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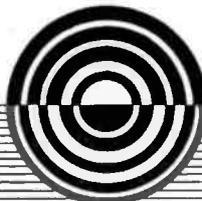
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The Norman Bailiwick Of Newfoundland

By William Bell

AFTER being ruled for five years by a Commission of Government from this country, Newfoundland — the oldest British Colony — is still in "a grave financial and industrial plight." At least one out of every two of the employable male population of the island is unemployed. Serious troubles are expected "unless drastic steps are taken to relieve the desperate situation of many people." The report goes on: "When you get groups of men walking into their local stores and taking what they need for themselves and their families, and telling the storekeeper to charge the Government with the cost, you realise something of the dissatisfaction that exists." (*Daily Telegraph*, January 14, 1939.)

Isn't "dissatisfaction" a charming example of understatement of the people's real feelings against the bailiff's-men now in possession?

When the Bank of England (nominally the Commission of Government) put its bailiffs into the Norman Bailiwick of Newfoundland in 1934, the world had already been told of the gross Governmental incompetence and extravagance that had brought the Colony to insolvency. Mr. Norman's nominees thus took possession of its administrative machine, applauded by a host of city men blowing their own trumpets. These nominees enjoyed an advantage unknown to a "popularly-elected" Government—they were responsible *only to themselves* for success or failure. In our "democratic" country the actual Financial Government has always been able to blame the old wives constituting the political "Government" for the non-success resulting from legislation dictated by the Old Lady in the City. Yet in the case of Newfoundland the Norman Conquerors, Tweedledumdee, have made even a bigger hash of the Colony's economic affairs than did the last popularly-elected Government whom the bailiffs superseded.

The opponents of Social Credit gleefully point to Mr. Aberhart's "failure" to "put across" Social Credit in the five years during which he has had the whole force

of Orthodox Finance working openly and secretly against him. Not a word, however, is printed about Orthodox Finance's failure to create prosperity in Newfoundland, where Dictator Norman has had it all his own way for five years.

Nero fiddled while Rome burned. Perhaps Mr. Norman still lightly strums his favourite hymn—"Lead Kindly Light"—though when he thinks of his Newfoundland he may wish he had never found it. Amidst the encircling gloom of the Mansion House in November, 1932, he pathetically stated over the nuts and wine to his fellow-banksters: "For most of us it is 'One step enough for me' . . . I approach the whole subject in ignorance and in humility." No wonder that Mr. Norman's self-confessed "ignorance" of the correct remedy for Newfoundland's distress should have landed the Colony where it still is.

When the Devil quotes Scripture, we are warned to Look Out. When the Governor of the Bank of England quotes from a hymn we should beware of his temporary piety. If he spoke with tongue in cheek, then callous cynicism from him is even less tolerable than affected ignorance and humility. Only a nation of political slaves would tolerate such cynicism or such ignorance in one holding the key position in what is still called Sound Finance, though every bolt and

nut in its mechanism is now rattling to its doom.

Were the Commander-in-Chief of an Army in the field, or a Prime Minister in the political field, to plead ignorance of his job, he would be dismissed at once for incompetence. Yet the Ruling Chief of our Credit System can admit his ignorance of the solution to the financial problem, and not one bewildered Member of Parliament raises so much as an eyebrow in protesting astonishment after Dictator Norman's five years of ineffectual tinkering with twopenn'orth of solder at Newfoundland's money-box. Why? Because Governor Norman knows that subservient Members of Parliament are well aware that: "Half-a-dozen men at the top of the Big Five banks could upset the whole fabric of Government finance" if any Minister were "indiscreet enough to revive the money-trust bogey at a moment when the Government had most need to be polite to the banks." (See the *Financial Times*, September, 1921.)

We did "not ask to see that distant scene," but there it is—a "democratically-elected" Sovereign Parliament having to be "polite" and "discreet" to half-a-dozen banksters whose operations are conducted by grace of the Bank Charter Acts passed by so-called Sovereign Parliaments!

Will the "Democrats" at Westminster continue to be grovellingly polite at the feet of Dictator Norman and his fellow-banksters in face of the Newfoundlanders' "dissatisfaction" with the despotic misgovernment by the bailiff's men? The answer, of course, is Yes. For the Dictatorship of the Bankolariat is still supreme at St. Stephen's, not to mention St. John's.

Arab's Bird's-Eye View

A London gossip writer comments:

"A distinguished Arab delegate to the Palestinian Conference put his view of the problem to me in a racy manner yesterday.

"'You English,' he said, 'are in a fix. You're like a man who's sold a horse to two different purchasers.

"'That, we quite understand, is a regrettable accident such as can happen to anyone. But what we don't understand is why you use your superior strength to beat one of the purchasers into letting go of his end of the horse.'"

THE FIG TREE

THE DECEMBER ISSUE

contains an important article by G. F. POWELL reviewing the Alberta situation.

GEORGE HICKLING draws the veil from the machinations of the Bank of England, which he calls the "Crisis Factory."

A remarkable analysis of the events that have precipitated the present world condition, from the graphic pen of Miss D. E. FAULKNER JONES, should be read by everyone.

Other notable contributions are from "A.B.C." ARTHUR BRENTON, A. W. COLEMAN, G. W. L. DAY, ARTHUR WELFORD, C. G. DOBBS, HILDERIC COUSENS, GRISelda COCHRANE-SHANKS, TOM DIXON, PHILIP McDEVITT, and EDWARD P. KAYE.

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"WHAT'S WRONG WITH THE WORLD?"

By G.W.L. Day

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COMMENTARY

Question

THE *Daily Mail* prints a message from Rome stating that "Mussolini has issued the following instructions:—

- "1. Unemployment pay to be increased.
- "2. Old-age pensions are to be paid at 60 instead of 65 and pension age for some employments is to be reduced to 50.
- "3. Family allowances for all workers employed away from their home towns are to be increased."

This is the kind of policy that rouses international financiers to a frenzy of hate. There are some in this country who are only too anxious to get you and me involved in a war with Italy and Germany, of course, nominally to save "democracy," but really to save the power of the International Credit Monopoly. We won the last war for the international financiers; are we to march and be shot and bombed to pieces again for the policy of "sound finance" which has ruined whole areas of Britain, starved millions of our children, driven thousands of ex-service men to suicide and brought us to the brink of war again after promising homes fit for heroes?

Let's fight the warmongers here, "the enemy within," for Pensions at 50, it may stop the international war they are getting ready for.

"Stand by Your Food-Growers"

One thousand farmers from East Anglia and other parts of the country recently held a demonstration in Westminster to secure "justice for the land." One of their posters urged the public to "Stand by Your Food-Growers."

It is as well to remember, in a civilisation such as ours, rendered decadent by the debt-system, that while we could exist without clerks, statisticians, or even bankers, we could not possibly live without our farmers.

At the same time, it should be realised that it is the inability of the town-folk to buy that causes the decay of the fields. Pensions at 50 would provide a huge market for Nature's bounty, and the farmers would not have to wait for the next war before paradoxically enjoying "better times." In fact, the next war could then, and then only, be "indefinitely postponed."

Wasted Potatoes

"In an old ration book of the last war I have just found, there appears this advice from the Ministry of Food: 'Grow potatoes if you can. The nation cannot have too many.' The other day, I wanted

to buy some big potatoes from a green-grocer, who told me he could not sell me the very biggest as they weighed over 1 lb. each. That was the ruling and they would have to be wasted."—A. E. Thompson, in a letter to the *Daily Mail*, February 1, 1939.

This is the kind of thing that goes on in a country whose rulers say they cannot "afford" to pay more than 10s. a week to old-age pensioners.

The question is, Can we afford to waste potatoes and human life?

We say "No!" And all over the country the cry is going up, "No!" It will continue louder and louder until it wakes the Members of Parliament asleep on their benches and until even the bankers (safe in their concrete bunk holes) hear it—and fear it.

Plenty to Eat at Home

"Town rubbish prepared for fertilising the soil could increase our wheat acreage by 50 per cent."—Sir Bernard Greenwell, the farmer-baronet, in a paper read at Farmers' Club meeting in London.

This makes our home-grown "Export-or-die" merchants look rather silly, doesn't it? They clamour for a "revival of international trade" (by which they mean international money-mongering) on the ground that we cannot feed ourselves. The truth is that, thanks to the bankers, we haven't even begun to try.

Plenty for All

"Now the policy of supplying necessities (houseroom, primary foods, education) for next to nothing cuts across all complications. The cost falls on the taxes, and the taxes fall (or can be made to fall) on those classes of the community which are both rich and unproductive."—Barbara Wootton in *Reynolds*, February 5, 1939.

This is reactionary propaganda. Why should we beg for the crumbs that fall from the rich man's table when we can have the fish that is thrown back into the sea, the wheat that is burnt, the milk that is used for umbrella handles or poured down the drain?

We don't want planned poverty. We want plenty for all—because there is!

The Sanctity of Life

"Good news this morning for foreign bondholders and for the world generally is that Uruguay puts forward a very fair plan for a resumption of sinking fund on the Republic's debt.

"What we need more than anything else to-day is a re-establishment of the principle of sanctity of contracts."—From Alexander's City Notes in the *Evening Standard*, February 3, 1939.

What is needed to-day more than anything else is the realization on the part

of the debt-merchants of the City of London of the sanctity of human life.

As to their contracts, they were ridiculous from the start. All money comes from the banks, therefore it is as impossible for debtors as a whole to repay them with interest as it is to add up 2 and 2 and make them equal 5.

Gymnastics

This is how *The Financial News* of February 3 refers to the proposed new legislation for the revaluing of gold held by the Bank of England according to prices the Bank of England shall determine:

"The move is an extremely clever piece of book-keeping, which dresses the Bank's window very nicely, and may even help us to finance rearmament by credit expansion while preserving every appearance of rectitude and respectability. But it involves no fundamental change in the monetary system which we have been working for the past six years."

Here is an extract from *The Times* leader on Managed Money on February 7:

"It may be rash to leap to the conclusion that the former canons of orthodoxy have been disproved. But it would be unreasonable and churlish to deny that extremely satisfactory results have been achieved by the use of systems which were the heresies of yesterday. It is hardly to be wondered that much of the financial doctrine which centred around the old form of orthodox gold standard has fallen into disrepute.

"There is no sphere, even in a world of great changes, where standards have so much altered as in that of monetary policy."

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COMEDY OF ERRORS

Can Finance Defeat Hitler ?

By Arthur Brenton

CAN Germany collapse under a "financial strain"? In the *Manchester Guardian* last week appeared a letter signed Etienne Mantoux under date January 26 (i.e., before Hitler and Chamberlain had made their statements), warning England and France that if they were counting on such an event they were under a delusion. This letter, both in substance and expression, is the best survey of politico-economic fundamentals that has been put before the public in a general newspaper. It is worth its place—every word of it—in every journal advocating the technical principles of Social Credit, for it very nearly completes the circuit of Social Credit science, and thus affords an incomparable text for comment in this frame of reference.

Limitations of space constrain me to content myself with quotations of the cardinal points of the writer's argument. Speaking of the expectation that Germany will be "cramped by financial difficulties" and will therefore "cease to be a menace to European liberty" he says:

"Such a view completely ignores the fundamental character of the totalitarian State. For that State there is no such thing as a financial difficulty which is *internal*."

Again:

"... totalitarian States thrive on bankruptcy: 'financial strain' can only appear in so far as the State is not completely totalitarian. . . . The gravest danger, from which even the totalitarian State is not exempt, is the consumption of the national capital."

The second of these quotations will be of special interest to some of my correspondents, who have questioned my views about the omnipotence of Basle as being exaggerated. For the writer provides a basis of qualification with which I am in agreement, and which I would have brought forward myself if I had thought of his clear way of expressing it. As he puts the case, it will be seen that in respect of Germany's internal affairs the power of Basle to throw them into financial disorder decreases in the same measure as the totalitarian principle approaches to factual completeness. I emphasise the word "factual," because, as the writer will agree, *nominal* completeness means nothing. But assuming such a thing as that Hitler gets every Germany, from millionaire to pauper, by the scruff of the neck and makes him do whatever the State wishes on the State's dictated terms, then Basle could do nothing to prevent Hitler from developing German resources, or from distributing the products of this development to the population in the form of consumable goods at the maximum rate, i.e.,

achieving the same object as is envisaged by advocates of Social Credit. All that Basle could do would be to engineer an economic blockade of Germany in respect of essential materials. The writer allows for this, for he says:

"Certainly foreign credits may be indispensable when the State must purchase abroad the materials it cannot find at home, and when, its whole production being devoted to internal purposes, not enough exports are available to pay for the much-needed imports. Such was exactly the position of the Allies during the Great War. Foreign credits . . . enabled them to import certain goods for which they could not pay: these credits never served and never could have served to buttress their internal finances. For that purpose the war powers of industrial conscription and monetary inflation were quite sufficient. Certainly inflation or forced loans have consequences to large sections of the population and which may eventually bring about their complete ruin: but to be killed in action is also unpleasant."

These consequences, he continues, derive from the needs of the nation at war, and are borne by the nation as long as the Government obtains either "wifful (i.e., willed) consent or enforced obedience."

Since foreign credits cannot buttress internal finances, it follows that the denial of those credits cannot cause internal collapse. The writer proceeds as follows:

"Financial difficulties have a meaning only where means of supply to the State are limited by the respect for private property. The abolition of this . . . limitation is the very essence of the totalitarian State,"

from which it follows that so long as the State respects any private property at all it is not completely totalitarian, and to that extent leaves exposed the heel of Achilles to the arrows of Basle. Against this background it will be seen, incidentally, that the dispossession and deportation of Jews from Germany was logically consistent with the Government's intention to curtail Basle's power of interference; but before we can interpret that act as proving such an intention we must wait and see what happens to other holders of property in Germany whose rights are (or at any rate seem to be) respected, e.g., capitalists and Catholic Church authorities.

The writer recalls the prediction made by Mr. J. M. Keynes in September, 1915, that there would be a British bankruptcy in the spring of 1916. Then he goes further

back in history and quotes the following passage from Burke on the Jacobin Government's financial's policy:

"We go about asking when assignats will expire, and we laugh at the last price of them. But what signifies the fate of those tickets of despotism? The despotism will find despotic means of supply. They have found the short cut to the productions of nature, while others, in pursuit of them, are obliged to wind through the labyrinth of a very intricate state of society. They seize upon the fruit of the labourer; they seize upon the labourer himself."

Thus Burke, writing in 1796. The writer adduces Fox (in the House of Commons, 1800) who derided the complacent expectation that France was in the "gulf of bankruptcy." One need not trouble to define the term "bankruptcy." It is sufficient to note that just as that negro potentate told the late Lord Reading: "We have no deficit because we have no Budget," so can the head of a bankrupt nation declare: "We have no creditors but those who can punish us for not paying."

The writer sums up his contention thus:

"This error of applying to a war economy the principles which regulate commerce and finance in free States in time of peace is not new. It is only surprising that it should still be prevalent."

Readers will appreciate the implication of this, for it amounts to saying that when you need to get industry working at full speed delivering consumable and destructible products you have to abandon those orthodox financial principles which prevail in less urgent times. Of course you do. For if those principles were rightly applied in war one of the consequences would be a tremendous expansion of war-material factories and plant, accompanied by a restricted and relatively diminishing output of the material itself. In practice, the people would not tolerate it, of course; but this is only saying that they would not tolerate the laws of "sound finance." Everything that is made for war purposes, and cannot be used in time of peace for revenue-earning purposes, comes under consumable goods. And since the prin-

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ciples of orthodox finance operate to stabilise the output of consumable goods at bare survival level in terms of food, clothes and shelter, so would they operate to hang up the output of shells, guns, and all other destroying and destructible implements of war. No; like the Jacobin Government, a War Government must "find the shortest cut to the productions of nature."

Now, four days after the letter under discussion was written, Hitler made his speech to the Reichstag. Most of it needs no further comment than has appeared in the newspapers. But there is one passage worth examining. It is where he declared that Germany must export or die. That declaration he elaborated as follows: Germany must export, firstly, in order to acquire means of importing certain indispensable materials. She must export, secondly, in order to acquire further materials essential for making things for export. Now the first of these two necessities is understandable from the realistic point of view that the imports sought would fill a blank in Germany's physical self-sufficiency. But the second necessity is not understandable from the same point of view. On the other hand, it is quite understandable if what is sought is to earn more money by re-exporting the imports than was paid for them. For this is the old familiar "favourable-balance-of-trade" idea. If the German Government can sustain the population with the help of the first series of imports, it cannot plead that the second is a matter of life or death—that is, in terms of concrete things. Only for internal financial reasons can it make out a case for demanding imports for re-sale at a profit. But in making out that case it is implicitly disclosing the fact that its domestic monetary policy and practices conform to the Basle design. If that is the truth about Germany, Hitler has two theoretical options. One is to go on and make Germany a completely totalitarian State, and thereby achieve financial self-sufficiency; the other is to use the power that he already possesses to take the shorter and easier cut by adopting Social Credit technical principles. By his speech and action so far he is halting between two opinions; and until he moves decisively and finally in one or the other direction, Basle will keep its foot wedged in Germany's door.

In a recent pamphlet issued by the British Union it is stated that Sir Oswald Mosley accepts the Social Credit analysis and proposals as sound, and that if he is placed in a position of political power he will call in Major Douglas. This is a welcome overture from the point of view that it will go some way towards correcting the popular notion that Social Credit has "already been tried and has failed." It would be more welcome still if Sir Oswald would undertake to make the adoption of Social Credit his first act after coming to power. It would clear up

the difficulty that is in the minds of many Social Credit supporters, namely, that his programme has cumulatively embraced, since he first started his campaign, a good many lines of action that would be manifestly superfluous if Social Credit became "Item No. 1." The Social Credit Proposals are an instrument for reaching an economic objective which all sections of society approve, or will approve as soon as it is recommended to them through their accustomed channels of instruction and information. And if that recommendation were accompanied by an assurance on the part of the Government that personal property rights would be respected (the definition of those rights being made clear by formulation, or by implication, as in the Draft Scheme for Scotland) it would elicit active co-operation from an overwhelming majority of the people. And something like this would be necessary in the case of Sir Oswald Mosley, because of his earlier sponsorship of Italian and German totalitarian principles of administration. As already seen, the objective which can be reached through Social Credit can be reached through a completed totalitarian elimination of liberty and property. So it has to be made clear that the way to prosperity and security, even if Hitler had already achieved it his way, does not necessarily wind among the debris of violent disruption of habits and customs which people cherish as their liberties. The state of society may be ever so intricate, as Burke remarked, but Social Credit underpins the whole structure: it needs not to alter it, much less to demolish it.

For this reason it would be well for Sir Oswald Mosley to go a step further than cutting the word "Fascists" out of the title of his movement, and to cut out of his programme everything that connotes the methods of the totalitarian Powers. Constriction and inflation may lead eventually to the objective we all envisage, but the objective can be reached without the adoption of either.

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Birmingham. F.W.

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ON THIS EARTH —

Contents of the White Paper

AN attempt to clarify the issues before the public might be made on the following lines. If the Government, as distinct from Bankers, believe that war is inevitable, let it (and not the Bankers) say so, and name the enemy. With this statement must come the conscription of all wealth in Banks and Insurance Companies. The public, at the same time, must be told *why war is inevitable*. Sir John Anderson and his staff would then be redundant. Stated as above, as clearly as I am capable of doing it, it appears as an elementary English way of dealing with the matter, but our studies of Social Credit also come to our help. Bank arrangements are complete for the crisis, bank servants are exempt from national service, and there is no sign of cash as against life taking on any responsibility. If the Social Creditor has any sense of *smell* left he will not need to be told what it means. The danger of war, as Mr. Arthur Brenton stated last week, *was due to the wanton neglect of the Credit Monopolists to correct their accounting and accrediting principles*. Perhaps the wonderful structure of Sound Finance is not so wonderful after all; the present distractions to decent men, women and children may be designed to cover up the fact that the wonderful structure has collapsed.

Contents of the Blue Paper

There is an Indian fable of an elephant in the day-time trampling with contempt and disdain on an ant-hill. The ants suffered destruction to their numbers, but, at night-time, when the elephant slept, those that were left alive, got in the elephant's feet and ate. The next morning the elephant could not walk.

Sound finance as the elephant and the common people of more countries than England as the ants, may give us a clue to our troubles and the incubation of dictators, but don't strain your eyes in our Press for any confirmation of this. Unite and demand (not ask) for fair dealings from "us Normans."

Wrong Information

That picture paper, the *Daily Mirror*, would appear to be on the wrong track. Its front page reads: "12 War Dictators in Britain." It surely can only be abroad where dictators are found.

Paint

You remember saving the money last year on the cost of a coat or two of paint on your greenhouse and cold frame. And then you had the lusty assurance from the

newspapers that, in spite of everything being all wrong, everything was all right and you ought to spend the money on paint. Very well, you may like to know that there was, in September, 1938, a slump in the paint trade, and the newspapers, mere tradesmen's circulars, did a bit of thinking about you, and for themselves, but it did not come off. Carefully looking back on the "crisis" of 1938, it would certainly have been great comfort to you to know that your greenhouse was painted even if you would have been in a position not to be able to pick, say, a few tomatoes in it. But the structure of sound finance produces such economic wild fowl which Social Credit enables you to identify, and, like Adam, give them a name.

Verbal Inebriation

A blanc-mange on a shaky table wobbles. When you forget how money is made, you can allow yourself the luxury of reading the following from the *Evening Standard*, January 1, 1939:

ODE

(New Style 1939)

O! ye eternal gods,
Enthroned in the vast silence
Of high Olympus,—
Hearken and hear my supplication.
One is not with you,
And in my wanderings I found
The lost god.
Take him, ye eternal,
Watchers and warders of
Wayward humanity.
Take and cherish him,
Feast him on ambrosia—
Ganymede see that he lacks not all
comforts.
And, O! ye gods, now I have found him,
Here stands he forth.
He will make no rumpus in Olympus,
As all the best of you
Are known to love Justice.
His name—
Encyclopaedia Britannica.
The length of his name
Is nothing compared with the weight
Of his message.
For Eternity, and those who can see,
He states: "Banks lend by creating credit;
They create the means of payment
Out of nothing."
For your better understanding, O! ye
gods, and I know
I can lift the lid of it,
It means that Money is made
By writing figures in a book.
And you, reader, of this high poetic
fanfaronade,
This is simply a ruse,
A ruse to catch you,
In case you had forgotten,—
How money is made,

N.M.

The industrial barometer on the whole stands fairly steady at "Variable"—with a slight tendency to fall in cotton textiles and the building trades, and to rise in wool textiles and some branches of light engineering.

Grateful Thanks

The *Daily Telegraph* is to be thanked for publishing for its readers who wear corduroy trousers, or queue up at the Labour Exchange, the following extract from Dr. Goebbels' speech:

"The miracle of national recovery was built on the strength of the people. Formerly we believed in Kaiser and Kings, but we failed to see the strength which rests in the people."—B.U.P.

Memory Tickler

When the income tax went up to 5s. 6d. in the pound there was the assurance that it was a good insurance and worth the price; that was a financial joke which should induce the victim to look round and examine the proposition that money is made by writing figures in books.

NICHOLAS MERE

British Union and Social Credit*

In the above pamphlet the Social Creditor will begin to see how far the ideas on money are spreading. There is nothing fresh to the careful student, but the industry in compiling this useful addition to Social Credit literature is only equalled by the care and precision the writer has taken in using his facts. There is an exception to the exception in the following sample from bulk, but the passage clarifies the reason why political parties are dead but will not lie down:

"The work of the scientist and industrialist is designed to benefit the whole of mankind, but this beneficial purpose is frustrated by the artificial rules of the financial system which are accepted by all the political parties with the exception of the British Union. *It alone* challenges the assumption of the soundness of the financial principles under which we are governed and it alone offers a remedy."

* "British Union and Social Credit," by W. K. A. J. Chambers-Hunter (Greater Britain Publications, 16 Great Smith Street, Westminster).

Says a writer in *The Weekly Review*, January 19, 1939:

"Nothing can save England but a change of heart. Rearmament will precipitate our economic collapse."

Says the clear-headed man—Even financiers would subsidise the propagation of such thinking. Give your heart a rest, and give your brains a chance—some of you know how it is done, ooooooooooooo's.

Book Review

Very Foreign Affairs

MR. JOHN SCANLON wrote a brilliant satire on home politics called "Pillars of Cloud." Those who read this book will remember it as the most sensible and yet the most humorous work on politics that had appeared for years.

Now Mr. Scanlon has written another book, "Very Foreign Affairs,"* in which his devastating wit ramps hilariously over the international field in just as brilliant a way as he did over home affairs in "Pillars of Cloud."

Although the book was almost completed before the recent crisis, so accurate were its forecasts that not a line had to be changed.

It begins with that Sunday in August, 1914, when the workers gathered to denounce Imperialism which was dragging them into war. It ends with 1938, with their leaders pointing out to the Imperialists what fine chances of going to war they are missing. He weaves in his story the epic struggle for Peace, with all parties "appeasing Europe" and "putting Europe on its feet" by making Germany pay reparations and lending her the money to do it with.

He describes how two groups of Pilgrim Fathers set sail for darkest Europe in 1919 to appease it and put it on its feet. "Mr. Lloyd George was at the head of one large party; Mr. MacDonald; Mr. Henderson and Mr. J. H. Thomas were at the head of the other." He shows how international Socialists solemnly discovered that the cause of the war was *the want of presence of mind*. He shows the true record that "from the end of the war to end war until 1935, the Labour Party on every occasion when there was a threat of war issued the most violent protest. The record briefly is:

- 1920—No intervention in Russia.
- 1921—No pact with France.
- 1923—No war with Turkey.
- 1933—No Czechoslovakian support for France.
- 1936—No warships for China.

From then there was a long lull in which all the Party's energies were devoted to disarmament. Then the record seems to vary, as follows:

- 1935—Fight Mussolini in Abyssinia.
- 1936—Don't fight for Spain.
- 1937—Fight for Spain.
- 1937—Send battleships to China.
- 1938—Fight for Czechoslovakia.

The only stipulation they have made in trying to lead us into war on each occasion has been that we should have no armaments. To their credit, it should

be said, that even at the end of 1938 they have not yet voted a penny for armaments, although as bellicose politicians they have moved votes of censure on the Government for not having enough of them."

Every chapter in this book contains high spots which form the background of high political farce, every scene of which is based on historical fact. He shows every well-known politician over these years as contradicting each other and themselves in the most fatuous way, and all free of malice or exaggeration. He exposes the great and clever men clearly as nothing but a lot of cardboard clowns, inebriated with self-importance, but in addition, there is an undercurrent of seriousness, and time and again he exposes the cat peeping out of the bag as, for instance, when he discusses the American debt settlement. After pointing out that in the discussions on reparations nobody seemed to remember a word of what anyone had said when the Cabinet made its decision, he quotes Sir Robert Horne as delivering himself of one of the wisest things ever said by him or anybody else. He said:

"I believe that the system of Cabinet

Government, as we know it, would become quite impossible if the private discussions of Ministers and the votes which they gave were to be exposed to the public."

To which we can say—"Exactly, and the sooner we put an end to these dominant men playing fast and loose with our lives, the better." One chapter devotes itself to the exposition of what can be described as *The Great Gold Mystery*.

This concerns "£53 millions of gold which belonged to three countries at the same time. The French thought it belonged to them, Britain thought it was hers, but America knew it was America's."

Another story is of the terrific battle of the successive French Prime Ministers with the franc. How a country that prides itself upon its culture and military achievements could not conquer the franc, how we in Britain have first of all gone through stages of hating France, then loving her, then hating her again, then hating Hitler, and then hating, finally, everybody.

The book as a whole is as Sybil Thorndike describes it, "A trumpet of laughter," and we recommend it to every Social Crediter.

Another Board With Powers

New proposals are being made for a Cotton Industry Board with wide powers in the Government's Reorganisation Bill, the draft of which was issued on February 6.

The closing of redundant mills is visualised in the provision, which is made in the Bill for the submission to the Board of redundancy and price schemes, which on acceptance by the Board will be submitted to a poll of the industry.

The Bill, which is the result of consideration given by the Government to proposals of the Joint Committee of Cotton Trade Organisations, proposes the establishment of a Board of 15 members financially assisted by the Board of Trade.

Broadly, the Board's functions will be:

The keeping of a compulsory register of firms and the collection of levies;

The promotion of the general interests of the industry by technical and economic research; and

The examination of sectional schemes.

It is also proposed to include in the Bill provisions designed to ensure that the service of any loan raised by a sectional Board for the purpose of a redundancy scheme will be met. The total of such loans will be limited to £2,000,000.

The Farmers' Plea for a Price Insurance Plan*

Readers of the above pamphlet will find hope and encouragement in this publication; it is a twelve-page pamphlet (it ought really to be called a broadsheet) packed with reliable data. The writer on page 11 states, under the heading of Consuming Power, that "It is recognised that the British farmers' customers are the British urban masses. If the buying power of the latter is reduced the farmer has an impoverished customer, who probably must buy the cheaper imported meat, even if he would prefer the better quality of the home article. Accordingly, prosperity for the industrial masses would spell renewed prosperity for the home farmer also."

That is precisely our case—our case for Pensions at Fifty (or the National Dividend) and a little solar sanity into vital affairs rather than lunar madness.

* "Very Foreign Affairs," by John Scanlon (George Allen & Unwin, 6s.).

* Reprint of Articles from "The Glasgow Herald," January, 1939. Obtainable from George Outram & Co., Ltd., 65 Buchanan Street.

SOCIAL CREDIT

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GOOD NEWS

GOOD NEWS! Last week we published in these columns the names of ten different constituencies where electors had voted for what they want—Pensions at Fifty.

For some years now this paper has been advocating the necessity of demanding a result and leaving methods to the experts as the only way of getting control of a government that is insane, because it is without direction. On the Continent the apathy of our people under the form of government now operating has become the subject not exactly of contempt, but more as a butt for humorous remark. Our form of government is frequently referred to as a "pseudo-democracy."

Nowadays we never hear of any initiative coming from ordinary Members of Parliament, for they appear to be a lot of rubber stamps, Yes-men or No-men, as the case may be, for plans and policies put before them by something called the Cabinet. It is now becoming obvious to any person who has devoted any attention to the matter that behind the Cabinet itself there are pressures, plans and policies put forward that are opposed to the best interests of the electorate of our country.

It has been said that it is the business of a politician to respond to pressure, and, after all, it would be unfair to blame the politician for yielding to pressures that are put upon him, for the fact is he cannot retain his seat if he does not do so.

The trouble has been, and still is, that hitherto the only pressures brought on the politicians have been from the known and unknown potentates of finance, whose policy has always been camouflaged to make it appear something quite different from what it really is. They are very clever at camouflaging their real aims, which have never yet been aligned with the best interests of the people.

But speaking and writing about the clever political technique of high finance is not enough. The common people cannot follow the tortuous, twisty mazes of deceit in which this rich power operates.

And therefore, if our privileges as electors in a democratic constitution are to be of any use to us at all, it is not by the negative exposition of the exploitation of the deceiver that we shall benefit, but by

the positive and determined *practice* of our democratic rights for a policy that we choose and arrange for ourselves.

Theories are all very well, but until they are brought down into the world of reality, until we get down to common brass tacks, we shall continue to remain like a flock of sheep to be fleeced, or like a lot of ants to be worked and regimented for purposes unknown to ourselves.

Pensions at Fifty is not a policy that has been chosen by the powerful men in the financial world. Pensions at Fifty would increase the independence and power of ordinary individuals like you and me, and apart from the fact that it would abolish poverty, it will be opposed by the international super-government and its representatives in our own country who pull the strings to which our puppet politicians dance.

The good news this week is that in addition to the ten constituencies, reported last week by name as having electors who have voted and associated for Pensions at Fifty, this week we can report a further fourteen constituencies, namely, Barnsley; Lewisham East; Swindon; Aberdeen Central; Harrow; Chelmsford, Essex; Buckrose, E. Riding; Stratford, W. Ham; East Belfast; St. Albans; Birkenhead; Glasgow; Leyton, and Gateshead.

This means that already there are 24 constituencies with electors within them who have erected the standard of real democracy. If you live in a constituency that has not yet been mentioned, why not add yours to the list, for if we can rally up 50 constituencies with members of the Association within them, we intend to make the next step in the march to what yet may prove to be the greatest movement and the most glorious victory that has ever occurred in the history of our country.

This week we publish on the back page a form of association for the use of any elector who cares to associate with others like himself who want a pension at fifty. If you happen to be one of those, don't leave it for somebody else to do your work for you, for no one can take your responsibility or *your vote* from you. Why not use it for what you want? Now is the time, where you live is the place, and the form is on the back page.

DEBT OWING TO WHOM?

PUBLIC DEBT—AUSTRALIA—AT JUNE 30, 1938
Domiciled in—

Australia	...	£A.	686,143,000
London	...	£Stg.	544,253,000
New York (at \$4.86½)	...	£Stg.	44,630,000

Indebtedness per head of population,
£184 19s. 2d.

PUBLIC DEBT—NEW ZEALAND—
AT MARCH 31, 1938

Domiciled in—

New Zealand	...	£N.Z.	132,462,000
Australia	...	£A.	882,000
London	...	£Stg.	156,857,000

Indebtedness per head of population,
including Maoris, £180 17s. 5d.

The above figures have just been circulated to shareholders of the Union Bank of Australia. The chairman, Sir John H. Davidson, addressing the annual general meeting in London on January 30, said that the "service" of Government and Municipal Loans made to New Zealand in London required £10,000,000.

These loans, it should be remembered, were made by writing figures in books. No sacrifice was entailed in "lending" the money, yet bitter sacrifice is demanded of the New Zealanders in paying "service" on them, i.e., interest and instalments of repayment.

The answer to the heading of this paragraph is that it is to the banks that the people of Australia and New Zealand each owe over £180.

What a System!

A Northern newspaper reports that on January 25 the launch of the 650-ton Australian coaster Bangalow, yesterday, left Messrs. Harland and Wolff's £1,000,000 shipyard at Govan without a ship on the stocks.

The firm are at present fitting out the tanker San Emiliano, their only other job.

At the beginning of last year all of the yard's seven berths were occupied, and during the year ships totalling over 50,000 tons were launched.

"The position is an ironical one," a ship-building authority told the *Daily Record* last night. "The firm's skilled workers would be exempt from military service in war because of the value of their skill to the State, and yet in peace time apparently no use can be found for that skill."

**HAVE YOU VOTED
FOR
PENSIONS AT 50 YET?**

Why Accept The Jungle Law?

By Dorothy Beamish

PROFESSOR JOHN HILTON, writing in the *News Chronicle* recently in his series "Life," dealt with the subject of the Big Shop versus the Little Shop.

"It is often said," says Professor Hilton, "that the little shop is losing ground because the big store and the multiple shop can offer the customer better value for money . . . If that be the truth and the whole of the truth . . . we can't very well do other than say, 'Ah, well, it's the law of progress. A fair fight and no favour and let the best win.'"

Had the Professor been referring to a game, there would be no fault to find with this sentiment. But he is not writing about games but the livelihood of men and women. He is saying in effect: "Yes, one can't help feeling sorry for those who are forced out of business by the competition of the big stores, many of whom are reduced to dire poverty, commit suicide or become insane, not infrequently in their desperation and frenzy killing, not only themselves but a whole family of innocent and helpless children, but—a fair fight and no favour and let the best win."

I am not very well acquainted with John Hilton's philosophy of life but—unless I am very much mistaken—he professes the Christian religion.

Think, Professor Hilton, would not those words of yours come more fittingly from the lips or the stylus of some ancient Roman in the days of Nero or Tiberius, than from the pen of a twentieth-century Englishman, belonging to one of the greatest nations of *Christendom*? One can imagine a Marcus, a Flavius or a Petronius perhaps, experiencing a passing feeling of faint regret, almost of pity, for the fallen gladiator, a momentary realisation that he, too, was a man finding life good, having wife and children or aged parents dependent on him who would possibly starve without the breadwinner, who would certainly be broken-hearted. Then the light shrug of the shoulders, "Ah, well, it was a fair fight and no favour. The best man won."

The Sanctity of Life

But a *Christian* is committed to quite a different philosophy, one in which human life is sacred and all men are brothers. The conception of life as a *fight* in which the weak inevitably get pushed aside, is definitely unchristian. Whether they are vanquished by superior strength or cleverness or by unscrupulousness, makes little or no difference.

If the big department stores and the multiple shops can offer the public a larger stock to choose from and better service, and people prefer them to the small shops, well and good—if those who formerly kept the small shops are enabled to live. And there is no reason, physical, moral or financial why they should *not* be enabled to live.

Producers, manufacturers, traders of all kinds, wonder how they can find enough customers, never how they can produce or manufacture enough to satisfy the demand clamouring at their doors.

But to say, "Ah, yes, it is a pity: the small shops have got to go and inevitably many small shopkeepers will be reduced to poverty and destitution; it can't be helped, it is the law of progress," is simply callous and inhuman—and very short-sighted even from a business point of view. How can there continue to be mass production and mass selling unless there is also mass buying?

Money is a Licence to Live

The millions of worried, half-starved, shabby people, ceaselessly devising ingenious and pathetic methods of going without as much as possible without getting ill or presenting too down-trodden an appearance to the world, are so many million customers going to waste. All they need is the permits to consume, i.e., money. If these were issued to them, their problems and industry's problems would be solved simultaneously.

John Hilton cites the case of a woman who kept a small draper's shop but was forced out of business by the unfair competition of the big shops. Buyers would say to the commercial traveller who served both them and the small shop,

"We will give you an order, not only for this shop but for all our branches, *but on condition* that you sell no more of this particular line to the woman who keeps the little shop down the street."

The poor woman now keeps herself alive by "odds and ends of menial tasks."

This the Professor considers "a shame" and he cannot help thinking that the rules of the business game should be altered, and legislation passed to make it impossible for the big stores to use these methods.

Freedom to Choose is Essential

But no legislation can prevent people with very little money from spending it where they can get the most for it, i.e., the big stores. An increase of purchasing power would enable them to buy at the small individual shop if they so wished—as many would.

John Hilton apparently accepts the anti-christian philosophy that life is a grim struggle in which some *must* get knocked out, but he does not want them to be knocked out by unfair methods.

It is little consolation to those reduced to beggary to know that they are deprived of their livelihood by quite fair methods. The important thing is to ensure that if they are deprived of their work, they shall be enabled to live. St. Paul may have said that if a man would not work neither should he eat, but he certainly never said, "If a man's work is not needed, he shall not eat."

MACHINE FILLETS FISH

A machine for filleting fish automatically, which is expected to revolutionise present methods of marketing fish, has now after several months of controlled testing in New York been put into commercial operation in Boston by the Atlantic Coast Fisheries Co., it is officially announced.

For the new machine it is claimed that it is the first of its kind ever perfected for commercial use, eliminating as it does all crude and wasteful manual operations, and producing substantially greater quantities of edible flesh from the fish fillets with corresponding reduction in cost of the finished product. Previous attempts to produce automatically operated machinery, which would meet all technical requirements of the fish-filleting industry, have made little progress until the perfection of the new machine, it is stated.

The unit installed at Boston by the Atlantic Coast Fisheries Co., is to be used principally for the automatic filleting of cod and haddock, which represent the major portion of the world's production of

filleted fish. The magnitude of the industry affected by the new technique is indicated by the fact that 80,000,000lb. of filleted fish were produced in the United States in 1937 from cod, haddock and similar varieties of fish.

Each unit of the new machinery has a capacity of 50 fish or 100 fillets per minute, and is claimed to be so much more efficient than hand methods in removing the edible part of the fish from the bones, that it is estimated that the United States production of 80,000,000lb. of fillets in 1937 could have been increased to 94,000,000lb. through the use of this machinery without any increase in the catch of fish.

The new development is considered to mark an important milestone in the fishing industry inasmuch as marketing costs will be substantially reduced and the consumer will receive a standardised product of superior quality and more attractive appearance at lower costs than heretofore, as a result of the elimination of hand labour, speeded-up production, and much improved efficiency in the separation process.

THE PATHWAY

Co-operation

By Richard Kenward

THE very first lesson a little child has to learn is co-operation. A mother feeding her child at her breast is a beautiful picture and a lesson in co-operation. Civilised life would have little meaning without the principle of co-operation. We have each one of us to do our part and make our contribution to life in one form or another. Much of the trouble in the world to-day is due to the breakdown and failure of co-operation.

Man has to find out the laws of nature and then work and co-operate with nature. Man is free to exploit, abuse and pervert nature—as he is doing to-day—but he is piling up a bad debt both for himself and for those who follow after him.

Social life—or man's relationship to man—loses its savour and becomes meaningless without co-operation. A perverted life leads to economic war, which in time means open warfare by all the paraphernalia of modern science.

When the individual life is perverted to selfish ends, we reach the last stage in social disintegration. The threefold bond with Nature, Society and Individuality is broken and man sinks back to the level of the beasts of the field.

Social Credit represents the social bond,

and when properly understood and applied would enable man to work in complete harmony with nature. Social Credit would also free man to find his real individuality.

We have reached such a perverted state to-day that we have completely forgotten that the soil is primary. We live on this earth and get our sustenance from it. When we take from the soil we must put something back to the soil. This "put and take" has been called "The Wheel of Life and Health" by Dr. G. T. Wrench. It takes something like 10,000 years to make one foot of top soil; in the Missouri basin in the United States, there has been a loss of seven inches of top soil in twenty-four years.

When the Wheel of Life is turning properly, disease in man and animal is reduced to a minimum. The soil is far greater than any abstract theory of foreign trade or economics. In Britain we have been chasing shadows and neglecting our soil for the past hundred years, with the logical consequence that we are now a C3 nation.

Our marvellous productive machine is being perverted to capturing foreign markets or in preparations for war. And so our cultural inheritance is being squandered, which was built up with so much

effort and toil as handed down to us by known and unknown progenitors. Our cultural inheritance began in the dim pathways of the geological past, when early man used a sharp flint as a tool in place of his naked fist.

Everything that we can produce to-day is the result of the collective knowledge of man working in co-operation with natural forces, coupled with the organisation of society.

The only reason for an economic system is that we may have food, warmth and shelter as required. But in place of this co-operative service, we have perverted our economic system as a means of making money, which has become an end in itself. Money, the servant, which should facilitate the flow of goods and services, has become the master. Money has been elevated into the false status of a god and is attempting to control life. Social Credit would place the servant money in its proper place in the national economy.

Social Credit can prove that food, warmth and shelter are plentiful. Social Credit provides that incentive for the nation to co-operate in the distribution of goods and services, and knows that Pensions at 50 is possible and the right of all.

Poverty Can Be Banished

By Philip McDevitt

THE great factor in the present industrial situation is the enormous increase in automatic and semi-automatic mechanism in production. From year to year the inventor and the scientist is busy transferring the burden of labour from the hands of men to the machine.

Every labour-saving invention which is fulfilling the function for which it was made, is displacing men from work and thereby from wages. The rewards of man's inventive genius ought to be Dividends and leisure—not enforced poverty and doles.

That it works out in the present way is due to a defective distributive system, and the distributive function of productive industry is to be accomplished only by the consumer being put in possession of purchasing power equal to the total of the selling prices of all goods and services capable of being made.

That the present system fails to do this is beyond dispute. Any monetary system which produces only crushing burdens of debt and want in the midst of a frustrated plenty stands self-condemned.

All the factors which will lead to a full and satisfactory standard of living for everyone—whether required in the labour market or superfluous—are here and now present with us.

It is for the apologist who refuses to amend that system, to explain to "the man on the dole" why the dole is so miserably inadequate and to the rebelling taxpayer, why the keep of the destitute should be found by grinding taxation out of his income, instead of from the machine which produces abundance, while displacing the labourer.

The eighteenth and nineteenth century theories on which our present financial system is based have fallen altogether out of alignment with the surrounding physical facts. But our fatuous orthodox economists, and our confessedly impotent political leaders, hold to the outworn shibboleths of a day that is for ever gone, and—the tragedy of it—they insist on trying to twist the physical facts to suit the theories of a bygone age.

The nation is motor-equipped and wheelbarrow-minded. Its leaders still cling to the idea that MONEY is wealth, and that with all the factors of real wealth awaiting our exploitation of them, we

must go short because we are short of something that costs little or nothing to make—money. It is obvious lunacy to sabotage both capital and consumable goods in the interests of the mere paper tokens of them.

It is not by acquiring delegated purchasing power from the pockets of the taxpayer that the poor can hope to escape from their present plight. It is only by liberating production from the thralldom of the money-power, and by the common distribution of a recurring claim to the flow of consumable real wealth can the worker of to-day ever hope to achieve economic security.

WHOSE DESIRE?

Stephen King Hall in one of his news letters says:

"Incidentally, it is not very long since one of His Majesty's Ministers in London remarked: 'The time has passed when one could say of a desirable policy, we can't afford it.'"

How true that is, all that is lacking is a general understanding as to *who* shall decide the *desirability* of a policy. Members of the Pensions at 50 Association know what they want, and certainly the pensions can be afforded.

Conference at Friends' House

Discussions on the Economic Road to Peace

A THREE-DAY conference, organised by Theodore Faithfull, was held recently at Friends' House, London, to explore economic aspects of Peace, with a final session at Central Hall, Westminster.

Mr. Sigmund Metz, a banker, and author of "New Money for New Men," one of the opening speakers, said he considered it futile to attempt to reform the whole world. There was a permanent inadequacy of purchasing power. Money of itself affected the interchange of goods, but should not be allowed to do so. The attempt to make money profits within a closed system wrecked the system.

On the constructive side, he proposed that gold control should be finally abandoned, but had little of real value to suggest beyond the establishment of a planned Investment Trust.

Mr. Glyn Thomas, a textile manufacturer, declared that the money trade emerged from the war triumphant. He thought that the banks, in the debacle of 1931, acted against their own real interests. It would be an excellent advertisement if the press proclaimed—"Impossible to save wealth by hoarding money." He also felt that our present banking system could only have been invented by an ancestor of Heath Robinson and left untouched since then.

Mr. William B. Higgs asked what it was that frustrated nations. He answered by showing how the political government sheltered a parallel financial government based on force. The international objective of financial government was to entangle nations, and the financial forces ruling Britain could not be absolved from responsibility for much of the present situation. This country had long exercised a subtle financial and economic dictatorship.

Comparing the debt burden in different municipalities, he said that, in Gateshead, loan charges accounted for 8s. 4d. out of every £1 collected in rates. If this was considered high, it could be contrasted with

Wolverhampton, where loan charges represented 22s. 3d. out of every £1, the balance being made up by sundry undertakings and Government grants. He recommended a study of K. Sinclair's "Metropolitan Man."

Major Alexander McGlashan outlined the New Zealand Government's scheme for guaranteed prices for dairy produce based on a ten years' average. He declared the New Zealand Government was challenging financial orthodoxy and making progress towards the real basis of Peace. It was probable that the Social Security Act would achieve the highest level to date by granting an income of 30s. per week to all over 60 who were not otherwise getting more than £1.

SECOND DAY

Lord Northbourne, chairman, championed agriculture. Only 6 per cent. of the population were on the land in England, he stated, and few of these were between the ages of 25 and 45. The assets of the Australian farmers were estimated at £136 millions, but their debts amounted to £151 millions. That was hardly a basis for Peace.

Dr. Raffetti, of the Italian Chamber of Commerce, said that the annual agricultural output of Italy was worth £300 millions. Just over 20 per cent. of the population were directly connected with agriculture, and the most important product, wheat, was marketed through compulsory pools.

Mr. T. Balogh spoke on the present Nazi economy, which he held was a logical consequence of the rearmament problem. From 1925 to 1929 Germany achieved much social reconstruction by

inflationary methods. Then Dr. Bruening, a man of strong puritan instincts, opposed high living and prosperity on moral grounds. He brought about deflation, with the result that unemployment figures rose to seven millions, the standard of living dropped 33 per cent., and there was complete unemployment of the younger intellectual classes. Out of the chaos the Nazis came to power. East Prussian junkers pushed Hitler forward, believing, at the time, that they would be able to control him. In a survey of the pre-Munich and post-Munich armament situation, the speaker said that average hours of work had risen from 6 to 9 hours per day. Skilled workers were not allowed to do more than 14 hours per day.

Mr. A. K. Chesterton spoke on Empire, not Dominion, economics. He saw little hope for native races if they were cast among the wild beasts of the capitalist jungle. We must cultivate a higher sense of imperial responsibility. The greatest problem was to eliminate exploitation.

Mr. D. Allhusen said that, at present, trade was openly carried on to increase debts. Nathan Rothschild settled the early problem of how to move money from one country to another by his system of Bills. Out of this the investment of capital abroad developed, and it became the object of the merchant bankers to keep English wages low. The Macmillan Report (sections 215 to 218) gave a cold-blooded description of the Bank of England mechanism for depressing wages.

THIRD DAY

Mr. J. Ewart Purves, speaking on Financial Self-Determination for the Dominions, said that colonies used to mean, and still did mean, "cash in London." Colonies were considered "good" when they were deeply in debt, when they paid interest regularly, and were creditworthy for further loans. The old slogan of "Trade follows the Flag" meant that financiers saw to it that political pressure would be available to follow up default. In Newfoundland, the financial bailiffs had been in possession for some years during which the unemployment figures had risen from 30 per cent. to 50 per cent. The only chance for the British Commonwealth to continue was for the Dominions to break through these chains of financial bondage and cease to become tribute payers. Governments would always give way to those who knew what they wanted and insisted on getting it.

Mr. Ben Greene observed that the conference had centred on the problem of financial dictatorship. He contrasted the "Homes for Heroes" programme of the 1918 Coalition Government with the more effective Cunliffe Currency Report which nullified it.

H.C.

SPOTLIGHT

Herr Bürckel, Reich Commissar for the Ostmark, addressing a meeting at Vienna on February 14, said that the present low standard of living there was due to the way Austria was treated after the war, partly to profiteering and partly to misgovernment of Marxists and the tools of International Finance.

A recent report made to Hitler on the progress of the Ostmark since the *Anschluss*, and issued to the press, stated that "Austria's dependence on foreign capital had paralysed the country's finances, imperilled its currency, bankrupted industries, raised the cost of living, lowered wages, and increased unemployment. Energetic measures had since been

taken to bring the cost of living down to that in the rest of Germany. Steel works for many years partly idle were now working to capacity and mines long closed had been reopened. Industries had been rationalised. Meat consumption in Vienna had risen 10.4 per cent. since the *Anschluss*, while marriages had increased 200 per cent."

Herr Bürckel, in his speech, said: "The actual reason for the bad standard of life in Germany is not the fault of the Nazi Government; it is the hostility of the democratic States, who are threatening Germany with war. That is why we are forced to produce guns instead of butter."

PROPAGANDA

By Septimus

WRITING on the subject of propaganda recently, Mr. A. Duff Cooper, M.P., said there were two sides to this powerful weapon—the positive and the negative. The positive consists in spreading one doctrine, the negative consists in preventing the other doctrine from being heard—and it is perhaps the negative which is the more deadly of the two.

"To a generation that was brought up to believe that the freedom of the Press was one of the most universally recognised of the rights of man," he said, "it is a sad and solemn thought, when looking round Europe, to reflect that such freedom has to-day been completely abolished in Russia, Germany—with all that Germany now includes—in Italy, Poland, Spain, Turkey, Greece, Hungary, Rumania, Bulgaria, Portugal and Czechoslovakia.

In these countries, the Governments themselves would not suggest that freedom of the Press either existed or was likely to be revived. And the evil is growing. In other countries, which it is better not to name, Government influence and control over the Press is gradually increasing, and since the agreement of Munich it has become extremely difficult for an article that might provoke displeasure in Berlin to find space in the columns of any newspaper in Northern, Eastern or Central Europe."

Now, it is a vital truth that money, that most important of things for the welfare, comfort and security of everyone, is created merely by writing figures in books. It could therefore be made plentiful enough to enable everyone to be as rich and secure as the advances of science and engineering justify. Yet such is the "freedom" of the British Press—in common with the Press of every other country—that it is "extremely difficult," indeed, virtually impossible, for an article explaining this matter "to find space in the columns of any newspaper in Northern, Eastern or Central Europe"—including England, land of the free—for it would "provoke displeasure" in banking circles.

Mr. Duff Cooper goes on to refer to Great Britain as retaining freedom of the Press and abstaining from propaganda. He is deluded and deludes others, when our Press not only refuses to mention the truth about money, but publishes propaganda designed to conceal the truth and deceive the world into supposing that money is produced only by effort and the expenditure of much energy, such as is required to produce goods and services.

Here is a specimen of this kind of misleading propaganda. The Chairman of Barclays Bank, Mr. Edwin Fisher, stated in his annual speech to the shareholders on January 19, that the bank had made advances to 21,000 farmers, having lent them nearly £14,000,000.

"It is not for us as bankers," he added, "to provide permanent or long-term capital for agriculture or for any other

industry, for should we do so, we should be lessening our general usefulness to the community and exceeding our proper functions."

The implication, of course, is that the bank had made these advances at great sacrifice to itself, a sacrifice nobly offered to help the farmers out of the difficulties for which the banks were in no way responsible.

The truth is that, since the banks create money by merely writing figures in books, it cost the bank nothing to create that £14,000,000.

Moreover, the backing for the money was the ability of the farmers to bring forth by their labour the products of the soil.

Not only was the money created costlessly by the bank on the farmers' own credit, but the bank lent it to the farmers, and has written it up against them as a debt—a debt to be repaid, and on which, in the meantime, interest is charged.

Of course, the farmers, who can produce only real things like wheat and potatoes and milk and butter—the things that sustain life—and who cannot produce money, are unable to repay this fraudulently-imposed debt. It was because of a previous cycle of similar debt creation that they originally got into financial trouble.

The farmers are fellow victims with all other producers. They are all in debt to the banks, and in their vain endeavour to repay their debts, plus interest, they have not enough money to pay their employees sufficient to enable them to buy what is produced. Thus it is that people are poor when there is plenty for them.

The paradox is due to the failure of people to understand that money is created costlessly by writing figures in books. If they knew this, the fraud of bank "loans" would be exposed, and the public would insistently demand that money should be caused to fulfil its commonsense purpose of distributing the products of agriculture and industry to the whole people.

"Propaganda," says Mr. Duff Cooper, "is an attempt to influence opinion. Upon the opinion of the growing generation in Europe, America and the British Dominions depends the future of the world. Steps should be taken to ensure that that opinion is not contaminated at the source."

Yes, indeed; but as opinion is already contaminated at its source, those who are aware of the fact, and recognise the poison, have a responsibility to stay the hand that pours it into the well of truth.

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163A STRAND, LONDON, W.C.2

THE STEEL MONOPOLY

By F. Bunce

No Steel Works for Jarrow

AT the end of 1936, Sir John Jarvis, being concerned for the plight of Jarrow, negotiated with a group of people interested in steel for the setting up of iron and steel works in that town, capable of producing half a million tons of steel annually and of employing all the fit men. A distinguished expert reported that the site offered "a highly economic proposition for the production of steel." Negotiations with the British Iron and Steel Federation (Chairman: Sir Andrew Rae Duncan, a director of the Bank of England) resulted, according to Miss Ellen Wilkinson, in "impossible conditions" being laid down, and, according to Sir John Jarvis, in the project being "drained of its life-blood and left to its fate."

Speaking against a resolution moved in the House by Mr. C. V. H. Vincent, Member of Parliament for Barrow, urging the Government to take steps to re-establish the steel and other industries in Jarrow, Col. Muirhead (then Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry of Labour) said the Government was not prepared to "force iron and steel into Jarrow against technical and industrial opinion."

The *Manchester Guardian* spoke of the

scheme as having been "thwarted" by "a privileged industry."

New Steel Works for Ebbw Vale and a Consortium of Banks

In July, 1938, city editors announced the financing of a big expansion of the works of Richard Thomas and Co., tin plate and steel sheet makers, of Ebbw Vale. The new capital was to be provided by a consortium of banks, headed by the Bank of England. Control of the company was to pass into the hands of a special committee of four, presided over by Mr. Montagu Norman.

The company was about to undertake a new enterprise in the constructing of a strip mill of American type. This move was said to be an attempt to "regulate the development of the new American strip mill in Great Britain, from which substantial economies are expected" and to "prevent unnecessary duplication of plant and a consequent price war."

More Steel Works for Chester, and the Bankers' Industrial Development Co.

In January this year another step forward in the rationalisation of the steel

industry was disclosed. The Chester firm of John Summers and Sons Ltd. is to be reconstructed. The new capital is to be provided jointly by the United Steel Companies Ltd. and the Bankers' Industrial Development Company (the rationalising offshoot of the Bank of England). Another American strip mill is to be built with the same object as that at Ebbw Vale. When this scheme becomes effective, Mr. Montagu Norman will have the controlling voice in the management of nearly half the steel-producing capacity of this country.

Steel Shelters for the People

On December 21, 1938, Sir John Anderson announced that *Government orders* were to be given for steel sheets sufficient to provide shelter against "reasonable" splinter and blast for 20,000,000 people. The work has already been organised by the steel industry on mass-production lines.

Steel Works for Jarrow—but not for some time

On January 20 "a start was made on the site of the proposed new steel works at Jarrow . . . but it will be some time before they are ready."

OPEN LETTER

As One To Another

"If nations will not exchange ideas, they will have to exchange shells."

—A. R. ORACE.

Dear Fifty-Five,

It is now the year 1939, and it was in 1917 and 1918 that I saw you occasionally living, but more often than not I saw your brothers dead. I call you Fifty-Five Fritz because that is my age; if I call you Jerry you will not take offence. There is myself and two others who sit in a restaurant an hour daily and talk about the deplorable state of what was once a lovely world; we talk about you, too, and we have often wondered if there are our opposite numbers in your country talking about two or three in this country in the same way. My dear old Fifty-Five, I saw you once near Aveluy Wood early in the morning in 1918 slipping out from the roadside and cutting pieces off a dead horse. You also saw me in a field from an aeroplane on a fullmoon night, and you had me all to yourself, but you missed me; the innocent grass received what was intended for me.

I saw you at Arras; you were pale and frightened; you were a prisoner. Do you remember showing me the family group

photograph before you went down the line? And then, near Transloy, I saw your dead brother lying on his right side; a fine big chap he was, too. And then, near Boulon Wood, there were fifty of you, Saxons, who had shot their colonel, and given yourselves up—to your brothers—us. Do you remember the "flying pigs" you sent over on Quaker and Barn Alleys? And then you gave us a bumping and I had to walk through water nearly waist high. And then there were those sixty shells you put on us, and only succeeded in cracking a latrine seat. And again, you looked at me in a barn at Auxi-le-Chateau, and said, "Broot for me." In a field, tending swine, was our brother—an Austrian; it was in March snow and sleet. And then one of you went mad and escaped, and our lads fired at you; they thought you were a bird in the air, and that is why you were not hurt. That is just how the damn-fool Englishman or Saxon behaves.

The last I heard of you was in a café in Hamburg a few months ago. My friend, who was there, does not take sugar with his coffee, so he sent the one lump back by the waitress; you said to him, "You

shouldn't have done that. You should have given it to me; we only are allowed one lump." Perhaps by now our nerves have become motheaten. Mine are not what they used to be, and I have stomach trouble; your lot gassed me at Sorrel near Ephey and Fins—you were just ordered to, I suppose. How is your "trench" foot?

Your Leader made a great speech on Monday night, January 30; he has called to account the Credit Manipulators; he knows who are the real instigators of war, and none of them are worth the bootlaces of your dead brothers or mine. His discovery is the one bright spot of foreign news; I somehow think that those underground may sleep more peacefully now that a great nation knows and proclaims to the world the true cause of war.

When are you going to send some bands over? The last one I heard was in Sandbach, Cheshire, and the "Bluc Danube" would still be first favourite. Of course, to ordinary English people, your bands were the most popular imports. They would do us good, as our newspapers, which few believe, will neither make us laugh nor print anything above the intelligence of a Boy Scout. N.M.

REPLIES TO CORRESPONDENTS

ARTHUR LAMSLEY: Is the purpose of civilisation that of finding "work" for everybody? If so, the sooner we start locking up inventors of labour-saving machinery the better.

A. E. SMITH: Glad to hear you look forward to Friday's post, which brings you SOCIAL CREDIT, and I am sure Mr. William Frost will be encouraged to learn you greatly appreciated his article. Thanks for good wishes.

A. V. THOMPSON: It is nice of you to say Pensions at 50 is a good, sound and practical scheme, but I notice you haven't joined the Association yet—that is a bit unreal, isn't it?

B. P. S. EGAN: Certainly if you show the Pensions at 50 leaflets to partisans of political parties, you must expect criticism. The criticism has no value whatever, because it starts from false premises. No political party appears to be aware that money costs nothing to create. I have seen a leaflet with annotations written on it by a Communist; he flatly contradicted that banks create money. Other notes betrayed that he, like most Communists, thinks that employers as a whole can take more money out of the pockets of the "workers" than they put in (by raising prices) and so make their "profits"! Why argue about these delusions? They arise from a desire to dominate somebody else—if you analyse them. It was clear to me that the Communist in question was far more concerned to stop the "Boss" class making profits than he is with getting a £2 a week pension for himself. It is the dictator-complex, the power-lust urge, and it ramps in all parties; each is competing for power to govern YOU. They resist bitterly any move towards common political and economic freedom. Don't waste effort on them; concentrate on welding those who are not hostile to £2 a week at 50 instead.

M. F. WHITE: Why worry whether Roosevelt is a nominee of International Finance? Whether he is or not, if you rely on him or anybody else like him because of his office you will be let down. People holding political office have to yield to pressure, and if the PEOPLE fail to press for what they want, the International Financier wins every time, because HE knows what HE wants and HE never fails to organise pressure to see the result HE wants is forthcoming.

T. BRADFORD: If you are not in favour of Pensions at 50 Members of Parliament voting against the Government on EVERY division until Pensions at 50 have become law, you are throwing your sanction away. Every Member of Parliament could escape his responsibility by saying he is in favour of Pensions at 50, and will do all he can to get it passed. In practice, that is, in reality, Pensions at 50 would thus never be put before the House—always to-morrow, for the Cabinet decides what shall be

discussed, and something more pressing can always be found.

H. DUNSTER: Good idea to adopt an area for propoganda. There are voters everywhere, and the good seed of voting for what is wanted, and chosen by the electors themselves, is likely to take root and start growing anywhere.

H. M. SOUTHON: Thank you for letter and enclosure from the Rhondda. I know the circumstances as therein described are typical, but what are the victims—the distressed unemployed themselves—doing about it? Their political sanctions are as powerful as anybody else's. Are they prepared to organise and vote for Pensions for all at 50?

DR. M. O'CONNOR, M.D.: Thanks for letter and useful informative enclosures. Who knows but that Eire will yet lead the way? Nobody could doubt that in your country the will exists, if but the way was widely known, and certainly there are some stalwarts continually at work whose labour will not prove in vain.

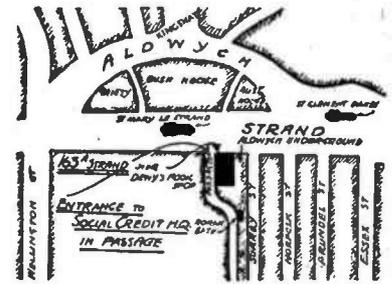
T. M. HETHERSETT: One way of getting over your difficulty would be to sell the leaflets. If you address a meeting on the subject you will have no difficulty in collecting a penny from each of the audience in return for a copy each of Leaflets Nos. 1 and 2. You will thus recover all your costs and always have a few to give away as you like. By all means recruit members wherever and whenever the wish to join appears.

W. DUNKLEY: Beware of that noted Social Crediter who has informed you that Pensions at 50 will come-through taxation. He does not want you to get the pension. In Leaflet No. 1, page 2, column 2, it is distinctly stated that "It is not necessary either to borrow the money or to tax the public to provide the pensions."

So the noted Social Crediter you refer to is really part of the opposition, whatever labels he may wear. Start mobilising for Pensions at 50, and you will soon be able to distinguish between real Social Crediters and wolves in Social Credit clothing.

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Thursday, February 16
8-0 p.m

Address by

Miss HELEN CORKE

on

"Some Psychological Hindrances to Social Credit"

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Miscellaneous Notices

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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.

COVENTRY PENSIONS AT 50 ASSOCIATION. Enquiries to 22 Allesley Old Road, Coventry.

DARLINGTON. Residents' enquiries welcomed through Mr. J. W. Jennings, 1, Bracken Road.

DERBY S.C. Association. Meetings are held fortnightly (Tuesdays) at the "Unity Hall," Room 14, at 7.45 p.m. Next meeting, February 21. "United Social Club" cater for refreshments to all bona fide members of S.C. Association.

THE Liverpool Social Credit Forum, an autonomous local group, is prepared to arrange for speakers to address meetings on Social Credit and will welcome enquiries regarding other activities in the Social Credit Crusade. Address communications to F. H. Auger, "Malvern," Corbridge Road, Liverpool, 16.

LONDON RESIDENTS AND VISITORS are welcome at the Social Credit Rendezvous, 163A, Strand, W.C.2 (entrance in Strand Lane, close to Aldwych Station). Open meeting: Thursdays, at 8 p.m.

February 16

Meeting for Women 5.30

Meeting at 8 p.m.

Speaker: Miss Helen Corke

"Some Psychological Hindrances to Social Credit."

LIVERPOOL S.C.P. Meeting, Reece's Café, Castle Street, Monday, February 13, at 8 p.m. Speaker: Mr. F. H. Auger. Subject: "Social Credit Without Tears."

PORTSMOUTH D.S.C. Group. Weekly meetings every Thursday at 8 p.m., 16, Ursula Grove, Elm Grove, Southsea.

SOUTHAMPTON Group. Please note that the Headquarters have been removed to 8, CRANBURY PLACE, SOUTHAMPTON. Tuesday meetings are postponed temporarily. Members please call to see the new and more advantageously-situated premises.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS and District. Will Social Crediters please get in touch immediately with W.L.W., Cor Laetum, Hastings Road, Penbury, near Tunbridge Wells?

TYNESIDE Social Credit Society invite co-operation to establish a local centre for Social Credit action in all its aspects. Apply, W. L. Page, 74-6, High West Street, Gateshead.

WALLASEY Social Credit Association. Enquiries welcomed by Hon. Sec., 2, Empress Road, Wallasey.

TO OTHER WOMEN

Now is the moment to help your country.

Don't wait for "the event of War"

Now is the moment for activity

Get in touch with the work of the Centre

E. M. Cochrane-Shanks

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MEETINGS FOR WOMEN at the Social Credit Centre. Every Thursday at 5.30 p.m. Simple Tea 6d.

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If you are willing and able to act locally in any of the following, please indicate by marking X in square opposite.

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