

# SOCIAL CREDIT

## For Political and Economic Democracy

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Weekly Twopence

### THE HOME MARKET

HOME is a good word—but the reality it stands for is better still. There are many people beginning to realise that before we, as a people or as a nation, presume to attempt to put the world right, we should put our own house in order first.

To pretend that everything in the British garden is lovely is mere hypocrisy, for the plague of poverty stalks the lands in an age of productive power such as the world has never known in its history before.

Alas, the whitewashing of those mass graveyards called "depressed areas," is no remedy for the creeping disease from which they suffer so dreadfully. The report of Sir John Orr (reviewed recently in these columns), in which it is shown that 4,500,000 British people suffer from malnutrition—half of them children—because they have not enough money to buy the wholesome life-giving food our farmers could produce, should bring a blush of shame to every British cheek.

#### A Starved Market

These starved millions, plus another 18,000,000 who also cannot afford to buy all the British-produced food they need, what a market at home they could provide if the purchasing power of these 22,500,000 consumers were to be raised until it equated with the truly magnificent powers of production represented by our farmers, land and science!

British farmers are the best in the world—as farmers. But when it comes to markets, truly they appear to have lost their wits entirely. Farmers can produce wealth, but not money, and unless the consumers are given more money to buy the farmers' wealth, how can the market expand?

The increment of nature, to which a good farmer attends, is at present forestalled by a money-trick, a ticket-trick, a confidence-trick, which victimises both producer and consumer alike. A bountiful harvest, instead of being a joy and profit to all, brings ruin instead.

#### Demand Dividends

Malnutrition can be abolished in Britain when the shortage of purchasing power is abolished by the issue of National Dividends to consumers.

The homes of our people, including the farms in our land, will be secure when the Home Market is secure, when our women have enough money in their purses to buy all the food they want (and up to the quality they choose) to fill their shopping baskets, so as to feed the men and children.

How to do this is known, it needs but the demand for this result.

How about it, John Farmer? Is the extra £10,000,000 a week in the purses of British customers (required for a decent standard of health) worth your consideration?

Aren't you sick of interfering restriction schemes that starve your neighbours?

Look to your Home Market, John!

Demand the abolition of poverty and the issue of National Dividends in the interests of yourself, your home, your farm your market, your pocket, your neighbour, your religion, and your country.

On with the Campaign! and let's see England merrie again!

BROCK

**A mother with four children under five, and a husband out of work, was charged at Marylebone Police Court with having broken open her gas meter. She said she took the money to buy milk for her nine-months-old baby, who had had nothing for eighteen hours.—"Daily Mirror," March 21, 1936.**

**The tax of 5s. each on petrol-driven bath-chairs used by disabled ex-Servicemen and other cripples yields £400 per annum.—From "Hansard," March 16, 1936.**

### MAJOR DOUGLAS AND ALBERTA

The following letter from Major Douglas, which was despatched to Mr. Aberhart on October 29, 1935, was issued to the press on April 7.

It will be noticed that Major Douglas offered to leave for Canada on September 14. He, however, received no invitation from Mr. Aberhart to go to Canada on any terms whatever until December 20 when less than one week's notice by cable was given to him. A request for certain vital information was, however, ignored.

Dear Mr. Aberhart,

In further reference to my letter of October 15, I have now had the advantage of a conversation with the Dean of Canterbury, who has put your views to me with his customary efficiency, and have also heard from various well-informed sources in Eastern Canada in regard to the general situation in Alberta, more particularly in respect to the services of Mr. Robert James Magor, who I am informed is the nominee of a group of Montreal bankers, and was intimately connected with and in favour of a suspension of Parliamentary Government in Newfoundland and its rule by a financial commission, a policy which has been murderous to the population of Newfoundland though satisfactory to the Bank of England.

(1) You will recall that in reply to a cablegram from you reading "Victorious, when can you come?", sent on the evening of the Election on August 22, I replied "If necessary could sail middle September, suggest calling me telephone ten morning Edmonton time." The early date given in this cablegram was arranged at considerable inconvenience to myself, and I did, in fact, remain at my office telephone for about a week in the evening in case the suggestion of a telephone conversation proved acceptable. I mention this to indicate the importance I personally placed upon the first steps which were to be taken by the new Government. In the expectation of the urgent necessity of a conference I have from time to time reserved Transatlantic passages beginning on September 14.

(2) No direct information as to the policy to be pursued had reached me from official sources until I gathered from your letter of September 24 that you prefer to work in co-operation with the banks.

(3) In my first Interim Report\* I made it clear, I think, that the problem to be faced by Alberta, if it is to depart from purely orthodox lines, is that of emancipation from the power of banking and international finance, and that the primary steps to this end were, not the formulation of a specific plan to deal with Provincial finance when

\* [Published in SOCIAL CREDIT for June 21, 1935.—Ed.]

#### THE SHADOW OF COMING EVENTS?

Out of Newfoundland's total population of 280,000, no fewer than 73,290 were receiving Government relief at the end of February, according to Public Health Department figures.

Sir John Hope Simpson, a member of the Newfoundland Commission of Government, revealed in a talk to the Club for Unemployed in St. John's that expenditure for relief was £27,000 a month. He hinted that nearly £300,000 would be required for public relief for 1935-36. — "Daily Telegraph," April 14.

It is Mr. R. J. Magor, who is now advising Mr. Aberhart's Government in Alberta, to whom the Newfoundlanders are mainly indebted for this state of affairs.

this emancipation had been achieved, but were in the nature of inroads upon the monopoly of credit, which were bound to be resisted, since they were directed against the continuance of banking and financial dominance.

(4) A policy which apparently aims at defeating the banks with the assistance of the banks themselves, under the supervision of an agent of the banks, seems to me to be so dangerous that I do not feel that it has a reasonable chance of success, more especially as it appears to be associated with a suggestion that the difficulties of the Province are due to maladministration on the part of the previous Government. I am wholly indifferent to Party Politics, either in Alberta or elsewhere, but I feel that a suggestion of this character has the undesirable effect of splitting the Alberta Electorate while exonerating the financial system at the expense of Governments in general, which is exactly the excuse which the financial authorities are endeavouring to provide everywhere, in order that Governments may be replaced by Financial Commissions.

(5) While I am, of course, deeply concerned with the success of the first titular Social Credit Government, and recognise to the full the difficulties of your own position and the fact that you are bound to be solely concerned with the affairs of Alberta, I am, for my part, obliged to bear constantly in mind the growing importance of Social Credit in other parts of the world and to safeguard these interests to any extent which lies within my power. Under these circumstances and in view of the situation created by the acceptance of Mr. Magor as adviser in connection with the Debt of Alberta, which is, of course, an integral feature of the plan to modify the Alberta financial system, I feel that it would be desirable that the contract I have with the Alberta Government should be terminated by mutual consent, as it is obviously impossible to pursue the policy of my first Interim Report under the circumstances which appear now to exist.

(6) Should, however, you feel at the end of six months from this date that I can advise you to advantage, I shall be most happy to consider the situation in the light of circumstances existing at that time.

(7) I do not propose to take any action in this matter until November 27, in order to give you an opportunity of communicating with me by cable or telephone.

(8) Might I add that you have my most sincere wishes for final success by whatever means it is attained, and that it is only a clear conviction of the risks which are involved in allowing financial interests to deal with Alberta affairs in any capacity whatever, which forces me to dissociate myself from such a policy?

Yours faithfully,

(Signed) C. H. DOUGLAS

#### SOUTH AUSTRALIAN RESOLUTION

The South Australian Country and Labour Party Conference, at which the president of the State Labour Party, Mr. Richards, presided, has passed a resolution, in spite of strong opposition, urging that the next general conference should consider an agreement with the Douglas Social Credit movement. The resolution urges that where suitable the Douglas proposals should be embodied in the Labour platform, as in New Zealand. Supporters of the motion contended that the New Zealand Labour policy had been much strengthened thereby.

The conference strongly supported the action of the State Party in advising local committees and trade unions to affiliate with the Movement Against War and Fascism.— "The Times," April 14, 1936.

This looks like a step in the right direction.

### "THE ALBERTAN"

IT is odd that a paper which claims to be the first Social Credit daily in the world, as *The Albertan*, published in Calgary to support Mr. Aberhart's party, does, should commend the "economy" with which the Provincial Government Departments are administered.

Most of the costs of Provincial Government administration are incurred within a Province which is immensely rich in all the things commonly wanted to make life pleasant, and which, if not so used, are either wasted or apt to be misused.

The same paper recently published a leading article extolling the virtues of "economy" all round, and quoting the work of the Australian Loan Council as an example to be followed. This was much more suggestive of the atmosphere of a bank parlour than of a true Social Credit outlook.

#### The Balanced Budget

*The Albertan* further advocates the "balanced budget" which, of course, is one of the worst inversions of reality. As Major Douglas said in his letter dated February 24 to Mr. Aberhart, quoted in SOCIAL CREDIT last week:

"A balanced budget is quite inconsistent with the use of Social Credit in the modern world, and is simply a statement in accounting figures that the progress of the country is stationary, i.e., that it consumes exactly what it produces, including capital assets. The result of the acceptance of this proposition is that all capital appreciation becomes quite automatically the property of those who create an issue of money, and the necessary unbalancing of the budget is covered by debts."

That letter, by the way, as well as the one published in SOCIAL CREDIT this week, makes the following introduction to an article in *The Albertan* of March 21, in which Major Douglas is attacked (as he is frequently now attacked in *The Albertan*), look suspicious:

"It is not necessary to know the details of all the correspondence which has passed between Major C. H. Douglas and Premier Aberhart, to be able to justify the course which the government of Alberta has pursued since taking office."

#### The Negation of Social Credit

It would not be easy to justify the course so far taken by the Albertan Government, which has resulted in an increase of taxation, the negation of Social Credit; the imposition of so-called economy (really parsimony) which has made the life of the individual even less secure than it was; and the failure to redeem bonds due on April 1, which, had Major Douglas's advice been taken, could have been paid 115 per cent., with benefits all round. We understand that the banks, which were prevented from foreclosing their Farm Mortgages, have also had their "rights" restored to them.

*The Albertan* does not live up to its designation, and it would mislead our readers if we were not to discontinue its advertisement, which, by a reciprocal arrangement since repudiated by *The Albertan*, we had hitherto been glad to insert in our paper.

We are by no means hopeless of the Alberta situation, but it cannot be made too clear that at the present time the assumption of the title of a Social Credit Government by Mr. Aberhart is so far completely without justification. Every measure to which this Government has put its name to date is retrograde in character, and would probably never have been sponsored in the present circumstances by the most orthodox Conservative, Liberal or Farmer Government.

#### LORD TANKERVILLE IN BIRMINGHAM

On Friday, April 24, the Earl of Tankerville will address a public meeting at the Digbeth Institute. His address will be entitled "YOU Can Abolish Poverty," and the time of the meeting is 8 p.m.

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## SOCIAL CREDIT

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### An Example of Power

THE film correspondent of *The Observer*, C. A. Lejeune, recently wrote of a conversation he had had with the manager of a large London cinema. They were discussing the influence of public opinion on the films exhibited, when the cinema manager remarked:

The public have no conception how much influence they could bring to bear on the exhibitor, and in turn on the renter and producer, if they would only organise and make their tastes vocal. I am not advocating a public hold-up, but no exhibitor with a grain of sense is going to resist a concerted expression of opinion from his audiences. Why, even a dozen emphatic letters a week has been enough before now to make us reconsider our policy on a particular type of film.

The proper procedure to produce instantaneous results is, of course, for the public to express their wishes regarding any film by way of the box office. There, by paying to see it, or the reverse, they can express their view. Their money is their vote, and the management must respond or go bankrupt. That is always the most effective way for the public to exercise pressure to get what they want in the economic field.

Writing letters may have some effect, but it is not necessary if a majority are of the same opinion and express that opinion by the "money vote."

As in the economic field, so in the political field. By means of the ballot box the public can exercise supreme power.

When this is realised by a sufficient number of persons—and the number need not be great—then what those persons believe to be the unanimous will of the people can be put to the people to endorse through the ballot box.

Now this journal stands for the belief that the vast majority of the people are unanimous in wishing that there should be an end to poverty, an end to insecurity, an end to war. Every normal person hates these three things and wishes for the reverse—for plenty, for security, and for peace.

Our immediate task is to bring to enough persons the conviction that the people have the power to get their wishes realised. When that small number of persons are so convinced, they will put the case before every elector in such a way as shall ensure that the greatest pressure shall be brought to bear as quickly as possible on those whose duty it is to carry out the people's will.

The form reproduced each week on our back page has been devised as the most effective tool for the purpose; and the most efficient way of using it is indicated in the Commentary on Miss Helen Corke's speech, reported on page 77 of this issue. Volunteers to work in this Electoral Campaign are the key to the salvation of civilisation.

We hope all our readers will soon be so convinced as to offer their services, for the need is urgent, because the time is short with the world swaying giddily on the brink of the precipice.

We hope that, meantime, those who are not yet convinced will study the matter and induce others also to do so. Week by week in these pages we strive to explain, to elucidate knotty points, and to encourage those who are already at work. It is some encouragement to know that our work bears fruit, even though slowly.

Can the race against time be won? The answer is with you.

### "Time for Thought"

WE would particularly draw readers' attention to the article on page 75 under the above title. The writer, unfortunately, is dead; he died an unappreciated genius, for recognition came too late. Had he lived, no reader of his can doubt that he would have rejoiced to see our day, in which the truth of which he wrote is increasingly realised, the cause of the conditions he deplored known, and the British people, whom he loved, are being taught how to use their power to put an end for ever to "the greatest, the vilest, the most unpardonable crime that could be committed."

# A Word to the Wise

### A Benevolent Conspiracy?

Under this heading (except for the question mark) the *Star*, of April 6, produced the following report:—

The mysterious meeting in the Black Forest of the great bankers of Europe has the flavour of an H. G. Wells situation. Mr. Montagu Norman, Dr. Schacht, M. Jean Tannery and the rest have gathered secretly in the romantic shades of Badenweiler in a benevolent conspiracy. Their purpose is to mend the broken economic fabric of Europe. It is a noble object at a time when the hounds of war are baying, and a hundred influences are making for European disunity. It is too much to hope that a Samurai of intelligence is being recruited in the Black Forest, but we may be pleased with even a modest beginning. One day, perhaps, the Bank of International Settlements will really achieve an international settlement.

It is well to ascribe good motives to those who have given no reason for doubt, but is this the case with international financiers? Having, in the past, boasted of their power to control governments—a power exercised through the misappropriation of the credit of the nations—they, the financiers, must accept responsibility for the present state of the world. This being so, either their benevolence or their intelligence is at fault.

Whether their intentions be good or evil is however beside the point, for, judged by results, it is obvious that they are paving the road to hell, the hell of poverty, war and revolution.

We, the people, are finally responsible however, because we let them do it, unless we are exerting every effort to make our government govern, and demand from finance a policy directed to the ends we desire.

### Collective Security

This seductive phrase is to be heard on the lips of every League of Nations fan to-day, but one wonders how many people using it have ever tried to understand it. The prisoners at Dartmoor enjoy "collective security" but we have yet to hear that either Mr. Anthony Eden or Mr. Stanley Baldwin wish to participate in it. Collective security may in fact be bought at too high a price—that of individual liberty.

As Major Douglas pointed out at the Westminster meeting (see SOCIAL CREDIT for April 10), the question of the League of Nations is one of priority. Given a reformed financial system which did not enslave mankind through poverty, "the right kind of internationalism would be fairly sound and proper. But not first, not before the financial system is rectified. The only safeguard against a world governed by international finance is nationalism." Give the individuals who comprise nations security, and then, and then only, can you be sure that "collective security" will not mean the security of a prison.

### Luxury—on 45s. a Week

The story of a young man who worked in a large store for 45s. a week is given in the papers.

He ran a large car, bought a new house; and his wife was dressed in the height of fashion. News of this reached the ears of his employers who examined his accounts but could discover nothing wrong.

Eventually a secretary was sent to make diplomatic inquiries. The young man

admitted that neither he nor his wife had any private means.

"Then how in the world do you manage to run a car and buy this house on 45s. a week?" asked the secretary.

"I don't," said the young man. "There are 200 employees in the store. Every week they buy a ticket in the raffle for my wage packet at a shilling a time.

"That brings me in £10 a week—not 45s." If this enterprising young man took it upon himself to lecture his fellows on "the message to Garcia," the soundness of "working hard" and "investing" a shilling a week for the security represented by a 45s. wage packet, and explaining his prosperity in terms of solemn nonsense instead of the simple truth, he might become an insurance director, a stockbroker, a bank director, or even an orthodox economist.

He shows all the earmarks of a high financier, short (of course) of the ability to manufacture for a few pence the authentic wage-packet.

### Montreal Rubs Its Eyes

The Montreal correspondent of the *Financial Times* reports that the Montreal City Council wishes to enforce a conversion of the city debt to a lower rate of interest, and that certain Aldermen question the right of the British press to criticise this procedure as "Britain has not paid her war debts"! The *Montreal Star* twinkles brightly to the following effect:

Fortunately their (the Aldermen's) crude type of argument is not likely to deceive anybody at Quebec, where the proposal is surely doomed to the fate that befalls so many pipe dreams—into the Legislative Council's waste paper basket.

We trust these "crude" Aldermen of Montreal will continue their "crude" arguments. At least Montreal can plead inability to pay, whereas, when Great Britain defaulted on the war debt to the U.S.A., the amount of gold held by the Bank of England was the highest on record.

### Real Costing

It is announced that a new method of costing has been devised by the Cotton Spinners' and Manufacturers' Association in an attempt to avoid anomalies and to stabilise prices.

The only costing system that would avoid anomalies would be one which measured cost exactly as the real things which were expended or consumed during the process of production. Such a real costing system would not stabilise prices, however, because, as industrial methods improved, so real cost would go down and prices—which should be merely costs plus profits—would go down.

We commend the idea to the Cotton Spinners' and Manufacturers' Association.

### Perpetual War

The late German Ambassador, His Excellency, Dr. von Hoersch, in his speech on December 12, 1935, at the dinner of the German Chamber of Commerce for the United Kingdom, said in reference to the economic situation:

What are the causes of the evil and what are the possibilities of removing them? Of the many causes one of the most important is, of course, the over-production created artificially by the necessities of war time.

The old economic doctrine that a movement of capital ought to be automatically followed by

a corresponding movement of goods, seems to be no longer true. While international indebtedness has risen in the period 1913 till 1933 from 150 to 200 milliard Marks, the value of world trade during the same period dropped from 160 milliard to 75 milliard.

While the colossal wastage of war is going on, the world can still produce more than it can consume if war ceases. Only, in fact, by perpetual war can consumption be equated to production, and even then at the cost of ever-increasing debt. Despite the tremendous destruction of the last war, when it ended, world productive capacity had increased immensely, and what every country then needed was not so much goods as the money with which to buy them; hence the increase of debt, despite a decrease of world trade.

National Dividends would equate consumption to production in peace time. Their issue would remove the need to give our labour in the form of shells and bullets, to an enemy created by the struggle to sell abroad what cannot be sold at home.

### The Watchdogs of Mammon

A London daily newspaper recently printed an item concerning a well-known seaside resort in which it was stated that—

On the outskirts, residents complain, occur occasional exhibitions of improperly dressed bathers. Parties arrive with their own deck chairs, food and drink. Go away without having spent a penny in the town. They are to be more closely watched.

People may think it a far cry from a happy carefree bathing and picnic party on the sands of the seashore to the Bank of England.

But is it? This reminds us of the saying of a one-time Chancellor of the Exchequer, now Lord Snowden, that the Bank is the greatest moral institution of our time. And here in the seaside resort and a London daily we have an example of the "morality" so beloved by bankers.

"They are to be more closely watched." Watched for what? For an occasion to hale them to the police court for an offence against morality. The offence will figure in the charge sheet as "improperly dressed," but the real offence will be "not having spent a penny."

Bankers' morality!

### The Terrible "Tote"

The Bookies have been pointing out some obvious scandals in the finances of the 'tote.' Mr. George Picken, chairman of the National Bookmakers' Association, said that the tote in its early days borrowed no less than £2,000,000 for development installation. One million pounds was borrowed on debenture in 1932 and became repayable in December, 1936, but there was no mention of how the sum was to be liquidated.

A sum of £2,000,000 had been spent in 1928 on building and equipment, most of which was now obsolete, but not a penny had been allowed for depreciation.

If this statement is correct, either the people who patronise the tote will have to pay this two million pounds in the form of deductions on their bets, or else the shareholders of the tote will suffer to the extent of that sum. In either case, two million pounds' worth of obsolete building and equipment will have left behind it a debt of two million pounds as between the public and the banking system, and there is no machinery whereby this debt can be wiped out, except bankruptcy.

### Monetary Reformers

Will the Electoral Campaign encourage voters to attend gatherings of monetary reformers and learn how poverty could be abolished? Not if those conducting the Campaign successfully represent the principles of the Buxton Speech, because then the two will never be connected in the mind of the public. The object of the Electoral Campaign is to purify democracy. For this reason it avoids entering into technical discussions about finance. But if voters wish to study methods, that is their affair. Obviously only a very small proportion of the electorate have the time, the opportunity, or the inclination to do this. The Electoral Campaign appeals not to the select few, but to the whole body of voters.

What it says, in effect, to the voter is not "This is the method whereby you can get poverty abolished. If you wish to study this method, read such-and-such books, or attend such-and-such meetings." On the contrary, it says, "You can get anything you want, if it is reasonable, by demanding it of your Member of Parliament and standing by that demand." And, further, "A National Dividend is a reasonable demand."

## James Drayton Bennett

IT is with great regret that we announce the death of Mr. J. D. Bennett, Director of Overseas Relations of the Social Credit Secretariat Limited. Mr. Bennett, who had been ill for the past six weeks, leaves a widow to whom we offer our deep sympathy.

An appreciation by Major Douglas of Mr. Bennett's work will appear next week.

Jim Bennett's untimely death at the age of 36 is a tragedy for Social Credit, which has lost one of its most brilliant and most promising men.

J.D.B.'s Overseas Notes in SOCIAL CREDIT were the work of a man who possessed to a high degree the two qualities which are most urgently needed amongst us at this time—judgment and a sense of responsibility.

In these notes, written in clear, unaffected and always readable English, he was not merely a chronicler of events, or a prophet of things to come (although the accuracy of his reading of the confused politics of Alberta months before that momentous election was a masterpiece of judgment), he was in addition providing a background for the immensely important work, by correspondence and personal interview, of his Department of Overseas Relations at the Secretariat.

The work done by him was singled out for comment by Major Douglas, who, referring to the Secretariat Treasurer's report for the year ended June 30, 1935, mentioned that there had been "organised an overseas intelligence service which is both authoritative and conservative."

The huge volume of work Bennett got through, in addition to his duties as a master at Charterhouse, can be known only to a few, and it continued right to the last hours of his life. He died in our service.

Those of us who were privileged to know him intimately have sustained a personal loss of which it is difficult to write; and he had a host of friends. All of them may take comfort in the thought that the work he did lives on.



## MAJOR DOUGLAS ON THE FUTILITY OF PARTIES

After his speech on March 7 at Westminster (reported in SOCIAL CREDIT for March 13), Major Douglas answered various questions. Some of these, with Major Douglas's answers, are summarised below. More will follow.

### Futility of a Social Credit Party

**Question.**—Why does Major Douglas believe that a Social Credit Party and Social Credit parliamentary candidates would not be perfectly capable of making experts do their job—or face a firing squad?

**Answer.**—It seems very difficult to make this, to me, rather simple point. The essence of it is whether or not you regard the Member of Parliament as an expert. If you assume that he is an expert then you are electing a second-rate expert to control a first-rate expert. If you agree that the Member of Parliament should not be an expert, then why tie a label on him? The proper attitude of the people is, "We don't care what your alleged name is—the essential thing is that you should do as you are told."

The idea that you cannot get Parliament to give you what you want unless you have a Social Credit Party, means either (a) that the ordinary Member of Parliament will refuse to agree to take the instructions of his constituents, or (b) that you can more quickly get a majority in Parliament which is labelled Social Credit than you can get a majority in Parliament which has merely agreed to do as it is told.

Now that is very largely a matter of experiment, and I am fortunately provided with facts. There were at the last General Election three candidates who stood on various adaptations of a Social Credit platform. They all of them lost their deposits. They all put up a perfectly good fight, but the fact is that they lost their deposits.

With far less concentrated organisation than these candidates had, we went along the lines of forcing the parliamentary candidate or the Members of Parliament to agree to take the instructions of his electors on all occasions if they were properly conveyed to him by a majority of his constituents in regard to anything they might want. Now, though all the Social Credit candidates lost their deposits, we succeeded in getting 17 Members of the House of Commons committed to do as they are told by their electors.

Which of these two has been proved to be the more effective action?

You have to take human nature just as you find it. There are lots of people who will say "I don't know anything about this Social Credit business. It may be all right, but I don't understand it and I am not going to vote for it. Besides, everybody will say I am a crank." There is nothing repugnant, nothing novel about asking people to insist that their Member of Parliament shall do as they tell him, more particularly if it is pointed out to them that in this way they can get an amelioration of their conditions. What they are, *in fact*, being asked to do is to assume the functions of real democracy. It is very much easier to get people to do that than it is to get them to vote for a Social Credit candidate.

Apart from its undesirability, I do not believe that there is the slightest practical chance of getting a Social Credit majority. The moment you label a party Social Credit you get a wrangle about the technique of Social Credit, and that is exactly what you must avoid. You must not send candidates to Parliament to be technicians. You must send candidates to Parliament to impose your will upon the technicians who already exist. That is the very essence of the problem.

### Force—or Pressure?

**Question.**—Does Major Douglas think that, if the coming war is averted long enough for the Social Credit Movement to grow to great force, the goal for which we are working can be achieved on feasible democratic lines, and that there is no danger of experts refusing to act, and so producing chaos? Can we achieve our aim without resort to force?

**Answer.**—I have no doubt whatever that the right sort of pressure, invisible pressure, but nevertheless irresistible pressure, can be brought to bear once people are aware of what we are driving at. The whole strength, not merely of finance, but of its type of democracy — or if you like of an outworn Governmental system—lies in the unconsciousness of the average individual as to its nature. If you can make him conscious of its nature, you can rouse his will in regard to it, and he will undoubtedly prevail.

## ENGINEERING FAMILY BUDGETS

ON March 31 the Engineers' Economic Group presented for discussion a report on the "Design of the Family Budget," with special reference to food. It was suggested that such a standard is obtainable on an income of about £317 for a family of 3.72 (the average family for the United Kingdom) or £164 for every wage earner. This allows £99 for food during the year, or about 10s. a week for each person.

The diet was worked out according to calorific values, and the figures for the desirable consumption of each type of food, such as milk, butter, fruit, correspond closely to the sum of the actual average consumption and the percentage increment suggested by Sir John Orr in his now famous report. The figures were worked out independently. An allowance of £20 a year is made for recreation and holidays, and one of £28 for smoking, drinking, and eating sweets.

It is estimated that 20 millions of the population of this country live below this standard, that is, inadequately. In his opening address, Sir Richard Gregory made it clear that this was not due to scarcity. The

discussion that followed emphasised the tremendous gulf between even such a modest way of living as this, and the actual existing standard. In the Rhondda Valley among the poorer folk, when housing has been paid for, there remains about 5s. 11d. a week for each person to buy food and clothing. About 4s. of this is used for food. The increase in stamina provided by a relatively small increase in diet is shown by the fall of the maternal death-rate from 11.29 per 1,000 in 1934, to 3.9 in 1935, when free milk and food to the value of 2s. 6d. a week were distributed to expectant mothers.

In this discussion there seemed to be a tenacious grasp of the "laws" of scarcity. But considering the immense profusion of food in the world (as well as the profusion being destroyed) this attitude is ridiculous. The food is there, unused. Let the 20 million consumers demand it. Let them also see that the £317 is indeed a minimum and that they continue to share in the increasing wealth, for they are all members of a democracy and as such they must make their policy clear. E.S.E.

### STAMP ON PLENTY

A warning to potato growers against the tendency, after a year of good prices, to plant in excess of national requirements, has been issued by the Ulster Ministry of Agriculture. —"Daily Express," March 23.

The duty of 10 per cent. on imports of Soya beans has resulted in a fall of over 18,000 tons in the past year, whilst Soya oil imports have increased by over 23,000 tons. A duty of 20 per cent. has now been imposed on imports of oil and cake. (Soya oil is an important constituent of margarine.) —"Daily Telegraph," March 12, 1936.

### CONTRAST

The Annual Report of the Operative Cotton Spinners' Amalgamation calls attention to the fact that the number of insured persons in the Lancashire cotton industry declined from 572,420 in 1924, to 442,400 in 1935, a decrease of 130,020. Mr. Boothman, the general secretary, states: "It is idle to expect that any possible revival in trade can do more than absorb a fraction of unemployed." —"Daily Herald," March 19, 1936.

A boy in the witness box at Surrey Assizes took off his collar and tie, was rebuked by the judge, but he said it was too tight and that it was his brother's shirt, as he could not afford one. —"Daily Express," April 1, 1936.

## TIME FOR THOUGHT RICHARD JEFFERIES' PASSIONATE PROTEST AGAINST WORK AS AN END

"They shall not work for bread, but for their souls"

THE most extraordinary spectacle, as it seems to me, is the vast expenditure of labour and time wasted in obtaining mere subsistence. As a man, in his lifetime, works hard and saves money, that his children may be free from the cares of penury and may at least have sufficient to eat, drink, clothe, and roof them, so the generations that preceded us might, had they so chosen, have provided for our subsistence. The labour and time of ten generations, properly directed, would sustain a hundred generations succeeding to them, and that, too, with so little self-denial on the part of the providers as to be scarcely felt. So men now, in this generation, ought clearly to be laying up a store, or, what is still more powerful, arranging and organising that the generations which follow may enjoy comparative freedom from useless labour.

### "Work the Main Object"

That twelve thousand written years should have elapsed, and the human race—able to reason and to think, and easily capable of combination in immense armies for its own destruction—should still live from hand to mouth, like cattle and sheep, like the animals of the field and the birds of the woods; that there should not even be roofs to cover the children born, unless those children labour and expend their time to pay for them, that there should not be clothes, unless, again, time and labour are expended to procure them, that there should not be even food for the children of the human race, except they labour as their fathers did twelve thousand years ago, that even water should scarce be accessible to them, unless paid for by labour! In twelve thousand written years the world has not yet built itself a House, nor filled a Granary, nor organised itself for its own comfort. It is so marvellous I cannot express the wonder with which it fills me. And more wonderful still, if that could be, there are people so infatuated, or, rather, so limited of view, that they glory in this state of things, declaring that work is the main object of man's existence—work for subsistence—and glorying in their wasted time. To argue with such is impossible; to leave them is the only resource.

### Madness Could Hardly Go Farther

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

### "Enslaved by Interested Persons"

That selfishness has all to do with it I entirely deny. The human race for ages upon ages has been enslaved by ignorance and by interested persons whose object it has been to confine the minds of men, thereby doing more injury than if with infected hands they purposely imposed disease on the heads of the people. Almost worse than these, and at the present day as injurious, are those persons incessantly declaring, teaching, and impressing upon all that to work is man's highest condition. This falsehood is the interested superstition of an age infatuated with money, which having accumulated it cannot even expend it in pageantry. It is a falsehood propagated for

the doubtful benefit of two or three out of ten thousand. It is the lie of a morality founded on money only, and utterly outside and having no association whatever with the human being in itself. Many superstitions have been got rid of in these days; time it is that this, the last and worst, were eradicated.

### "The Inalienable Right"

At this hour, out of thirty-four millions who inhabit this country, two-thirds — say twenty-two millions—live within thirty years of that abominable institution the poorhouse. That any human being should dare to apply to another the epithet "pauper" is to me the greatest, the vilest, the most unpardonable crime that could be committed. Each human being, by mere birth, has a birthright in this earth and all its productions; and if they do not receive it, then it is they who are injured, and it is not the "pauper"—oh, inexpressibly wicked word!—it is the well-to-do who are the criminal classes. It matters not in the least if the poor be improvident, or drunken, or evil in any way. Food and drink, roof and clothes, are the inalienable right of every child born into the light. If the world does not provide it freely—not as a grudging gift but as a right, as a son of the house sits down to breakfast—then is the world mad. But the world is not mad, only in ignorance—an interested ignorance, kept up by strenuous exertions, from which infernal darkness it will, in course of time, emerge, marvelling at the past as a man wonders at and glories in the light who has escaped from blindness.

### A Cornucopia of Good Things

This our earth produces not only a sufficiency and a superabundance, but in one year pours a cornucopia of good things forth, enough to fill us all for many years in succession. The only reason we do not enjoy it is the want of rational organisation. I know, of course, and all who think know, that some labour or supervision will be always necessary, since the plough must travel the furrow and the seed must be sown; but I maintain that a tenth, nay, a hundredth, part of the labour and slavery now gone through will be sufficient, and that in the course of time, as organisation perfects itself and discoveries advance, even that part will diminish. For the rise and fall of the tides alone furnish forth sufficient power to do automatically all the labour that is done on the earth. Is ideal man, then, to be idle? I answer that, if so, I see no wrong, but a great good. I deny altogether that idleness is an evil, or that it produces evil, and I am well aware why the interested are so bitter against idleness — namely, because it gives time for thought, and if men had time to think their reign would come to an end. Idleness—that is, the absence of the necessity to work for subsistence—is a great good.

### "They Shall Not Work for Bread"

I hope succeeding generations will be able to be idle. I hope that nine-tenths of their time will be leisure time; that they may enjoy their days, and the earth, and the beauty of this beautiful world; that they may rest by the sea and dream; that they may dance and sing, and eat and drink. I will work towards that end with all my heart. If employment they must have — and the restlessness of the mind will insure that some will be followed—then they will find scope enough in the perfection of their physical frames, in the expansion of the mind, and in the enlargement of the soul. They shall not work for bread, but for their souls. I am willing to divide and share all I shall ever have for this purpose, though I think that the end will rather be gained by organisation than by sharing alone.

Make joy real now to those you love, and help forward the joy of those yet to be born.

RICHARD JEFFERIES in "The Story of My Heart," published in 1883

### HE KNOWS!

"A Member of Parliament is elected to carry out the wishes of the majority of the electorate . . . the great majority of Rossendale electors do not desire abolition of pool betting."—Mr. R. H. Cross, M.P. (C.) Rossendale, in "World's Fair," March 28, 1936.

### WORK MANIA

A writer in the *Blue Peter* suggests Britain should build a new canal to rival the Suez Canal because full ownership of the Suez passes to Egypt in 1968. He says the new canal would be 70 times longer than the Suez, but could be made at less cost and in less time.—"Daily Mirror," April 3, 1936.

# THE CURSE OF KEYNES

WELL-REGARDED Boon-Fellow, It has by no means escaped my noticings, sir, that ecomicalists are devised into two classes, which are more or less fast and hard in their gropings. Of these the populous ones, such as Sir George Hearse, F. W. Paish, Commander Stepinfetchit and the likes, are the best known. Those johnnies, possessing smutterings of ecomics gained from City-Editor page of *Daily Harold*, manage to ache out a pecuniary livelihoods upon the fringes of Economy's shirt, the whitewashing, so to say, sir, of public linens.

But I am also aware of another orders behind and beyond all these, I mean excessively obscurantist chappies who after reading and recitating certain selected works at Cambridge or L.S.E. go out into the wild, wild worlds with epithets on their names; and their job, old pally-chummy, is to trans- pose by means of langwidge the entire subject-matters of ecomics into the higher realms of transcendencies, among the harmoniums of the spears, if I may so posically asseverate it, please.

Fourmost among such rare sprites the names of J. M. Keynes is very highly rank; and it is of his new book,\* Sir, that I am wishful for discursing this smily morn.

That massive tomb, which I am holding in my hands as I rite (metaphysically speaking, of course), sets forth to show real states of ecomic society; and for all I know it exceeds in so effecting, old peach, for I cannot, as is only rightful and intentional, comprehend one tooth part of it.

It demonstrates that we live in a world worked entirely by hand-windless or something of that natures; for Mr. Canes does not appear having heard of power-productings or machinery. What a pity he was not at Oxford instead of being a Cantata! Then he might have observed a motor-factory at close ranges and corrected these slight defects.

Farthermore there are no mens or womens in Mr. Canes's world either, dear buoy, only Units—Units of Employment, Wage-Units, Labour-Units and some others. These Units, though not Human, are all frightfully cyclological, and with the slightest excuses they lose their Propensity to Consume.

A Unit may have too much money given it. What does it do? In fit of passions it at once loses the Habit of Consuming!

Again, Sire, a Unit may be unemployed. What is its course of actions in such suckimstances? Why, io and behold, it turns sulky, and this one stops consuming also! Really, there is no knowing what to do with these Units, and Doctor Canes finds his ultimate ideals impossible of consumation — that is, Full Employments for all, along with habitual Propensities to Consume.

And I pity him for it. One can appeal to human fairplay and sportive instincts, sir, but dealing with Units is a much tuffer proposal. You may well arsk, dere Eddy-chap, what are we to do about these questions? Well, in Doctor Cane's views, it seems, nothing.

\*Failing some novel expedient there is, as we shall see, no answer to the riddle, except that

\* "The General Theory of Employment, Interest and Money." J. M. Keynes.

By Frotti

there must be sufficient unemployment to keep us so poor that our consumption falls short of our income by no more than the equivalent of the physical provision for future consumption which it pays us to produce to-day." (P. 105).

While most of that came off the bat too hot for poor old Frotti, Sire, the jest of it is clear. We must all be very poor and unemployed if we want to avoid some novel experiment.

In considerations of the fact that this voluminous *magnum onus*, as the Dutch say, deals so largely and almost exhaustingly with the Unemployed, sir, though in terms, naturally, of Units, I thought it only fair to take it and read it aloud to a disengaged pally-chappy of mine. He lives outside a swaggish hotel on the Embankment, and has often informed me that he is the national son of Lord Lovaduck. On the side of this gent-unit, therefore, I sate me down upon a fine springy afternoon, and a bench which was not so springy, and opened the Book at p. 106.

"Are you aware, my silly chump-cove, that you effect harmful things by not eating three square meals a day?" I first asked him in severious tones.

"Getcha," was his somewhat monocommittal reply. So I let flies at him, sir, in good earnest.

"Every weakening of the propensity to consume regarded as a permanent habit must weaken the demand for capital as well as the demand for consumption."

"Ho!" said Lord Lovaduck's son. I saw

he was reflexive, if not remorseful, and continued:

"The fundamental *psychological law* . . . is that men are disposed . . . to increase their consumption as their income increases." (P. 96).

Which looks jolly well alright, Sirrah, unless you compare it with p. 105, which, being gallant gentle mans, you will not do. Lovaduck's eyes closed in rather deepish thought, and I saw he was becoming inter- spective, and perhaps meditating on the advisabilities of being cycle-analysed.

"All production is for the purpose of ultimately satisfying a consumer." (P. 46).

At this point, sir, my friend began to snore. I was just about to raze myself and depart in some dungeon, when the noise of men unloading tea-vessels by simple expedients of emptying tea-chests into the river woke him up again. I pulled his sleeve until it came apart in my hand, and remarked in urging accents:

"Listen, old has-bean, do you know *why* you are unemployed?"

"Becos I carnt get work, yer fool," he growled.

"Do you want work, then?" He eyed me pensivelike. "I'd like a nice cup o' tea," he decided finally. So I hastily answered:

"The volume of employment is determined by the point of intersection of the aggregate supply function with the aggregate demand function." (P. 89).

Mr. Lovaduck looked wearily at the river. "Wodjermean?" he said. He made a sudden dive to pick up a lighted cigar-end thrown down by a passing ecomicalist.

## WHAT WE ALL WANT MOST

I HAVE tried to clear up the doubts expressed by certain readers who had not fully understood the meaning of my story about the £1,000 house.

In doing so I revealed the secret of the power of finance, the greatest power the world has ever known—with one exception.

This exception is the supreme power of the united will of the people. If the people make up their minds that they want a thing, nothing can prevent their getting it.

The failure of the people to unite in demanding that which they all want is what has made it possible for finance to seize power.

And it is of the utmost importance to finance to do everything possible so to confuse the people that they will never clearly and unitedly demand that which each wants individually, and that which all want collectively.

That thing is an increased personal income with absolute security.

You want it; I want it; we all want it. There is not anything else we all want so much as that.

And we will get it just as soon as we all clearly and unitedly demand it in the form shown every week on the back page of this issue.

NIKE NOUS

## BOOK REVIEWS

### Man and the Machine

In this book\* Mr. Hubert Williams presents the views of eleven contributors—employers, employees and others—on the effects of the rapid growth of machinery upon our industrial civilisation.

The first contributor, Sir H. Bowden, is concerned for the future of the Leisured State. He foresees the necessity for some form of "endowed leisure," and concludes that the problem must be approached "on the assumption that purchasing power must be made commensurate with the goods and services which are available." So far, so good. Mr. R. C. Hazell concludes that mechanisation is a blessing, if properly controlled. No small if.

In Sir R. Redmayne's opinion, mechanisation has proved a veritable Deus ex Machina to the miners, an opinion which Mr. A. Varley most certainly does not share.

Mr. W. Terrie, for the engineers, wishes to see scientific methods and machinery used to the full, but finds that they have brought small relief to mankind under the existing order of society. We are referred to Russia for particulars of a better order.

Mr. W. Gregory, for the steel workers, pleads against making "a god of speed and efficiency"—especially speed.

Mr. J. Ward, for the cotton operatives,

\* "Man and The Machine," by H. Williams. London: Routledge. 6s.

suggests that "Perhaps a scheme for sharing the existing work might be evolved, with the reduced wages supplemented from other sources." But these "other sources" turn out to be soil cultivation and food production—not National Dividends.

In "The Trade Union View," Mr. Will Sherwood provides a mass of statistical information dealing with technological unemployment. In conclusion, he insists on "a comprehensive policy of shortening hours and of diverting surplus income into higher wage-rates." The term "surplus income" is indefinite; if surplus physical production is meant, it must be pointed out that this production can only be translated into monetary form, available for distribution as incomes, on terms dictated by the present controllers of the nation's credit.

The most interesting portion of the book for the Social Credit student is the analysis of the subject which follows Mr. Durbin's disarming plea for the economist. He will find plenty of matter to contest, but he will have to agree with Mr. Durbin's conclusion as to the maximum rate at which it is possible to introduce labour-saving machinery, so long as we retain the present rules of cost accounting and the present practice of issuing credit to producers only.

An interesting and thought-provoking book; much of it useful, but—constructively—hopeless. A.C.

### Facts From Life

This booklet\* is cleverly written for those who are content to let financial systems remain as they are. In nine chapters the author tries to convince the reader that no other economic scheme can do for the individual what *life assurance* can do in protecting old age and dependents. Chapter IV. gives interesting figures from an investigation carried out by the State of New York in 1929: "Of every 100 men, aged 65 or more, five had independent incomes large enough to enable them to retire in comfort.

"Twenty-eight continued to work for their daily bread.

"And 67 were dependent, either upon public charity or upon the kindness of children, former employers, or family friends."

The author calls these "Facts from Life"! (at the prosperity peak, too), and draws from this tragic story the moral—not to distribute economic security as a birthright by the issue of a National Dividend, but of forming a plan "to get the old man's money out of the young man's pocket before it is spent . . . before he has either chance or temptation to spend it. . . . What we need is a plan that will help us to save before we have spent; for, when we save first, we get the money out of the pocket, remove it safely from the in-roads of current spending temptations, and have a greater chance to win."

\* "A Financial Objective, Why and How," by Paul Speicher. London: A. P. Cawley, 11, Queen Victoria Street, E.C.4. 1s. 6d.

I read onwards with stately dignity:

"We will therefore define the propensity to consume as the functional relationship  $\chi$  between  $Y_w$ , a given level in terms of wage-units, and  $C_w$ , the expenditure at that level of income, so that

$$C_w = \chi(Y_w) \text{ or } C = W \chi(Y_w).$$

Well, almost immediately after that, old friend, I fell to wondering whether raw beef-steaks were as good as they say. Of course, I gave Mr. Lovaduck into chargings of a police-boy for assaults, but he promptly county-charged me with using insulting langwidge in a free country.

Alone once more in quiet purlews of my own lodgings (c/o Mrs. Piff, Torrington Square, B. & B., full bored on Sundays), I later persecuted my studyings of this monumental enormity, which I propped up against the greens, sire, and at last came upon something I could understand (pp. 370-71):

"The strength of Major Douglas's advocacy has, of course, largely depended on orthodoxy having no valid reply to much of his *destructive* criticism. On the other hand the detail of his diagnosis, particularly the so-called *A + B* Theorem, includes much *mere mystification*."

It takes a lot to mystify Canes, Sir, but this, it seems, has affected it. Had Major Douglas only denunciated his ideas as the so-called  $C_w + Y_w$  theorem, the poor bloke-lad might have got it; but now it is too late. Canes wasn't Abel, and the mischief to his cyclological propensity to consume is done for ever.

"Major Douglas is entitled to claim, as against some of his orthodox adversaries, that he at least has not been wholly oblivious of the *out-standing problem of our economic system*."

Major Douglas says there is no *economic* problem, I believe, Sorr, but what is near enough for Canes is near enough for Frotti, I hope?

"Yet he has scarcely established a claim to rank . . . with Mandeville, Malthus, Gesell and Hobson, who, following their intuitions, have preferred to see the truth *obscurely and imperfectly*, rather than to maintain error."

And there I am in hearty agreements with the learned gent-personage, dere old Sports. Surely it is ever so much better to see things dimly and wrong, like Canes and Malthus and such johnnies, than to maintain the error of saying straight out what is the matter? Elsewhere Mister Canes talks about Major Douglas as being in the "underworld" of economics. Which, Sire, there he certainly is, and will so remain, until he has the **common-sensings to follow his ruitions instead of his reason, and gets accustomed to looking through dark glasses at things which aren't there.**

If he could only train himself to do this, then indeed he might rise to be the rankest among the ecomically rank, I think.

Since reading this brilliant expurgation of Mister Canes's, sir, I have given ears to several extraneous opinions about it. One man said that in his viewpoints it was no more than a peace of solim nonsense. But that is far too swiping, I consider. A revuer in a cerebrated journal sums it up thus, that we ought to know enuff before reading it to judge when Canes is right and when "he is merely leading us up the garden path." Yes, sir, or even up the pole, indeed.

Yours rather mizzled,

FROTTI.

Comment upon the above imitation pearls of banking and insurance philosophy might spoil them. G.H.

### Quack, Quack!

This book, like its title,\* is very unbalanced. One would expect, in a book dealing with men and *markets*, that money would also be considered. The author gives a lot of facts as to where coffee, wheat, sugar, cotton, rubber and tin come from, also a lot of historical facts, such as might be gathered from a file of newspapers, concerning the artificially controlled restriction schemes as applied to these six commodities.

But the author, a lecturer in economics at Cambridge, apparently doesn't know the meaning of the facts, for the large parts of the book given to analysis and explanation of the observable phenomena remain unintelligible, being painted in true professional Medicine-Man style as a mystery known only to the wise and discerning. A sample:

The truth is that restriction is an extremely powerful drug, which in wise and discriminating hands can be used to effect great improvements in the world's economic organisation, but if used as a panacea, it will certainly bring some patients near to death, even though it will naturally by chance assist others. We do not yet fully know when, how and in what doses this drug should be used, but it is virtually certain that it is no panacea, that there are some circumstances in which it is deadly dangerous, and others in which it is likely to be beneficial if carefully administered."

Quack, Quack!

"Brock"

\* "Markets and Men," by J. W. F. Rowe. Cambridge University Press. 7s. 6d.



# A CRITIC ANSWERED

By R. L. Northridge

IN a pamphlet entitled "This Social Credit Business,"\* Dr. S. Evelyn Thomas, the author, concludes with a series of questions. They are quoted below, together with brief answers to them.

1. Q.—"If the deficiency of purchasing-power is inherent, how is it that we have not suffered from continuous depression ever since the banking system developed? How does Major Douglas explain booms?"

A.—First, by the writing down of capital and the disposal of bankrupt stock below cost. Secondly, by a policy of easy credit followed by an increase in bank loans, by bank purchase of securities, and by Government spending on a large scale of borrowed money—all of which "put more money about." Thirdly, by hire purchase systems, by fresh export markets or by war.

2. Q.—"Does Major Douglas admit the existence of the phenomenon known as the Trade Cycle? If so, does he maintain that the A + B Theorem constitutes a truer explanation of the depression phase of the Trade Cycle than is afforded by the theories advanced by economists, and does he ask us to place greater reliance on his powers of reasoning and observation than on those of trained economists?"

A.—Most certainly, to all three questions. It is a truth to which Dr. Thomas will have to grow accustomed that no informed person to-day has either use or reverence for "trained economists," save those who pay them to provide an ornamental façade behind which they may operate.

3. Q.—"Does Social Credit rest on the validity of the A + B Theorem, i.e., if this Theorem is fallacious, does the whole scheme fall to the ground?"

A.—Yes.

4. Q.—"Is it true, as stated by Major Douglas before the Macmillan Committee, that his scheme is designed primarily to enable manufacturers to sell their goods rather than to assist the unemployed?"

A.—Yes. The object of the "scheme" is to deliver the goods to everybody, not to provide work.

5. Q.—"If the A + B Theorem is sound, what is the necessity for 'National Dividends' as well as Social Credits to retailers? Should not the Social Credits be sufficient to effect equilibrium between production and consumption?"

A.—National Dividends are necessary to provide incomes for those thrown out of work by the improvements in technological processes: part only of the necessary additional money is given by way of credits to retailers on account of discount, the remainder being distributed as a Dividend. All could be distributed by either method, but there are sound reasons why it should not.

6. Q.—"Does Major Douglas consider that a system of Government regulation of prices such as he recommends is consistent with the free development of trade and industry under private enterprise?"

A.—Yes. Price differences between one firm and another will remain as before. Only the rate of profit on turnover is limited—there is no limit to turnover. No firm is compelled to enter the scheme.

7. Q.—"Major Douglas has admitted that his scheme would entail an enormous creation of money, and that the banks would be entitled to withdraw the new money from the Treasury in the form of banknotes. How would this inflation be prevented from producing financial chaos as it did in Germany and Austria after the War?"

A.—The scheme would not produce financial chaos because it would not be inflation. Inflation could not occur since (a) a large part of the new credits would be applied to reduce prices, and (b) only the total amount necessary to equate effective consumer demand with prices would be created and issued.

8. Q.—"What international repercussions would follow his scheme, e.g. (a) How would the sterling exchange rates be affected?"

A.—Sterling would appreciate (since the internal purchasing-power of the £ would increase) in so far as foreigners were allowed the benefit of the Discount. (b) Would foreign purchasers of our goods be entitled to the price-assistance subsidies? A.—Not entitled. They may be allowed part or all of the assistance, however, if it is thought desirable to appreciate sterling abroad.

9. Q.—"Would not Major Douglas ask for technical qualifications from a person tendering advice on some engineering problem?" (A.—Yes.) "Is it not equally just for the economist to ask Major Douglas for his economic qualifications for solving an economic problem?"

A.—Yes, and he is at liberty to do so.

G. W. L. DAY on:

# THE MODERN MINOTAUR

IN ancient Crete, so runs the legend, there was a terrible monster known as the Minotaur which lived in the bowels of the earth. To him were brought each year a choice selection of youths and maidens, whom he devoured.

The story, of course, cannot be taken literally, but it contains an idea which is common to many ancient civilisations, namely the necessity for sacrificing a part of the nation's youth to appease malignant forces.

We may smile in a superior way at such naïve ideas and thank God that we are not as other men; nevertheless, both the malignant forces and the sacrifice continue in different forms.

Our modern Minotaur is a nexus of false ideas which centre in Finance. And to the sacrifice of youth to this fabulous monster, the newspapers are full of reports of under-fed mothers and half-starved, chronically ailing children.

But besides this, according to quite recent reports, the crime of cruelty to children is rapidly increasing, and the reasons for it (say the reports) are bad housing, unemployment, and feelings of frustration and vengeance towards life and circumstances on the part of the parents.

**In the year 1934-35 no fewer than 10,000 children were involved in cruelty cases, which is the greatest number in any year since the war.**

There were 4,814 cases of assault on children, the highest number recorded for 51 years. Altogether in 1934-35 the total number of cases of cruelty through violence, neglect, starvation and abandonment was 44,886, involving 109,471 children. More than 500 mothers and

fathers were sent to prison, with sentences totalling nearly 63 years.

Some of these cases are almost too horrible to put in print. One father thrashed his 7-year-old son who at the time was ill and delirious. A mother ill-treated her deformed 5-year-old daughter, and tied her 7-year-old son with his ankles bound to his wrists.

Another woman deliberately scalded her child. Other parents kept a boy so long in a box-chair that he grew to the shape of the chair.

A social worker told the *Daily Express*: "Slum houses, where there is nowhere for children to go away and play outside the home, small, cramped dwellings where the family are compelled to live almost on top of one another, those are the things that breed bad temper and cruelty."

Faced with this appalling situation one looks anxiously for some constructive proposal to put a stop to it. Here it is: "Many authorities hold that administration of the 'cat' on offenders is the only thing that will check this growing menace."

Very well. To save argument let us agree on the "cat." Step forward, please, the lictors and roll up your sleeves.

Now who are the offenders aforementioned? Mr. Bloggs who seared his 3-year-old son with a hot iron. There he stands shivering and whining ready for his punishment.

But he lives in a filthy, unsavoury hovel in Shoreditch and has been unemployed for four years. In former days he was a rough, kindly sort of fellow, but now the iron has entered into his soul. During the whole of these four years his energies have found no healthy outlet. They have turned inwards, poisoning his

better nature. Grim poverty and scanty food have completed the havoc. He is almost a border-line case now.

**Is he the only offender, then, or even the chief one? No, those of us who have allowed him to live like a rat in a dirty cage hung up, with diabolical callousness, in a grain store, must accept the blame. We must accept blame for the child's fearful burns because we have allowed the whole family of Bloggs to sink to sub-human levels.**

**There was no need for this. There was food, clothing, housing, and in fact everything which the family could need, in abundance.**

The Government, however, with that habit peculiar to modern governments, believed it was its duty to deny this family and hundreds of thousands like it, the things they needed in order to appease the Minotaur. And we—we, sat by like a lot of dumb fish and never said a word! The Government is our servant and we permitted it to commit these sins.

What is our defence? Failing any, let us bare our backs and get ready for the "cat." That is only common justice.

But perhaps you don't believe in the "cat"? If so, what punishment do you suggest instead for flagrant cruelty to children?

Having decided, ask yourself what excuse you, as a citizen of this country, can offer for avoiding such punishment, unless you have done your utmost towards removing those evil causes which goad exasperated parents into acts of child cruelty.

What can you do? The least is to sign and send in the form on the back page of this paper.

Social Credit supporters, however, do not want their present problems "solved" in the way economists have bungled them in the past, and therefore desire other qualifications than those which enable "skilled economists" to evolve their "scientific explanations."

This ends the series of questions, the answers to which would be immediately obvious to anyone who had given the slightest study to Major Douglas's works. Indeed, the entire pamphlet reveals either a startling incompetence or a misrepresentation of facts that is equally startling. Many quotations could be adduced in support of this, but the space that would be necessary can more profitably be applied to other purposes.

## FEEBLE COUNTER-ATTACK

IF evidence be required that the forces of the New Economics have taken the bankers' first line trenches, a counter-attack by Professor Gustav Cassel in a circular of the Bank of New South Wales, August 19, 1935, supplies the proof.

Professor Cassel (a heavy-weight indeed) asserts that there is no such thing as a shortage of purchasing power. His argument may be summed up in his own words:

Income is the remuneration which any one receives in return for his co-operation in the general process of production. This definition covers also the profits of the entrepreneur, any loss being reckoned as negative income.

The sum-total of all incomes thus defined is the total income of the community. It is equal to the sum-total of the remuneration received by all those participating in the process of production, and is thus equal to the total value of what is produced.

Hence it follows that the total income suffices to purchase the total production. The popular notion regarding the insufficiency of the total income is thus a fallacy.

Isn't it simple? But as Professor Cassel

ignores all overhead costs, his case breaks down at the most elementary stage. He never gets as far as to regard the process as a flow—he talks of totals.

It is true that the "total value" should be equal to total incomes; the theory is known to Social Crediters as the Just Price. But they know also that, under the existing rules of credit-finance accountancy, Professor Cassel's "total value"—by which he means selling price—includes not only "total incomes," but also all overhead costs.

Professor Cassel admits that the repayment of bank loans causes:

... a shortage in the supply of means of payment. This shortage results in a general fall of prices, in other words, a process of deflation sets in.

... what is called shortage of purchasing power invariably is a monetary phenomenon, connected with a process of deflation.

All very true, but there is nothing either new or profitable in Professor Cassel's remedy:

A shortage in the supply of means of payment can be overcome only by positive action on the part of the banks with intent to increase that supply.

Nothing less than the old gag of borrowing ourselves out of debt!

ARTHUR WELFORD

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Revenue Supervisors can obtain supplies of these labels for resale at a special discount. Is your Group taking advantage of this? Orders accompanied by remittances should be sent to SOCIAL CREDIT, 163A, Strand, London, W.C.2.

A NATIONAL DIVIDEND is money to buy goods that are now destroyed, and production that is restricted.

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### CAR SIGNS

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

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

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

SEE  
1/4d.  
STAMP  
REVERSE

\* Reviewed in our issue of February 21.

# THE ELECTORAL CAMPAIGN

## Address by Miss Helen Corke to the 1930 Club and a Comment

MISS Helen Corke, in a recent address to the 1930 Club, pointed out some of the psychological difficulties which team canvassers are called upon to meet.

Major Douglas, she said, was right when at Buxton in 1934 he called for a direct and concentrated action to organise the collective will of the nation to demand and secure National Dividends for everybody.

The important factors of this Electoral Campaign are the canvasser and the canvassed. She put the canvasser first, for on him so much depends. He is, in some respects, "the salt of the earth and the light of the world"! He is fully entitled to a proper pride in being one of a minority of citizens who sees, through the economic confusion, the poverty and misery of nations, a clear simple way to banish the lot.

But it is likely that he is, at any rate, while a novice at his task, vulnerable, conscious of inefficiency, too easily discouraged by the apparent failure of his efforts. How long the street stretches, how forbidding are the rows of closed doors! How blatant his knock sounds, what apparently unjustifiable and uncivil demands the electric bell makes! It was because Miss Corke knew something of this experience that she ventured to offer the disheartened campaigner a few suggestions.

### Fight Defeatism

Let him remind himself continually of the urgency of the importance of the cause he represents. Fight like the devil that feeling of inconsequence which the opposition of mass ignorance imposes on the mind. Read again the Buxton Speech, Orage, and Eimar O'Duffy! Then examine the canvassing technique and see how it may be improved. Try again.

What constitutes success? Should it be measured by the number of signed pledges handed to the Supervisor? She thought not. These pledges are the visible evidence of a collective will to demand the issue of a National Dividend. But what sort of will is needed for the firm backing of a sane and reasonable demand?

Whatever the form must be, however, the

campaigner can make a beginning only by introducing the new and startling idea which will later bear fruit. A citizen may burn his pledge-form in a moment of irritation, but the very act of doing so will impress it upon his mind.

Then there are different kinds of canvassers.

### The Driving Spirit

One, for instance, who is utterly conscious of the scope and significance of his work. It follows him into his social hours and into his sleep. His is the spirit which will provide effective driving power for our movement—so long as its energy is well directed. But sometimes the energy is spent in waste, and the result is lassitude and disappointment.

What a rare and excellent thing is a fine sense of proportion—that sense which prompts a canvasser to pause when he has said just enough, which warns him when the interest he has awakened in his hearer's mind is at its highest point. There he leaves the matter, lest repetition reduce the effect of the impression.

Distinction must be made between the novice, alight with the glow of new thought, and the fanatic, whose concentration upon one aspect has warped his vision. The fresh enthusiasm of the former is alive and provocative; the latter has allowed himself to become a bore. He may eventually bore himself and turn with satiety from the cause he formerly championed. This is a calamity which is bound to react on the energy of the other members of his team.

To turn from the canvasser to the canvassed, here is a local area of some 40,000 electors. At least 39 out of every 40 are economically dependent upon those who employ them. They have been conditioned by circumstances to this state of dependence. They live by their employment and regard it as essential to their living. They are habituated to at least eight hours daily of directed labour, more or less arduous and monotonous, and their leisure is associated with a sense of fatigue, unless they are very young and strong. Their expectations, if any, are based on the possibility of "luck," "the

turn of the tide," and similar ambiguous chances.

Socially, they are conditioned to the company of others on the same plane of opportunity. When youth is past, their hopes and desires rarely transcend such increase of comforts and amenities as a small rise in salary may afford. If employed, their great fear is loss of employment; if unemployed, they regard themselves as wronged and unfortunate. But they take a pride in asking for work and not for money.

For the most part they have a profound ignorance of public affairs and a distrust of politics. Many will not vote at all, believing that safety lies in a complete negation of public action. A larger proportion will elect a Member for his "local colour." A few will support a candidate who, they think, represents an idea, such as Peace, or National Government and Safety.

### Don't Argue

Many of these voters are incapable of sustained attention to argument or printed matter. Their thought-processes are what Lawrence described as "rotary-image thinking." They are instinctive and emotional, not rational. Tangled growth of prejudice, rooted in inherited tradition, occupies their minds.

The voter with superior mental development and a liberal education is in a very small proportion to the total number of electors. According to the conditions of our democratic constitution, this "collective will" must be given numerical expression. That is, if democracy is to become effective, this impotent mass of electors must resolve itself into a potent nation of individuals each with a definitely expressed will to possess his due share of the common cultural heritage.

### It is Not Impossible

To persuade him that if he makes reasonable demands of his Member of Parliament, and stands by it, he will get them; and that a National Dividend is reasonable, is a gigantic task. If she thought it impossible she would not be there. It is the most difficult of tasks, yet the sanest, the most hopeful, and the most self-satisfying form of social work that can be undertaken. It is a task in which all may share, the only qualification being a determination to go forward courageously.

Its achievement means the establishment of individual economic independence, the end of poverty, and the beginning of an era of real prosperity. Not the prosperity of financiers based upon the labour and penury of the majority, but the leisured prosperity of a whole nation.

for the moment to be able to confront THE PEOPLE'S Members of Parliament with a clear demand to pursue a certain line of action.

Confronted with the clear and united will of his constituents the Members of Parliament must either agree to do their bidding or defy them. (Could we manoeuvre ourselves into a better position?)

When that stage is reached—and it can be reached just as soon as ACTION has led to a majority of the electors in any constituency signing the demand, and undertaking—it may be necessary to call on the electors to act upon their signatures.

Defied by their Member of Parliament, whom they pay to do their bidding, are electors likely to climb down? On the contrary, it is probable that even those who may have refused to sign before, will be induced by indignation to sign now.

### See the Member of Parliament

But, as those know who follow the instructions of the Director of the Electoral Campaign, as laid down in his circular E.C.D.9, canvassing is not the only job of the campaign workers. The first and immediate task—if it has not already been performed—is to get from every Member of Parliament his signature to the following undertaking:—

To the Parliamentary Electors of (constituency), I, (name of Member of Parliament) of (address), hereby undertake to act promptly in accordance with the clearly expressed wishes of a majority of my constituents as manifested to me from time to time.

That initial step greatly strengthens the campaign worker, for if the Member of Parliament signs, as he should, it is only necessary to collect the signatures of a majority of his constituents and he must then at once act.

His constituents will be even more ready to sign when they know that their Member of Parliament is merely awaiting an expression of their will.

Should the Member of Parliament refuse to give the undertaking demanded, he says in effect that he will misrepresent his constituents when the majority tell him what they want.

A knowledge of that fact will be a valuable

## A Comment on Progress

THE above report of Miss Helen Corke's interesting address calls for comment, because Miss Corke, in common with many others whose views she reflects so well, has not, perhaps, fully understood the nature of the Electoral Campaign, and tends to magnify it into what may seem an almost hopeless task.

She refers, for instance, to the electors as an "impotent mass" which "must resolve itself into a potent nation of individuals each with a definitely expressed will to possess his due share of the common cultural heritage."

If the mass was impotent, and if it had to resolve itself, there might be reason for despair; but it is not impotent — it is all powerful and it has not to resolve itself, because there are campaigners with that green ice resolution which lasts (instead of the burning emotional urge which does not)

who are, in some way or another, going to crystallise the desire in the hearts of nearly every single impotent unit of that all powerful mass into one gigantic demand — a demand that will invoke a dawn of justifiable hope all over the world, such as mankind has never before experienced.

And millions who don't care two hoots whether they personally ever possess their due share of the common cultural heritage are going to help; perhaps consciously, for thousands of differing reasons, but fundamentally because, through the Buxton speech, "they have stood on the Golden Carpet," and know that they can never be at peace elsewhere, and that the price for staying there is action.

No, the Electoral Campaign is far from being hopeless. It is now proved to be a very simple and completely possible task. The only problem at the moment is how to get enough workers to carry it through. Experiment has shown that no difficulty of any sort need be expected in getting an overwhelming majority of electors to sign the demand and undertaking reproduced each week on our back page, provided clearly defined discipline and certain rules are observed in the actual work of canvassing.

As high a percentage as 95 is obtained by certain teams, and the average is over 70 under the conditions mentioned above.

### A Simple Demand

The elector's demand does not need to be backed by reason. It is a simple demand for a desired and possible thing. The least intelligent, as well as the most brilliant, can and will, it is now known, join in making this simple demand.

It is a reasonable demand, but electors who make it need not give any reason. Indeed it would be irrelevant to do so, and no irrelevancies must be allowed to fog the clear expression of the people's will.

Whether the signatories will honour their undertaking or not is not at this stage important (although, of course, the question has been fully considered). It is enough

## SECRETARIAT NOTICES

**Change of Address.**—Mr. L. D. Byrne's private address is now 2, Hulse Road, Southampton. (Telephone Southampton 4640.)

**Attacks on Social Credit.**—No attack on Social Credit should go unchallenged. In this column we propose to publish each week a notice of all attacks published so that as many of our readers as possible may answer them direct. We hope readers will bring to our notice, for record in this column, any attacks of which they become aware, giving the full name and date of the publication containing them.

**Grocery and Provision Trades.**—Readers engaged in or connected with these trades are requested to communicate with the Department of External Relations of the Social Credit Secretariat in order to assist in supporting certain remarks of Lord Linlithgow, reported in the *Grocers' Gazette* on February 29. (See editorial comment on page 66.) Correspondence has appeared in subsequent issues, and also articles in the *Fingerpost*, organ of the Scottish Grocers' Federation. Please mark letters S.R.N.

**The Dean's Letter.**—The Dean of Canterbury's Campaign to End Poverty has been compelled to raise the price of the combined letter and pledge form to 7s. 6d. a 1,000, owing to higher printing cost.

## COTTAGE FUND to April 14, 1936

	£	s.	d.
Amount previously acknowledged	49	0	0
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Deposit on £10s. 10s. first lot of			
Cottage	1	1	0
"F.B."			2 6
	£50	13	6

## BRAVO SIDMOUTH

A large audience listened on March 16 with enthusiastic interest to Lt.-Col. Creagh Scott's address on National Dividends and the Abolition of Poverty. We now have 50 enrolled workers, largely due to our inspiring pioneer, Miss W. L. Richardson.

E.B.M.

## ELECTORS' LEAFLETS

### Demand National Dividends

#### Leaflet No. 4 (revised)

**For Recruiting.**—Contains a space for address of local group or supervisor. For distribution at meetings, or delivery by post or from door to door after collecting signed demand forms. (Post free) 4s. 6d. for 1,000 (in lots of 1,000); smaller quantities at 1s. 6d. for 250.

#### Leaflet No. 5

**Elector's Demand and Undertaking.**—The instrument of the Electoral Campaign, in purple on orange or purple on white. (Post free) 7s. 6d. for 1,000; 4s. for 500; 1s. for 100.

#### Leaflet No. 6

**For Personal and Business Friends.**—Not suitable for the house-to-house canvass, but for use in offices, factories, or by travellers, or at parties. Space for 24 signatures. (Carriage extra) 27s. 6d. for 1,000; 3s. for 100; 1s. 6d. for 50; 9d. for 25.

#### Leaflet No. 7

**For Getting Workers and Funds.** A cheap give-away leaflet which should attract buyers of the 2d. pamphlet "How to Get What You Want." (Post free) 3s. for 1,000 (in lots of 1,000); smaller quantities at 1s. 6d. for 250.

**The Dean of Canterbury's Forms.** Combined letter and pledge form.

7s. 6d. a thousand, post free.

Obtainable from the offices of SOCIAL CREDIT, 163A, Strand, London, W.C.2.

means of rousing his constituents both to work in collecting signatures and in signing.

The important thing for Social Crediters to recognise is that, having elected Major Douglas to direct them, they should endeavour to carry out the instructions issued by his Electoral Campaign Director. Major Douglas's instructions and those issued under his chairmanship are not lightly given.

Major Douglas concluded his recent address to the Authors' Club, reported in SOCIAL CREDIT for March 20, thus:

I can assure you that they (the methods of the Secretariat) have been decided upon only after paying great attention to the results of various policies all over the world, and that already, taking into consideration the smallness of our resources, they have produced quite astonishing effects:

## TO EVERY READER

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

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

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

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

Will you try it?

If you mean business — volunteer NOW for the TASK OF HONOUR — contribute freely and willingly a little time and effort towards laying the foundations of the SOCIAL CREDIT STATE in which the rule of fear and want will be banished for ever.

Don't delay—fill in your name and address overleaf, fix a 1/4d. stamp, cut out and post in an unsealed envelope bearing 1/4d. stamp to "PUBLICITY," SOCIAL CREDIT, 163A, STRAND, W.C.2.



## CORRESPONDENCE

### Major Douglas and Alberta

I feel the thanks of all Social Crediters are due to you for the full and explicit manner in which you have kept us posted with the correct news of the situation in Alberta and Major Douglas's position in relation to it.

It is, of course, a source of bitter disappointment to us all that the first real start for Social Credit is delayed. I am sure that our sympathy is with our leader, and appreciate his firm stand for the primary acceptance of a fundamental principle involving the grand challenge to the entrenched forces of finance.

But hope springs eternal. We know the first pitched battle is at hand and we of the rank and file are ready to back our leader in confidence and with knowledge of final victory.

Southsea F. G. MILWARD

### Irresponsible Government

Qualified observers, well acquainted with all three countries, returning here from Paris and the French riviera report a hatred of England in France, among all classes encountered and much stronger than it has ever been here in Italy, even at the tensest moments.

The man in France least likely to confuse the sins of Parisian bloodsuckers with those of London bloodsuckers is Jean Barral, who has issued a magnificent election manifesto in Nice. It has long been possible for usurers inside a nation to dope the people with patriotic hoakum, but this simply does not work when the central office is in a foreign country. Neither the people of Paris nor of the Midi will rally to the support of the Westminster Bank, however gullible they may be in respect to the Regents of their own bleedery.

As long as the Baldwin, Chamberlain,

Beckett ring compose your Government, there is no nation in Europe insane enough to value England's word above two-pence worth of fly paper. Nor will her word be valued above that level until England controls her own credit, that is takes it out of insane, irresponsible hands.

Rapallo EZRA POUND

### The Alberta Situation

Remembering that "it is the duty of politicians to yield to pressure," I beg to put forward the following suggestion for approval or otherwise—that as many of your readers as possible should write to Mr. Aberhart questioning the wisdom of the appointment of Mr. Robert Magor.

This has obviously made Major Douglas's visit to Alberta impossible for the time being, and appears to nullify the benefit of the technical advice which he alone could give and which is evidently very much needed.

I sometimes wonder if Mr. Aberhart realises the immense amount of harm he is doing the movement over here by placing in our opponents' hands one of the finest opportunities for misrepresentation they could possibly wish for. We know only too well from our newspapers that they are taking full advantage of it, but perhaps the receipt of a few thousand letters from this side of the water along the lines I suggest, and making it clear how implicitly we, at least, trust our leader's judgment, would open Mr. Aberhart's eyes and have some beneficial effect. What do you think?

Southampton H. M. SOUTHOON

[While we are happy to publish our correspondent's letter, we do not think that anything effective in the matter to which he refers can be done from this side. Probably nothing but experience will convince the mass of the Alberta electors of the trap into which they have been led.—Ed.]

## ONLY ANOTHER TWO WEEKS! AND THEN . . . . .

The 1st of May, and the appearance of that week's SOCIAL CREDIT!

Is YOUR group eagerly awaiting that issue of the paper, and the revelations which it will contain?

On WHICH ROAD will your group appear when the names of the leading road-making teams are announced—will it be on the Road of Good Intentions or on that of Good Deeds?

### HURRY UP, PAVIORS!

Head Office is all agog to know who is going to be the FIRST FIRST.

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Be the leader in this great pioneer work of roadmaking. Then keep that place, month after month, IF YOU CAN (for it will be the privilege of every group to prevent your keeping it), and

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## A COMPETITION FOR OUR READERS

Prize of Three Guineas! Several Prizes of Five Shillings

The High Road to Freedom is now in course of construction. Volunteers are wanted to assist in road-making operations, by suggesting ways by which a Group could raise, in three months, £100 for the purchase of paving-stones. The sender of every suggestion published will be given a preliminary award of 5s.

Group Revenue Supervisors are asked to test these suggestions, and at the end of three months to report on the results secured by their adoption. The author of the suggestion which is shown to have raised the largest sum of money will be given a further award of three guineas, or, alternatively, books to this value, chosen from the list published in SOCIAL CREDIT.

Competitors are asked to make their letters

as brief as possible. Any method which can be stigmatised as gambling cannot be considered. The Editor's decision will be final. Every letter submitted must be accompanied by the coupon printed hereunder, together with a 6d. postal order, crossed, and made payable to the Social Credit Secretariat Limited, 163A Strand, London, W.C.2.

COUPON		No. 3
Name .....		
Address .....		
Date .....		
No. of postal order .....		

## THE FIRST SUGGESTION PUBLISHED

Mr. Charles Pickett wins 5s.

I suggest that special receipts should be issued to look like paving-stones,—say as big as a match-box. These could be supplied in books of 12 or more and sold at a small discount to cover postage.

I work alone and would give you an I.O.U. for a book of 12 or 20, paying for it by instalments. I have 12 people reading SOCIAL

CREDIT and am banking on selling them paving stones.

[If Revenue Supervisors approve this suggestion, will they write stating the number of books of 12 paving-stone receipts they are prepared to buy at 10s. a book? Credit cannot be given by the Secretariat for reasons which will be obvious to all.]

Fulham's new power station, when completed, will cover 10 acres of ground, and will have cost over £5,550,000. It will burn 2,000 tons of coal every day, to produce 310,000 kilowatts, nearly twenty times that of the present station.—"Daily Telegraph," February 27, 1936.

An international conference to be held in London this summer, is expected to be attended by representatives of all the sugar producing countries. It will attempt to solve the problem of the present over-production of sugar.—"Daily Mail," March 18, 1936.

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- 1933 Austin 20 h.p. Whitehall Saloon, £125.
- 1934 Austin 16 h.p. heavy, Saloon de Luxe, £140.
- 1929 Austin 16 h.p. Saloon, 13,000 miles only, £40.
- 1935 Austin 12¼ Ascot Saloon de Luxe, 6,000 miles, £130.
- 1934 Riley 12/6 Mentone Saloon Preselector, excellent car, £150.
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**Announcements & Meetings**

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

**Belfast Douglas Social Credit Group**  
Group Headquarters: 72, Ann Street  
Office Hours: 2.30 to 5.30 and 7 to 10 p.m.  
Public Lecture each Thursday at 7.45 p.m.  
Bring or send that new "enquirer." Questions and discussion invited.

**Cardiff Social Credit Association**  
Meeting at 10, Park Place, on Monday, April 27, at 8 p.m. Mr. D. H. Smart will speak on "New Testament Philosophy and Social Credit."  
Chairman: Mr. P. D. Pratt.

**Liverpool Social Credit Association**  
Meetings held in Reece's Café, 14, Castle Street, first Friday each month, 7.45 p.m.  
Hon. Sec.: Miss D. M. Roberts, "Fern Lee," Halewood Road, Gateacre, Liverpool.

**East London Democrats**  
Campaigners meet at East Ham Station at 8 p.m. on April 20, 21, 22. Volunteers welcomed.

**Glasgow Social Credit Association**  
Public meeting in Central Hall, Bath Street, on Tuesday, April 28, at 7.30 p.m. "The National Dividend" by Phillip McDevitt, Esq., J.P. Chairman: Dr. T. Robertson.  
Tickets price 1s. each can be had at Sauchiehall Street, or from Sec., 2, Stobcross Street, Glasgow, C.3.

**National Dividend Club**  
Electoral Campaign.  
At all meetings time will be set aside for comments, discussion, questions and answers, for our mutual assistance in the Campaign. Whether yet members or not, all are welcomed. The Campaign Supervisor invites enquiries from all.

The next meeting will be at 6.15 p.m. on Thursday, April 30, at 11, High Holborn, W.C.1. Speaker: C. E. Robertson, Esq. Subject: "Social Ethics and Social Credit."  
All enquiries should be addressed to the Honorary Secretary: Capt. T. H. Story, 28, Ashburnham Gardens, Upminster, Essex.

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**THOSE EVILS?**

**"The only war worth waging is against those evils which have throughout history brought upon the nations the horror of war."**

—The Late King George V.

**ROOT CAUSE OF WAR**

Any village which has two grocers' shops, each competing for an insufficient, and decreasing, amount of business, while continually enlarging its premises, is a working demonstration of the economic causes of war—is, in fact, itself at war by economic methods. —Major Douglas, in a broadcast on "The Causes of War," November 30, 1934.

**"If I Were in Charge"**

By "Confidence"

THE object of dictators and governments being slavery and desolation, by cramping industry and giving a free hand to financiers, I would, immediately on taking control, completely strangle industry and give all money-lenders unlimited power.

As the financial system already owns 90 per cent. of the world's wealth I would use this 90 per cent. to grab the other 10 per cent. The chief aim of industry apparently being to produce goods to dump into the sea or burn, I would quickly solve my unemployment problem by putting unemployed to work producing for destruction.

**Prosperity by Exporting Everything**

As prosperity depends on producing and exporting more than we import, I would usher in an unparalleled era of prosperity by exporting absolutely everything that's movable. The unemployed wouldn't starve, because they would be working full time producing goods for destruction. Any additional unemployed who insisted on being born would be put to gold mining, digging gold out of a hole in the ground to be buried in another hole, which has a bank built over it. This last may seem a rather stupid thing to do, but I must plead custom as my justification. To further make work, I would decree that the only tools allowed to be used by bushmen and timber workers would be pocket knives, with saltspoons for navvies and table forks for bushmen.

**It's Easy to Pay Off the National Debt**

The National Debt would be paid off by borrowing more, as at present, following the well-known principle in economics that, although companies and individuals cannot borrow themselves out of debt, a government can. It's as simple as lifting yourself up by your bootstraps. By a vigorous system of borrowing, I would soon have enough money to pay off the National Debt.

I recognise that the credit of the country (its ability to produce) really belongs to the people, but the people are not awake to the fact, and I intend to keep them in ignorance, for by pawning the people's credit, I can gain all sorts of privileges from my real masters, the financiers. If the people do stir in their sleep and show signs of waking, I will have the press deluge them with crossword puzzles, body-line, leg theory, wheelbarrow derbies or any other rubbish just to lull them to sleep again.

**A Circus as Good as a Feast**

The idea of a circus being a good substitute for a feed found great favour in Rome just before the crash. Should I ever be deposed and obliged to fight an election, I would win farmers' votes by wangling them an extra penny per pound for butter-fat, unemployed would be won by free gifts of boots and blankets and a slight rise in pay, all of which would have been previously wrung out of them by my suction pump taxation department. It would not be expensive either, as dredging operations would commence after the election and I would get it all back. To make doubly sure of my position, I might have to institute preferential voting.

It was proved in 1931 that the way to increase purchasing power was to impose a 10 per cent. wage cut, so I would outdo this prosperity by a 90 per cent. wage cut, and if the people were still short of money, I would obtain it for them by means of taxation. This is known as Axiom II: If your financial yard-

stick is too short, cut a piece out of the middle and put it on the end.

**Barometer Controls Weather**

Although all other businesses would be ruthlessly regimented, I would say "Hands off the Banks." The reason is clear, as it is the function of a barometer to control the weather and the sundial to control the sun, so it should be the function of the nation's bookkeepers to control industry.

Should it be necessary to still further cripple industry to fit it into the financial system, I would start what I call "planning." I would gather round me innumerable "yes-men" who would be formed into boards and commissions with instructions to investigate the plight of the country and report on the "plan" to be adopted to relieve distress. They would be told beforehand exactly what to report. This would relieve me of all blame.

**Stamp on Education**

The school-entering age I would raise to twelve, because by stamping out such evils as education the people could be more easily trampled under foot.

As regards my Cabinets, Boards, etc., ability would be no qualification for the positions. Brains in these positions are not only unnecessary, but highly undesirable.

Periodically, I hope to get the country into the devil's own mess and this will furnish ample excuse for an extended world tour, which would be termed "seeking overseas markets." On these tours, I would take with me as many of my friends as the boat would hold, and the rest of them would be sent overseas to study conditions, processes, etc.

Finally, when the people would have no more of me I would vote myself an enormous pension, a string of titles, and retire.—(From the "Murchison Standard," quoted in "Farming First," N.Z.)

**Believe It or Not**

If every person in Australia were to carry in his or her pocket an extra £3, the banks would have no money at all, and they couldn't pay anyone.—The "New Times."

**The Song of the Bloke**

The King saw the power of England,  
But he saw much more beside,  
He saw the damnable contrast,  
Of the slums down by the Clyde.

He spake to his elder statesmen,  
And asked them to use their brains,  
To stop surplus production,  
From being poured down the drains.

The elder statesmen were sorry,  
It had taken twenty years,  
To see that this production,  
Was not a thing for tears.

They admitted there was plenty,  
Sorry it had to be burnt,  
How distribute this surplus,  
Was a lesson they hadn't learnt.

They thought that the best solution,  
Either a plague or a war,  
Might prevent revolution,  
If it wasn't carried too far.

But the clev'rest bloke amongst 'em,  
Said it didn't matter a cuss,  
They're too busy fighting each other,  
They'll never combine against us.

In time, if we're only patient,  
Unemployed will all be dead,  
Usurers will still rule England,  
So what more need be said?

DALARM

**ELECTORAL CAMPAIGN**

BELOW is the form Parliamentary electors are being asked to sign. Please read it carefully, sign (if you have not done so already) and send it (½d. stamp) to The Only Democrats, 163A, Strand, London, W.C.2. Volunteers to help in the Campaign are wanted.

**We Will Abolish Poverty  
Elector's Demand and Undertaking**

1. I know that there are goods in plenty, so that poverty is quite unnecessary.
2. I want, before anything else, poverty abolished.
3. I want, too, national dividends distributed to me and every Briton so that we can buy all we want of the goods that are now destroyed and the production that is restricted.
4. These dividends must not increase prices or taxes or deprive owners of their property or decrease its relative value.
5. In a democracy like Great Britain Parliament exists to make the will of the people prevail.
6. So I pledge myself to vote for any candidate who will undertake to support the abolition of poverty and the issue of national dividends and to vote consistently against any party trying to put any other law-making before this.
7. If the present M.P. here won't undertake this I will vote for some other party and keep on changing until my policy has been achieved.

Signed.....

Address.....

(Signatures will be treated confidentially)

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