in comfort with freedom and security.

Invented, introduced and foisted upon humanity is an insane system that is NOT functioning as it properly should to achieve a definite object—the correct transfer of commodities, goods or services to consumers. No one can do anything without money under the present system. Everyone has to obtain it in some way in order to live.

Should your services not be required, you are "UNEMPLOYED." If you are unable to sell your goods, "TRADE IS BAD." If you are unable to get orders, "BUSINESS IS SLACK." Look at the number of boot-repairers there are, the number of motor-repairers there are, the number of second-hand dealers there are, and one could enumerate a whole list of trades and "professions" that could be eliminated under a sane, sensible system.

Who is there who would prefer to have their boots mended if they had sufficient income to purchase a new pair? Who is there who would not prefer a new car to buying an old, patched-up affair that only keeps the repairer busy?

No! there would be no need of all this, the old pair could be burnt as soon as they showed the least sign of wear and tear, the old motor car could be sent to the scrap-heap as soon as it was showing signs of needing renewals, no one would wear patched-up clothing or buy any old, discarded garments if they had the purchasing power to acquire new.

How many people are there who want wireless sets? How many people are there wanting new boots? How many are there wanting new cars? How many are there wanting innumerable things that the manufacturer is only too willing to supply. There are millions.

There is no difficulty in supplying the needs of everyone. Ask the boot-maker: "Can you make me a pair of boots?" He won't say "No, I haven't your size of last!" He will be only too pleased to sell you a pair, provided you have the "money" to buy. In fact, he will go out of his way to carry out your instructions as to fit, shape and quality, PROVIDED you have the money to buy. The amount of potential purchasers is unlimited.

The fact of us all being on the earth and it being absolutely necessary to eat to live is treated as a debt against the community. Where is the corresponding entry of credit to complete the double entry? Nature provides the food and has given us the power to consume, Nature's double entry in book-keeping terms. To my mind, there was never any intention that this should be interfered with by man introducing some insane, idiotic, erratic system that precludes the possibility of this being carried out properly. The system is all back-wards, "topsy-turvey," as they say, and should be reversed to do the right thing. People are a "credit" to a nation, not a "debt."

"Eat more fish," and fish thrown back into the sea. "Drink more coffee," and reports in the papers of coffee being dumped in the sea or used as fuel. Horse-plastered with enticing advertisements, "Our goods are best." Travellers rushing helter-skelter after orders, shopkeepers unable to give any as their shelves are stacked with "unsaleable" goods!

"Keep the home fires burning." How can one if one hasn't the money to buy? What a game, and we call ourselves a sane, sensible nation and send missionaries abroad to other countries to teach them our methods, religion and customs!

PENSIONS AT FIFTY, though not the whole monetary solution, would go a long way towards solving the important, dynamic part of the present difficulty. Finance consumption and this would release production.

Pensions at Fifty

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ONE of the disturbing factors which Social Crediters have to combat is the grave lack of information amongst those who are in many respects instructed, educated, cultured and personally charming people. Everyone knows that everyone cannot know everything about everything, yet amongst the academic there is apt to be a tendency to make at least tacit claims of knowledge in excess of the expert's own subject. Especially when a mind, deprived of the quite real benefits of an academic education, is under the microscope, the eyes of the scholar are sharpened. It is his conservative mental attitude which, although it evinces eagerness to know the latest in science, medicine, commerce, art, hygiene, yet curls up and closes when the "new" has any appearance of touching what are known as established institutions. A kind of automatic inhibition seems to operate at once.

Recently, the Cambridge Rotarians were addressed by a doctor, whose own "subject" was not named, and he entitled his lecture "If men were wise." Such a title promises rich harvest, and the local newspaper gave over a column of space to the report of it.

The lecturer was concerned about unemployment, the unfortunate distribution throughout the world of the "fundamentals of life on this planet," and gambling. He had a plan for dealing with the natural riches of the world, but as he anticipated objections to it, by making it quite clear that it was more by way of opening discussion than suggestion of its being practicable, examination of that part of the address would be redundant.

A remarkable, unqualified statement was that "the nations of the earth have grown up haphazard. The way in which nations have acquired those parts of the earth's surface they own, has been haphazard." Surely some of these Rotarians must have wished to know, for example, where the haphazard quality existed in the founding of the East India Trading Company, the capture of Aden, the capture of Gibraltar (red-hot cannon balls by order of a British Knight), the acquisition of Zanzibar, and the deal which made Dutch New Zealand ours; but the questions asked at the end of the lecture are not recorded as including these.

As to unemployment, the lecturer was quite clear in his own mind that the main reason is that we are dependent upon the international market, and he said, according to the report, that anyone could have been expected to be eliminated by adopting an authoritative type of government, though he did not favour such a means. He added that we were losing hundreds of millions of pounds a year by gambling.

If this had been said by plain folk to plain folk, it could have been overlooked, but the Rotarians of one of our "Varsity towns are probably a cut above the nos poios and expect special attention. The editor of the paper took this view or he would not have given the report more than a column of space.

Now there is conflict as to what is commonly known as gambling, but apart from the moral aspect, how can a nation "lose" by it, unless the winners are in other countries, and that objection has not been raised? Although the chances were that the results would bring money INTO the country, the Irish Sweepstake business was obstructed here.

But if gambling is a sign of unwisdom (and the present writer holds that opinion), defendants of the popular type may have some very incisive questions to ask. Social Crediters may also ask opponents of gambling certain questions. For example, are critics not aware that one of the greatest institutions of the land, namely, banking, lends money in excess of deposits, gambling on the chance that all depositors will not all want all their deposits, all at the same time? In 1914, when the thing the Bankers greatly feared came upon them, they said, "Let there be a Moratorium," and it was so. And the Gods of Finance saw that it was very good. Are they not also aware that our Government guarantee loans to needy foreign powers, again gambling on the alien borrowers paying it and/or the interest, although the risks are such that banks would not themselves take them unless we as a nation guarantee them from loss? "If men were" ordinarily just, they would surely attack the greater evil, committed under national auspices, which would in the act give them good ground on which to stand to attack the weakness of the individual citizen. And it does not seem to be known as a fact, or a matter for concern, that while we as a nation give the guarantees, we do not get any of the interest, which goes to the Banks, who would not lend the capital sum unless the people, by the hand of their elected representatives, gave the guarantee. Is this more moral than gambling?

Without a recognised "authoritative type of Government" we see here that our money-lenders carry out savage dictation in most grave matters, yet no one in authority notices it or takes notice. The people do not seem to care enough to take the trouble to enquire as to their own exploitation, the carrying of an astronomic sum of interest charges paid to a small fraction of the total population who have, as to vast sums, done nothing but make figures in books. Critics of Social Credit may deride this. Let them look up the Encyclopaedia Britannica, Volume 4, "Banking and Credit." There they will find this: "It is a mistake to suppose that bank credit is created to any important extent by the payment of money into the banks. Banks create credit.

And why are we so dependent on "International markets"? It is not because our manufacturers specially wish to sell there. It is because they cannot sell here. And the reason that they cannot sell here is because, in colloquial language, buyers do not have "money." Yet in the six years of 1914-1917 deposits in the banks of the United Kingdom increased by £6,722,211,000. 

War work? Yes, and who found the money? Readers need not believe Social Crediters. Let them look up the Cunliffe Report, First Interim of the Committee on Currency and Foreign Exchange after the war. They will find that when the Government needed, say, ten millions, they applied to the Bank of England, who gave "facilities for the current "condonation"; which in due course found its way into the pockets of those who supplied goods and services, but who, by this type of legerdemain are now carrying a debt of £80,000,000,000.

Unemployed! The same power which created "credit" to pay for the work of destruction, can create it for beneficent humane purposes by which Unemployment and other physical evils would dwindle out of consequence.

And the power behind the power vested in the Banks of England, would be seen to be the only true "money" power, the power which by the vehicles of hand and brain of millions of workers is constantly creating goods and performing services.

"If men were wise," they would take at least as much trouble to enquire into these matters as they for example expect youths to take so that they may pass matriculation examinations. If they were wise they would allow their eyes to open to see that in as far as our present system works and "delivers the goods," it is because of the reality of the assets which Finance has the wit to recognise; and these men, grown wise, would see that the rewards were reaped by the people who had produced the seed and nurtured the crops, and not only by the organizers of the workers who kept the books, the privileged few.

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**FOG OVER CAMBRIDGE**

By John W. Rattray

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**HAVE YOU VOTED FOR PENSIONS AT 50 YET?**
THE March issue of the "Fig Tree" comes as a refreshing draught to labourers in the Social Credit field. For most of us, when weary sometimes with uphill work for the Cause and craving for rest and refreshment, can only find it in more Social Credit literature.

The list of contributors gives promise of keen pleasure and stimulation, and we are not disappointed.

George Hickling tops the excellent bill of fare with "In the Balance," a forceful article, and brings home to us that Right and Left stand for in these days of confusion worse confounded; in what respects they differ and their fundamental similarity of aim, i.e., the centralised control of the masses of the people. That "the British Right is working steadily towards compromise with the Planners of the Left" many of us suspected, and Miss Faulkner Jones confirms our worst fears.

But, however dark the outlook, to see clearly the issue is always an advantage.

In "How the Caravan Got Its Start," H. E. Halliday pilots us skilfully through the most significant chapters of that amazing novel, "Anthony Adverse," and throws into relief "the whole foul business of plotting and cheating and over-reaching" by which the financiers maintained and increased their power.

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