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SOCIAL CREDIT

For Political and Economic Democracy

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE SOCIAL CREDIT SECRETARIAT LIMITED

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FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 1937

Weekly Twopence

Your Pound Note Today Buys Less Than It Did A Year Ago

**FOOD PRICES ARE UP 5%
WILL CONTINUE TO RISE**

P.C.'s May Not Marry—Not Enough Quarters

METROPOLITAN Police Commissioner decrees that members of his force may not marry without his consent until they have completed four years' approved service.

Disobedience of the order renders policemen liable to instant dismissal.

Explaining the ban the Commissioner says:

"If there were a large number of married men in the force there would not be quarters for them all in the section houses.

"Inconvenience"

"Some might have to live a good distance from the station, and this would cause a lot of inconvenience when an emergency arose."

Well, why not build more quarters? Plenty of material, plenty of labour available; only the crazy money system enforces this unfair ban.

Economist Blames 'Scarcity', Forgets Sabotage of 'Surplus'

FOR every pound you spent a year ago on basic household foodstuffs you have to spend 21 shillings today to buy the same goods. Cost of living has risen 5 per cent. in a year, is 36 per cent. above 1914.

Bread, potatoes, beef, bacon, butter, tea, sugar, fruit are all dearer. Prices will continue to soar. Last week saw further increases—tea up 2d. per lb. (cheaper brands), flour up 6d. a sack.

Economic League director J. Baker White blames the Spanish war, failure of last year's wheat crop, bad crops, scarcity of commodities.

He makes no mention of the hundreds of tons of good food deliberately sabotaged because there was "no market available for it."

Says he:

"Failure of the wheat crop last season in most parts of the world accounts for the rise in the price of bread.

"There is a shortage of fruit supplies as a direct consequence of the Spanish civil war. Shipments of oranges, lemons, raisins, pines, nuts, and other produce from Spain have virtually ceased.

"Potatoes were generally a bad crop last year as a result of blight; home-produced bacon has fallen short; butter is going up; there has been an acute scarcity of fish as the result of the stormy weather."

Next time you read of fish going back to the sea, crops being ploughed in, milk being poured into drains, remember—Scarcity causes higher prices.

Remember also that a National Dividend—monetary or other effective claims to those sabotaged goods—can be yours if you will unite to demand it.

MEALS AT 1½d.

ACCORDING to a correspondent of the *News Chronicle*, thousands of children in Abertillery have been kept alive for years on meals supplied them at 1½d. The scheme began ten years ago, and nearly 10,000,000 meals have been supplied already. No less than one-third of the children have been fed in this way by the local authority.

"Many of the children in this area," he says, "have never in their lives had a square meal except at the public feeding centres. Malnutrition is bad enough here, but what it would be but for the Council feeding scheme makes one shudder to imagine."

Pressure Politics Wins

Westway Gets '30' Limit

THE demand for a speed limit by the residents on Westway, Shepherd's Bush, W., has resulted in the temporary imposition of a 30 m.p.h. limit by Mr. Hore-Belisha pending further negotiations.

Encouraged by this, another piece of pressure politics is being enacted not far away.

All classes of road users took part in a demonstration at Willesden, N.W., demanding the imposition of the speed limit of 30 miles an hour on the five miles of the North Circular Road within the borough.

Led by the Mayor, Alderman C. Hicks Bolton, a procession of motor vehicles, cyclists, and pedestrians traversed the road in both directions, holding up the traffic on what was formerly regarded as an arterial road but has now many houses on each side.

Tube Passengers Win "Strike"

PASSENGERS boarded a tube train indicated to go to Morden. It stopped at Tooting. "All change," was the order. Morden-bound passengers sat tight, refused to leave. The train continued to Morden. Passengers won their stay-in strike.

L.P.T.B. official explaining this incident last week, said:

"Some of the drivers have been slowing down as a protest against their time schedules for some days.

"Some trains which have arrived late at Tooting have been turned round instead of going on to Morden. I suppose some of the passengers had had enough of this, and decided to protest themselves. They won hands down."

Last week's victory No. 2 for pressure politics. People acting in unison can always impose their will on those who serve them.

NEVILLE CHAMBERLAIN'S 400 MILLION POUND CONJURING TRICK

A CAREFULLY rehearsed dramatic disclosure was performed before a gaping House of Commons on Friday.

Labour Leader Clement Attlee artlessly enquired whether the Chancellor could make any statement on the finance of the defence programme. Mr. Chamberlain announced, after some preliminary verbiage, that a Bill is to be introduced immediately.

Amid gasps and cries of wonder, he told the House that the Government would ask for power to raise not more than £400,000,000 spread over not more than five years.

Then followed some byplay between Attlee and Baldwin, in which Baldwin coyly announced that Attlee's request for a White Paper on defence was so sudden it had caught him by surprise.

Warming up, he went on to explain that when someone else asked him the same thing a few days before, he knew all about the £400,000,000, so of course his lips were sealed.

OUT OF NOTHING

The upshot of it all is that there is to be a debate on defence with a White Paper and all complete—but as the Treasury has already decided on the £400,000,000 it will not make the slightest difference.

£400,000,000 is a substantial sum. It falls little short of the total National Debt at the outbreak of the last war.

It will be raised in much the same manner as, during the war the National Debt was increased from six hundred to seven thousand millions.

In the first place a substantial sum will be created out of nothing by the Bank of

England and lent to the Government as Ways and Means advances.

The sums so created will be paid out by the Government to contractors and will find their way through wages, salaries and dividends into the deposit accounts of the big five banks.

This will pave the way, which owing to lack of funds in the hands of the public is not now practicable, for the Government to float a Defence Loan which will be subscribed at least in part by the public, and not wholly by the banks.

With the money thus withdrawn from the public, the Government will repay the ways and means advances to the Bank, which will cancel it out of existence.

RELATIVE SHORTAGE

The relative money shortage thus created will compel the holders of the Defence Loan to sell them to the banks, and everything will be ready to start again.

The process thus briefly and baldly described may be studied in the Cunliffe Committee's Report, 1918, on finance after the war.

It is the coolest swindle in history.

(See Commentary on page 2)

London Muddle

LONDON, once every fourth year, becomes the battleground of party politics. This is a fourth year. Zero, next month. Labour promises Utopia, Municipal Reform promises another Utopia. "We'll give you workers' dwellings, playgrounds for your children, more relief to the needy, better hospitals for your sick." "We'll save your rates, give you houses instead of flats, fair reward for honest toil."

One will give amenities to those needing them at a cost to other sections of the public; the other will save one man's pocket to beggar another of essential services.

Never the straight promise: tell us what you want, we'll see you get it. The party candidates could not, would not fulfil it if they made it—so entangled are they in the money system.

Meanwhile, London suffers, London is in chaos. One of every seventy London deaths is a suicide, London's infantile mortality rate is higher than in distressed areas, London is a hotbed of disease, London traffic congestion caused by badly planned roads costs £25,000,000 a year, London is badly short of houses.

London, says Robert Sinclair, in his book "Metropolitan Man" (Allen & Unwin, 10s. 6d.) is a disgusting mixture of muddle, pretence, lost opportunities, needless misery.

COMMENTARY

The Defence Loan

THE pertinent query of Mr. Attlee—that if it is all right to borrow £400,000,000 for guns and battleships why could we not have borrowed £100,000,000 to help the unemployed?—was not answered in the House.

And there is no need to answer it in that form, as *The Times* was quick to point out.

If *Reynolds's Newspaper* is correctly informed, however, we shall see the strange spectacle of an Opposition driven to voice the criticisms which are made by SOCIAL CREDIT, and which they have so often repudiated.

Says *Reynolds's*:

"The Opposition will contend that a munitions programme, like a war, is necessarily paid for at the time in raw materials consumed at the time, either in the factories or by the workpeople and their families.

"Loan finance, so far from postponing payment, only means that payment is made over and over again . . .

"A third and more fundamental objection will be offered to Mr. Chamberlain's loan policy. Newspapers in close touch with the Chancellor have pointed out that much of the £400,000,000 loan will be raised, not by public subscription but by Treasury Bills, or 'Ways and Means' advances—pure inflation, new 'money' created by the Bank of England and lent to the Government, which is permitted to draw cheques accordingly . . ."

On another page *Reynolds's* says:

"When leaders of the Opposition launch their attack on the Government's £400,000,000 arms loan plan, they will attack the whole policy of financing production by such methods. . . will certainly ask the House of Commons: 'Why must the Government pay interest to a bank for creating and lending money which the Government can create for itself?'

"Nor will the Opposition accept the excuse that the Treasury Bill will be funded as opportunity offers (that is, floated as long-

term Government loans in return for real money put up by the public and destroyed when paid over by the Treasury to the Bank).

"The Opposition's case will be that, in a country where (as in Britain) there are unused productive resources represented by idle men and idle machinery, it is possible to have one's guns without necessarily going short of one's butter."

The fact is that, as we have pointed out before, with the marvellous productive resources of this country we can produce all the armaments we need, and everything else we need into the bargain.

Neither we nor our children need go into debt; neither we nor our children need pay an extra tax; nor make any sacrifice other than the extra work involved in making "guns" as well as "butter."

We should resist with all our might being forced to make sacrifices that are not necessary, and to burden our children with them either.

Neglect of Steel Comes Home to Roost

THERE is too much loose talk by Cabinet Ministers and others in responsible positions just now. The people of Britain, whose paid servants these Ministers are, should not let the matter pass.

In Edinburgh the other day Mr. Hore-Belisha, Minister of Transport, said the Scots could not have the new Forth road bridge they want because bridges were built of steel—and so were armaments. He implied that we could not have both.

Why not? Is there a shortage of steel? There is—at present—simply because the steel industry was allowed to collapse through lack of orders during the lean years that followed the last war.

That is the only reason. When the steel industry was capable of producing far more

than all the needs of the country—including ample for a dozen new Forth bridges—we, the people, lacking the cash, did not make use of it. For that reason it fell largely into disuse. Furnaces were closed down, towns (like Jarrow) that provided the workers became derelict. From being a country rich in steel we became a country so poor that now we cannot build bridges and battleships.

But we could have if we had not allowed ourselves to be deluded.

Bribery

BRIBERY grows with depressions and fades away when prosperity comes.

Bribery is corrupt and horrid. It gives a feeling of insecurity to the bribed to the briber, and to the whole people.

What is the cure for bribery?

There is only one complete cure, and that is to assure plenty for everyone by honest means. National Dividends would do this.

A National Dividend would ensure that everyone got an income sufficient to enable him to buy as much as he wanted of the abundant goods and services that shopkeepers and others who supply them want to sell. No need for bribery then—when people have enough.

Subsidies for Ships

STRANGE as it may seem, the House of Commons has grown quite accustomed to grant subsidies for distressed industries.

When the removal of the shipping subsidy was discussed, Dr. Burgin complained that "the fundamental difficulties of the shipping industry arise from the disequilibrium between the amount of tonnage available and the amount of cargo offered."

In other words, a relative scarcity of ships is needed by Sound Finance. If there is not this scarcity, we must either scrap ships or "fiddle" the accounts.

MRS. PALMER :

Corner for Women

EXPERTS TELL YOU :

Ignorance of How to Buy, How to Cook, Are Chief Causes of Malnutrition !

TWO experts have been busy about diet. Professor E. P. Cathcart and Mrs. A. M. T. Murray investigated the food eaten by selected families in different parts of England and Scotland.

The Medical Research Council publish their report, which sums up:

"The main causal factor of inadequate diet in many households is ignorance of how to buy, what to buy, and how to use to the best advantage the materials bought."

So ignorance is the chief cause of malnutrition!

Women! This criticism is directed at you. You buy the food for the British households and you cook it. What have you to say for yourselves?

I can hear five out of ten of you saying that you have to make do with less than eight shillings a week a head for food, and some of you much less than that, so we can take it for granted that more than half of you have to look twice at every penny before spending it.

Housekeeping, never an easy job, is not made easier by this never-ending problem.

You walk long distances, carrying heavy shopping bags and work long hours at home, all for the sake of saving a few more pennies, until life becomes one long struggle to save—save—and there is very little time for anything else.

As money incomes fall your task becomes more difficult. So the poorer you are the cleverer you are expected to be, if you are a woman keeping house.

If you are fairly successful in your struggle against poverty you will receive high praise for knowing how to make one shilling do the work of two.

And that's about all you will get—except a rise of prices!

Minnie Pallister writes in the *Daily Mirror* about a poor woman in Sussex, a gardener's wife, who has to keep a family of seven children on less than eighteen shillings a week for food.

She says this woman gives her an inferiority complex.

That's the sort of thing that makes me see red.

Of course the woman is wonderful. Her husband and children will rise up and call her blessed.

It is shame and anger we should feel that any woman should, in this age of plenty, be condemned to waste her youth and beauty, leisure and health in a struggle in which, at the best, she cannot hope to be very successful.

If we gave the chimpanzees at the Zoo a diet like that eaten by these poor children, the R.S.P.C.A. would have something to say about it.

I appeal to you women with more leisure and opportunities. When will you enter the battle on behalf of these unfortunate ones?

For they cannot help themselves until we show them the way.

The precious report says that these poor people are full of natural, although often exasperating, human failings.

"They are intensely conservative at heart where food is concerned.

"They are hide-bound by tradition, full of prejudices and a curious false pride which often prevents them from purchasing excellent foodstuffs like skim-milk, either because they imagine it to have no food value, or else because they are afraid that their neighbours will despise them."

Perhaps they don't like skim-milk.

If we lived in an age of scarcity, so that there was not enough milk to go round, it might be the Professor's duty to share and share alike with the poor, even to the point of sacrificing his own pride in keeping up appearances.

In this age of plenty everyone could have plenty without hurt to the professor—yet he takes it upon himself to write about what the poor ought to do.

These two experts blame those with limited incomes for satisfying their appetites with cheap articles of diet so that they can have some free cash for the cinema or for putting on a horse.

Now the writers of this report are educated people. It is presumed they enjoy some sort of recreation, probably the drama, a symphony concert, or a game of bridge.

But because those not fortunate enough to share these tastes prefer the cinema or horse-racing, it is suggested that they should sacrifice their small pleasures and spend the extra pence on eking out their pitiful diet.

Where the economic system and human nature seem incompatible, try changing human nature.

That is the system on which a good many experts try to work. When will they learn that it can't be done?

Housewives, demand your share of the food that is being destroyed and restricted.

Demand your birthright, your National Dividend, both for your own sake, and the sake of the children who will come after you.

The experts will never get it for you on their own initiative.

They think every moment is wasted in which they are not being expert—even about what you want!

PRESS CLIPPINGS

for a
Social Crediter's
Notebook

The Secretary of State for Scotland reports that the number of families living in [legally] overcrowded houses is 287,272, and the number of new houses needed is 161,045. Of the overcrowded houses, 35,251 are owned by local authorities themselves.—"*Glasgow Herald*," January 20, 1937.

A Crewe family of four have £1 os. 8d. weekly to eke out on food, light and clothing. Father, on sick list, receives half benefit—9s. 6d.; P.A.C. contribute 20s., and mother earns 2s. 6d. for one day's washing. Grand total, £1 12s. 0d. Rent and arrears—7s. 6d., coal 3s. 10d.—"*Daily Herald*," January 22, 1937.

Dr. Temple, Archbishop of York, stated that he was once advised to provide cheap meals for university students, "as the intellectual work of students in the non-resident universities was gravely damaged by their malnutrition." "This points," he continued, "to a fearful waste of native faculty in our country as a whole."—"*The Times*," January 20, 1937.

Twelve-year-old Ada Goodchild, of Harmondsworth, Middlesex, is mothering a family of nine, on £1 16s. 0d. a week, and, in addition, nursing her mother, who is ill in bed. They cannot afford to have a doctor.—"*Daily Mirror*," January 25, 1937.

Oldham Master Spinners' Association state in their annual report that nearly 7,000,000 spindles have gone out of existence in the Oldham district alone since 1926. This means 20,000 operatives, earning £1,750,000 yearly, have lost work, and 100,000 Lancashire looms have been without material.—"*Daily Express*," January 23, 1937.

During the last quarter of 1936, the Minister of Health sanctioned the borrowing by local authorities of £19,863,788 for capital expenditure on municipal services, £2,000,000 more than in 1935.—"*Liverpool Daily Post*," January 25, 1937.

Fleetwood Fishing Vessel Owners' Association is pressing the Government to restrict the supply of cheap fish at East Coast ports, notably Hull, as the Fleetwood industry is in danger of extinction.—"*News Chronicle*," January 26, 1937.

Seventeen-year-old John Merry, of Clapton, got a job two weeks ago, only to be told there was nothing further for him to do. Unwilling to go home to tell his mother, he started walking, and trudged 25 miles to Harlow, Essex, where he collapsed, unconscious.—"*Daily Mirror*," January 26, 1937.

The Welsh Memorial Association, after 25 years, has failed in its fight against tuberculosis, whilst England, spending far less, has achieved better results. Proposed schemes costing £478,000 in the next five years were referred back, with the suggestion that the cost be reduced to half that amount.—"*Daily Herald*," January 30, 1937.

ANY WOMAN—will ask these questions

Why can't we afford more than one child?

Why is everything so dear?

Why do we have to work so hard and get so little for it?

READ WOMEN & POVERTY

by Jean Campbell Willett, L.L.A., F.R.G.S.

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IT TELLS YOU WHY AND HOW IT COULD ALL BE AVOIDED AND STOPPED

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SWEDISH UTOPIA! WAGE-EARNERS LIVING IN 32s.-A-WEEK POVERTY

Overseas Fund

THE Overseas Fund announced in SOCIAL CREDIT for December 4, remains open for subscriptions from those who are already giving support to their national movement, and can afford to make additional donations to help activities abroad.

Donations to the fund will be welcomed by the Treasurer. Transfers overseas will be made at the discretion of the Chairman, but subscribers are invited to allocate their subscriptions for use in a particular country if they wish to do so; in this case, if they are not so used, they will be repaid.

Overseas activities are expanding constantly. A breach in the "Hindenburg" line of finance—the false, so-called democracy, imposed from above—can be made. Your subscription to the Fund may, by helping to establish real democracy in one country, make such a gap in the enemy's line as to make certain the eventual victory of the sovereign people the world over.

The opportunity to help such an historic victory is yours, if you have the means to take advantage of it. Tomorrow may be too late.

BONDS OF EMPIRE!

"BRITONS never shall be slaves"; but they always will be debtors until they decide otherwise and enforce their will on their governments.

For example, each little Briton born in South Africa, finds his or her share of national debt amounts to £124 16s. 4d., on which he or she has to pay £5 14s. each year in interest. Corresponding figures for the other British (should it not be bankers?) Dominions are:—

		Yearly interest
Australia	£184 2s. 6d.	£6 13s. 10d.
Canada	£55 4s. 10d.	£2 10s. 0d.
New Zealand	£116 19s. 8d.	£6 12s. 9d.

Costs of the Depression

THE economic depression cost the world between £20,000,000,000 and £21,000,000,000, according to a study, "The Social Consequences of the Depression," published by the International Labour Office last week.

"A fateful figure, equal to the total cost of the Great War," observes the author, Prof. Woytinsky.

He reaches the conclusion that in industrial countries a relatively high standard of living continued, despite the progressive extension of unemployment.

Agricultural countries, however, were reduced to extreme poverty, although the volume of production was maintained and exports increased.

The Remaining Problem

"A new plan to reorganise the economy of Spain is being considered. . . . The many rivers and streams of Spain could produce more energy than any other river-system in Western Europe; they offer vast possibilities of irrigation. There remains the problem of financing these projects."—"The Economist," February 6, 1937. (Our italics.)

Money is only tickets, and therefore anything that is desirable and physically possible should be financially possible.

THE ALBERTA EXPERIMENT

An Interim Survey
By Major C. H. Douglas
Will be published in March by Eyre and Spottiswoode. The first chapters of this book on this most stirring and momentous piece of current history will appear in the next issue (March) of THE FIG TREE

Overcrowding Worse Than In Britain

SWEDEN'S Labour Government shows signs of an unhealthy interest in the possibility of forcing the banks to enable the people to buy all they can produce or import. Sweden's Labour Government, therefore, seems due for removal.

For several years now Sweden has been held up to critics, ourselves and others, as a wonderful example of the prosperity that can be achieved under the present monetary system.

Major Douglas pointed out at the Westminster Meeting nearly twelve months ago—"Sweden produces nearly three times as much as she actually consumes, but owing to vagaries of exchange she is able to export the remaining two-thirds.

"She has to take nearly three times as much trouble as is really necessary in order to make the monetary system work."

Latest reports from Sweden show that despite the amount of trouble taken, the prosperity achieved is rather like the curate's egg.

Furthermore, as reported in SOCIAL CREDIT (January 22), taxation is to be increased to prevent it deteriorating into an "uncontrollable boom."

Pricking the Balloon

For some reason, known only to such people as Montagu Norman and the Archbishop of Canterbury, *The Times* has now pricked the balloon of Sweden's reputed prosperity.

Be the explanation what it may, none who read the report of *The Times*' Stockholm correspondent, published on Saturday, can any longer regard Sweden as an example for emulation.

Cause of Falling Birth-Rate

The Swedish Government, alarmed by the falling birth-rate, appointed a committee of investigation last year. The committee has now reported. Says *The Times* correspondent:

"The committee emphasises that the 'population question' is intimately bound up with the 'condition-of-the-people question,' and that there is little hope of raising the birth-rate unless the average citizen is given better social conditions and greater economic security.

"Overcrowding in many Swedish towns and in most rural communities is worse than in Britain. Swedish architects and builders have

produced a standardised tenement of 'one room and kitchen.'

"More than 40 per cent. of all Swedish urban families with more than three children and more than half of all working class families with more than three children live in tenements of this type.

"The committee concludes that such improvement in the housing of the Swedish working classes as has taken place in the past two or three decades has been due not so much to the provision of better houses or tenements as to the birth of fewer children."

Less Than £1 a Week

The average income of each Swedish wage-earner is L85 a year. Yet between two-thirds and three-quarters of all Swedish wage-earners of 15 years and over earn less than this and more than half earn less than L50.

More than one-fifth of all Swedish families have a combined income of less than L50.

The poorer urban families with more than three children use only about 15lb. of butter a head a year, while families on the same income level with fewer or no children consume about 30lb. each.

The same trend is apparent in the consumption of milk, eggs, fresh vegetables, and fruit. This leads to the inescapable conclusion that under-nourishment is prevalent and increases with the size of the family.

If the consumption of these primary foods among families with three children or more were brought up to the average standard, the demand for Swedish agricultural produce would rise by at least L5,000,000 a year.

Great advances have been made in some directions, but in others conditions have remained so bad that effective birth-control is now the only way whereby the poorer classes can protect themselves against being completely submerged.

So even Sweden, favoured by a booming export trade, which expands with the ever-increasing demand for the raw materials for armaments, is not happy. M.W.

FRANCE HEADING FOR NEW CRISIS

People Will Suffer More: Still Ruled By The Bank

"THIS Popular Front experiment may end in a dictatorship of the right or left, for its failure, and it will fail, may well be intended to discredit democratic government in preparation for that bloody denouement." M. Blum, the French Prime Minister, himself said that.

"If the currency had been devalued in 1935 there would not have been any Popular Front Government in 1936. The Banque [de France] refused to devalue and therefore must be presumed to want a government of the left and whatever aftermath it produces." Again M. Blum.

"Finance not Blum Rules Finance," said SOCIAL CREDIT, October 30, 1936.

THEY DID NOT KNOW

The experiment already shows signs of failing. The Popular Front was elected on a technical programme, the implications of which could not possibly be understood by the majority of electors.

They are already suffering, and are likely to suffer still more, for voting for what they did not understand.

The French people got what they voted for—higher wages, shorter hours, nationalisation of the Banque de France, etc.—and they are getting results of which they never dreamed—soaring prices, increased debt and increased taxation.

M. BLUM APPEALS

On Saturday, M. Blum was forced to make a broadcast appeal to French civil servants not to press for increased salaries.

"I admit that your demands are justified," he said. "I know that the rise in the cost of living has put a burden upon you, and your salaries must be readjusted to the cost of living. But you surely are not ignorant of our more serious and pressing problems?"

"I do not want to exaggerate, but the Government dare not let the national deficit grow unchecked, and cannot without compromising public credit. We need this credit to meet the extraordinary expenditure upon which the Government has embarked.

"Great social reforms, introduced so rapidly, and devaluation have put industry into an unstable position, and equilibrium has not yet been achieved. A pause is necessary. I must ask you to exercise moderation and patience.

'HELP ME' CRY

"Help me to overcome the difficulties. You know, better than others, that hostile forces in the country—your enemies and ours—are only hoping and waiting for a crisis to overthrow us."

M. Blum has changed the administration of the Banque de France—it is now nationalised—but its policy remains unchanged.

The Banque still rules France and, whatever its legal status, will continue to do so until the people unite in demanding the results they want and through their elected representatives enforce their will upon it.

At the moment, apparently, the Banque wants a change of puppets. France is heading for another crisis.

Radio Priest Broadcasts Again

Father Coughlin, U.S. radio priest, has resumed his radio sermons despite his declaration that he would never broadcast again. He has contracted to give 52 Sunday broadcasts.

DEBT PROBLEMS

No Money, Would Pay With 10,000 Cabbages

THREE hundred bushels of apples or 10,000 cabbages were offered by a farmer at Canterbury County Court as payment in kind in lieu of L14 2s. 6d. quit rent arrears due to Viscountess Hawarden as lady of the manor of Wingham.

Defendant was one of four brothers named Stickells, of Great Knell Farm, near Canterbury, and he said that they objected to paying what he described as a fine levied on agriculture. He claimed that it was formerly paid in personal service or in kind.

Judge Clements told him that it was a matter for Parliament if he had a grievance.

Mr. G. M. Kingsford, for Lady Hawarden, declined the offer of apples or cabbages, expressing the opinion that they were not legal tender.

Judgment for the amount within two months was given.

Owed L1,129

A MIDDLE-AGED man appeared at Grays county court, in answer to a judgment summons for L1,129, offered to pay five shillings a month.

Judge H. Beazley.—I cannot accept that. The debt would never be paid at that rate.

The Judge made an order for L1 a month, which means that it will be 94 years before the debt is paid.

"Pay Up to Help My Wife"

"TO my debtors: please help my wife by paying up." Master builder George Thomas Chester, of Dulwich, S.E., wrote this note before committing suicide.

At the inquest last week the widow—Lily Elsie Chester—said her husband had been worried over money matters. His business itself was good, but he could not get quickly enough money that was owing to him.

William Leeke, an employee, said that all over London in the building trade it was difficult to get money in. People had jobs done and had no money to pay for them.

The Coroner.—Then they ought not to give the orders for the jobs. I suppose there is no way of making them pay except by the county court.

Chester was found hanging. Suicide while of Unsound Mind was the verdict.

If all had their National Dividend—monetary or other effective claims to such products as are now destroyed or restricted—these debt claims, and consequent crushing of one life or another, would not arise.

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does it support any particular political
party, Social Credit or otherwise.

Vol. 6. No. 2. Friday, February 19, 1937

Hard Facts

THE stench of the coming war is already upon the air. There is scarcely a soul alive who is not now aware of its measured approach.

The rising horror of those who put their trust in the League of Nations is painful to behold. Indeed the ruthlessness of the combat on both sides in Spain, coupled with the huge expenditure on instruments of long range torture upon which we and other nations are engaged, is enough to make the strongest blench.

It is not possible, humanly speaking, to withhold sympathy and pity from the dupes who have striven for the League of Nations in the mistaken idea that it embodied the lofty idealism professed by its spokesmen.

Pity, however, cannot fail to be tinged with the impatience of those of us who have for so long endeavoured to penetrate the dreamy complacency of League of Nations idealists with a few hard facts about the economic causes of war.

BRIEFLY, what we have urged upon them is the necessity to *change the policy* which

(1) enforces the restriction of the wonderful productive resources of this abundant age, destroys wanted goods and services, and even the machinery which can produce them.

(2) regards the leisure bestowed by improved productive process as a curse, and grudgingly maintains the growing army of unemployed upon a wretched pittance too small to enable them to buy what they want of the teeming production which its producers are so anxious to sell.

(3) collects that pittance by punitive taxes and so further impairs the ability of the people to engage the services of those whom they are taxed to maintain; and

(4) wages an international economic war of increasing ferocity to force exports upon foreign nations in order to make unnecessary work for the population at home.

WE have asked them to join us in demanding, *instead of this insane policy of domination* which leads inevitably to military war, a *new policy of freedom*.

Let us demand the distribution, to all, of the goods now being destroyed, the production now restricted. It can harm no one; it must not be allowed to harm anyone through taxes or high prices.

The goods await distribution, and will make a contented people who will have no cause for war, who will not listen to the drums of war.

That is what we have said, but the League of Nations idealists would not hear, and now they are afraid. And if our pity and our impatience are a little grim it is because we, too, are afraid.

ALL the greater is the call to everyone connected with our realistic and constructive proposals to play our part, and to avoid recriminations within our ranks.

The poison of party politics attacks every movement. There is a subtle invitation in the idea that any official programme must have an opposition.

To the extent that party politicians in a movement are successful they weaken it, and conversely to the extent that we refuse to be drawn into party politics we must be pursuing a right course.

The spectacle of the squabbling left parties in one recent bye-election and a squabbling right in another is a lesson for all who are capable of keeping the goal in mind, and of placing strategy, tactics, and technicalities in their right place in relation to that goal.

That goal is nothing less than the reconciliation of the individual and society.

PROFESSOR PSHAW :

Irons Out The Trade Cycle- Flattens The Suicide Curve

IT is a curious fact, as I have had occasion before now to point out, that the course of action which is economically sound is invariably the opposite to that which the ordinary ignorant layman would regard as common sense.

In fact I would advise any of my readers who are untrained in the principles of economics, but who nevertheless wish to adopt a sound attitude to life, to make use of this method when framing their opinions:

First decide what would be the attitude of the vulgar man-in-the-street to the matter in hand, then take the opposite view, and you can rest reasonably assured that this will be in accordance with the best principles of orthodox finance.

This point is well borne out by the following extract from an article by the City Editor of the *Morning Post*.

"It might fairly be said," he writes, "that 1936 was a record year in everything making for anxiety concerning the world outlook, and yet a record year in everything pertaining to recovery in home trade, employment statistics, favourable movements in securities, and general financial activity."

In the same way, although perhaps those unversed in economics might be excused for supposing that the best way to prevent a slump is to attempt, as it were, to prevent a slump; needless to say, this is, of course, quite unsound.

All our bank chairmen are agreed that what we need to do is to prevent a disastrous boom by stabilising prosperity at its present satisfactory level.

Here, I fear, I shall need to point out to some of my less intelligent readers how very satisfactory our present level of prosperity is. Of course, I am not saying that there is not even now a certain modicum of hardship among the less well-to-do—after all, we cannot have perfection in this life—but the allegations of Sir John Orr and other nutrition experts that "the cost of an adequate diet is beyond the purchasing power of one-third of the community" are gravely misleading.

As the Medical Research Council Report puts it "ignorance of how to buy, what to buy, and how to use to advantage the material bought," is chiefly responsible for inadequate diet.

What would be the use of giving away good, honest money to poor, and probably bad and dishonest, people who have never had any, and would not even know how to spend it? Obviously such people must first learn by experience how to make proper use of an adequate income before they can be trusted with it.

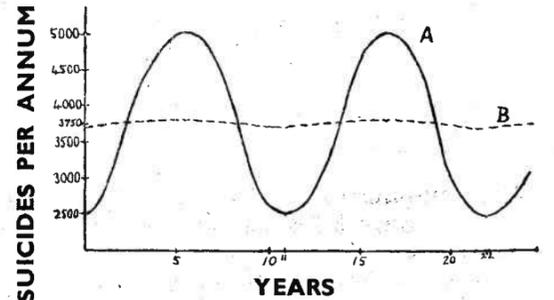
This, however, is by the way. All bankers and economists, worthy of the name, are agreed that it is not lack of money which causes distress, but the alternation of boom and slump, with its consequent uncertainty which paralyses trade and financial activity.

In the words of the City Editor of the *Daily Telegraph*:

"Our authorities are now studying the possibility of ironing out the sharp curves of boom and depression. As they survey the new weapons in their possession for achieving this great object, they should not be despondent."

Distinguished writers in the *Morning Post Annual Financial Review* show us just how the curve of business activity "may be made to resemble a long flat top followed by a mild recession line."

"Instead of depending solely on credit restriction," writes Mr. F. D'Arcy Cooper, "other steps to prevent over-expansion could be taken simultaneously, such as postponement of the less pressing public works, . . . and the maintenance or in special* cases even raising of the present high level of taxation."



A UNDESIRABLE—booms and slumps most upsetting to trade, banking, etc.
B SATISFACTORY—stabilisation promotes confidence, sound budgeting, etc.

Mr. A. W. Kiddy, in the same Review, refers to "a continuance of sound budgeting, by which I mean that, while no expense will be spared to ensure national security, there will be a recognition that the situation is one calling for economy in everything pertaining simply to outlays on social services."

I would commend this masterly definition of "sound budgeting" to readers who seriously wish to understand the mysteries of finance.

I feel sure that the advantages of stabilisation are obvious to all but the most stupid of my readers. However, for their benefit let us take as a simple example the effect upon the suicide rate, which, of course, depends largely upon the number of bankruptcies in the year.

It is obviously extremely disturbing for those who take part in business not to know approximately how many of their clients or staff will commit suicide during the year.

In slump years the number may be more than 5,000, whereas in boom years it may be only half that.

How much better for all concerned it would be if the number were stabilised at say 3,750, so that it would be taken into account by insurance companies and others when budgeting for the year!

The same would, of course, apply to bankruptcies, forgeries, thefts, nervous breakdowns, gluts of unsaleable goods, and other natural phenomena, the irregularity of which is so disturbing to the even tenour of trade and financial activity.

* Readers are reminded that in modern economic parlance the term "special" is synonymous with the more vulgar word "distressed," as in the phrase "the special areas."

★ Letters ★

British Coal Market Anomaly

LAST week you mentioned that the big British loan of £40,000,000 to be secured on the French railways would help to speed up the electrification of the railways. You point out also that the French railways were one of our biggest markets for coal.

Can it be explained why our Government allows this loan to be made to destroy a market for British coal at the same time as ex-Chancellor of the Exchequer Sir Robert Horne appeals to the Government for a subsidy to fight for export markets for coal?

I hope this anomalous state of affairs will receive wide publicity. Either Sir Robert Horne should be promptly refused his subsidy and told that it was the policy of the Government rather to subsidise the foreigner in order to destroy British markets, or—really the thing is too preposterously absurd.

What are our Parliamentary representatives doing to allow such things?

London L. E. H. SMITH

Hitler on Money

In the paragraph in *SOCIAL CREDIT* for February 12, which refers to Hitler's speech, you mention one sentence as being "seized by optimists as containing a challenge to the money power."

I consider the preceding sentence to be a more explicit claim on Hitler's part to his adoption of a goods standard. It reads as follows:—

"It is production which is the coverage of currency, not a bank or a vault full of gold."

I do not think this can be called a "trap-sentence." Its meaning is perfectly clear, though of its truth I am not in a position to judge.

Of course a goods standard is only part of the Social Credit programme, but I feel that its adoption by another nation would be a step in the right direction and an important one.

Surely it must be possible to find out what monetary system is really operating in Germany.

London, S.W.10 E. W. BERGER

[Yes, Hitler, as quoted by our correspondent, made a statement of fact. There cannot in reality be any other "coverage" than production (meaning capacity to produce and deliver to the people goods and services). Gold, etc., are merely devices for restricting production. But Hitler did not say that production was the basis of the German monetary system. The way he put it may have trapped people into believing it was so; but the monetary system operating in Germany is the universal monetary system that fails to distribute to the people their real wealth. It maintains poverty in the midst of plenty in Germany as everywhere else.—Ed.]

Religion and Poverty

MAY I correct a misstatement in my letter published last week under "Challenge to the Catholics," in which I state that my article under this same heading had "only one object"—to expose the hypocritical attitude of the Catholic Church in the pastoral letter quoted.

This article also had the object of pointing out that the Electoral Campaign supported by your paper is both a means and a challenge to the Catholics to discharge their neglected political responsibilities.

Merthyr Tydfil, JOHN MITCHELL
S. Wales

THE letter from a "Country Parson" in your issue of February 5, measures the depths of self-deception to which the Church has sunk. It should not require a layman to inform him that the state of poverty to which he refers is one that is *freely chosen*, otherwise it has no validity. Such a choice is actually denied to those who are forcibly subjected to a state of artificial poverty and destitution. It is true that man cannot live by bread alone, but such spiritual understanding is only possible to one who has sufficient bread, and is unrealisable by those faced by the starvation or undernourishment of themselves and those who belong to them.

To conclude, I would remind your correspondent that the one qualification entitling certain nations to be placed on the right hand of the King when called to judgment was: "I was an hungered and ye gave me to eat, naked and ye clothed me." Social Credit would abolish poverty, and thus feed the hungry and clothe the naked. One asks, therefore, where a Church which repudiated it in the name of Christianity would stand if called upon such a judgment bar today.

B. C. BEST

BIRTHRATE PROBLEM

Politicians And Economists Puzzled

YET IT IS SO EASY

THE population of Britain will drop to 20,000,000 in 100 years, and only 5,000,000 in 200 years, so scientists have been telling us.

Now Sir William Beveridge, director of the London School of Economics, tells the Sheffield Luncheon Club on February 11: The population some years from now will begin to fall by a quarter in each generation, and will inevitably become extinct.

A private member's motion to demand a Government inquiry into population problems was debated in Parliament the same day. The mover, Mr. J. R. H. Cartland, made this remarkable prophecy for 20 years ahead:

A lower standard of living, unemployment still at its present proportion, an acute shortage of skilled labour, a housing slump—only 4,500 houses a year required instead of the present 1,000,000.

Many redundant schools, a collapse of mass-production in industry, many more institutions for the care of the aged and a greater burden of pensions, and emigration to the Dominions from Asiatic and European nations instead of from this country.

Education Snobbery

The lower standard of living would be based perhaps on the well-known phenomenon that if there are too many houses, too many factories, too many workers, too much of everything, then there is a lower standard of living.

Many people believe that poverty in the midst of plenty is due to there being too many people. With fewer people Mr. Cartland, M.P., thinks it will be worse.

Some Members of Parliament thought that lack of money was the cause of people having fewer children, others, however, thought that lack of money made people have more children.

If the latter are right the Government has the matter well in hand—heavier taxation is coming in April.

One member thought that "education snobbery" was inducing people to have smaller families in order to be able to pay for education other than at a State school! He suggested making attendance at State schools compulsory for rich and poor alike. He also believed in higher family allowances, and proposed to tax bachelors to pay for them.

Potential Mothers

It is not as simple as all that, however, according to Sir William Beveridge—the future of any population depends not on the balance of births and deaths, but on what is happening to potential mothers.

"Boy babies matter very little. Only the girls count.

"Nothing much can be done to check the fall of population by saving the lives of women," he says. "So few girl babies die before reaching the age of 50.

"Nor can anything appreciable be done to check the fall by increasing marriage. As it is, most women marry.

"Through changes in mortality or marriage, the threatened decline of population in England can be slowed down a little, but it cannot be prevented altogether.

The Only Way

"The only way of stopping it—and some time or other we must stop it—will be to increase the readiness of parents to have children.

"A second reason for small families is the cost of rearing children. The question of family allowances will, before long, be in the centre of all discussions of social policy."

At the London School of Economics family allowances are already paid to employees.

Ready-Aye-Ready

To increase the readiness of parents to have children—that is a clearer statement of a sensible objective than usually emanates from the London School of Economics.

What is it then that makes people unready to have children?

First and foremost, a reluctance to let loose another unhappy human into the grim struggle that life has become. Second, a fear of the financial burden that a child, and particularly a family, will represent. The cost of education. The sacrifice of luxuries and of freedom. The doctor's bills.

None of these things arise if you have money. Education, nursing, doctors' bills, luxury, travel, freedom, security are possible in this world of abundance.

Let people have the things they fear to lose through children and they will have children readily enough.

WHAT IT COSTS TO HAVE A BABY

THIS is what it costs to have a baby. Expenditure detailed is minimum necessary to ensure reasonable comfort to the middle-class mother and child.

Nursing home (2 weeks)	L7 7 0
Doctor	L5 5 0
Pram	L9 9 0
Scales (hire for 5 months)	L1 0 0
Cradle	13 0
Incidentals (bottle, teats, soap, powder, etc.)	L1 0 0
Furnishing cot, pram ...	L2 0 0
	<hr/>
	L26 14 0

(Maternity allowance under State Insurance is L2 to wife; L2 6s. to husband—if eligible).

Addition to weekly expenditure—

Milk (Grade A)	3 0
Nursemaid (or domestic help)	L1 0 0
Maid's keep	15 0
	<hr/>
	L1 18 0

N.B.—A baby might cost far less—but at the expense of mother's health, its own health. Many people may say they cannot afford the cost given; they miss the point. The best of everything should be available to mother and child. Look at the list of necessities again: those who supply them know there is plenty. They want to supply them in abundance.

SAVAGE

"We inflict the savage sentence of three years' penal servitude on anyone who issues four 'bad' half-crowns, but we allow the banker to create and to destroy hundreds of thousands of pounds every day, wielding thereby more and more control over the lives and destinies of his fellow-citizens."—*Extract from a speech by Mr. T. Kennedy to the Dublin Rotary Club on February 1,*

Ploughed Under

A telephone wire that can be buried underground in rural circuits has been developed by the Bell Telephone Laboratories. A special plough digs the trench, "plants" the wire, covers it up. A bad-tasting rubber coating protects the wire from rodents.

M.P.s, Further Robbed of Power, Stay Away

ATTEENDANCES at Parliament have never before been so poor as in recent weeks. In ten of last week's eleven divisions the total votes represented less than half the membership of the House.

Chief reason, say political observers, is that back benchers have been robbed of having their say. Chairmen of Committees may now select and reject, as they please, amendments tabled for hearing, so an active and conscientious opponent to any Bill can now be silenced, by the Government.

This custom has thus established a practice of restricting speakers to official party spokesmen. The system of government by a front bench caucus becomes more firmly entrenched with a mere sham opposition to give verisimilitude to a sham fight over measures already privately agreed in conference between Government and Opposition chiefs.

Belloc was right. Final instalment of his book appears on Page 7. Read it; make your Member of Parliament your servant. Make Parliament effective, not a farce. Electoral Campaign form (Page 8) tells you how.

1,500 In One Court For Rate Debts

FIFTEEN hundred people were summoned to appear before the Ilford magistrates on Tuesday for non-payment of rates. Their arrears amount to thousands of pounds.

They include shopkeepers, householders, tenants, people buying their own houses, and unemployed men. Among the defaulters will be a large number of tenants who pay inclusive rent, and whose landlords refuse to pay the rates, knowing that under a 300-year-old law their tenants only can be summoned.

Usually the tenant pays up, but one man, who was summoned on a previous occasion, allowed himself to be committed to prison in the belief that when he comes out, he can sue his landlord for wrongful imprisonment and damages.

An official of Ilford Borough Council said in an interview: "Many people in this district have mortgages on their houses, and unfortunately leave themselves only a small margin of capital.

"Soon they find themselves in trouble, particularly with their rates. We have four rate collectors for Ilford, and summonses are never issued unless we know that the defaulters can pay.

"Last year 200 people were told that they would be sent to prison within a short time if they failed to pay their rates. The rates were paid in every case except two."

Engine in Knapsack

A one-horse-power gasoline engine, strapped to the back like a knapsack, is helping German farm-hands. A flexible drive-shaft operates cultivators and hedge-cutters, enabling one man to do the work of four.

Read

G.K.'s WEEKLY
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"The Restoration of Property," by Hilaire Belloc, is now on sale. The book is a new study of the problems affecting ownership in this country. The price is 1s. (postage 2d.). Orders should be sent to the Manager.

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 MR. JOHNSON, 12 Hawthorne Rd., Stockton-on-Tees.
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1936 14 h.p. 6-light Saloon, Black, Brown, trimming, £225.	1935 12 h.p. 6-light Saloon, Maroon, Maroon, trimming, £175.
1936 14 h.p. Sports Saloon, Black, Brown, trimming. Also two similar cars, Grey, Blue trimming, and Blue, Blue, trimming, £235.	1935 12 h.p. Speed Saloon, Sports, Black, Brown trimming, £195.
1936 12 h.p. 6-light Saloon, Green, Green, trimming. Also similar car, Grey, Blue trimming, £215.	1935 10 h.p. 6-light Saloon, Maroon, Maroon, trimming, £155.
1936 10 h.p. 6-light Saloon, Green, Green, trimming, £185.	1934 14 h.p. Sports Coupe, Green, Green, trimming, £115.
1935 14 h.p. Sports Saloon, Black, Brown, trimming, £185.	1934 14 h.p. 6-light Saloon, Green, Green, trimming, £115.
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Think It Over

TAXATION cannot be justified in a modern state

THERE could be only one fundamental justification for taxation, and that would be that, with the whole of a community in maximum employment, not enough was being produced to maintain the total population by reason of the excessive consumption of a small proportion of the population.

In fact, the whole theory of taxation as a justifiable expedient rests upon two propositions: first that the poor are poor because the rich are rich, and therefore that the poor would become richer by making the rich poorer; and secondly, that it is a justifiable procedure to have a system of accumulating riches, and to recognise that this system is legitimate while, at the same time, confiscating an arbitrary portion of the accumulated riches. The latter proposition is very much the same thing as saying that the object of a game of cricket is to make runs, but if you make more than a small number they will be taken off you.

—C. H. Douglas at Belfast,
November 24, 1936

Will advertisers please note that the latest time for accepting copy for this column is 12 noon Monday for Friday's issue.

Announcements & Meetings

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

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

Liverpool Social Credit Association. A public meeting will be held in the Sandon Music Room, Bluecoat Chambers, School Lane, Liverpool, at 8 p.m. on Thursday, March 4. Mr. J. M. Brummitt will give an address on "Current Events." Admission free. Enquiries to Hon. Secretary, Miss D. M. Roberts, Fern Lee, Halewood Road, Gateacre.

Northampton. Anyone in town or surrounding districts interested in the active side of Social Credit, please communicate with the local Secretary, 14, Victoria Road, Northampton, or 163A, Strand, London, W.C.2.

National Dividend Club. Electoral Campaign. Enquiries are invited and should be addressed to the Honorary Secretary: Capt. T. H. Story, 28, Ashburnham Gardens, Upminster, Essex. At all meetings time is set aside for comments, discussion, questions and answers, for our mutual assistance in the Campaign. Whether yet members or not, all are welcomed.

Poole and Parkstone Group. Every Tuesday, 7 p.m., The Studio, Hermitage Road, Parkstone. Inquirers welcome.

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What is it all about—this Social Credit? Leaflet entitled "Ask and It Shall Be Given You" explains briefly yet pithily. It is available at 4d. a dozen (or 2s. for 100; 8s. for 500; 15s. for 1,000) post free from SOCIAL CREDIT, 163A, Strand, London, W.C.2.

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THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS

"For Financiers . . . Some Central Seat of Control"

PRIOR to the League of Nations, the stronger peoples of the world had to some extent controlled their own destinies and followed their own policies. To the great financiers, owing allegiance to no nation and with but one end in view—the enslavement of the world for their own material satisfaction—such a state of things must have occasionally hindered their schemes and interfered with their organisation.

From their point of view, what was needed was the opportunity of drawing the threads together, some central seat of control where the nations of the world, both great and small, would unite to discuss their affairs and by this centralisation simplify the lines of communication for Finance.

A "League of Nations" was the very thing, and one situated at Geneva was as beautifully placed in the heart of Europe as could be desired. From Basle, just over the way, the central office of the Bank of International Settlements could conveniently keep its finger on the patient's pulse, and whenever needed, supply whatever drugs served its purpose.

THE apparent spirit of idealism attached to the idea, the very Christian-like sound of the name League of Nations would draw adherents to it from all ends of the earth.

Who would dream that there was anything sinister hiding behind this great conception?

President Wilson was chosen as the instrument to achieve the financiers' ends, and pressure was brought to bear on him whereby he agreed to introduce, possibly without his realising it, the most cunning and ingeniously hidden means of gaining control over the world ever devised.

Meantime another drawing of threads was proceeding.

Independent banks had to be united under the control of the International Bank at Basle. Each nation had to have a central bank controlling the rest in the country; and this head bank had to be controlled from Basle.

This line of action was set in motion, and as a result 28 new central banks have sprung

Rights of Rate-Payers

ANY local government elector may inspect and take extracts from the books, accounts, and documents of Parish Meetings, Parish Councils, and Rural District Councils, at all reasonable times, without payment. Urban District Council accounts are to be open to inspection during the audit.

A local government elector may inspect the minutes of his Council and orders for the payment of money, and may take extracts from them.

Ratepayers may also inspect the abstract of the treasurer's accounts and may obtain copies at a reasonable price.

ANY ratepayer or his agent may inspect and take copies of or extracts from any rate book, draft list, valuation list, notice of objection, proposal for amendment, notice of appeal, record of totals, or a valuation made by a valuer appointed by an assessment committee, and the minutes of the proceedings of any assessment committee or rating authority, without payment.

Where the document is more than ten years old, a payment must be made. The returns sent in by ratepayers are not open to inspection. This right applies not only to the area in which the ratepayer is domiciled or is a ratepayer, but anywhere in the country.

—From "Outlines of Local Government" by
John J. Clarke. Pitman.

up since the Great War. These banks control their governments by controlling the treasuries from which governments must borrow.

By means of manipulation of currencies, the Bank of International Settlements can produce havoc in any part of the world at a moment's notice, and by this means frighten peoples and governments into obedience.

Without money no nation, any more than any man, can live. The financiers, by their system of "sound finance," have seen to that. This system based on debt was slowly but surely bringing the world into their hands.

ALL seemed to be well with them but for one thing. As a result of their system, unemployment could be eased only by the various governments of the world through the creation of public-works, among them colossal war machines.

These instruments of destruction would eventually have to be used, and war, which at one time had been part of the financiers' game, often engineered by them, now by its enormously increased deadliness threatened to sweep aside civilisation, and along with it the very thing upon which they with their system batted!

Major conflicts then must be ended. What better than that the League of Nations should produce this result by means of a series of disarmament conferences. Two birds could thus be killed with one stone, a disastrous conflagration would be avoided, and the way opened up for the policing of the world by one army, a League of Nations army carefully composed of a medley of various races.

This army, with no nation possessing any means of defence against it would be the ultimate sanction that from Basle could be used to control the nations of the earth.

WITH the passing of the years, however, the ever-increasing ingenuity of mechanical means of production has swollen dangerously the ranks of the unemployed, and the fight for exports has kept pace with the machine so that the nations of the world, avid for markets, have again begun to arm more intensely and more heavily than ever before.

The League has been discredited and the financiers seem here to have lost ground. In so far as their control of the monies of the world is concerned, however, they have gained, and with the march of Fascism, financed by them, they have struck a decisive blow to several democracies.

Even in England, by means of Marketing Boards and other forms of centralised control, they have managed to impose a subtle and hidden form of dictatorship which is steadily increasing.

But through the very harshness of their system the wings of war loom ever more threateningly over the world, quickened by the very dictatorships they have themselves fostered!

WILL they be unable to stem the tide? Will civilisation be lost in consequence, taking with it all for which they have sold their souls?

Or will the remaining democracies, arise out of their long hypnotic trance and by the united Will of the people demand the abolition of poverty and so break the shackles of "sound finance"?

The time is short, and the schoolbooks of the next generation, if there be one, will contain the answer.

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The Kingdom Of God Is Within You

WITHIN yourself are depths of human kindness and goodness. These are the very essence of humanity. With them you carry the responsibility—the opportunity—to use them to the full. And within yourself, too often strangled down to impotence, lies the power to exercise these gifts.

Which is to say: "The Kingdom of God is within you."

This is the firm foundation on which is based our "social" credit; we go so far as to say that the future of the race is dependent on the revival and effective use of human personality. If it were true that cruelty, meanness, selfishness, were the real substance of humanity, then we should be in fact anti-social; society would fly apart; mankind be doomed to self-destruction; and social credit never could exist.

But it is in the nature of trees to grow straight and shapely; and just so it is the nature of man to be human and not inhuman.

Why, then, does not this natural decency of men and women prevail to end unnecessary misery, to bring what is so obviously possible, security in what we have, and a more abundant life for all?

It is because the frame in which we work is warped and twisted. Our conditions are out of accord with our wishes and our needs. We are, in fact, losing control over our own destinies, over our own institutions.

The Sabbath was made for man, not man for the Sabbath; and so it is with our institutions. They exist to serve us—not we for their service.

Therefore it is for men and women to assert their sovereign will; to proclaim the aim, the policy, to which all institutions must conform, demanding that which we all want first; that poverty, which cripples and restricts our proper quality, be swept away.

So shall we gain such unity as will drive all before it—as will open the gates of a new age of freedom in security for all. So shall we gain the unrestricted use of our "social credit," and, by the free growth of that true humanity which lies within us, attain—at last—the Kingdom of God.

Members of the Churches, TOC H., The Christian Student Movement, and other Christian organisations, are asked to write, X.R., Social Credit Secretariat, 163A Strand, W.C.2.

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Concluding THE PARTY SYSTEM

"An Alert Democracy Can Knock The Bottom Out of The Party System By Refusing To Elect Party Hacks"

TELL YOUR M.P.:

BEND TO THE POPULAR WILL—OR GO

THE practical basis upon which reform must build, if the strength of the nation is to be maintained on its political side, is the basis of public utility.

Both within and without these islands there are tasks set for modern Britain which the Party System is wholly unable to accomplish. It cannot save the mass of the people from an increasing insecurity in their earnings, and economic conditions increasingly intolerable.

The Party System is beginning to make a dangerous fool of itself, alternately denying its own existence, and then, through some panicky move of its tawdry game, seriously weakening Britain in one or other department of her foreign or colonial policy.

Even when a social reform is in the right direction, its pace is as a pace of one mile an hour where the rate of growth of the evil is twenty miles an hour; either a social reform produced by the politicians is quite off the point (and this is the case nine times out of ten), or it is negligibly small, or it is hopelessly tardy, and comes too late, with a rush, and is not thought out at all.

In both fields, foreign and domestic, the Party System must be superseded, or we shall drop behind our rivals.

THAT is the practical need to which we must appeal; and of the many fractions of the community to which we can appeal the two most important are the inarticulate and despairing mass which has hitherto never considered the governance of England as in any way concerning it, and the youth which is still deceived (though less and less deceived with every day) by the pretence of the professional politicians.

Motive power, however, will be lacking to any reform, unless men can be convinced that the failure of Parliament has led not only or merely to hypocrisy and a contemptible corruption, the degradation of public life and of public office, but also to real and tangible national peril.

It would seem that changes in political machinery will prove either impossible or ineffective, unless the people can be awakened to political consciousness and to a resolution to make their will prevail.

An alert democracy, even with unchanged machinery, could knock the bottom out of the Party System tomorrow by refusing to elect party hacks and by sending to Parliament men fully deter-

mined to make an end of the corruption and unreality of our politics.

In proportion as the mass of men understand the nature of the present system, and resolve to replace it by a better, the Party System will become more and more difficult to work.

The political education of the democracy is therefore the first step towards a reform.

THE first need is exposure. To tell a particular truth with regard to a particular piece of corruption is, of course, dangerous in the extreme; the rash man who might be tempted to employ this weapon would find himself bankrupted or in prison, and probably both.

But the general nature of the unpleasant thing can be drilled into the public by books, articles, and speeches. True, the Press will do its utmost to prevent the dissemination of the truth with regard to public life; for the Press is one of the chief accomplices in this side of the national decline.

But it is an error to imagine that publicity, because it is at first restricted, will be ineffectual.

So suspicious is an increasing section of the public growing of the whole political scheme, and of the printed support of it, that the continued exposure of the evil, even if it be undertaken by comparatively few men, has a wide effect.

It may have for its organs of expression only a few and ill-capitalised papers; but one man speaks to another, and truth has this particular quality about it, that when it has been so much suggested, it is of its own self and by example tends to turn that suggestion into a conviction.

You say to some worthy provincial, "English Prime Ministers sell peerages and places on the Front Bench."

He is startled, and he disbelieves you; but when a few days afterwards he reads in his newspaper of how some howling nonentity has just been made a peer, or a member of the Government, the incredible sentence he has heard recurs to him.

When in the course of the next twelve months five or six other nonentities have enjoyed this sort of promotion (one of whom perhaps he may know from other sources than the Press to be a wealthy man who uses his wealth in bribery), his doubt grows into conviction.

That is the way truth spreads.

THE truth, when it is spoken for some useful purpose, must necessarily seem obscure, extravagant or merely false; for, were it of common knowledge, it would not be worth expressing.

And truth being fact, and therefore hard, must irritate and wound; but it has that power of growth and creation peculiar to itself which always makes it worth the telling.

Again, exposure (within the limits which the machine is compelled to allow—and the machine is not without its power over the judiciary) works in a manner less just, but still of some value; it works by ridicule.

Men love to laugh, and if you can present

your liar, your coward, your place-hunter, your hypocrite, not as a hypocrite, place-hunter, coward, and liar, but as a buffoon, though the action may be unjust, you have not done wholly ill. As a buffoon he is well advertised; once advertised, a discovery of all that he really is will follow.

The Party System is not principally, though it is largely, a piece of buffoonery; principally it is hypocritical; it reposes upon falsehood; it has for its main instruments avarice and fear.

26 Years Ago

THIS damning indictment of the fraudulent device, the Party System, by Hilaire Belloc and Cecil Chesterton, was published in 1911.

This, the concluding instalment, will be of exceptional interest to our readers as a forecast of one of the most important ingredients in our own Electoral Campaign. The authors, however, laboured under the handicap of the idea that a vote confers upon a Member of Parliament competence to decide upon technical matters, instead of conferring on him plenary powers to demand results from experts, so long as they are the results desired by his constituents.

In spite of this, it is a remarkable forecast of the policy of the Electoral Campaign, and, even in the incomplete form, which from our point of view would seriously detract from its success, the authors easily dispose of the stock objections which are always made to any new thing.

These things are dreadful, not ridiculous; but their ridiculous side can be happily harped upon until men attend: comprehension of the rest will follow.

FOR instance, during the late election one of the younger men who had just been put upon the Front Bench by the machine said that the "gulf" between the two Front Benches was "unbridgeable"; he said it to the mass of men much poorer than himself, whose votes make him what he is.

They had no opportunity to see behind what scenes the actor moves. He deliberately deceived them. Well, this younger man had his place from marrying a woman whose uncle had made many thousands in one half of the team; the same woman had a first cousin who had made a much larger number of thousands in the other half of the team.

One of these new-found relatives was labelled "Opposition," the other "Government," and the poor men who listened were told that there was an "unbridgeable gulf" between the one relative and the other!

It would be well if the world were such that falsehood of this sort could be burnt out. Failing that, to make it ridiculous is no small advance to its removal.

After exposure the second line of attack is the advocacy of definite reform *within the machine itself*. By which we do not mean a change in the procedure of Parliament, for, in the first place, Parliament is free to effect that whenever it chooses, and, in the second place, it is so hopelessly corrupt that it will not of itself ever effect the manifold and detailed reforms which would be necessary for its purification.

But it might be possible, by scattering and using a sufficient number of trained workers, to extract from candidates definite pledges during the electoral period, which would have an effect upon the Party System com-

parable to the introduction of wedges into the diseased fabric of an ancient tree.

It is notorious that as things now are, the pledges of a candidate are worth nothing, if only for the simple reason that no candidate has any initiative, let alone the innumerable other reasons, one of which is that very few candidates under the present system have either any intention of carrying out their pledges or take any steps towards that end.

THE principal pledge which should and could be extracted from candidates would be a pledge that they would vote against the Government — whatever its composition — unless there were carried through the House of Commons, within a set time, those measures to which they stood pledged already in their election addresses and on the platform. A schedule could easily be drawn up, within whose limits certain measures were required by the electorate to pass the House of Commons.

A supreme advantage attaches to this method, and a grave weakness.

We will deal with the advantage first. The supreme advantage is that by this method even the professional politician cannot wriggle.

Such a pledge for definite action would be efficacious — which no pledge now is. It would hold up the party boss and say, "Here are you and yours with such and such salaries. You can bend to the popular will or you can go." By such a pledge, and by such a pledge alone, could short parliaments and the withdrawal of the professionals' power to dissolve Parliament be obtained.

In a word, a rigid pledge of this sort is a real instrument of war, or, to use the more accurate metaphor, of surgery. With it one might cut out the cancer.

NOW for the weakness of the method: That weakness does not consist (as we may imagine the professional politician at once remarking) in the fact that anyone might ask for any pledge, and that a mere confusion would arise.

The people know very well what they want, and they want a very few and definite things; and it is precisely in those things, as they are wanted with each phase of the national life, that the politicians cheat and betray the people.

No, the real weakness of the proposition lies in this: that the mass of men have so despaired of the House of Commons and its methods that no sufficient organisation with this end could be constructed. What they feel is: "The old thing is fading; let it fade. The enormous effort required for making any impression on it at all is not worth while."

Well, if it so prove, if freemen will not make an effort to control representatives, then it is necessary to decide that the law-making institution of England, which has already ceased to be an instrument of Government, is done with.

For on this thing all observant men are now settled: the House of Commons in its present inaptitude, producing as "leaders" the type of men who play at the rotation of the party game, cannot deal with the vast and rapidly-changing necessities of the country at home, where men starve—or abroad, where (behind their backs) they are humbled.

The degraded Parliament may ultimately be replaced by some other organ; but no such other organ appears to be forming, and until we get our first glimpse of it we are in for one of those evil spaces, subject to foreign insult and domestic misfortune, which invariably attach to nations when, for a period, they lose grip over their own destinies.

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Professor Condemns Hypocrisy of British "Democracy"

OF every 100 of our laws 99 are illegal, and only savages are civilised, declared Professor A. Lewis, explorer, in a speech at Ruislip recently.

How many of them, he asked his audience, knew of their constitutional rights of a free citizen?

Though governments are elected by the people and given the power to make laws to govern the people, such laws to be legal in operation must be ratified by the people. Without this ratification by the people a government could be corruptly elected, and by a law could make the people slaves without any rights as free citizens.

No sane person could claim that a government elected by intrigue, forgery, falsehood, and intimidation could be a government of free people, because the very process by which such a government acquired the power makes all its acts illegal.

Free Citizenship

He showed how the Constitution had been built up from Magna Carta, the Petition of Rights, and the Bill of Rights, and proved that many Acts that were being applied at this present day were in direct variance with the meaning and intention of the British Constitution, and if the people of this country only but knew the main features of the constitution they would not stand for such laws a day longer.

The management of the citizens' affairs does not give the managers any right to interfere with the citizen's rights, and Parliament was given no power to make laws favouring one section of the people more than any other or to inflict penalties on one section to lighten the responsibilities of any other.

"To tell a man he is a free citizen when he hasn't a penny in his pocket, to tell him he can vote for whom he likes when he knows as much of politics as a devil does of heaven, to tell him he can work for whom he likes when through his forced poverty he has not the power to demand his price, is sheer hypocrisy," said Mr. Lewis.

"When the working classes know and understand what free citizenship means, then they will not be content to ask, but will demand their constitutional rights. Then, and only then, shall we have what is termed 'Democracy.'"

Professor Lewis has it nearly all correct and tabulated. All he needs to learn is that the vote has limitations which add to its power when rightly used.

When the people learn to demand results, rigidly refusing to be drawn into a discussion of methods, then they will both place the responsibility for methods where it belongs, with the experts, and be able to judge by results and only results.

WE WILL ABOLISH POVERTY

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 to United Democrats, 163A, Strand, London, W.C.2. Will you volunteer to help in the Campaign?

ELECTOR'S DEMAND AND UNDERTAKING

- I know that there are goods in plenty and therefore that poverty is quite unnecessary.
- I want, before anything else, poverty abolished.
- I demand, too, that monetary or other effective claims to such products as we now destroy or restrict shall be distributed to me and every Briton so that we can enjoy all we want of them.
- These distributions must not deprive owners of their property nor decrease its relative value, nor increase taxes or prices.
- In a democracy like Great Britain Parliament exists to make the will of the people prevail.
- So I pledge myself to vote 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.
- If the present Member of Parliament here won't undertake this, I will vote to defeat him and his successors until this, my policy, prevails.

Signed

Address

(Signatures will be treated confidentially.)

FROTTI INTERVIEWS ANOTHER BANKING CHAPPIE

(Francis J. Lewcock, banking journalist, stated in "The Times" (Feb. 10) that people are too concerned over finance.)

FROTTI. "In *The Times* of February 10, Mr. Lewcock, you said that people were too concerned over finance. Why?"

LEWCOCK. "Finance has nothing to do with slumps and booms."

FROTTI. "What? But surely?—Are you calling Mr. McKenna a liar?"

LEWCOCK. "Let us assume that there exists a period in which trade has been doing nicely."

FROTTI. "When exactly was that?"

LEWCOCK. "During this time . . . many firms . . . have made money, some of which they will have placed on one side for a rainy day."

FROTTI. "Or a sunspot . . . ?"

LEWCOCK. "After a period the heads of the firm say to themselves, . . . This can't keep on for ever. Our job is to hang on to what we've got and not try to grab the last ½d. by going on any longer."

FROTTI. "Surely they don't close down!"

LEWCOCK. "It just occurs to some of the older partners that they have seen many

ups and downs in their time Accordingly they start reducing their buying to the lowest possible dimensions, and immediately, somewhere someone is thrown out of WORK."

FROTTI. "Yes, but Mr. McKenna says . . ."

LEWCOCK. "Because Firm No. 1 slowed up through caution, Firm No. 2, from whom No. 1 got certain supplies, also slows up, and so does No. 3 and so on right down the chain, until it reaches Firm No. X.1000 or so, which is one of the firms which buys from No. 1."

FROTTI. "My hat! And then what?"

LEWCOCK. "Some bright youngster looks around and says, 'I can find a market for so and so at this ridiculous price,' and goes and finds it. . . . This starts us on the ascending spiral again."

FROTTI. "What about Public Works?"

LEWCOCK. ". . . A palliative to avoid the worst effects of a slump."

FROTTI. "Why do you think that during booms the State should restrict its spending?"

LEWCOCK. "Because people would, in the absence of high taxation, not be so prone to get rattled."

FROTTI. "But Geoffrey Crowther advocates raising taxation for rearmament during booms."

LEWCOCK. "That, however, is also a financial expedient of a kind."

FROTTI. "I should jolly well think it was! So booms and slumps are quite inevitable?"

LEWCOCK. ". Until human nature is trained (or . . . more likely, is forced) to stop getting cold feet."

FROTTI. "I beg your pardon? You advocate forcing hot feet?"

LEWCOCK. ". Proposals for offsetting this human nature are doomed to failure . . . no fiddling about with loan rates or credit margins will bring it back into the market."

FROTTI. "Then what is to be done?"

LEWCOCK. "Make people keep keeping on." (*Enter Policeman.*)

POLICEMAN. "Nah, then! Move along, there."

The Colonel Tells The Peace Pledge Union

L T.-COL. J. CREAGH SCOTT, writes in last week's *Peace News*:

" . . . It is evident that the Peace Pledge Union believes that war is only 'war' when it consists of an international mass murder competition with the latest lethal inventions of the slaughter specialists, in which case all those who yearn—as I do—for world peace would do well to examine the definition and cause of war.

"There is no difference whatsoever between military war and economic war in principle. The difference is only one of method. The former is the inevitable corollary to the latter.

"War cannot be ended by a refusal to fight. War will be ended by a refusal to accept or support the financial policy which is supported, actively or passively, by the Peace Pledge Union, by the Church, by the press, and by all political parties.

"War is an effect. International financial policy is the cause. I beseech the organisers of the campaign to pause and amend their plan of campaign with a view to mobilising the collective will of the people to demand a reform of the policy which, sooner or later (I think the time is horribly short) will send the world mad."

Anti-Gas Measures Proved Futile

GOVERNMENT anti-gas raid precautions are looking rather silly. Scientists at Cambridge have been making tests with a "gas proof" room as officially recommended.

They show that these arrangements merely present the choice of a quick death or a lingering one. (It sounds like the kind of thing we are asked to vote about at elections.)

The "gas proof" room provides no safety even if gas masks are worn! Tests were also made of the recommended procedure with incendiary bombs—it was found to be futile in every case.

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Not content with obtaining food, oils, rubber, glycerine, flour, candy, celluloid, medicine and fertiliser from the soya bean, Japan is now obtaining artificial silk from it. —"Observer," January 31, 1937.

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