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For Political and Economic Democracy

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Weekly Twopence

His Majesty The King

PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY V. THE COMMITTEE MIND

Major Douglas States The Issue



MAJOR C. H. DOUGLAS

SUMMARY OF EVENTS

July 9. Mrs. Simpson appears in Court Circular as the King's guest at a dinner party. American papers full of "stories."

Oct. 27. Mrs. Simpson secures decree in undefended petition.

Oct. 28. Cabinet meeting alleged to concern the King's wish to marry Mrs. Simpson.

Nov. 24. *The Times* leading article criticises the King for his insistence that "Something must be done" for the Distressed Areas.

Nov. 25. Further criticism of the King in leading article on General Smuts.

Nov. 27. Cabinet meeting to discuss the King's project of marriage. *The Times* suggests on December 4 that the King had "expressed his desire to contract such a marriage as would require a special Act of Parliament," and that the Cabinet immediately communicated with Dominions.

Dec. 1. *Yorkshire Post* circulates strong leader criticising the King. *News Chronicle* has extract from provincial dailies on the same day.

Dec. 2. General public hears of Mrs. Simpson for the first time. Great play made on the divorce question. "Crisis."

Dec. 3. "No constitutional difficulty yet."—Baldwin.

Dec. 4. Baldwin's statement implies that the King contemplates morganatic marriage. Strong support for the King evident everywhere. Col. Wedgwood proposes motion of unqualified loyalty to the King. Mrs. Simpson leaves for Cannes.

Dec. 7. Baldwin states question of morganatic marriage raised by the King.

Dec. 8. *The Times* publishes astonishing leading article (see p. 4). Mrs. Simpson expresses willingness to withdraw, subject to the King's judgment. "The Crisis is Over!"

I NEED not stress the dramatic importance of the issue which has been raised by the notification by His Majesty the King of his intention to marry Mrs. Simpson, on the one hand, and, upon the other, the reply of the British Cabinet that they would do nothing to facilitate the accomplishment of this wish.

The matter is one upon which sufficient emphasis has been placed by the press of the world to obviate any possibility that its importance should be missed, and the reaction of the British public to the situation with which it has been confronted under such unparalleled circumstances is, like most instinctive as apart from argued reactions of the British public, sound.

It is for the King.

But it is in the nature of things that the extent and amount of the issues which are involved in this crisis cannot be familiar to the general public. They are difficult to put simply and I am conscious of my temerity in attempting the task.

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The more obvious issues are exhibitions of human frailty. The furious indignation of numbers of individuals in Court and other circles who feel that they have a better prescriptive right to the supposed advantages of the position from which an American lady will bar them, is one of the less vicious of these.

Although the press agents of the Cabinet, sensible that they must be "Democratic" at all costs, are careful to disclaim any question of rank or nationality as a basis for their objection, both of these as unexpressed causes of objection are equally present.

Circumstances, however, make it possible to raise a more subtle objection in the fact that His Majesty the King's choice has fallen upon a lady who, by the proper processes of law and without any suggestion of moral misconduct upon her part, has obtained two divorces.

That is to say, the claim is made that while divorce is legal, it is disreputable, and this disreputability is something which attaches to the institution and not to the circumstances that surround a particular case.

Now, to deal with this specific matter first before proceeding to much deeper issues which are involved it should be pointed out that it has hardly been suggested that the individual relationships of the King should be judged by a higher moral standard than those of the ordinary individual.

It is, perhaps, not too much to say that it is broadly hinted that no possible exception could be taken to the illicit relationship of the King with any individual so long as it was not recognised.

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The crisis, therefore, upon its superficial grounds can be reduced to a contest between honesty and decency on the part of the King, and hypocrisy on the part of the Cabinet. It is frankness against Whiggism, Christianity against Pharisaism.

It would be absurd to suppose that a contest between the powers, which are undoubted, of the Throne, and the powers, which are immense, of the Cabinet and the financiers who control it, would have been provoked upon an issue of this character, fundamental as undoubtedly it is.

It must leap to the eye that this

particular battleground has been chosen by an insolent and corrupt oligarchy which does not desire His Majesty King Edward VIII. to occupy the Throne of Great Britain, and that the real issues are much greater still. They are.

Perhaps the outstanding characteristics which impress one in regard to the individual whose succession to the Throne is a cause of such misgiving to the Cabinet are (1) his dislike of institutions, i.e., conventions, unless those have a realistic value, (2) his hardly concealed dissatisfaction with the management of the affairs of this country for the past twenty years, (3) the strong vein of combined humanity and mysticism evidenced in his public utterances.

The American press has been quick to recognise, though, perhaps, not in so many words, that a Consort free from the shackles of tradition would strengthen all of these attributes, and would tend to create in the office of the Sovereign a real, as apart from a merely conventional, Power, and it is openly stating that the Cabinet has decided at all costs to assert itself as the supreme power, brooking no contradiction and subject to no effective control in the British Empire.

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It will not, of course, have escaped attention that the pronouncements of Mr. Baldwin and his co-conspirators were not made after reference to the House of Commons. The alleged representatives of the citizens of Great Britain have been presented with a *fait accompli*, which they may discuss but cannot alter.

The position, therefore, is that the attitude taken up by the Cabinet is an unashamed claim that all major policy of this country—and if a question involving the possible abdication of a popular Sovereign is not a question of major policy I do not know what is—shall be decided by the Cabinet, because there is a very real sense in which the mere publication of a divergence between His Majesty and the Cabinet is itself a major decision of policy.

As I see it, therefore, the issues involved in this question are, firstly, the lead by His Majesty the King in favour of personal responsibility and against the committee mind, and, secondly, the legality of Cabinet rule.

It is a trial of strength in which the individual, in the person of the King, is ranged against the anonymous forces of the Group in its most dangerous exponents.

Mr. Baldwin's attitude is that he is not acting as Mr. Baldwin; he is acting for some abstraction called the Government of the Dominions and of Great Britain. He is doing no such thing.

The Governments of Great Britain and the Dominions are functions of the peoples with whom they are concerned, and in matters of this kind Mr. Baldwin, Mr. Mackenzie King, Mr. Savage, Mr. Lyons, and the other officials of Dominion Governments, have no mandate whatever to deal with the question.

Their defeat upon it will be a tremendous and epoch-making victory for the individual and a crushing defeat for oppressive institutions.

It is a matter which goes to the fundamentals of the wider conception of Social Credit, and any influence that I may possess will be exerted to see that the issues are understood and that His Majesty the King is supported in a fight which concerns all of us.

C. H. Douglas

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Have You Seen It?

- Page 3: The Party System.
- Page 5: Secrets of the King's Popularity.
- Page 6: Ban Babies: a Plan for Prosperity.
- Page 8: Freedom for the Free State.

On other pages, Comments on the King, News, Books.

WORDS TO THE WISE

RUMOURS

RUMOURS abound. They are practically without exception of a kind *calculated* to paralyse the initiative of supporters of the KING. They are a deliberate emanation of lies from the sink of financial iniquity which is tormenting the KING.

Rumours of abdication, impending or completed (to select the least offensive) could not fail to dishearten many. They were lies.

The campaign to whitewash Baldwin and discredit the KING, led by *The Times*, that illustrious mouthpiece of the Bank of England, has ranged from the full-throated roar of emphatic assertion, by way of malicious insinuation (*The Times* leaders of December 8 have to be seen to be believed—portions are reproduced on page 4) to such subtleties as the omission of the Royal Coat of Arms over Court News, omissions of the words HIS MAJESTY by the B.B.C. in referring to the KING, and the chronicling of Baldwin's movements *before* those of the KING, also by the B.B.C.

It should be borne in mind that Mr. Montagu Norman, Governor of the Bank of England, is on the governing body of *The Times*, and his brother on that of the B.B.C.

As usual, when high finance gets rattled, the sky is the limit. Nothing is too slimy, ranging through the whole gamut from nauseating self-righteousness to the antics of the Ghetto rat.

The behaviour of the KING, as befits a King and a gentleman, illuminates by contrast the depths of meaning which can lie in so short a word as cad.

SPECIAL EDITION OF "SOCIAL CREDIT"

AS soon as the attack on the KING was publicly launched, after we had gone to press last week, a special 4-page, penny edition of SOCIAL CREDIT was brought out with the front page headline:

"THE KING: THE TRUTH"

The text of our telegram to the KING followed:

"Issue recognised as the King versus Oligarchy. World-wide support assured His Majesty.—Chairman, Social Credit Secretariat Limited, 163A Strand, W.C.2."

It was pointed out that the crux of the attack was *not* whether the marriage should

take place, but that the interests of the individual should be subordinated to an abstraction, an institution. The plot is elaborated in the current issue.

The special edition made a record sale all over the country. A few of this historic number remain and can be had for 2d. post free from SOCIAL CREDIT, 163A, Strand, W.C.2.

MORE REGIMENTATION

THAT sinister organisation, P.E.P., which has done so much behind the scenes to introduce Fascistic regimentation of industry in this country, is now meddling with electricity.

Although a Government Committee has already examined and reported on the electricity supply industry, this self-appointed body is accorded a leader in *The Times* to celebrate the appearance of its own survey.

As usual, it wants to fasten upon the industry a board of second-rate experts to teach it how to run itself, financing its interference by a levy on the entire sales of electricity throughout the country.

Examination of the P.E.P. report will doubtless reveal proposals to substitute compulsory regimentation from the centre for the present "inefficient" voluntary arrangements.

We know P.E.P. too well to waste our time.

LISTENERS ON THE WAR-PATH

ACCORDING to Mr. Geoffrey Edwards, Radio Correspondent of the *News Chronicle*, the B.B.C. has been receiving 2,000 letters a day criticising the removal of Canon W. H. Elliott from the Thursday programmes, and not a single letter of approval.

He says that officially there is no sign that the B.B.C. intends to take any notice of this overwhelming tide of opposition to its plans; nevertheless, it is significant that the Watch Night Service on New Year's Eve is to be taken by Canon Elliott.

If a few thousands of listeners out of a total of many millions can prevail upon an autocratic body like the B.B.C. to take notice, how much more could, say, a million listeners do so? There is nothing in the realms of physical possibility we could not get if we united and expressed our will.

SHIRKING HIS RESPONSIBILITY

MR. MACKENZIE KING, Prime Minister of Canada, in an Armistice Day message, is reported to have said that if another war comes it will not arise because governments have been unequal to their tasks "but because individuals in their combined national efforts and daily lives have greatly failed."

The *Western Producer*, a farming paper, asks Mr. King to elaborate this, stating that the peoples of the world and the people of Canada desire peace.

"The people of Canada," it continues, "in their individual capacities have, it seems to us, done almost everything possible to cultivate and to express and to strengthen their will for peace.

"As we see it, it is the function and a duty of government to see that this will of the people of Canada is transformed into action. Surely if our government or the government of any other country fail to give expression to the unquestioned aim of the people who put them in office it would be the government and not the individual who have failed and who have very definitely been unequal to their task.

"We contend that Mr. King is in error and that if war comes it will not be the fault of the people but the fault of governments which for one reason or another have failed to carry out the will of the people who elected them."

Governments are failing, but we are partly to blame, for by tolerating poverty in the midst of plenty we make another war certain. War is the logical outcome of the fight for export markets and this economic struggle is inevitable so long as people cannot buy all they produce.

SLAUGHTER OF CHILDREN

ANOTHER direction in which popular feeling is becoming active is in the matter of slaughter on the roads. A Children's Safety Crusade has just been inaugurated and a million children will, it is hoped, sign a pledge of safety. The Government is contributing £5,000 towards the cost of the crusade, and Lord Nuffield has promised to double any individual subscription produced.

So far, although everybody naturally dislikes the idea of motor accident fatalities, this feeling has not been canalised and made operative through a suitable mechanism. Given those things, nothing would be allowed to stand in the way of safe roads. Physically this is undoubtedly possible, but actually many things—money, for instance, are allowed to stand in the way.

MAN FOR SALE FOR £500

A REPORT from Boston, U.S.A., states that an unemployed man, a citizen of the "Land of the Free," has offered himself for sale for £500. He has three children, faces eviction for non-payment of rent, and is in debt to tradespeople who refuse him further credit. He is quoted as saying:

"If some doctor or group of doctors would let me borrow enough to pay my bills and set me on my feet, I would give myself as security.

"If I failed to pay it back at a time decided, they could have me to experiment on any way they wished. They might discover something worth many times the sum they let me have."

The people of U.S.A. fought a long and bitter civil war to end slavery. They overlooked the power of money to enslave all people.

This man, and every American citizen, could be drawing a national dividend of at least £500 annually for himself and his family, but up to the present the people of U.S. have not demanded dividends so they have not got them. Instead, they have left the issue of the tickets by which all live—money—to be monopolised by those who through this control enslave them all.

The American Veterans showed how people can get what they want, but until people generally follow their example and demand what they want, slavery will continue. Man for sale!

RATIONALISED CHARITY

WE have suffered from rationalisation of industry in this country, now Canada, or at least Montreal, is suffering from rationalised charity. What is described as a Financial Federation has been organised to collect subscriptions for 32 charitable organisations. The campaign chairman is a banker—Mr. Jackson Dodds, Joint General Manager of the Bank of Montreal. This is very fitting, for it is the

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present financial system, evolved in an age of scarcity, that makes charity of this sort necessary at all—in a rational, as distinct from "rationalised," world people would receive a regular dividend of the goods now restricted or destroyed.

Mr. Jackson Dodds is aiming to raise \$734,000 for next year. This, he explains, is not for the unemployed—"they are provided for otherwise"—but for the unemployed—the aged, the sick, the blind, the orphaned and other destitute people. Incidentally, some of the unemployed who are "provided for otherwise"—the single men—are offered work on farms at \$5 a month (about £1) plus their keep, and are refused other relief. This is the general arrangement throughout the Dominion.

We seem to have heard something about forced labour in Russia; this is Canada.

FALSE OR TRUE

OWING to very heavy pressure on space this week the answers to the questions which readers were invited to reply to last week are held over. They will appear next week.

WORLD SOCIAL CREDITERS RALLY TO THE KING

From *Bulawayo, Rhodesia*. Bulawayo Group loyally support His Majesty in all circumstances.—Stewart.

From *Melbourne, Victoria*. Make known people of Australia emphatically behind King.—Douglas Credit Movement.

From *Hobart, Tasmania*. Tasmanian Social Credit loyally supports His Majesty.—Carruthers.

From *Belfast*. Issue recognised as the King versus oligarchy. His Majesty assured the loyal support of Northern Ireland Social Crediters.

From *Jersey, C.I.* Please assure His Majesty the whole-hearted support of all true democrats.—Jersey Douglas Social Credit Association.

From *Cape Town*. Have telegraphed King supporting.—Robertson.

News has reached us of many telegrams sent to His Majesty by Empire Social Crediters, and many more by those at home.

It Might Have Been Baldwin

THE King sent for his Prime Minister. "Look here," he said, "this may be a little awkward for you—I don't know—but I have decided to marry Mrs. Bailey. I can quite see the possibility of certain embarrassments arising, but, believe me, I am most anxious not to cause you more trouble."

"Don't mention it, Your Majesty; nothing could be a trouble that helped to make you happy. But first of all you must please allow me to offer you my very sincere congratulations.

"Personally I am delighted to learn your decision, for, since you were so good as to introduce me to Mrs. Bailey some weeks ago, I have come to hold her in very high regard. However, that is not the point. What matters is Your Majesty's personal happiness and your right to order your private life so far as possible as you wish.

"Of course, one has to face the possibility that certain awkward points may arise; nevertheless, with your great popularity matters ought to be easy to arrange. What do you suggest?"

"Well, naturally I have been thinking the whole thing over for some time, and it has occurred to me that there might be something in the possibility of a morganatic marriage; or, if that proved too difficult, I am quite ready to consider abdication."

"Oh, no, no," said the Prime Minister, "not for one moment. Nobody would hear of such a disaster. Really, I do not see why there should be any serious difficulty if the thing is handled properly. I am sure the press will unite in welcoming the news of your intention to marry, and if the papers present the case in a common-sense light there should be no serious opposition at all.

"I, of course, will give a full and sympathetic explanation to Parliament, emphasising the rights you have as an individual.

"If any opposition does arise, it will need only a little mutual goodwill to make some practical arrangement which would leave everybody satisfied. Of one thing let me assure Your Majesty, and that is my determination to do all that lies in my power to promote your happiness, for I understand so well what must be your feeling, that a great trust can best be served by a happy mind. Leave it to me, Sir."

W. A. WILLOX

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supplant...”

THE PARTY SYSTEM

By Hilaire Belloc and
Cecil Chesterton

“Measures the people earnestly desire never even mentioned.... Scandals suddenly covered over, buried in silence.”

EDITOR'S COMMENTS

MR. BELLOC'S remarkable and damning indictment of the party system requires one correction throughout.

Parliament is an instrument of policy, not of administration. Neither the front nor the back benches should attempt to function as experts.

Policy (“what to do”) should be decided by democracy, and it is the function of Parliament, with the sanctions of the State at command, to enforce that policy, but not to administer it.

This divergence from Mr. Belloc will be noted as the book is unfolded by notes on numbered passages of the text. This week's notes follow:

- (1) The people are not interested in laws. The fewer laws the better. A few laws, pinning responsibility on experts for producing results and penalising them for failure, may be needed. But it is results the people want. Wherever people are getting the results they want, and not the results they dislike, there is democracy. And *vice versa*.
 - (2) Policy is all important, whether in the affairs of a business or a nation. Before sending a man to vote in their name the policy, or terms of reference, should be decided by the people. No individual is wise enough to decide policy for others. The attempt to do so is tyranny under whatever name it masquerades.
 - (3) The Executive is here used as a synonym for the Cabinet—whose function correctly is to wield the ultimate sanctions of the State in the enforcement of policy on the real executive. The real executive is the civil service in the widest sense, which includes productive, distributive and professional organisations.
- The Cabinet should see that the executive carries out the demands expressed by representatives on behalf of the people. For a Cabinet to take decisions, let alone enforce them, over the heads of representatives, is completely indefensible.

question, it is thought that a number of men might combine to send a man to vote in their name.

Men so selected may then meet and vote, and their decision, if they are faithful representatives of the people, may be taken as the decision of the people. (2)

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UNDER no circumstances would such a system work perfectly. But that it may work tolerably it is essential that the representatives should represent.

The extraordinary capacity of politicians for tying themselves in inextricable knots of confused thinking was never better shown than in the saying that a representative should not be a mere delegate.

Either the representative must vote as his constituents would vote if consulted, or he must vote in the opposite sense.

In the latter case, he is not a representative at all, but merely an oligarch; for it is surely ridiculous to say that a man represents Bethnal Green if he is in the habit of saying “Aye” when the people of Bethnal Green would say “No.”

If, on the other hand, he does vote as his constituents would vote, then he is merely the mouthpiece of his constituents and derives his authority from them.

And this is the only democratic theory of representation.

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IN order that the practice may correspond to it, even approximately, three things are necessary.

First, there must be absolute freedom in the selection of representatives; secondly, the representatives must be strictly responsible to their constituents and to no one else; thirdly,

the representatives must be deliberate in perfect freedom, and especially must be absolutely independent of the Executive.

In a true representative system the Executive would be responsible to the elected assembly and the elected assembly would be responsible to the people.

From the people would come the impulse and the initiative. They would make certain demands; it would be the duty of their representatives to give expression to these demands, and of the Executive to carry them out. (3)

It must be obvious to everyone that these conditions do not prevail in Britain to-day. Instead of the Executive being controlled by the representative assembly, it controls it.

Instead of the demands of the people being expressed for them by their representatives, the matters discussed by the representatives are settled not by the people, not even by themselves, but by the “Ministry”—the very body which it is the business of the representative assembly to check and control.

It will be the main business of this book to inquire what is the force which not only obstructs but largely reverses the working of the representative machine, turning it into an engine of oligarchy what was meant to be an organ of democracy.

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THE detailed causes of this reversal will require some careful analysis; but if the thing which makes representative institutions fail here must be expressed in a phrase, the two words which best sum it up are the “Party System.”

We have just attempted a sketch of representative government as it ought to be, and

the English people long believed that they had got, if not quite that, at least a decent approximation to it.

It was their boast that without bloodshed or violent severance with the past they had as much of the reality of self-government as the most perfectly planned Republic could have. In what degree this was ever true will form the matter of discussion later.

But undoubtedly it was widely believed. Most Englishmen until very lately, if told they were not self-governing, would have laughed in your face.

But now a dim suspicion has begun to arise in the minds of at least a section of the people that this historic optimism is not quite as true as it looks, that the electors do not as a fact control the representatives, and that the representatives do not as a fact control the Government, that something alien has intervened between electors and elected, between legislature and Executive, something that deflects the working of representative institutions.

That thing is the Party System.

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A METHOD of government has grown up in our country under which the representatives of the people are divided into two camps which are supposed to represent certain broad divergencies of opinion.

Between these two the choice of the election lies, and the side which secures the largest measure of support forms a government, the minority undertaking the work of opposition.

How this system arose, how it has changed, and how it actually works, will be subjects of future consideration. At present we are concerned with the attitude of the public towards it.

First, it must be said emphatically that the body of public opinion upon which the Party System operates is in the main still honest and public-spirited.

Not to admit this would be to nullify the effect of all criticism of the evil which we are trying to expose; for, as we are all aware, the theoretic differences at least between policies proposed is considerable and often corresponds to the difference of schools of political thought; and even if we regard the politician as a mere advocate, he does not hold a different brief according to the side of the House on which he sits.

Though this brief may be unreal to him, and though, as it is the object of this book to show, he may have and probably has, no intention of making it the basis of action, yet it is often real enough to those to whose support he appeals.

Thus a Conservative leader must denounce the land taxes which the body of his followers

(Continued on page 6)

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Send Him Victorious

THE crisis is over? The crisis is just beginning. All the forces of committee rule, of huge irresponsible institutions "without a soul to be damned nor a body to be kicked" have spent themselves in a stupendous, shattering assault on one man.

He has held his ground. The first round goes to the KING. May it so continue.

THE conflict between His Majesty the KING and the bankers' Cabinet far transcends the issue upon which the first round has been fought.

It is a conflict, enacted before us for the moment, as on a stage, between the philosophy of Social Credit and that of international financiers' credit. Only for the moment; in the twinkling of an eye we shall all be in it.

It is fundamental to Social Credit that institutions, such as the State, are of importance only in so far as they conduce to the welfare of every individual composing them; that the State is made for man, not man for the State.

It is fundamental to Social Credit that individuals are personally responsible for their actions. Thus no appeal to an abstraction, such as duty to an institution, is valid to excuse individual action, or to enforce individual self-sacrifice.

UPON such principles the KING has taken his stand, as has been widely perceived; the comments of the *Washington Post*, quoted on this page, are the clearest statement of them outside of this paper.

With a very clear definition of his personal rights and constitutional obligations His Majesty appears to have made a most proper and reasonable suggestion to the Cabinet.

While firmly announcing his intention to marry, he has agreed, without prejudice, to recognise certain embarrassments which might arise, and invited the Cabinet to make suitable proposals. This they refused to do, with unbecoming brusqueness.

They then proceeded to make a demonstration of institutional pressure that was a black disgrace to the honour of this country, which they had already sufficiently besmirched in other fields.

WITHOUT dilating upon the obvious discomfort which His Majesty's disgust at the betrayal of masses of the people has caused his Ministers—it has received quite sufficiently pungent comment throughout the land—it is evident that the KING is a thorn in their flesh for numerous reasons. All these reasons are a credit to him.

The fact is that the Cabinet believes in the convenience of collective irresponsibility, and the KING does not. The Cabinet is committee-minded, and he has a healthy contempt for committees.

The KING is averse from all solemnities and conventions which do not serve a useful purpose—a most inconvenient attitude for a Cabinet which expects him to do the "correct" thing at the "correct" time in the "correct" place.

The KING believes, like some of our greatest teachers, that like the Sabbath, all man-made institutions are made for man.

They believe, or profess to believe, in the sacrifice of the individual on the altar of abstract duty.

Is there any wonder that not only every true Social Crediter, but every one not too dull or too hypocritical is for the KING?

THE KING Comment

AT HOME

A more accurate version, as it will probably be found when the issue is made public—and the importance of clearing it up rapidly by an official statement can hardly be exaggerated—is that the King has expressed his desire to contract such a marriage as would require a special Act of Parliament; that he has himself taken the initiative in asking whether such a measure can be passed; and that Ministers, after full consideration and consultation, have replied that in their opinion it is impossible.—*The Times*, December 4.

What is demanded is statutory recognition of the fact that she is not fitted to be Queen. The Prime Ministers of the Empire are to be asked to propose, and the Parliaments to accept and ratify, a permanent statutory apology for the status of the lady whom the King desires to marry. The Constitution is to be amended in order that she may carry in solitary prominence the brand of unfitness for the Queen's Throne. Can anyone in possession of his faculties imagine any Prime Minister moving, or any Parliament undertaking to support, a proposition so invidious and so distressing?

This foolish and deplorable product of misguided ingenuity must be cleared away once and for all.—*The Times*, December 8.

Who is Lying?

His Majesty's Government are not prepared to introduce legislation. Moreover, the matters to be dealt with are of common concern to the Commonwealth as a whole, and such a change could not be effected without the assent of all the Dominions. I am satisfied, from inquiries I have made, that this assent would not be forthcoming.—*The Prime Minister*, December 4.

The Prime Minister told the House of Commons yesterday that none of His Majesty's Governments either here or in the Dominions would be prepared to introduce a Bill to change the present legal status of any lady whom the King might marry.—*The Times*, December 5.

The Dominions, with the exception of New Zealand, which has as yet made no announcement, are unanimously behind Mr. Baldwin in his view that it is impossible to authorise a morganatic marriage by special legislation.—*Observer*, December 6.

The desirability of restraint in controversy, especially this controversy, is indisputable, and it is a pity that more restraint has not been exercised by the *Telegraph* and *The Times*.—*Evening Standard*.

There is a solid body of opinion convinced that His Majesty should never have been presented with so cruel a choice.—*Evening News*.

"It was never suggested that the King

should abdicate or that the prestige of the country was destroyed—

"When Henry VIII., who founded the Church of England, married in rapid succession six wives, two of whom he put to death and two of whose marriages he had annulled;

"When kings lived lives of open profligacy and heaped titles, wealth and honour on their rapidly succeeding mistresses;

"When others made political marriages without any pretence of love.

"But it is when the King proposes to marry the woman he loves—for no other earthly reason than that he loves her—that it is affirmed that the prestige of the Throne is being destroyed and that he should abdicate.—*Dame Maude Royden*.

At this gravest of all moments in English history (and, indeed, in world history as well) the British people have the rare good fortune to command the services of an exceptional and active-minded King.

It is hard to think of any step that he could take by which his public usefulness could be diminished.

And it is no less hard to tolerate the slightest bungling of a situation by hands that have bungled more than one already.

For he is a man, living and working among the men and women over whom he has been called to reign; and in a country whose public life is not conspicuously endowed with manly figures, the appeal of his was prompt and universal.—*Philip Guedalla*.

The common people naïvely want our King to be happy. Whom he marries is of little moment to them, provided she helps him. That he is not marrying a title pleases them the more. That he has had the courage to face this whirlwind opposition pleases them the most.—*Col. Josiah Wedgwood, M.P.*

"You can't tomfool with the Throne; you must either abolish it or respect it.—*George Bernard Shaw*.

OVERSEAS

"His revolt, particularly on so personal an issue as marriage, is, at bottom, no more than a revolt of the individual against absolute domination by an all-powerful State, and as such appeals to the love of freedom which runs in the Anglo-Saxon blood, making poor King Edward a Royal symbol of the way man may be crushed by the regimentation of modern society.—*The Washington Post*.

His Majesty could doubtless claim an individual's right to British freedom by abdicating. The consequences of forcing the King to take this step would have to be borne by His Majesty's Ministers. But it is possible that some consequences would be felt, too, by some other high authorities in the land who are asserting themselves as keepers of the King's conscience.

Cant

in the admirable words of the *Daily Herald* yesterday, sad as the consequences may be, we cannot see how the Cabinet could have done other than tender the advice which seems to it right.—*The Times*.

The issue raised about the divorcée is a real one.—*The Times of India*.

It is the King's duty to the empire peoples to realise that the Monarchy is of even deeper concern to his subjects than the Monarch.—*The Cape Times*.

In an age which is often supposed to be laxer and more tolerant than its predecessors, and in countries which pride themselves on the obliteration of social distinctions, there survives, more universally than ever before, the sense that Kingship must be kept above public criticism. No reasonable person "expects more (in Halifax's words) than human Nature will allow." Even a King is entitled to his relaxation and the companionship of his chosen friends.—*The Times*.

An inherent sense of fair play will surely demand that this solicitude for the national conscience as reflected in the King's life shall also manifest itself more in the awakening of a conscience with reference to the living conditions of millions of the British people.—*Ottawa "Citizen"*.

Whatever the King's decision, it may be taken as certain that His Majesty is starting a train of thought that will lead to a searching of the British conscience in other directions, perhaps on the living conditions of destitute people on the Clyde, in South Wales, in Durham under the shadow of Durham Cathedral, and on the Tyneside under the shadow of St. Nicholas.

It is probable that his Majesty has already given offence to some vested interests in showing up the official neglect of people in distress—as he did very soon after coming to the Throne, when he visited the slums of Glasgow on the day of the launching of the Queen Mary.—*Ottawa "Citizen"*.

November 23!

When it is remembered how little freedom of speech is permitted to the ruling monarch, King Edward's leadership toward arousing the social conscience is magnificent. It used to be said that as Prince of Wales he seemed to manifest no great ambition ever to succeed to the Throne. In some respects he is almost like the king in one of Bernard Shaw's most brilliant plays, "The Apple Cart." Certainly royal Edward could be elected as prime minister against any party combination in the British Isles. He could even be elected as a republican candidate. He is the hereditary president of the British people, the strongest representative of an enduring British democracy. Canada could wish for no more kingly ruler.—*Ottawa "Citizen"*, November 23.

Cable messages arriving from London seem to suggest that an altogether disproportionate importance is being placed on the views of the Dominions.

As far as Australia is concerned, the people have had no chance to express their opinion, and it is impossible to say whether or not they support the attitude of the Federal Government.—*Sydney "Daily Telegraph"*.

The suggestion that the Dominions have given some lead against the King is arousing indignation in England.

There will be indignation in the Dominions, too, for the truth is quite different.—*Sydney "Morning Herald"*.

The Rev. W. Nicol, Moderator of the Dutch Reformed Church, declared in an interview in Johannesburg that the King had the right to his own private life. His statement caused surprise, as the Church holds strict views on divorce, and this is one of the main factors influencing the Cabinet.

"The Voice of the Nation."—*Headline in "News Chronicle" covering extracts from leading articles of papers supporting the Cabinet.*

By renouncing his happiness the King will add yet another claim to the affections of his people.—*Cape Argus*.

It is the King and not his Ministers as Mr. Churchill might have noted who made the matter one of "constitutional urgency." Thus a long history of steadily increasing disrepute for the King himself, the Monarchy and the country preceded the King's request for special legislation. It is astonishing that he should have supposed that the Government would have acceded to his request. It is believed that he has from the outset been very badly advised by some of his friends who have flattered his tendency to rebel impatiently against what he considers tedious conventions. It would have been well for him, and for us, if instead of relying upon these who were no true friends, he had instead sought and early hearkened to wise advice of those who love him for his father's sake as well as for his own.—*Yorkshire Post*, December 7.

SECRETS OF THE KING'S POPULARITY

Britain Shouts: After South Wales, Don't Let Him Down

HIS "REBUKES TO THE GOVERNMENT"

ALL over Britain posters have been seen in the streets bearing the slogan:

AFTER SOUTH WALES DON'T LET THE KING DOWN.

The majority of the people are feeling that the crisis that has arisen over the announcement of the King's intention to marry Mrs. Simpson, an American lady, has been accentuated with a design to obscure the King's widely known sympathy with the human misery he has observed in the distressed areas, coupled with a determination to get something done to relieve or abolish it.

"Something must be done."

"Something will be done."

These were phrases he used recently in his tour in South Wales. His desire to see the "open letter" distributed in the streets by the unemployed created a great impression.

It is well known among the people that His Majesty often steps off the scheduled route made for him during his public appearances, and he has frequently looked where officialdom has not wanted him to look.

Miners Have Not Forgotten

When, as Prince of Wales, he toured the distressed area around Durham, some years ago, the schedule was held up for two hours while he entered miners' cottages, saw their pay tickets, took a good look at the seamy side of the conditions under which they lived.

On that occasion he expressed himself in very forcible but obviously sincere language.

The miners haven't forgotten that. They believe he tried to do something then to better their condition, but that he was stopped.

It was when he was Prince of Wales that he said:

"There is no scarcity of commodities; it is, I feel, at the consumption and distribution end that failure has occurred. . . ."

"If all the employable labour were employed for a reasonable amount of hours per week, the world would have at its disposal a volume of commodities and services that would enable the entire population to live on a higher level of comfort and well-being than has ever been contemplated in the rosiest dreams of the social reformer."

Here are words the like of which had never been uttered by a King before in history!

In Glasgow Slums

Again, when looking over the "Queen Mary" in Glasgow, he not only went over parts of the ship where men were still working (where he wasn't supposed to go) much to the delight of the workers themselves.

But afterwards—when expressing his

appreciation of such a marvellous engineering job—he asked how they reconciled such a feat with the known facts of the existence of slums and poverty in Glasgow!

All these incidents, with many others similar, were widely reported at the time, and this explains his popularity among the people.

These same incidents explain why there are some who would prefer his popularity to rest on some other basis.

"Rebuke to the Government"

The *Daily Telegraph* of December 4 reported that "the only newspaper in Germany today which made any reference to the constitutional development in Britain was the *Muenchener Zeitung*, which was confiscated by the police later.

In a long dispatch . . . the London correspondent stated that the crisis had a long history and was due to three main causes:

1. The friendly relations of the King with Mrs. Simpson, and his intention to marry her.
2. The recent visit of the King to the Special Areas.
3. The speech made by the Bishop of Bradford on Tuesday.

In the same issue the *Daily Telegraph* reported:

"In particular, London correspondents of most Vienna newspapers say that Mr. Baldwin regarded the King's visit to the depressed areas of South Wales recently as an open rebuke to the unemployment policy of the Government."

Inspired Leaders?

Another surprising incident was the unanimity reported by the *Evening Standard* of December 4 of the first attacks on the King after the Bishop of Bradford's speech.

"For," says the *Standard*, "newspapers in such a diversity of towns as Bradford, Nottingham, Darlington and

(Continued at foot of column 4)

"OUR KING IS FIGHTING OUR FIGHT"

Speech delivered by Mr. W. L. Bardsley, Secretary of the Social Credit Secretariat Limited, at a joint meeting of the London Social Credit Club and the National Dividend Club, Dennison House, Vauxhall Bridge Road, on December 5.

A COARSE and dirty thing now lies before us. It is war. We are witnessing now, and we shall surely soon be participating in the opening campaign of the greatest struggle in history.

It is the struggle between man and the devil, between truth and lies, between love and fear, between freedom and tyranny.

Forces of the Devil

All the forces of the devil are at this very moment being concentrated upon one tormented man.

The King of England is first of all a man. By the accident of birth he is placed in an extraordinary position. He is the embodiment, in flesh and blood, of the Responsible Individual.

Many of the worries and frustrations of the common man are not for him. For practical purpose he has no money troubles. Food, warmth and shelter are placed automatically at his disposal.

Mark these words. Food, warmth and shelter should long ago have been placed automatically at the disposal of every man, woman and child in this marvellous modern world of abundance.

The lesson the King of England is now learning, and is therefore teaching us is this: Food, warmth and shelter are not enough.

Food, warmth and shelter we must have. They are available and we must make them ours. But when we have them, it will not be enough.

Fight for Liberty

Our King is demonstrating to us, he is fighting for Liberty. He is fighting for the inalienable right of man to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

The King is a symbol. And one aspect of this fight is symbolic, for the devil and his servants on earth know the power of symbols.

They took the King's head off the King's money. That was a symbolic gesture of defiance. A symbolic threat to the principle of sovereignty by international finance.

The *Times*, the mouthpiece of the Bank of England, which has been attacking the person of the King, and thrusting the shackles of abstractionism on him for the last two weeks, to-day removed the Royal coat of arms from the head of the Court news.

Hammer, Hammer . . .

The attack which is being massed against the King is directed against the liberty which is dearest to his individual heart.

That too is symbolic—for these inhuman monsters have no real interest in whom the King marries. They neither hate nor love the King nor his lady. They are supremely indifferent.

But they intend to strike the King at his tenderest spot. Hammer, hammer, hammer. All the powers of mighty impersonal institutions are ranged against him.

His love and his freedom are to be made the subjects of rule by committee.

In this way they intend to break him because he has dared to defy the system which feeds their power.

Break him so that the heart goes out of him. Break him so that he and all his people shall know who is master in the King's house.

His Example

And all the committees are automatically leagued against this man who has dared to

defy them. For his example may teach the people to defy them.

It is not the people of His Majesty's Dominions and colonies that are supporting the Cabinet. It is their damned committees.

The Australian government has sent messages of support to Mr. Baldwin, but the towns of Australia are decked with flags to show that the people are with the King.

And he needs all the support we can give. The strain must be terrific. He is, for all real purposes, alone. He is not in effective communication with his people. His very case is presented to his people through the mouth of his adversary.

Every Crooked Trick

His enemies are stooping to every slimy, crooked trick that can be devised by the best brains that money can buy.

Poison propaganda is everywhere. Rumours are spread. They are all rumours directed towards weakening his stand.

Rumours that he intends to abdicate—that he has abdicated. Rumours more sinister.

Remember that, and meet them every one of you with truth. You will be serving your King. Think of him in his lonely battle against lies, and the father of lies.

Speak no evil of him among yourselves. Tolerate no evil speaking when you hear it. This needs great moral courage. It is your personal responsibility.

Be Not Afraid

Believe me, this is your great moment. Quit you like men. By the way that you and your individual fellow men and women act now, and throughout the coming struggle, will the issue be decided—for good or evil, for love or fear.

We have each of us our part to play. That is the message to you of this event. Cast out fear from your hearts.

There is one thing, and one thing only that the devil fears. It is individual initiative wisely directed.

We at the Social Credit Secretariat are trying to direct the strategy in this great fight for Life—that we may have it more abundantly.

Tactics are your individual responsibility. Keep your heads and keep the goal always before you, and be not afraid.

(Continued from column 2)

Birmingham published leading articles which were identical word for word."

Certain it is that it was with the knowledge of these facts that a resolution was passed by a meeting of the King's loyal subjects in Coventry Market Place on Sunday evening:

"That Capt. W. F. Strickland, as our representative in Parliament, be informed of the united will of this mass meeting of his constituents, and that we hereby instruct him:

"To support His Majesty the King in any effort he has made—or is trying to make—to ABOLISH POVERTY FROM THE DISTRESSED HOMES IN SOUTH WALES, DURHAM, OR ANY OTHER PART OF BRITAIN, against any tactics, institution, or power that may be ranged against such objective."

George Hickling.

TO EVERY READER

Make known to everyone the contents of this issue.



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at
Christmas

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Ban Babies: My Plan For Permanent Prosperity

By *Dr. Eugenie Paide-Paiper*
HAMELIN UNIV. (U.K.W.)

IN REPLY TO DR. P. SHAW



BEN TOR

PROFESSOR PSHAW'S Plan for work machines and the taxation of breathing (see SOCIAL CREDIT, Nov. 20) would be all very nice if it could be carried out, but it is essentially a male plan dealing with things and not people.

What is needed is the greater intuition and humanity of the feminine mind, which instinctively knows with biological certainty that before we can put anything right we must deal with people and not things.

All these mysterious plans for making more work are seen to be quite unnecessary when we realise that the root of the trouble is, of course, that there are far too many people.

Professor Pshaw's idea of giving work and wages to everybody is, of course, generous in the extreme, and I am sure does his kind heart credit. But isn't it, don't you think, just a tiny bit idealistic?

After all, these professors in their colleges are just a bit out of touch with the biological realities of life.

I am sure Professor Pshaw does not realise how people would take advantage of the certainty of work and wages to bring more children into the world.

On and On, Up and Up

AS if it were not enough to have dreadful gluts of wheat, cotton, fish, meat, milk, etc., all going bad on our hands, we should have a glut of surplus children to find work for, and the more wages were paid out the more children there would be—on and on and on and on and up and up until you could scarcely stand anywhere for people; as if it weren't bad enough now during the rush hour!

As well, how could such an enormous population all be protected against air raids?

Any woman can see that the more people there are the more horrors of war there will be, and the fewer people the fewer horrors.

In fact, if there were no people at all there could be no wars at all.

After all, there are a lot of older people who have reached years of discretion and are really an asset to the country. The trouble arises, as Mr. H. G. Wells points out, from the young people:

"Three - quarters of the present trouble of the world is due to the moral and intellectual confusions of the aimless adolescent. That is not the fault of the old—"

and Seven - eighths of the hideous killing that is going on now all over the world is being done by youngsters—by people well under 30."

Young People—Grown-up Babies

THAT'S the trouble—too many young people! Not, mind you, that I am against babies. They are perfectly sweet little things to have about the home, but one cannot deny that they are "well under 30," and one simply cannot afford to be sentimental when one realises that wars and revolutions are nearly all carried on by young people, and young people are only grown-up babies. Babies are really the true cause of war!

My plan, therefore, is very simple, and, what is more, no one can complain that it is

unpractical, because it is already in operation, although, of course, it is not acting fast enough.

But it cannot be denied that the increase in taxation and in the cost of living during the last 30 years has had a most salutary effect on the birth rate, especially of the middle classes.

All we need do, then, is to increase the penalties for childbirth a bit more, spreading them fairly over all classes of the population until all sensible people realise that children are a luxury which we cannot afford in these hard times.

At the same time, by proper education we could show them that, not only are babies the chief cause of war, but by providing more people to find work for they are the chief cause of our economic difficulties.

Improvident, Anti-Social

I AM sure that, once she realised this, no loyal and self-respecting woman would dream of having one, especially when she would know that



Education Problem

it would be a burden on the rates.

The trouble will be, of course, the feckless, improvident, anti-social people who will have

children they cannot possibly afford. Sterner measures will have to be used to deal with these.

I think, myself, that it will be necessary to make babies illegal.

Any couple convicted of committing a progeny should be fined so much for the first offence, double for the second, and so on progressively.

Of course some people would make out that this would be harsh and undemocratic, which is just nonsense. Actually it errs on the side of generosity; because many of our soundest Banks and Insurance Companies, on confidence in which Democracy is, of course, based, have already set an example by forbidding even the marriage (let alone having children) of all their women employees, and of their men employees earning less than a certain salary.



Economic Problem

Which, of course, is just splendid!

I think it is along lines like these that we must act if we want to solve the Population Problem, and with it the War Problem, the Unemployment Problem, the Education Problem, and all the other Problems which beset us so in these difficult times.

THE PARTY SYSTEM

(Continued from page 3)

in the country quite sincerely detest, and though, as they begin to suspect, he has no intention of repealing them, yet it would be childish to question the genuineness of the feelings which he is attempting to exploit.

The Party System, which is a game (and a source of profit) to the politicians, is often a matter of deadly earnest to their honest backers in the country.

There are still very many who believe implicitly and fervently in the reality of the conflict. There are the Conservatives who are convinced that the Liberal Government is only prevented from dragging the nation through spoliation to destruction by the noble patriotism of the Conservative Opposition.

★

THERE is another kind of enthusiast who helps to keep the Party System going.

This is the man who earnestly desires some particular measure which one of the two parties has espoused, or (what comes to much the same thing) has an intense repugnance to some measure which the other party has espoused.

Thus many men, more or less indifferent to politics generally, think that Tariff Reform will benefit their industry, and accordingly vote for the party that advocates it.

Again, a man will often find his particular religion affected by legislation in regard to education or religious establishments, and will support the party identified with his views.

To the same class belong the militant teetotalers, and the Irish, to whom nothing matters but the cause of their nationality.

Men of this type do not form a very large section of the electorate, but they are of importance at elections, and the politicians have to take them into account.

Finally, there is the mass of ordinary voters, largely indifferent to political problems, yet at times keenly interested in politics. How shall we define their state of mind?

Perhaps the best parallel to the attitude of the general public towards politics is to be

found in the Oxford and Cambridge Boat Race.

Of the crowds that line the towing path every year from Putney to Mortlake there are few that have ever been to either University, have ever known anyone who has been to either, have even the remotest or most shadowy connection with either.

Yet they take sides enthusiastically, and would almost be prepared to shed blood for their "fancy."

Note that this is not a mere question of backing your judgment on the merits of the two crews.

Not one man in ten knows anything about that, and many are proud of always sticking to the same side year after year, of being always "Oxford" or "Cambridge," whether their favourite colour wins or loses.

And just as they vehemently take sides with a University to which they have never been, so they take sides as vehemently with a party which they do not control and from which they can never hope for the smallest benefit.

Such are the mass of the supporters of either party. They derive their political opinions originally from some family tradition or some fanciful preference, but they back them with all the passion of a sportsman.

In a vague subconscious way they know it is a game, but they happen to enjoy playing the game.

★

NEVERTHELESS, there is a section of the public, not perhaps large, but certainly increasing, which is beginning to be uneasy about the Party System.

It is natural to men to wish to have voice in the government of their native land, and many are beginning to feel that they have no such effective voice today.

Laws which they detest are passed, passed easily by the consent of both parties, and they are powerless to defeat or even to protest against them.

Measures which they ardently desire and which they know that most of their neighbours ardently desire are never even mentioned.

Acts of the Government which seem at the

Announcements & Meetings

Notices will be accepted in this column from affiliated Groups at 6d. a line, minimum three lines.

Belfast Douglas Social Credit Group

Group Headquarters: 72, Ann Street

Office Hours: 2.30 to 5.30 and 7 to 10 p.m.
Supplies of the pamphlet "Social Credit Restated," a rejoinder to the Rev. Prof. Corkey, and other literature, can be obtained.

Bexley Heath

Social Creditors in Bexley Heath area willing to create a new group write A. E. Tyrrell, 63, Palmeira Road, Bexley Heath.

Cardiff United Democrats

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

Eltham and Sidcup

Eltham and Sidcup readers willing to form new Social Credit group write J. A. Dunnage, 250, Halfway Street, Sidcup.

Glasgow Douglas Credit Association

Next public meeting will be announced in this column.

Gravesend

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

Liverpool Social Credit Association

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

Lectures will also be arranged in Wallasey and Birkenhead.
Calendar and Prospectus: 3d. (post free 4d.), may be obtained on application to E. J. Pankhurst, 38, Moor Lane, Liverpool, 23.

Newcastle-on-Tyne United Democrats

31 Oxford Street
Meetings held fortnightly: next on December 16.

National Dividend Club

Members are advised to keep in close touch with the Secretariat during the crisis. Meetings will be held every night in Hyde Park at 7 p.m., until further notice, in conjunction with the London Social Credit Club. T. H. Story (Capt.), Hon. Secretary, N.D.C.

Miscellaneous Notices

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Wanted, more of our readers to advertise in this column. A single line notice will be accepted, costing only a shilling a week! This offer is good value. Write to "Publicity," SOCIAL CREDIT, 163A, Strand, W.C.2.

READ THIS

1. YOU are short of money to spend and you therefore go short of goods and services which you want.
2. The majority of Britons are in the same boat.
3. At the same time the goods we all want are being destroyed and their production is being restricted, because we have not the money to buy them.
4. Sane people know that such destruction and restriction while people are in want is sacrilege.
5. Unless you protest with all your might your silent consent makes you guilty as an accessory to this foul crime.
6. Your conscience and your self-respect require that you do your duty as a voter in a democracy by insistently demanding the Abolition of Poverty and the issue of National Dividends (without taxation) to all, as a right and not as a concession.
7. National Dividends are claims on the goods that are being destroyed and the production that is being restricted.
8. Don't waste time arguing methods. DEMAND RESULTS at once and urge others to do so.
9. This is YOUR JOB and you cannot leave it to another and retain your self-respect. They also have their part of this great task to do. They cannot make good your failure. (See Electoral Campaign form on back page.)
10. IT'S UP TO YOU.

very least proper subjects for criticism and inquiry are suffered without comment.

Scandals and blunders of which they have caught a glimpse are suddenly covered over and buried in silence.

And along with the discontent engendered by these things goes an intangible suspicion that they are in some way the victims of a conspiracy. Why, asks such a man, does not his own side follow up its advantages?

Why do his leaders unexpectedly spare their opponents at the very moment when these appear to be in their power?

It should be remarked, however, that those of whom we speak are generally very far from realising the full truth of their own suspicions. That something is wrong they instinctively feel.

What is wrong they would find very great difficulty in defining.

They lay the blame now on one leader, now on another.

They hardly yet see that the evil is in the system itself.

BOOKS

The Social Services

MR. W. HARDY WICKWAR is the author of an admirably neat account of the history of the Social Services ("The Social Services," Cobden-Sanderson, 10s. 6d.).

Huge state organisations have arisen for the alleviation of extreme cases of poverty and insecurity. In the mobilisation of these expedients one fact has, without exception, been overlooked: the existence of plenty.

Two opposing tendencies have modified the growth of the Social Services.

The first is their deliberate use to enforce the moral code recognised at the time — to administer rewards to the virtuous and punishments to the transgressors.

The amiable hypothesis that this function was innate and automatic, that the economic system, besides existing to distribute goods, was a sort of god to judge the moral worth of the people involved in it—this broke down in the late nineteenth and early twentieth century in so far that the question of differentiating between the deserving and the undeserving poor arose.

This proved a tricky business, and one completely at variance with the primary object of poor law relief, that is to relieve poverty.

For the only criterion by which to judge the deservingness of the poor proved to be whether they had previously received relief or had "endeavoured to provide for themselves."

IN 1908 this particular discussion was ended by Asquith's introduction of a non-contributory pension of 5s. a week (afterwards increased to 10s.).

At first paupers were not eligible for this, but later became so if not actually resident in a workhouse.

In the same way the receipt of unemployment insurance pay is conditional on attendance at any educational course which the minister may recommend (although the ministry has not used its powers of compulsion to the full), and this tends to perpetuate that particular official's scheme of morality.

The most subtle and the most vast manifestation of this tendency is the exaltation of work, for its own sake and without reference to the product in question, which has arisen because some participation in the rapidly decreasing supply of work is for most people the only title to the goods of the earth.

The second and opposing tendency is the emergence since the beginning of the industrial revolution of a progressively stronger demand for security. Before the industrial age, insecurity was not so apparent, as a greater proportion of the population was directly dependent on the soil, and in difficult times there was a supply of some sort of food for most.

But in the early nineteenth century if a man lost his work in the factories, when he had exhausted his savings he depended on organised or unorganised philanthropy or on poor law relief.

For charity, even of the organised type, he had to beg, and for poor law relief he was set to work for any employer who would contribute a small amount to the parish, a condition which resulted in lowering the standard of living of the self-supporting labourer.

DURING the century mutual benefit societies increased in number and in membership—men were not anxious to face the alternatives.

But at the end of the century, the growing number of permanent unemployed showed the strain that was being put on these resources, and finally the state was forced to help largely in the provision against uncertainty of work.

We now take our unemployment benefit as a right, mostly because we contributed towards it, but also because we have realised in part the right of man to the products of his labour and inventive powers.

Mr. Wickwar's proposals for the future of the Social Services tend towards planning.

Until now the function of the Social Services has been to ensure that people had, on certain conditions, a minimum share of health, comfort, and security, and planning is necessary to determine that minimum.

In the approaching age of freedom and security it is likely that the place of the Social Services (if they are still necessary) will

be in advising and helping (but not compelling) individuals to get what they wish of the activities within its scope; that is as a sort of information bureau to show them the alternatives from which to choose, whether for education, games, for medical advice, or for other contingencies which might occur.

ELIZABETH EDWARDS

Pilgrim Politicians

THAT Members of Parliament are a body of men who can aptly be described as the "Legion of the Lost," is made perfectly clear in John Scanlon's new book, "Pillars of Cloud" (Chapman & Hall, 5s.).

To read the history of Parliament's proceedings since 1918 to the present day as Mr. Scanlon describes it is excruciatingly funny. It's a scream.

All the so-called great political leaders are mercilessly stripped of the silly vanity and solemn, pompous, smirking atmosphere in which they love to strut and pose before the public.

They are shown up in a brilliant searchlight of wit for the weak, vacillating, bewildered, round-and-round-the-mulberry bush, pitiful poseurs they are.

In 1919 prosperity was not even round the corner, it was right in our midst. The world was sick and weary from war, the League of Nations still a weak infant, and in consequence no wars and dangers of wars were yet in sight.

We read of how the nation embarked on its first campaign to increase production in order to reduce prices, which of course had nothing to do with the campaign two years later to increase prices by limiting production.

How the Trade Union leaders worried themselves ill trying to make other people work harder.

How the Squandermania campaign attempted to restore prosperity on the principle that the wheels of industry could only be set going again if the State, and everybody in it, stopped spending.

Of plans to put Germany on her feet and Russia on her back. Of how the Labour leaders in the Treasury proved to the workers (by a thrift campaign) that the only way workers of the world could unite was by agreeing to cut every farthing of expenditure in order to beat each other in the foreign markets.

But underneath the wit, the book is quite serious.

The pilgrimage promised in 1918 from the old world of squalor, misery and penury to the new land of economic security in which heroes would have liberty to live splendidly is shown to have turned out to be a rocky road from one terrible world war towards another that promises to eclipse it in magnitude of suffering and destruction.

Unfortunately, although Mr. Scanlon can see that Parliament is insane because it is lost, he still remains ignorant that this is because it has never yet had a clear mandate on prior policy from the people.

BROCK

Australian Pamphlets

A VERY interesting series of pamphlets covering the history of the Australian Commonwealth Bank, Railway, Fleet, Wireless Service and search for Oil have been received from the Douglas Social Credit Association of Queensland.

In each, the author, D. J. Amos, F.A.I.S., traces the development of exploitation by the Money Monopoly of the splendid inheritance of the people of Australia, with the result that the true legatees are despoiled of their birthright.

The adoption of the principles advocated by Major C. H. Douglas are suggested to the reader as the remedy.

The pamphlets are entitled: The Story of the Commonwealth Oil Refineries; The Story of the Commonwealth Wireless Service; The Story of the Commonwealth Bank; The Story of the Commonwealth Fleet; The Story of the Commonwealth Railway.

They are obtainable from The Douglas Social Credit Association of Queensland, Room 14, 2nd Floor, B. & F. Chambers, 142-146, Adelaide Street, Brisbane, at 6d. each.

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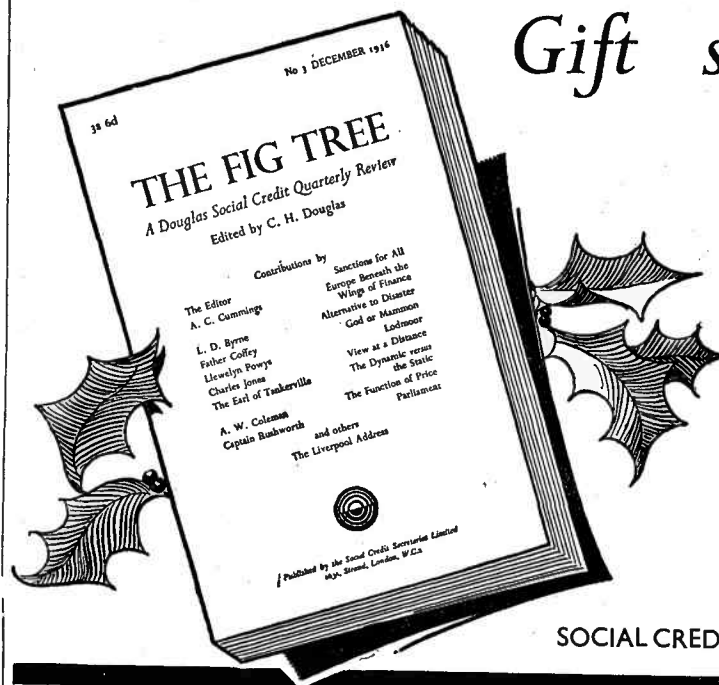
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The present crisis has entailed heavy extra expense. Donations will be welcomed by the Director of Revenue, Social Credit Secretariat Limited, 163A Strand, London, W.C.2.

FINANCIAL FREEDOM OF THE FREE STATE

Commission Will Recommend State Bank, says Irish Press

BUT MONEY CONTROL WILL REMAIN AS AT PRESENT

IT is like asking a committee of butchers to report on the desirability of eating meat" was the comment of a wit when Mr. (now Lord) Snowden announced the membership of the Macmillan Committee on Banking in 1929.

The same comment is applicable to the Irish Banking Commission, whose findings are an equally foregone conclusion.

It is nearly two years since Mr. de Valera appointed this Commission, under pressure from his followers, who suspected—not without reason—that the Irish Free State, so long as its financial system was controlled by the Bank of England, was free only in name.

Like similar bodies, such as the Commission on Banking now sitting in Australia, this Commission is supposed to be representative of all sections of the community.

Actually, however, the section most strongly represented—the financial authorities themselves—amounts to a fraction of one per cent. of the population.

One of the most important members of the Commission, Professor E. E. (Guggenheim) Gregory, who previously sat on that same bright Macmillan Committee, which recommended strengthening the Gold Standard four months before Britain finally went off gold! also acted as secretary of the Niemeyer mission to Australia and New Zealand, whose recommendations brought misery and destitution to thousands.

The Horse Theory

Another is Mr. Per Jacobsson, Economic Adviser to the Bank of International Settlements at Basle, whose chief claim to fame is that he originated what may be described as "the horse theory of trade depressions."

Maybe this theory was evolved for the special benefit of the Irish people, who are fond of horses.

Briefly, the horse theory is that the world depression now said to be passing is largely due to the shrinkage of the world's horse population.

Mr. Jacobsson, with a desire to soothe his Irish hosts, sings—

*"But when horses study Stopes,
Down crash profits, plans and hopes."*

The Commission having sat for nearly two years, those who had not forgotten all about it were beginning to wonder if it would ever hatch out a report.

They have now been reassured, for there has been an outburst of cackling from Mr. de Valera's paper, the *Irish Press*, which brought out a special financial supplement largely devoted to what can only be regarded as an inspired forecast of the Commission's recommendations.

This forecast suggests that the report will be thoroughly orthodox and that the only concession likely to be made to public opinion will be the setting up of a central bank "vested in the State."

This bank, the writer suggests, "the Commission will endeavour to make as independent of party politics and of financial interests as human ingenuity can conceive."

The success of the Commission's endeavours in the case of "party politics" can be taken for granted; as for "financial interests," the "human ingenuity" of their nominees on the Commission can be relied on to see that such independence is more apparent than real.

According to a statement from an authoritative quarter—not reported

in the *Irish Press*!—this concession is being made by the Commission as they consider it "politically expedient, even though not economically so, to recommend a state bank."

A Minority Report

A correspondent suggests that there may possibly be a second report by a minority consisting of a Bishop and certain Labour members of the Commission.

They, it is thought, have delayed the issue of the report by failure to agree with the financial nominees on the Commission, due, it is suggested, to a sudden realisation of their responsibilities to the Irish people.

Well, better late than never, but they will be extremely foolish if they make any technical recommendations in competition with the financial experts.

They had much better admit their ignorance of the technicalities of banking and finance and content themselves with pillorying the present system for its failure to distribute the plenty now available, and demanding that those in charge of it be made responsible for amending it to permit of the abolition of poverty.

Failing such a united demand, the Free State will remain under the same financial control as before, which, incidentally, is not English but international. M.W.

"THE MACHINE IS THE PEOPLE'S INHERITANCE"

Dean's Speech at Southampton

THE Dean of Canterbury, Director of Revenue to the Social Credit Secretariat, addressing a large audience at the Coliseum, Southampton, on Tuesday, December 1, urged the vital necessity of remedying immediately the appalling conditions under which millions of people were now living.

A tenth of the population, 4,500,000, had less than 4s. a week for food, he said; 9,000,000 more had less than 6s., and another 9,000,000 had less than 9s. A total of 21½ million living in poverty.

"These statistics," he said, "are compiled by a great national authority on nutrition—Sir John Orr."

Sir John estimated that 10s. a week was a reasonable figure for adequate nutrition for a human being, and at this moment just half the population were living below that standard.

"In these days of powerful machines and tremendous power, is there any need for anybody to go short of food, clothing, housing, light or leisure?" asked the Dean. "None whatever!"

"Yet Britain is restricting the supply of food and destroying it for lack of which half the people are inadequately nourished."

Each man, woman and child had a machine equal to some hundreds of slaves, yet we were forced to witness the bulk of our people suffering poverty in various degrees.

A Great Robbery

A great social injustice was preventing the distribution of food and preventing the full use of leisure, so abundantly possible, and desirable for cultural development.

The machine of production was the sole property of no one—it was the cooperative inheritance of all. And all should therefore be shareholders in the output.

Until that fundamental justice was established the world would never reach that state of social righteousness which Christ said was the foundation stone of prosperity.

A National Dividend

"I am asking that that which is today not produced may be produced and shared.

"I ask that every man and woman from birth to death shall share in the great heritage of wealth and goods which is their birthright."

The injustice and crime of poverty in a rich land would continue, however, until the people asserted their sovereign rights and demanded its immediate cessation.

It was the duty of all Christian people to demand through Parliament that the bankers and economists should work out the necessary technical details of a scheme which would stop the dreadful restriction and destruction of production, and enable the full output of industry to be enjoyed and shared by all.

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1. I know that there are goods in plenty and therefore that poverty is quite unnecessary.
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4. These distributions must not deprive owners of their property nor decrease its relative value, nor increase taxes or prices.
5. In a democracy like Great Britain Parliament exists to make the will of the people prevail.
6. So I pledge myself to vote for any candidate who will undertake to support this my policy, and to vote consistently against any party trying to put any other law making before this.
7. If the present Member of Parliament here won't undertake this, I will vote to defeat him and his successors until this, my policy, prevails.

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