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SOCIAL CREDIT

For Political and Economic Democracy

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE SOCIAL CREDIT SECRETARIAT LIMITED

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FRIDAY, APRIL 2, 1937

Weekly Twopence

SABOTAGE POLICY BRINGS FAMINE THREAT

Serious Shortage of Basic Needs

THE insane policy of sabotage by restriction and destruction pursued by the finance-governed "Governments" of the world, and more particularly of this country, is coming home to roost in famine.

Wheat famine, meat famine, vegetable famine, coal famine, famine of the basic necessities of life, food and warmth are threatened in 1938.

Few people realise yet how serious the world wheat situation is. In SOCIAL CREDIT there have been repeated warnings.

Six years ago there was more gathered-in wheat in the granaries of the world than ever in history.

Now it is all changed. Our wheat reserves are practically nil, and we are living from hand to mouth on crops of which the prospects are doubtful.

The price of wheat has gone up more than 50 per cent. in a year, and now further price increases are certain, with the possibility of a real famine—and rationing—in the background.

Deliberate Destruction

The outstanding "achievement" of the World Economic Conference was an agreement among a number of wheat-producing countries to reduce the acreage of wheat.

These efforts have been only too successful, and on June 13, 1936, *The Times* published the following statement on the course of events in Canada:

The Report of the Special Committee of the House of Commons which has been investigating wheat marketing finds after a full examination that the course taken by the new Board since its appointment last November in marketing wheat was consistent with the intention of Parliament in enacting the Wheat Board Act of 1935 and the policy of the King Government to reduce the wheat surplus to manageable proportions.

Home Farming Crisis

In this country the ferocious screw that has been put on agriculture has resulted in millions of acres of cultivable land going out of cultivation.

Now when the crisis is upon us those responsible to the people for the welfare of the country are beginning to show alarm.

It would take three years to increase the output of beef in Great Britain, two years to increase mutton, and one year to increase bacon production in a national emergency.

These calculations were given to the House of Commons last week by Minister of Agriculture Morrison.

He said that in 1935-6 we produced 893,000 tons of wheat, as against 1,139,000 tons in the last pre-war year. Potato production was slightly higher than in 1913.

Coal Crisis

SERIOUS complaints about the coal industry are contained in the annual report of the Central Electricity Board, published last week.

Here is another instance of how "rationalisation" has created a shortage of an essential product.

Electricity supply undertakings, who require some 12,000,000 tons of coal annually, are experiencing difficulty both in securing their requirements under existing contracts and in placing new contracts.

Indeed, even emergency stocks of coal have now become unduly depleted, and the board states that they "cannot but view the situation with some anxiety."

Since the coal selling schemes under the Coal Mines Act came into operation last year, the average price of coal used at the generating stations has gone up nearly 11 per cent.

GOOD FOOD MAKES WEAKLINGS FIT—IN 3 MONTHS

WEAKLINGS can be made into athletes in three months! That is not the advertised claim of a physical culture expert, it is a statement of fact, confirmed by medical reports, given in a War Office memorandum just issued. The War Office experts seem surprised that such a transformation can be effected by the simple expedient of feeding half-starved men on wholesome food instead of food fit for rats.

Half-a-dozen typical examples taken from the Supplementary Reservists at the Depot of The Royal Berkshire Regiment, Reading, show the physical improvement effected in three months in a waiter, painter, butcher, farm labourer, moulder and boxer.

Four of the men on joining were of a very low physical standard, under weight, undeveloped, possessing no knowledge of games and lacking the ability to keep themselves fit. The remaining two were of good physical standard.

Here are the details of the different cases:

Waiter, below military age for enlistment, eventually, intended to enlist.

A small, weak, undeveloped lad has in three months improved all round—notably in confidence and agility. Has worked hard and shown great keenness. In three months his weight has increased by ten pounds, his chest expansion by two inches, and his height by half an inch.

Painter, of very low physical standard on joining.

Possessing no natural ability or aptitude for physical training, lacking in confidence and very nervous, made satisfactory progress, became more confident. His three months' progress included eight pounds increase in

weight, two inches in chest, and one inch in height.

Butcher's apprentice of fair physique on joining, but undernourished.

Has made steady progress throughout training and is now a good physical specimen. His weight increased by 14 pounds, chest expansion one and a half inches, height one inch.

Farm labourer of good physique, but weak.

Very heavy on feet and below standard in agility, has made fair progress, but is not up to usual standard of man of his age and weight. His weight increased by 19 pounds, chest expansion two inches, and height a quarter of an inch.

The boxer and the moulder were both in much better trim than the others on joining, but they also showed great improvement.

All six took about a second off their time for the 100 yards, added from one inch to a foot in the high jump and long jump, and from two to three feet in putting the 16 lb. shot.

ABUNDANCE

A CORRESPONDENT in Paris reports that his Group has arranged for a stand at the forthcoming International Exhibition. This stand is to be dedicated to "Abundance," and the Secretariat has been invited to provide matter for exhibition illustrating the facts of abundance, and/or its destruction.

Readers having photographs or other material which they think would be suitable for exhibition are invited to send them in to the Secretariat marked "Paris Exhibition."

YOU AND THE BUDGET

DISCREET instructions have gone out to tax collectors telling them not to push too hard this year—not to drag in the last penny.

The Chancellor frankly does not want to build up a large surplus. If he has he will find it difficult to put across his plan for increasing taxation.

"Why," the taxpayer would ask, "should I have to pay more when there is so big a surplus to play with?"

To those, therefore, who find their tax collectors smilingly lenient this year the moral is:—

"Save up for next year, when the drive may be greater than you have ever known before!"

*

This item of news and the charming moral accompanying it is a present from the *Daily Herald*.

There is a better moral for SOCIAL CREDIT readers, who will be pleased to learn that

**SOCIAL CREDIT for
April 16
will be a Special
ANTI-TAXATION
NUMBER**

THE NASH DINNER

Speeches by the Right Hon. The Earl of Tankerville, Major C. H. Douglas, The Right Hon. Walter Nash, M.P., Finance Minister of New Zealand, are reported in the SOCIAL CREDIT Supplement. See page 8 for other contents.

Fen Farmers Revolt

FENLAND farmers are threatening legal action against the local drainage authorities following the floods scandal. In Swaffham and Bottisham Fen, one of the worst affected districts, 8,000 acres have been ruined by the floods.

The Ouse Catchment Board take the attitude, "we have done all we can."

Says Mr. H. G. Martin, vice-chairman of the Board:

"The position has been considered a number of times and we are preparing a new scheme.

"Their trouble is they have no money for the drainage of their district, which is their own affair, and they owe a great deal for loans in the past."

Heavy land farmers in the catchment area many miles from the Fens are now stating they have suffered greater loss than the Fenlanders themselves.

It was stated in the House of Commons during the debate on the Fen floods that Treasury opposition and the régime of severe economy imposed by the first National Government, had brought to nought a comprehensive scheme, the work of Dutch engineers, which would have prevented the troubles and dangers to which the inhabitants of the Fens were now exposed.

This was not denied by the Minister of Agriculture, who, however, warned the authorities concerned that "flood prevention must be given its proper position of priority."

This is the wretched, misleading financial argument that there is not enough money to go round so that financial favours must be distributed parsimoniously.

There is no physical reason why anything at all that needs to be done should not be done, from the feeding of the hungry to the control of floods. Finance today is the father of lies.

★ COMMENTARY ★

The Dauntless Dean

THE Dean of Canterbury, the Church's Grand Old Man of Social Credit, is in Spain investigating the truth of the allegations and counter-allegations of anti-religious activities there.

There is no stemming the energy of this "youngster of sixty-three," who only two years ago travelled through the flooded interior of China and reached Tibet after hair-raising adventures.

We raise our hats to him and wish him a speedy and safe return.

Acts of God?

THE threatened wheat famine after six years of frenzied attempts to restrict production has produced the following comment by the *Sunday Express*.

"Why is it all?"

"The answer to this vital question is like a tapestry of many brilliant colours, of which the subject matter embraces all the inhabited earth.

"Really, the underlying causes are almost Biblical. They are basically the same as in the days of Joseph and Pharaoh—the fat and the lean years.

"There is an age-old cycle in wheat. The cycle is seven to ten years, in which the earth goes the full turn of the wheel from fat years to lean and back again.

"Why it is we cannot say; only that it is so."

Apparently God is now to be blamed for the deliberate destruction of His bounty by Government decree.

The Dean of Canterbury had better hurry home.

Perhaps

LORD EUSTACE PERCY, ex-Minister of Education, is advocating wages according to the size of the family. "Some measure of allowance for the size of the family," he said at a meeting of the League of National Life, at Friends' House on March 15—was necessary for a sound social system.

Lord Eustace is to be congratulated for recognising the principle that individuals should count as individuals.

In the present wage-system, however, such a provision would operate either towards penalising people with few or no children, or on the contrary employers might refuse to take men with large families because of the increased cost.

Perhaps Lord Eustace will go further and advocate a National Dividend, to be issued to everyone without cost to anyone.

The Use of Force

"FORCE employed only for the maintenance of the law becomes an instrument of righteousness," says the Archbishop of York.

It all depends upon *what* law and whether the force employed is subject to the popular will. In many countries the force is very much against the popular will, and so are the laws.

The Deification of the State

CANON STORR in his book "What is the Kingdom of God?" compares this Kingdom with the Totalitarian State. He says: "The Kingdom is a society of

personalities whose service to the Kingdom is rendered spontaneously and with a glad loyalty. It grows just in proportion as more individuals enter into it, constrained thereto, not by any external compulsion, but by the voluntary surrender of themselves to its cause.

"And when they have entered the Kingdom the newly-made citizens have ample room to develop along the lines of their own individualities. There is no dragooning, no forcing into a rigid mould; there is nothing but the liberty which is the birthright of the children of God."

The question to be decided, he says, is whether civilisation is to be along these lines, or along those of the Totalitarian State, as we suggest on page 4.

Financial Propaganda

"LEAVING that aside," says the *Evening News*, "we know it to be untrue either that population begets prosperity or that prosperity begets population. Actually the opposite is true, though there is no reason why it should be."

The answer's in the affirmative.

Policy and Sanctions

THE Rev. James Colville, new President of the National Free Church Council, told the Assembly on March 16 that it was the immediate duty of the Church to "combat the newer humanism, by which God is deliberately conducted out of the world."

The Church must give more attention to strategy, learning to discover the chief objective first and then to direct against it the maximum effort.

Mr. Colville's words are sound religion and sound politics. If the Free Churches will face all the facts and act upon them as he suggests, they can bring God back into the world tomorrow.

"Women versus Men"

SPEAKING at the National Union of Townswomen's Guild on March 16, Miss Elizabeth Haldane said she thought many housewives had too little leisure. She advocated teaching husbands to do certain tasks.

Husbands, no doubt, except some few who rather like housework, will point indignantly to their own lack of leisure—and so the so-called sex-war will go on.

When husbands and wives combine to demand leisure for all, competition between the sexes will come to an end.

The Beardmore Strike

IMPORTANT Government rearmament work is held up by the strike of 1,500 engineers at Beardmore's works in Glasgow.

The men want an increase of 1d. an hour. Their work is urgently wanted by the nation, but can the nation afford to give them that extra penny? It would probably all be spent in Glasgow, and our recollection of Glasgow is that the chief trouble of the people there who have goods and services to sell is that customers have not got a few more pennies to pay.

Well, where is the difficulty?

Scandalous

THE Budapest Chamber of Commerce has protested to the Hungarian Government concerning a society of 200 small business men, professional men and skilled workers aiming to exchange goods and services without the use of money. Doctors, lawyers, boarding-house keepers and a travel agency have joined the society, which the Chamber fears will disrupt business if extended.

Grapes and Thistles

ACCORDING to *The Observer*, the resources of the Royal Institute of International Affairs are to be strengthened by a chair of International Economics.

"The man who could first understand and then demonstrate the economic processes that underline civilisation would bring us nearer to a grasp of political wisdom than has yet been attained."

Well, it's been done. Why wait?

Robot Robert

THE police are to be thoroughly mechanised, like the army. The whole of the arts and resources of science are to be brought to their aid in the grim modern business of thief-catching. Mobilised units are to tear about the country in swift cars and

motor cycles, or even in aeroplanes. It will be a sort of scientific thriller writer's dream come true.

All this, of course, is to the honour and glory of modern science and the great cause of Employment, but does it spell progress? It seems to conjure up a picture of a nation infested with desperate criminals and law-breakers. Actually, all this show of efficiency is a picture of clumsy attempts to crush by external force our natural protests against onerous internal strains.

Paying for a War

IT is surprising how many people still cling to the hope of peace because no country, they think, would be able to pay for a prolonged war.

The French paper *Le Petit Bleu* says: "It is a grave error to suppose that financial power is necessary for the preparation or even for the conduct of war. The example of Germany both before the Great War and after, and of Italy at the time of the war in Abyssinia, go to show that a nation, however poor, can always find sufficient money, expedients and resources to manufacture the arms, with the help of which it hopes, whether rightly or wrongly, to compel a conquered enemy to pay the bill."

In time of war there is an active will which the banks, the manufacturers of money, obey. Unfortunately there is not, so far, an equally active will for the provision of money in times of peace.

Humpty Dump-ty

MR. BRUCE, the Australian High Commissioner, has been saying that Export is the basis of Britain's prosperity, and a restoration of world trade one of her permanent interests. In spite of the armaments programme, we should look to our Exports.

The industrial North was founded on the era of Britain's export trade, and what has happened to it now? The old, pre-war world is in little pieces, but most of our public men spend their time dreaming of it being reconstructed just as it was twenty-five years ago.

It never will be, and the sooner we realise this the better. The old idea of selling goods abroad at low prices in order to create work at home is dying. Under post-war conditions it will never again be possible on any considerable scale.

Administrative Lawlessness

NINETEENTH CENTURY

The whole of the quotation below is from a celebrated nineteenth century book. It seems remarkably up to date, especially when compared with Lord Hewart's views which follow.

LEGISLATION since this period has followed the course I pointed out. Rapidly multiplying dictatorial measures have continually tended to restrict individual liberties, and this in two ways. Regulations have been established every year in greater number, imposing a constraint on the citizen in matters in which his acts were formerly completely free, and forcing him to accomplish acts which he was formerly at liberty to accomplish or not to accomplish at will. At the same time heavier and heavier public, and especially local, burdens have still further restricted his liberty by diminishing the portion of his profits he can spend as he chooses, and by augmenting the portion which is taken from him to be spent according to the good pleasure of the public authorities."—*Herbert Spencer*.

This progressive restriction of liberties shows itself in every country in a special shape which Herbert Spencer has not pointed out; it is that the passing of these innumerable series of legislative measures, all of them in a general way of a restrictive order, conduces necessarily to augment the number, the power, and the influence of the functionaries charged with their application. These functionaries tend in this way to become the veritable masters of civilised countries. Their power is all the greater owing to the fact that, amidst the incessant transfer of authority, the administrative caste is alone in being untouched by these changes, is alone in possessing irresponsibility, impersonality, and perpetuity. There is no more oppressive despotism than that which presents itself under this triple form.

This incessant creation of restrictive laws and regulations, surrounding the pettiest

Investment Trust Racket

THE ownership of shares in a company carries voting rights. In theory the shareholders can determine the policy of a company, enforcing it by their power of appointment of directors.

The policy of the company is then enforced by the board upon the company's servants, with the power of dismissal to enforce it.

In practice shareholders in general neglect to enforce policy, and are content to draw dividends. This leaves policy to the directors and works fairly satisfactorily, although occasionally producing awkward situations.

★

A new element, however, has entered the procedure of companies—the investment trust. These trusts purchase blocks of shares in a number of companies and sell shares in these shares to the public, deducting their own expenses and profits from the consolidated dividend.

The public thus own no shares in the companies concerned, but only a right to dividends based on units in the shares held by the trust.

Voting rights thus pass to the investment trust, which by virtue of its large holdings can control the policy of the companies, in conjunction with other investment trusts. Into this little game of financial control of industry yet a further detail has now been added.

★

Investment Trust Units, managed by the Trust of Insurance Shares Limited, has been formed to be an Investment Trust of Investment Trust Shares.

Once again the public can draw dividends on the profits of Investment Trusts, while the voting rights in these trusts are exercised by the Trust of Trusts!

This ensures that the policy of the various Investment Trusts which in turn can jointly control the underlying companies is the right policy!

★

It will be found on examination that the shares held by Investment Trusts are invariably held by trustees, which in every case is one of the joint stock banks. The trustees for the trust of trusts are Lloyds Bank.

Is not that a dainty dish to set before the Governor of the Bank of England?

THE FIG TREE

A quarterly review edited by
Major C. H. DOUGLAS

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From the Social Credit Secretariat Limited, 163a Strand, London, W.C.2

Last November, Major Douglas wrote this letter to Mr. P. H. Ashby, an Alberta Social Crediter. It is no longer private as it was published last month in the "Edmonton Journal." In it Major Douglas told—

HOW THE ALBERTA GOVT. COULD SAVE THE SITUATION

Essential Moves

MAY I first ask you to disabuse the mind of anyone in Alberta of the idea that I have any personal quarrel with Mr. Aberhart, whom I have only met twice. To be perfectly frank, I am not interested in Mr. Aberhart personally. I am merely interested in his connection with Social Credit.

It is, for instance, quite incorrect to state that only the personal influence of a member of my family induced me to meet Mr. Aberhart in the first place. The correct statement is that on the occasion referred to I was giving evidence to the previous administration of the government of Alberta, which administration Mr. Aberhart was engaged in attacking, and I regarded it as improper to approach Mr. Aberhart, but in no way improper to accept with pleasure an opportunity to meet him at his own request. This request was very sensibly made through Mrs. Grevett, and I at once extended an invitation to Mr. Aberhart to lunch with me at Calgary, which invitation, with some hesitation, he accepted.

Lunch With Aberhart

On the second occasion on which I met Mr. Aberhart, when he again lunched with me at Edmonton, I extended this invitation to him after expressing my opinion to Mr. Reid, firstly, that it would be very desirable that I should do so, and, secondly, that I was perfectly certain that the ideas which Mr. Aberhart was engaged in propagating would carry him to an electoral victory, though the technical unsoundness of his special expositions of them had several times been exposed.

Mr. Reid made no objection, and Mr. Aberhart lunched with me at the Macdonald hotel, and appeared to be immensely surprised when I informed him that he could count upon my support if he should come to power, in exactly the same way that I opposed the Reid government, which appointed me, in their endeavour to discredit the possibility of Social Credit for Alberta.

PAID OPPOSITION FARCE

THE proposal to give the leader of the Opposition in Parliament a salary of £2,000 brings into the open the sham of Oppositions, repeatedly asserted in these columns, and notably by Hilaire Belloc.

The Daily Mirror on March 24 published this leader:

What interests us above all in the revised salary list for overworked Ministers is the proposal to give £2,000 a year to a politician who isn't a Minister—the leader of the Opposition.

It seems to support Mr. Belloc's thesis that Party strife is only friendly accommodation.

Perhaps if, in an awful nightmare, Blacks came into power against Reds, the Black leader would give a nice income to the Red, who would give it back after the change-over.

Then they would all be happy, while pretending to go on hating one another like poison.

We could not state the case better ourselves.

An interesting point of procedure might well spring out of this if there were any real opposition. It would consist in voting a reduction of salary for the Leader of the Opposition.

However, this is not likely to arise. On the other hand there is Mr. Amery's suggestion that the Cabinet should be reduced to six (as in the war), in order that members should "be free of all departmental duties and able therefore to give their individual attention to major problems of policy."

In cases of dispute, of course, the Leader of the Opposition could have a casting vote!

SOCIAL CREDIT IN ALBERTA It Has Not Failed, For It Has Not Been Tried

IT is often suggested that Social Credit has failed in Alberta, but, as Major Douglas has publicly declared, Social Credit has not yet been tried there.

The people of Alberta, when they returned Mr. Aberhart to office at the last election, voted for a National Dividend which Mr. Aberhart had told them was possible. That was what the people wanted, what they still want, but they are not in the least concerned with how it shall be produced. They were convinced that it was possible, they liked the idea, no evidence has been brought forward subsequently to show that it is not possible, and in fact, they won't be happy until they get it.

It is important, however, that the people of Alberta should stick to their demand for the result they want, and that they should not be put off by excuses about the difficulty of giving it to them.

The importance of the Alberta situation is that, for the first time in history, a whole people united to demand one simple result. In making this demand, the people of Alberta specified a policy with the most convincing unanimity. This was an assertion of sovereignty, and the fact that the present Government of Alberta have made a mistake in strategy by accepting responsibility for technical matters does not wipe out the significance of this united demand.

See Also Page 5

Results, Not Details

In my opinion, the fundamental mistake which Mr. Aberhart has made from the very commencement is that his position of premier was either given or depends upon his competence as an economist. Mr. Aberhart was returned to power to produce certain results, not to lay down matters of detail.

He was specifically returned to power on the publicly expressed determination to take and follow my advice as to how those results could be obtained. To say that this undertaking excluded matters of taxation, the problem of the province's loans and debts, and legislation in regard to private debts, either suggests, which I honestly believe to be the case, that Mr. Aberhart had no conception of the problem with which he had to deal, and is, therefore, honest in saying that he did not believe that the appointment of Mr. Major made the carrying out of my contract impossible, or, alternatively, that his personal ambitions ranked much higher and to the exclusion of the carrying out of his mandate.

I prefer to believe the former of these two alternatives.

Begging Disaster

The important matter is to retrieve the situation, and I regard it as being quite essential to this end that the whole of the legislature, including the premier, whoever he may prove to be, shall regard themselves as representing the power and the will of the people of Alberta, and be determined to impose this will upon, in the first place, the financial community.

Any attempt to pursue a competition between a technically-minded legislature and a body of trained professional bankers with life-long experience and complete control of their staffs is certain to end in disaster.

Mr. Aberhart is entirely correct in stating that he is responsible to the people of Alberta, and it is also correct that this responsibility carries with it the right to choose his advisers and to dismiss them if necessary. Mr. Aberhart has chosen his advisers and the responsibility is his.

So far as I am concerned, I am at the disposal of the Alberta government under conditions which offer any reasonable prospect of success. To accept responsibility for technical advice under any other conditions would be merely to magnify the immense danger to Social Credit prestige in other parts of the world which has been inflicted by the events of the past year in Alberta.

C. H. DOUGLAS

ADMISSION BY GENEVA

A SURVEY of the world textile industry, just completed by the International Labour Office, says that the struggle for textile markets threatens labour standards the world over and world economic relations in general.

The report as a whole is directed towards the consideration of social conditions in the industry, and the extensive economic, commercial, and financial information it contains is intended to be subservient to that purpose.

Regarded as an essential unity, the textile industry is one of the most important in the world, the report meanders on.

The total number of persons "gainfully employed" in it is at least 14,000,000, if home workers and small family concerns are included. In 1930-31 the number of persons actually employed in textile establishments was about 10,000,000.

But however much subsidiary detail is overlaid by these perspiring Geneva economists they cannot escape their main conclusion—the real cause of war.

Peace Societies, L.N.U. enthusiasts and others please note—this is straight from the ostrich's mouth.

Portsmouth Protest Against Air Base Loan Plan

PORTSMOUTH ratepayers are protesting against the proposal to build an Empire air base in Langstone Harbour. The cost, they say, will have to be borne by them in higher rates.

Last week a mass meeting packed the great Central Hall, and so great was the crowd before the meeting assembled that the hall had to be opened nearly an hour before starting time.

Successive speakers attacked the City Councillors' conduct of local affairs, and won unanimous support from the meeting.

A resolution, passed without dissent, declared that the meeting "protests against increasing rates and expenditure by the Portsmouth City Council by applying for loans for capital expenditure upon such schemes as the Empire air base—a national project—and Lumps Fort development, and authorises the association (formed for the purpose) to take all lawful steps to prevent the same."

46 PER CENT. GRANT

The air base scheme is to provide an air and land aerodrome for the services of Imperial Airways. Towards the cost, estimated at nearly £1,300,000, the Government will give about 46 per cent. and an annual grant for 15 years, and the city of Portsmouth 54 per cent. of the capital cost.

The Lumps Fort proposal is to develop a disused military fortress as a pleasure garden with swimming pool and other facilities.

Under a sane monetary system the cost of these necessary schemes would not be considered for a moment. The only question to be asked would be: Have we the necessary materials, skill, labour? The answer is Yes.

Why, then, should ratepayers suffer in heavier tax burdens for amenities and facilities they need?

The unity with which Portsmouth citizens are protesting against this injustice should force their representatives to obey their will in securing from the Government provision of the air base without cost to Portsmouth.

★ Results Wanted ★

NEWS items appearing under this heading show how people in various localities, dissatisfied with the results they are getting from those who are supposed to represent them in various ways, are agitating for the results they want. Where they are wrong they should be put right.

Mannequin bathing dress display at opening of Tottenham Lido, granted by Borough Council to Co-operative Society, is opposed by local tradesmen whose tenders were not invited.

Twelve thousand have signed petition opposing scheme for anti-aircraft firing practice at Webourne, Norfolk. Firing will continue until 2 a.m. five days a week throughout busy local holiday season.

City workers resident in Barkingside, Essex, are protesting against inadequate bus service between Barkingside and Ilford station.

Unsatisfactory condition of tramway lines at Pricklers Hill, Barnet, blamed for death of motorist, at inquest. So far the coroner only is protesting to the L.P.T.B.

As protest against high salaries of Urban District officials, Mr. E. Barnes, of Walton-on-Thames, held back his rates until summons enabled him to voice his protest in court.

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A Wasted Asset

MUCH advertised in the press at the present time is the shortage of skilled labour in the mechanical trades serving the armament industry, and also in agriculture.

There seems to be implied in these announcements a criticism of the British working man for not being skilled—a suggestion that the unemployed are really unemployable, that human nature, so wayward and untractable, has let down our infallible economic system.

Now, looked at in the light of common sense, the unemployed are an asset, a reserve of man power capable, if properly maintained, of meeting any emergency.

The best is not too good for such a vital part of our common wealth, and the man power reserves should certainly have all they need of the food, warmth and shelter which can be produced in such abundance without calling on their services.

OUR British heritage is of the utmost value, and the problem is not to export it but to retain it, as Professor Harris, of Cambridge, said to Social Crediters last week.

The gang of international financiers who have manipulated the affairs of Britain for the last twenty years are not interested in British culture, British spirit, British manhood. In fact these things make them go a dirty colour about the gills.

Hence the degradation of the British man power reserve, and the steady driving of skilled British workmen out of the country in search of better recognition than they were given at home.

Hence these wails today that there is a shortage of skilled men.

THE Briton is a political animal, and in this year of grace he knows pretty well, without having much to say about it yet, that the real rulers of this country are not as advertised.

The power over solvency and insolvency—which is the modern power over life and death—is now so clearly in the hands of the banks and insurance companies that it does not need money reformers to tell him so.

He could not tell you that Montagu Collet Norman was installed at Threadneedle Street to enforce the provisions of the bankers' Magna Carta, the Cunliffe Report, eighteen years ago and is still going strong.

He could not tell you glibly that this country is now ruled by the Bank of England and the Treasury with the aid of the international bankers, the joint stock banks, and the great insurance companies, controlling between them the most amazing and complete network of branch offices and travelling inspectors in every town and village.

He could not tell you these things, but he knows and nurses them, like a decayed tooth.

THE restrictive policy imposed by our financial rulers has enforced parsimonious tactics upon industrialists. Blast furnaces have been scrapped to produce a scarcity of pig-iron.

Wages have been skimped to drive the best men abroad. Agriculture has been starved till millions of acres have gone out of cultivation. The textile industry has been bludgeoned into destroying millions of spindles. And our reserve of man power has been starved into hopelessness and degradation.

The wretched dole contemptuously flung to them has been collected from grudging taxpayers, thus embittering them, and reducing their power to demand the goods they want—which the reserve of man power could have made if there were not enough already.

And this will go on until the real voice of the people demands results from the servants whom they now permit so disastrously to rule.

What Do You Think About This?

I AGREE with you in rejecting the "gospel of work," but I feel it a gospel of service to the community, which you will probably agree is commendable. In Germany, for example, the Nazi gospel is theoretically service, but in practice, no doubt, compulsory labour.

In our country, as in most others, the individual's claim on goods and services is based on either, or both, of two distinct grounds—(a) reward for labour, (b) inheritance (the case of our so-called leisured class, or persons of independent means, who are free to work only as it suits them).

But these fortunate persons, inheritors of a family estate acquired by the labour or luck of their forebears, generally recognise a duty to hand on the estate intact or increased, if possible, to the next generation, even at the cost of some personal sacrifice.

SOCIAL Credit is based on the theory (or fact, if you will) of a National Heritage of accumulated real wealth, to a share of which, in the form of free income, every citizen is entitled by right of birth.

Should not this heritage, on the analogy of the private estate, carry the obligation of personal effort to maintain it intact for the benefit of posterity?

In other words, should not the right to a National Dividend be conditional to some extent upon service to the community?

To recognise this logical principle, it seems to me, would not involve any real sacrifice of the individual liberty which it is the aim of Social Credit to establish.

The principle might be so applied as to cater for differences of personal character and aptitude. A wide choice of modes of service

NOMAD, the writer of this letter, is one of the very large number of people who, for reasons of their own, remain aloof from Social Credit but friendly.

Unlike most of them, he has taken the trouble to write about his difficulties in accepting fully the policy upon which we invite agreement and which we believe to be everybody's policy. Nomad is a recognised authority on questions of Imperial politics. His letter is followed by some comments by the Editor, to which SOCIAL CREDIT readers will no doubt wish to add.

might be devised, and the dividend might be graded in accordance with their relative importance.

SINCE defence must always come before opulence, Class A citizens would be those who undertook the obligation of active military service for a prescribed period.

They would be entitled for life to the maximum current dividend. Those who were physically unfit, or who, for whatever reason, preferred not to incur avoidable risk to life and limb, could participate in the rearward requirements of defence, in the new sense of the "home front." They would rank for the next highest dividend. And so on.

Thus might be solved the problem of voluntary service v. conscription. But, beyond that, the system proposed should give additional force to what appeals to me as the supreme merit of Social Credit as contrasted with Socialism.

INSTEAD of tending to create the grim uniformity of the "ant-heap," it would give scope, and thereby do natural justice, to the inherent inequalities of personality, rewarding those characteristics which have been esteemed through the ages.

—WE THINK—

THE "gospel of work" which we are agreed in rejecting is rightly placed in inverted commas because it denotes a number of unnecessary, erroneous, and undesirable notions that has been fastened on to the idea of work.

Work in the sense of an expenditure of muscular, mental, or nervous energy is a physical necessity.

Work which serves the requirements of a civilised community may be, for the individual, a sheer pleasure, a willing contribution, or a weariness of the spirit.

Certain sorts of work from every person able to work may be needed in time of war or national calamity. At other times the

needed work can be performed adequately by a smaller number. And that number can be smaller and smaller as advantage is taken of improved process.

Nevertheless we find the governments of all countries openly trying to contrive work for everybody.

Though they would not like to admit it, their vaunted figures of increased employment or decreased unemployment include many "services to the community" of a questionable and even unsavoury nature.

IN the friendliest possible way Nomad must be warned against phrases like the "gospel of service to the community."

Historic Moment in the Annals of American Industry



Efficiency engineer discovers that printing will save Mr. Kellogg from having to sign his name on each of the Corn Flakes boxes

[By courtesy of "The New Yorker" and the artist.]

Although drugged by the specious phrase, a sharp intelligence has warned him there is something wrong—but what? How comes it that in Nazi Germany the gospel of service to the community works out in practice as compulsory labour?

Just now he is inclined to believe there must be something wrong with the Nazis, not with the drug so deftly administered.

Why should a "gospel of service to the community" be "commendable"? Who is to commend whom for what, when, and in what circumstances?

Suppose the work I do in the service of the community is so interesting that I become passionately devoted to it, and can scarcely drag myself away from it. Do I commend myself? Surely not.

Then who commends me, and am I commendable if I accept the commendation?

Why should anyone expect anyone else to work in the service of the community, unless there is an advantage in doing so?

A NATIONAL Dividend is the result of the utilisation of the nation's productive resources. Short of deliberate racial suicide there cannot fail to be sufficient work done to provide a divisible product. No surplus, no dividend.

All that is needed to induce people to work is a wage or a salary—and science sees to it that the result is multiplied beyond the workers' requirements.

Surely military service can be induced by attractive payment and conditions without a threat to the individual's economic security in his declining years?

The trouble is that Nomad wants to use the power to withhold or distribute the nation's plenty as an instrument for compelling individuals instead of liberating them; whereas we want individuals to follow their own heart more and more and more.

Sir Isaac Newton took fourteen years to produce the theory of gravitation. What would Nomad do with him at the end of the seventh year?

IT has been possible only to touch on a few of many interesting points.

The question turns on whether the future of civilisation lies in ever-increasing opportunity to learn responsibility by exercising it or ever-increasing subordination to central control, which saps individual responsibility by absolving him so long as he is carrying out the orders of his superior.

It is the object of SOCIAL CREDIT to place before the public the facts of the stupendous resources of the twentieth century, assure the individuals composing it that they have the power to make the world anything at all they choose to make it, and to beg them to choose freedom in security by using their votes to demand the results they want before it is too late.

South Africans 'Grossly Undernourished'

CANNOT BUY THE FRUIT THEY PRODUCE: EXPORT RACKET

SIR EDWARD THORNTON, South African Secretary for Public Health, has just issued a report which reveals gross malnutrition in the presence of agricultural over-production.

South African produce is being sold at high prices at home so that South African fruit producers can sell at low prices abroad. And South Africans are paying for this evil money policy in shrunken bodies and lack of sufficient to eat. This, amid plenty.

Says Sir Edward:

"Here we have a large section of the white population and practically the whole of the Bantu population suffering from the physical effects of under-nourishment while the agricultural industry languishes."

"Committees of inquiry into the poor white problem as a whole and into sections of it have been shocked by the effects of malnutrition due to the inadequacy of protective foods in the diet of growing children."

"And yet our dairy farmers, who produce such protective food, cannot find a sufficiently remunerative market for their produce."

Half Population Unfit

"More than half the adult males of the native territories are found to be physically unfit for work on the mines, so that a vast importation of labour from beyond our borders becomes necessary."

Sir Edward states that the natives' diet is inadequate both in quality and quantity, and, speaking of the necessity of "marrying agriculture and public health," he says that "if the method of subsidy is used, the subsidy should be applied not at the point of production of the food, but at the point of consumption."

Judging from this extract, the report should contain all the ammunition needed by the Housewives' League to enable them to launch an irresistible campaign to put an end to the absurdity of selling high at home in order to sell low abroad.

Doubtless Social Crediters in the Union will be more than ready to give any assistance they can.

The Housewives' League, as reported in SOCIAL CREDIT last week, have petitioned the South African Government praying for a subsidy in aid of lower prices for home-grown foodstuffs.

LIVERPOOL OWES £50 PER HEAD

Pays 9s. in the £
Interest Charges

CRITICISM of Liverpool municipal finance was expressed by Mr. James Murphy, Independent Ratepayers' candidate in a local by-election, at the opening meeting of his campaign.

Mr. Murphy said he had been in both Conservative and Labour Parties, and his experience taught him that there was no chance of independent action in either. Things had been going from bad to worse for years, and now the time had come when independent action was absolutely essential.

One of his main objects was to point out to the ratepayers the sinister fact that £2,975,000, or more than half the total rates raised, was paid annually to moneylenders and usury-mongers, who might not even reside in Liverpool.

The capital debt of the city was £58,000,000, or £50 per head of the population, and the interest-charge was 9s. in the pound. These things were carefully excluded from the notice of the ratepayers.

The "dead hand" of usury paralysed every department of the Corporation. "In this election I am standing as a fierce Independent, a protesting unit among the ratepayers of Liverpool," he added.

Alberta Crisis Develops Rapidly

ASKED whether he believed in a balanced budget, Mr. Solon E. Low, the new Albertan provincial treasurer, said that he did, but admitted that under Social Credit "perhaps the budget would be different."

On Saturday, March 27, *The Times* reported that Mr. Aberhart proposed to apply the closure on the budget debate on March 30 and was likely to be defeated by the 33 Social Credit members in revolt, who, the report states, have already chosen Dr. Brown as Premier should Mr. Aberhart resign, and have Mr. Cockroft's promise to serve as provincial treasurer once more.

On Monday the same paper reported that the Government would suspend the vote on the budget temporarily and ask for a vote of £750,000 to enable the Government to carry on for two months.

The next day it reported that the attempt to withdraw the motion of closure was defeated and that the debate on the budget continued.

To this the *Daily Express* added that the "rebels" are demanding the introduction of "their own Social Credit plan, which includes a £4 million capital levy and confiscation to provide funds to pay the Dividend."

Premier Aberhart, it reported, had said "I would rather lose the Premiership than allow confiscation . . . I cannot see the good of taking from those who have to give to those who have not."

The *Express* correspondent does not suggest that confiscation and a capital levy is DOUGLAS Social Credit, and Mr. Aberhart (if correctly reported) realises that the "problem" of plenty cannot be met by soaking the rich. He believes, however, in orthodox balanced budgets, which are based on the same assumption as the capital levy, namely, that the Government should raise money by taxation.

Meanwhile, Mr. Graham F. Towers, the Montagu Norman hand-picked Governor of the Bank of Canada, is on his way to Edmonton to make a survey, at the invitation of Mr. Aberhart, of the financial position of the province, and the so-called People's League of Alberta is preparing for a "straw vote" and if a majority favours a change of government will demand the supersession of the elected legislature by a commission appointed by the Dominion, thus making Alberta another Newfoundland.

Things are moving fast in Alberta, but the Albertan people will win through if they persist in demanding what they want.

Some Election

"Today there is published the House List of Governors and Directors of the Bank of England who are to serve for the ensuing year. The post of Governor is again to be held by the Right Hon. Montagu Collet Norman, who will thus enter upon his eighteenth year of office—a record entirely without precedent in the annals of the Bank. Mr. Basil Gage Catterns will continue to act as Deputy Governor. The election for these gentlemen will be held at the Bank on April 6, and that for the directors will take place on the following day."—*The Times*, March 27.

SIT-DOWN STRIKES

AMERICAN GOVERNMENT WILL NOT INTERVENE

THE *Daily Express*, commenting on the letters received from readers in answer to its Soak-each-other invitation, says:

No doubt we should all prefer to tax the things we don't like ourselves—observe in Trevor Evans's analysis of the Budget suggestions that only 4 per cent. want a tax on tea.

The "*Daily Express's*" own view is that new taxation should come from higher death duties, especially those levied on large fortunes. The reasons are threefold.

FIRST, higher death duties will benefit the community most. For they will bring in the biggest yield. SECOND, they'll benefit the legatees themselves. For great fortunes conferred upon young folk take away any incentive for them to work and think on their own account. THIRD, they'll help to put out of business the race that "lucky" inheritors collect about them—the idle, greedy, flabby tribe of hangers-on, no good to man or beast.

AFTER conferences at the White House between the President, the Vice-President, the Secretary of Labour, Senator Robinson (majority leader), Senator La Follette, of Wisconsin, the Speaker of the House, and Representative Rayburn, Senator Robinson said that the Administration felt there was no immediate cause for concern in the "sit-down" strike situation and meant to preserve a "hands off" policy.

The Secretary of Labour, Miss Perkins, said no clear avenue of approach to the problem of enacting legislation giving the Government authority to intervene in "sit-down" strikes had been found. She expressed confidence that the Chrysler strike would be settled soon—perhaps in a few hours.

There seems to be no doubt that Mr. John L. Lewis, leader of the Committee of Industrial Organisation (C.I.O.) is highly popular with the Big Boys. He does not seem to have any financial difficulty.

Ford v. Lewis

As the great motor manufacturers one after the other haul down their colours before the conquering committee an interesting situation is developing in regard to the most independent of all motor manufacturers.

Henry J. Ford objects to being dictated to either by organised labour, or by his organised competitors, or by the powers of finance.

Is it possible that the battle between Ford and Lewis will be the only battle which is not a sham, and that the defeat of Ford is what both the great motor combines and high finance have tried unsuccessfully to achieve for many years?

Captain Marshall Oakes commands No. 69, New York's "tug of death." No. 69 conveys, twice daily, the bodies from New York's five morgues which are not identified, or which no one will pay to bury. After four years Captain Oakes has just carried his 15,000th passenger across to Harts Island, where they are buried in huge trenches dug by convicts.—*Daily Mirror*, February 10.

Government Preference in India

MEMBERS of the Indian Congress Party (which, as reported in SOCIAL CREDIT last week, won majorities in six of the eleven provincial legislatures in the recent election under the new Constitution) may be forced to live up to their pledge to refuse office.

The chance of securing office overcame their scruples, but, evidently to "save face," it was decided that Congress members should not agree to form governments in the provinces in which the party had majorities, unless the Provincial Governors would agree not to use their special powers. The Governors have refused to give any such undertaking.

These special powers enable the Governors to over-rule the legislatures on certain matters, notably financial questions. As no government can hope to govern unless it has control of finances, the new Constitution, which pretended to give "provincial autonomy," was clearly a fake. The attempt of the Congress Party to save face seems likely to expose the Constitution for what it is.

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FROTTI'S Mr. Millichap Moves On

A GENTLEMAN to see you, a Mr. Buckley," Mrs. Millichap announced one evening after supper.

"Buckley? I don't know the name," said her husband, a trim little man, with no hint of his former nervousness and self-consciousness.

"You don't know me, Mr. Millichap, but I know you," Mr. Buckley began. "I've come to say how delighted we all are with the new by-pass—your doing absolutely."

"Oh, no," said Mr. Millichap modestly, "I only organised the protest—I couldn't have done anything alone."

"Well, it was a magnificent piece of work. You're a valuable man to have in the district, Mr. Millichap—you know what you want and you get it."

"I didn't always," Mr. Millichap confessed, in a burst of confidence. "Used to be a frightened rabbit. Fellow at the bowling-club it was, Jack Farley, who showed me the silliness of it—of putting up with things there was no need to put up with."

"Then when I got the householders in this row organised to demand a new pavement, I saw how easy it was if you persuaded people to take an interest."

"Good work," said the other heartily, "and I know Farley well. He's one of our Campaign Group."

◆ ◆ ◆

"CAMPAIGN?"

"Yes, the people who sent me along to see you. The Electoral Campaign to get what you want—we're trying to do on a national scale what you have been doing in the borough."

"I've heard of it. So that's what it is, is it? Can you tell me something more about it?"

"I'll leave some leaflets and a book or two with you, so that you can read them at leisure. I only came round to-night because our fellows were anxious to say how much they appreciated the by-pass. We have a little dinner on Tuesday evenings at the Crown, by the way, and hope you will be our guest of honour next week."

"Thank you very much indeed," Mr. Millichap said as he showed his visitor out. Returning to the drawing-room, he sat down and began to read the Electoral Campaign.

◆ ◆ ◆

HALF an hour later he strode into the kitchen, where his wife was mending socks.

"Just see if that chap Buckley's on the telephone, would you, Doris," he said, "and then get your hat and we'll go to a show. You can't because you've got to darn my socks? Nonsense. Buckley and I will soon alter that."

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BARUC

"Damme, Sir! I maintain he should have only one crust!"
"Curse your meanness! I say he should have two!"

Did You See This In The Papers? PRESS CLIPPINGS . . . for a Social Crediter's Notebook

Ashford (Middlesex) mothers are petitioning the Minister of Health for a new school, because eighty children, aged five to eight, are being taught in a one-roomed corrugated iron hut at the Congregational Church.

Forty other children have been transferred from the hut to an infant school so crowded that their class-room is a curtained-off lobby. Mrs. A. J. Langthorne, of Feltham Road,

Ashford, said yesterday: "Many have to walk a mile to school. There are two classes of children in the hut, and the two teachers have to take turns to speak."

Man's inhumanity to man makes countless thousands yawn.

Why freeze tram-drivers to death when a screen would save them from looking like Canterbury mutton?

Isn't the present arrangement cruelty to mammals?—Letter to Editor, "Daily Express," March 15.

Four doctors, a hundred nurses and nearly a thousand patients are to petition the London Transport Board to provide an omnibus service to Hillingdon County Hospital, Middlesex.

Except for the few who can afford taxicabs, the hundred out-patients attending the hospital each day have to walk at least a mile each way. Some walk six.

The road to the hospital from the bus terminus at Hillingdon Church has been named "Sufferers' Way."

Aged women attending the hospital have to rest by the wayside.

There are many cases of collapse when the out-patients reach hospital. — "Sunday Express," March 14.

Dr. Dalton, of the Labour Party's Distressed Area Commission, declared they had visited few places where there was such stark and staring destitution as Leith, the constituency of Mr. Ernest Brown, Minister of Labour. — "Glasgow Bulletin," February 11.

At Bellshill (Scotland) Councillor Peter Cook stated that in the Bellshill and Mossend district approximately 30 collieries had been closed down during the past 12 years, estimated to displace well over 10,000 men. — "Glasgow Bulletin," February 11.

★ LETTERS ★

Milk 'Shortage'

MY milkman says there will be no surplus milk this year. There was, in fact, a slight shortage during the recent influenza epidemic.

Producers have cut down supply to meet demand.

"Of course," he said, "this comes to the same thing as pouring milk down the drain, only it doesn't look so bad."

How long are women going to put up with this sort of thing?

What are the Women's Institutes going to do about it? I hope they won't let the matter rest.

Bromley, Kent

A.C.B.

Million

I THINK it high time that the meaning of the word "million" should be forcibly driven home to the minds of the hosts of people who so glibly prattle in terms of millions.

I choose a book which is in most homes—the Bible. I don't know whether anyone has carefully counted the number of words in it; but I have made a rough estimate.

Average 7 words a line. Average 130 lines a page, or 910 words. There are 920 pages in the authorised version, so we get the total number of words 846,400. 150,000 short of a million. Got it?

Get your Bible, look through it. Not one million words in the whole of it, and 23 million people in this country living on 12s. a week.

450 Bibles needed to make enough words to equal the pounds being spent on armaments.

BERNARD SLEIGH

Defectives

BASED on the data contained in the article "Mental Defectives" in SOCIAL CREDIT, February 5, a more striking comparison than that given in the last paragraph is as follows:

While the average increase per annum during the period 1890 to 1919 inclusive was 290, that during the period 1920 to 1935 inclusive was 603.

Carmel, California

E. J. ATTER

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G.W.L. DAY—

They Govern By A Mixture Of Force And Trickery

IN the eighteenth chapter of "The Prince," Nicolo Machiavelli gives a concise and cynical lecture on the way in which princes should keep faith. Thus:

Although everyone agrees how praiseworthy it is for a prince to rule by honest methods, nevertheless the successful princes have held good faith of small account.

There are two ways of contesting—one by law, the other by force. The first is proper to me, the second to beasts; but because the first is often not sufficient, a prince must know how to use the second method.

Ancient writers have described how princes have learned to use both methods, as, for example, the training of Achilles by the centaur Cheiron.

All May See . . .

A prince should choose the methods of the lion and the fox—that is, force and subtlety. A wise prince cannot and ought not to keep faith when such observance may be turned against him and when the reasons that caused him to pledge his word no longer exist.

* * *

IF men were entirely good, this precept would not hold, but because men are bad, they will not keep faith with you: therefore you are not bound to keep faith with them. Moreover, there will always be plenty of good reasons to excuse your having broken your word.

It is necessary for a prince to know how to disguise the fact that he is playing the fox, and to be a great pretender and dissembler.

Men are so simple and so bound to present necessities that a deceiver will always find someone who is willing to be deceived.

It is quite unnecessary for a prince to have all the good qualities expected of him, but it is most necessary that he should appear to have them. To have these good qualities and observe them is injurious. On the other hand, it is very useful to appear merciful, faithful, humane, religious, upright, and to be so, but not so irrevocably that you may not at any moment change to the opposite.

A prince ought never to let anything slip from his lips that is not replete with the above qualities. Men usually judge more by the eye than the hand, because everybody may see a prince but few come in touch with him.

Everyone sees what he appears to be, few know what he really is, and those few dare not oppose themselves to the opinion of the many who have the majesty of the State to defend them. In the actions of all men, and especially of princes, which it is not prudent to challenge, one judges by the result.

While It Suits . . .

For this reason, if a prince has the credit of conquering and holding his State, the means by which he does so will always be considered honest and praised by everybody; because the vulgar are always influenced by what a thing seems to be and by what comes of it, and in the world there are only the vulgar.

* * *

THIS seems to me so concise and pithy an exposition of the art of modern government that hardly any comment is needed. What could be more striking, for instance,

than the advice to combine the methods proper to men with those of the lion and the fox? Machiavelli says all along that a prince should behave honestly and decently while it suits his interest to do so, but that he should use ruthless and underhand methods the moment noble behaviour no longer meets the case.

There is something both of the lion and the fox in all successful rulers of the present day. In other words, they govern by a mixture of force and trickery. And there is no doubt at all that they justify themselves by much the same arguments as Machiavelli.

They are not called upon to rule angels and archangels, but (to them) treacherous electorates on whose fickle favour their personal careers depend.

The people (they think) are a sort of beast, so why not use the methods of a beast to rule them?

* * *

AND how easy it is to find excuses for breaking faith! The world today is full of swiftly changing currents and sudden crises. This plastic mould of circumstances seems to be in the melting pot.

A ruler can find a dozen good reasons for breaking faith on almost any promise under the sun. So easy is it that rulers hardly take the trouble now to offer their apologies.

Thus Mr. Baldwin says, "If I had told you the truth, you wouldn't have elected me," which seems to me an excuse to end excuses.

The Five Virtues

Then there is the famous passage about appearing to have the five political virtues and exercising them—except when it suits you not to.

This, of course, is akin to the art of lying. Your expert liar speaks the truth nine times out of ten so that you believe him on the tenth occasion also. Your expert ruler acts virtuously nine times out of ten, but he more than makes up for it when he behaves dishonestly the tenth time.

Everyone sees what he appears to be. The few who know what he really is dare not oppose themselves to the majority opinion. If they do, they are indignantly shouted down, in Great Britain, by the voice of spoon-fed public opinion, or the engines of government propaganda.

* * *

IN reading this chapter of "The Prince," one feels an oppressive sensation of despair. It is all so horribly and cynically true. It is truth which has survived the test of time.

But there is a crumb of comfort towards the end of it. Machiavelli says, "In the actions of all men, and especially of princes, which it is not prudent to challenge, one judges by the result."

This is said in relation to the credit that a prince has in conquering and holding his State. The means will always be considered honest provided the result is good.

It is just here that one sees a ray of hope. Rulers all over the world may be able to justify their methods, from national robbery to mass homicides, on the plea that good results will follow—for how long?

Deepening Danger

They may be able to get away with it for years, finding numberless excuses for the absence of good results. But surely there must be a time limit?

Surely a whole generation is not going to be born, grow up and die, living from cradle to grave on nothing but unfulfilled promises?

* * *

EVERY year, every month, every hour that we sit still waiting for the promised results is a year, a month, an hour wasted. There is literally no limit to the time we shall have to wait for good results, so long as we rely upon our princes to pull us out of the fire.

It is for us to act, to demand the results we want clearly and unitedly. Until that happens, we can look forward to nothing but deepening misfortune and danger.

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THE editor will be glad to receive reports from anywhere where people are asserting their sovereignty over the institutions which should serve them.

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It does not matter if they are badly managed or ill-directed. It is sovereignty that matters.

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See Page 6

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HERE ARE FACTS ABOUT POVERTY AREAS

Childless Couple: • With Five Children:
Income—26s. • Income—42s. 6d.
For Food—6s. 3d. a head • For Food—3s. a head

TRYING to bring home the facts of poverty to people who live in pleasant suburbs seems at times a hopeless task.

You are told:—
 "Yes, but things are only really bad in a few special areas"; or
 "No one need go without food nowadays. School children can get free dinners and mothers free milk."
 Most people rely on the daily press for information concerning the special areas. If they read *The Times* or *Telegraph* their attention is cleverly diverted from the gravity of the situation.

The opposition press gives us hysterical outbursts with very little tangible fact. What wonder that a large section of the well-to-do remain entirely unmoved?

There is only one method of approach—the road of plain, hard fact.

* * *

A list of the special areas can be obtained from the Special Areas Act of 1934 (3/4d. from H.M. Stationery Office). Most people are surprised by its length.

The largest areas are

- (1) Practically the whole of the county of Durham, and the Tyneside area in North-umberland.
- (2) The counties of Dumbarton, Renfrew and Lanark (excluding Glasgow).
- (3) Most of Monmouthshire and Glamorgan.
- (4) West Cumberland from Whitehaven to Maryport.

There are many smaller districts. Most of these areas are peopled to the extent of five hundred per square mile.

A conservative estimate of their total population would be at least two million.

In these places it is not only the unemployed who suffer. The general standard of life is lower; and shopkeepers, ministers of religion and professional men are to be found among the poverty stricken.

So much for the idea that the distressed areas are negligible in extent.

* * *

A PAMPHLET on the Special Areas Bill contains much valuable information. It is published at 3d. by the Children's Minimum Council, whose object is to ensure that no child shall, by reason of the poverty of its parents, be deprived of at least the minimum of food and other requirements necessary for full health.

The Government have maintained that unemployment assistance allowances are intended to cover all ordinary needs. But this is far from being the case. A childless

By

Mrs. B. M. Palmer

couple, living on 26s., may be able to spare 6s. 3d. a head for food, but with each child the allowance is proportionately inadequate.

A man, wife and five children living on 42s. 6d. will be lucky if, after paying rent, they can spare more than 3s. a head for food.

Many fathers of families have been unemployed for ten years and more, so that large numbers of children have spent all their lives in homes where the income has never been sufficient for food, however wisely expended.

They make up a large proportion of the four million who, according to Sir John Orr, live on a diet deficient in every constituent required.

Damage inflicted in childhood by bad food cannot be repaired.

* * *

SIR ARTHUR MACNALT, chief medical officer to the Board of Education, reports that of 1 3/4 million children examined 10.6 per cent. had slightly subnormal nutrition, and 0.7 per cent. bad nutrition. This does not necessarily imply, he says, that 11.3 per cent. were underfed.

But what does it imply? He does not tell us.

The Children's Minimum Council thinks that in many cases a more thorough examination than is possible by the limited methods of ordinary school inspections would reveal a far larger number as unfit.

Again, the word "normal" bears different interpretations to different medical officers. In some cases standards may be debased by years of depression.

* * *

It is an error to suppose that every child in need of extra food can get free dinners. The Children's Minimum Council found

that out of twenty-six education authorities in urban areas where unemployment was very severe, eight provided no dinners at all.

Only 2.7 per cent. of the children had free dinners for part of the year, and had to show definite signs of malnutrition first.

In rural districts free meals are seldom provided. The standard varies enormously.

Abertillery has the best service in the country, providing two good meals a day for children between the ages of 5 and 14. Many of them never get a square meal at home.

They starve during the week-end and eat till it hurts on Mondays.

But at Pontypridd, only a few miles away, no free dinners at all.

In many places the meals leave much to be desired. In his report, Sir Arthur MacNalty criticises the dietary as ill-balanced and deficient in food value. It suffers from Poor Law Relief tradition.

* * *

Here are a few menus:

1. Potatoes, gravy and bread.
2. Tea or cocoa, bread and butter and a banana.
4. Soup, bread and an apple.
4. Meat pasty, bread and butter and tea.
5. Soup made from bones (the same bones used throughout the week) with a few peas and beans.

It is a mistaken belief that all poor mothers and young children can get free milk. There are welfare authorities that do not provide it, but at present I have no figures to show the percentage.

* * *

SPEAKING of the health centres in Durham and Tyneside, Dr. Margaret Balfour and Dr. Joan Drury report that "it is the feeble and less energetic mothers who stay away, and so are not eligible for the nutriment they so greatly need . . ."

"It is a small proportion of the mothers who receive milk free. The attitude of the Local Authorities is, not that all expectant mothers who are drawing unemployment relief require extra nutriment, but only those in whom the Medical Officer can detect signs of malnutrition, a task which is always difficult and uncertain.

"The mothers lose their milk within a few days or weeks of childbirth."

IN 1934—

1,000,000 carloads of grain
 260,000 " " coffee
 500,000 cwt. of sugar
 50,000 " " rice
 50,000 " " meat
 were destroyed.

*
 How many mothers and children could be fed on that?

In spite of improved maternity services the number of puerperal deaths in the Rhondda rose to 11 per 1,000 in 1934. During 1935 a supply of foodstuffs was distributed through the clinics. Not a single death occurred amongst those mothers who had received the extra food.

Expenditure on school feeding is shared between the Board of Education and the local rates. But rates bear the whole burden of milk and food given to mothers and children under school age.

The greater the need for expenditure, the less able are the rates to bear it. Increase in the rates means less money in the homes. In Abertillery they are 29s. in the pound.

There are not wanting those who point to the more prosperous districts in the country where rates are as low as 7s. 6d., with the cry that the rich should be taxed more heavily—while good food is destroyed . . .

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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

1. I know that there are goods in plenty and therefore that poverty is quite unnecessary.
2. I want, before anything else, poverty abolished.
3. 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.
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 if I can for a 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.

Signed
 Address
 (Signatures will be treated confidentially.)

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- Major DOUGLAS on
SECURITY Institutional and Personal
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 By J. SCOTT KYLE
 PERSONAL SOVEREIGNTY
 By HEWLETT EDWARDS
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163A Strand, London, W.C. 2

No. 9

APRIL 2, 1937

SECURITY

Institutional and Personal

THE matters on which I propose to speak to you tonight* are so simple that, were it not for one fact of human experience, I should hesitate to trouble you with them. The fact is that it is the simplest matters that always form the subject of the most profound misunderstanding, and in regard to which the average individual is the most difficult to convince of any error in his belief. You will remember that it was a matter of common certainty for many thousands of years that the sun revolved round the earth, and when the astronomer Galileo produced quite unshakable evidence to show that, on the contrary, the earth revolved round the sun, he was regarded as a blasphemous heretic and was severely punished.

Now the first of these very simple matters which I propose to bring to your attention is the difference between policy and administration, together with the primary importance of policy. If a man is standing on the platform of Newcastle Central Station it is obviously of primary importance whether he decides to go to Edinburgh or Darlington. The question as to whether he goes by a fast or a slow train, whether he finds that the railway is well or badly operated, or whether he decides finally to go by motor-car is of secondary importance to the question of his making up his mind *where* he wants to go.

A Policy of Work

In all the discussions which are allowed to obtain wide publicity on the affairs of the world at the present day, every effort is made to concentrate attention upon questions of administration, on *how* to make the railway in my allegory better, or *how* to improve the road or the motor-car.

The point I want to impress upon you at the outset is that we are having a policy *imposed* upon us, and that policy is the cause of our troubles. Any discussion as to how that policy shall be administered, whether by a dictatorship, so-called democracy, Fascism, Bolshevism, Nazi-ism, or otherwise, is merely irrelevant.

This policy, which is practically identical everywhere, whether in Russia, Italy or Germany, is the gospel of work. "If a man will not work neither shall he eat." It is not for nothing that Paul, the Roman Jew, is the patron saint of the City of London.

I must emphasise the point that the policy is *not* "If a man does not work there will be nothing to eat." To the extent that such a statement is true, the other statement is reasonable. But to say that all men have to work in industry at trade union rates for trade union hours before it is possible for all men to eat, is flagrantly untrue, and becomes less true every day, *except as a policy*.

I propose to bring as forcibly as possible to your attention that it is not the prime object of existence to find employment. I have no intention of being dogmatic as to what is the prime object of existence, but I am entirely confident that it is not comprised in the endless pursuit of turning this originally very beautiful world into slag-heaps, blast-furnaces, guns, and battleships. It is just at this point that the extreme simplicity of the dilemma in which the world finds itself becomes evident, and it is at this point that it is so difficult for most of us to grasp what is equally simple, which is that the mere fact that some of us may earn our living by building a battleship does not in itself mean that it would not be possible for us to live much better, more comfortably, and more safely, if that battleship were not built.

Do not misunderstand me. This is not an address on pacifism. On the contrary, I think the determined opposition of the oligarchy which rules us to any effective financial reform has made war nearly inevitable and rearmament imperative. What I am endeavouring to explain is that the fact that you were paid wages for designing and building a battleship, and that with those wages, salaries (or, if you are shareholders in the companies that build them, the dividends), you buy yourself the amenities of life, does not mean that it is written in the law of nature that you cannot get those amenities unless you build a battleship. If, in addition to having your energies diverted to building a tool of destruction instead of a tool of construction, you are going to be taxed to pay for it and for the money the banks create out of paper and ink to pay your wages, you will be a triple loser.

Passports to Prosperity

But you have no doubt noticed—though you have perhaps not noticed it so much on the North-East Coast as we have noticed it in the South—that the setting to work of a large proportion of the industrial population of this country on the manufacture of things intended to kill or wound or otherwise inflict pain and misery upon other human beings, has been accompanied by what our lords and masters refer to as a revival of prosperity. And they are already explaining that their best efforts are being devoted to finding methods by

which we shall all be kept busy, when, if ever, we have enough battleships. The most hopeful avenue, they consider, is to capture further export markets. But they do not explain that other countries also, under this remarkable system of ours, wish to capture export markets—that this effort to capture further export markets will, therefore, require the building of further battleships so as to keep other people in what we consider is their proper place.

If you were to say to an intelligent child that the aim or objective of the average human being was to live in a pleasant

By

MAJOR C. H. DOUGLAS

house, have sufficient to eat, and to be well-clothed, I think that child would say at once that what you ought to do was to build sufficient pleasant houses, grow sufficient food, and weave whatever clothes you require—and then stop and enjoy yourself. But most of us, I am afraid, are not intelligent children. Some of us are even economists! And to an economist it is impossible, apparently, to imagine a state of affairs in which, if you want something, you proceed to make it. The economist says it cannot be done that way. If you want a loaf of bread you must obtain employment making radio-sets, or machine-guns, or something else.

Once again, do not misunderstand me. I am not saying that you should not make radio-sets or machine-guns. What I mean is that it is not fundamentally necessary to make radio-sets or machine-guns in order to obtain a loaf of bread. An easier and shorter way is to grow and grind the wheat and then bake the bread. The radio-set which you do make will probably be used for the purpose of misinforming you in regard to the true price of bread, and the machine-gun will probably be used to shoot you down. But that is entirely your business.

Now if you say this sort of thing to an orthodox economist or to your bank manager, he will probably look at you with pity for your simplicity and will say, "Ah, but this country cannot support its own population." The first reply which I think most of us would make to this remark is that it does not support its own population very well at the present time; and the second comment one would make is that if it is a question of feeding the population, how is it that the amount of home-grown food which is produced is steadily decreasing, rather than that efforts are being made to increase it?

The point which I am endeavouring to get you to realise is that what is called full employment is always put forward as being the aim of our modern society, and it is assumed, and never argued about in official circles, that without full employment it is impossible for the population of the country to be fully supported in food, shelter and clothing, and that it is better to have full employment making poison gas, than any unemployment.

Institutions Filching Security

I do not propose this evening to go over the well-known fact of the startling increase in productivity per unit of human labour during the past 150 years. I am going to ask you to take it from me that it is only the diversion of a very large percentage of human activity to ends which either do not conduce to its health and happiness, or are even a direct threat to those desirable ends, which prevent us from supporting ourselves in great comfort and security with the accompaniment of an amount of leisure which would enable us to make the fullest use of our opportunities.

Employment as an end in itself is a concerted policy to be found in practically every country. It is an international policy, and it proceeds from the great international power in the world—the power of finance. It is conscious, and it is sustained by every argument and force at the disposal of that great international power, because it is the means by which mankind is kept in continual, if concealed, slavery.

May I ask you to divest your minds as far as possible of every political preoccupation and to consider whether the fundamental policy of Fascist Italy, so-called Communist Russia, the United States, Germany, and Great Britain is not identical, and that it is, by varying methods but with identical objectives, to force people to subordinate themselves, for a number of hours per day greatly in excess of those really necessary, to a work system?

It is a matter of common observation that this full employment becomes increasingly difficult to insure in respect of what is called the home market; therefore, foreign markets, which it must be remembered are equally desired, under this insane system, by every country and, therefore, are matters for fierce competition, are stated by our bank chairmen to be essential to our prosperity.

Since these foreign markets are equally matters for the

competition of every country, sooner or later this competition leads to friction, and from friction to the threat of war, with the result, which is very much to the advantage of our lords and masters, that we have to build large and expensive navies and air forces to deal with the situation which our competition for foreign markets has brought about. Of course the building of these fleets provides more employment, and therefore the system is carried on a little further towards the inevitable catastrophe.

If you have followed me so far, you will begin to see that all the efforts which we make towards so-called security at present are merely action taken to preserve, for a little longer, institutions, and notably the financial and industrial institutions, and that in working to preserve these we only insure ourselves, as individuals, further hardship and anxiety and eventual catastrophe.

Correct Action the Only Saviour

It is not too much to say that the whole future of the human race depends, if not upon an understanding of the problem which I am trying to put before you tonight, at any rate upon correct action in regard to it.

I can at once imagine that you will say, "How is it possible to obtain correct action in regard to this problem until a very large proportion of the people concerned understand what the problem is?" Well, the answer to that is really very simple too.

If you could only persuade people to ask for what they want, instead of for some method through which they think that what they want can be given to them, the problem would be half solved already.

Nothing is more dangerous than inexact knowledge. It is the man who thinks he can sail a boat who wrecks a boat, not the man who knows he can't and doesn't try, but merely says "Let me out." At the present time the affairs of practically every country are at the mercy of a small group of people who know exactly what they want, which is *not* what you want. This small group manipulates much larger groups, who don't know what they want, but think they know how to get it.

The working man of this country has been taught by propaganda of all kinds that it is a meritorious thing for him to say "I want work," but a contemptible thing to say "I want money." Once again, please do not think I am suggesting that there is anything virtuous about laziness. Far from it. There is nothing specially virtuous about work either. I have worked at least as hard as most people, and most of the time I did it because I liked it. The healthy human individual requires work of some kind, just as he requires food; but he is not a healthy individual, mentally at any rate, if he cannot find work for himself, and probably find work which he can do far better than that which is arranged for him by somebody else. If he cannot, he ought to be in a mental institution, which, in fact, is where most of us are, the headquarters being the Bank of England.

There has been a cant-phrase in politics in this country since the days of Mr. Asquith that the will of the people must prevail. Mr. Asquith was probably one of the greatest experts in modern history at arranging that the will of the people did not prevail. And the method which was followed though not initiated by him—a method which still appears to be successful—is to divide up the population into warring sects, each of which imagines that it has a complete set of blue-prints for the construction of an immediate Utopia. Since practically all these Utopias are schemes for penalising somebody else, you have only to adopt each in turn and eventually you will have reduced everyone to a dead level of slavery, which is what is happening.

Escape from Utopia

Now, once again, I can imagine quite a number of people in this audience saying that I am one of those people who has a complete set of blue-prints for the construction of a Utopia, and therefore perhaps you will allow me to explain exactly why I should not agree to that charge. I have no views whatever as to how my neighbour should spend his time, so long as his method of spending it does not infringe upon my own liberties.

To me it is a matter of no consequence whatever that many or most people are very much richer than I am. The only financial matter which is of consequence to me is that I shall be well enough off to meet my own needs, which are quite modest, as I believe are those of most people. The technical proposals which I have put forward from time to time may be considered to differ from, let us say, the well-known beliefs of Utopianism such as Fascism, Communism, State-Socialism, and so forth, in that, so far from exerting further compulsion upon individuals in order that they may conform to some machine-made conception of a perfect state, *I should like by the simplest possible methods to provide people with the*

* Major Douglas was addressing a meeting at the City Hall, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, on March 9, 1937.

SECURITY

Institutional and Personal

(continued).

means of making their own individual lives approximate to their own ideas, and not to mine.

The more I see of Governments, the lower is my opinion of them and I am confident that what the world wants at the present time is a great deal less government, and not a great deal more.

Now I want to get a further perfectly simple idea into your minds. And that is that *Governments are your property, and you are not the property of Governments.* There is no more pernicious and blasphemous nonsense existent in the world today than the statement which has been incorporated in the constitution of the modern dictatorships, which claims that the State, by which is indicated the Government, is everything and the individual is nothing. On the contrary, *the individual is everything* and the State is a mere convenience to enable him to co-operate for his own advantage. It is this idea of the supreme State in its various forms which has made the State the tool of the international financier who has mortgaged all States to himself.

The first step towards the security of the individual is to insist upon the security of the individual. I hope that is not too difficult to understand. If you place the security of any institution before the security of the individual, you may prolong the life of that institution, but you will certainly shorten the lives of a great many individuals. Institutions are means to an end, and I do not think it is too much to say that the elevation of means into ends, of institutions above humanity, constitutes an unforgivable sin, in the pragmatic sense that it brings upon itself the most tremendous penalties that life contains.

The Common Will

A great deal of our trouble in this country arises from the fact that, while we place great faith in the aristocratic ideal (if you prefer to call it the principle of leadership I shall not object), yet we have allowed all those influences which make the aristocratic ideal reasonable and workable to be sapped and wrecked by the exaltation of money as the sole certificate of greatness, and have allowed cosmopolitan and alien financiers to obtain a monopoly of money. We have retained the ideal and allowed the material of which it is constructed to become hopelessly degraded. In consequence, we are governed in the aristocratic tradition by a hypocritical and selfish oligarchy with one idea, and one fundamental idea only: the ascendancy of money, and the essential monopoly of it.

The essence of the aristocratic tradition is detachment—the doing of things in the best way because it is the best way, not because you get something out of it. That requires that the leader shall be secure. No one is secure nowadays. At the root of the growing danger of Government and other embodiments of execution is the idea that human beings are all alike. So far from this being the case, I believe that as human beings develop they become increasingly different. But they have common factors, and those common factors are the only part of the human make-up which can be dealt with by a democratic system, and ought to be dealt with by a democratic system.

It was, I think, Emerson who said that “we descend to meet.” Whoever said it, it is profoundly true. We all require food, clothing, and shelter; and we can combine, and ought to combine, to get those necessities as a condition for our further acquiescence in combining for any other agreed purpose. The primary use of a Government in a sane world would be to make it certain that the greatest common measure of the will of the population, from whom it derives—or ought to derive—its authority, is enough money for decent sustenance.

The Menace of Utopianism

Now a great deal of what I have been saying can be reduced to the good old English advice to “Mind your own business.” But I should like to expand this to “Don’t meddle with your

neighbour’s business, but assist him to mind his own.” The difference is the difference between saying to a destitute friend, “I will convey you to a Poor-Law institution where you will be given three meals a day if you do exactly as you are told,” on the one hand, and on the other hand saying, “I will settle £50 a year upon you for life, which will at any rate keep you in necessities; what kind of necessities you obtain you can judge for yourself.”

There is no more dangerous individual in the world at the present than the Utopianist. Mr. Montague Norman, Governor of the Bank of England, is a Utopianist. Mr. Chamberlain is a Utopianist. Lenin was a Utopianist, Hitler is a Utopianist. Just see where Utopianism has landed us. It is the Utopianist who provides the public excuse for nearly every theft of public property which has ever been committed.

Let me give you a simple instance of what I mean. We have all heard of the agitation for the nationalisation of the coal industry, and, in particular, of the raw material, coal itself. Now the actual amount which is obtained by the royalty-owner averages about threepence per ton, so that whatever the ethical aspect may be, the practical effect upon the price of coal is quite trivial. But the international bankers who hold this country in pawn consider that their mortgage upon it would be more secure if it was backed by the coal deposits, and I can assure you that the result of nationalising coal would merely be to increase the security of the debt which we owe to certain international financial houses, and would not affect the well-being either of the miners or the consumers of coal to any perceptible degree.

Freedom the Only Policy

It is not my intention in speaking to you tonight to go to any extent into technical details, or I should like to explain to you the colossal fraud of taxation. But the device of arbitrary taxation, for which the public justification is obtained from carefully worked up “popular” opinion, is one of the most powerful weapons by which the various sections of the population are kept in antagonism with each other, and by which at the same time the power and independence of each one of them is reduced.

One of the greatest difficulties with which we in the Social Credit Movement have been faced has been the skilful exploitation of human frailty by our opponents, the financiers, so that the community, and even the Social Credit Movement itself, has been split and kept from effective action. Another has been to persuade the industrialist that the financier was just as much his enemy as he is of every other section of the community at the present time.

There is only one policy which will obtain the unquestioned acceptance of everyone for himself, and that is comprised in the word “freedom.” And it is exactly that policy which, in my opinion at any rate, requires to be made universal. The oligarchy which rules us is, of course, favourable to freedom for its own members, but it is implacably opposed to freedom for the general public. Since the key to economic freedom, as the world is organised today, is the command of money, it follows that differential and arbitrary taxation is the greatest enemy of freedom which the legislative authority has at its disposal.

Taxation is a negative dividend. There is a short cut, straight and simple, from the present system of modified slavery to one of comfort, security and freedom, and that is the abolition of a negative dividend and the substitution of a positive dividend.

As many of you here are aware, the money system is an entirely arbitrary system, and the manufacture of money in the modern world costs little more than the cost of paper and ink. In saying that, I do not mean that a money system can function satisfactorily without some underlying theory which ultimately governs the amount of money which it is desirable to have at our disposal. But I have no hesitation in stating categorically that the existing taxation system is completely unnecessary, is wasteful, irritating, and predatory; and, further, that, in place of it, it would be possible to issue a dividend to every man, woman, and child in this country without depriving any individual of the privileges which they

may now possess, but, on the other hand, increasing the privileges of everybody.

But such a policy would deprive certain individuals of unjustifiable and anti-social power over others which they now possess, and since, unfortunately, these persons have come into control of the sanctions of government, the problem is not so much a technical one as a political one.

Representative Government

Now I am entirely convinced by my own investigation and experiences, not merely in this country but in many parts of the world, that while democracy in policy is absolutely essential to the functioning of the modern world, there is at the present time no such thing as a genuine democracy anywhere, and probably less in this country than anywhere else.

In this country the two main obstacles to a genuine democracy are the party system, with its offshoot, the Front Bench oligarchy, and, secondly, a mistaken idea on the part of the Member of Parliament that he is supposed to understand the methods by which results desired by the general public should be attained, and to pass laws which specify the actions of executive bodies and interfere with technical undertakings. None of these is correct.

A Member of Parliament should be a representative—not a delegate. It is his business to learn what it is his constituents want and to see that they get it—not to tell them what they ought to have or to make himself responsible for its production. Policy and administration are two entirely separate things, and administration in this country is admirably carried on by a trained Civil Service. I include in the phrase “Civil Service” the staff of great productive undertakings just as much as the officials of Government Departments. They are all technicians, and on the whole they are admirable. What they lack is clear instruction in regard to policy, and it is your business to give them that instruction through your representative, your Member of Parliament.

Now we have devised a mechanism which, if we could induce you to carry it out, would impose your policy upon your Member of Parliament quite infallibly, and if you imposed the same policy upon a majority of Members of Parliament, that policy would come into existence. First of all you have to agree upon that policy, and, secondly, you have to take very simple action.

To agree upon a policy, it is only necessary to find a common factor of human experience. There are certain people who foolishly say that it is impossible to agree upon a policy. I think that is ridiculous. It is sometimes difficult to get agreement upon a policy for the other fellow, but there is no difficulty in getting an agreement about a policy for oneself. *The first thing that we all want is at least a minimum supply of money.* We may want more, but none of us, I think, wants less. If there is such a person in this room and he will give what he does not want to me, I will see that good use is made of it.

What is certain, however, is that the mechanism of democracy can never be applied with success to methods of realising a policy. An understanding of this has enabled our lords and masters to split the so-called democracy of this country on every occasion on which it was desirable to the maintenance of their power.

To submit to a democracy a highly technical question such as Free Trade or Tariff Reform, with its endless implications, is as absurd as to submit to a democracy the relative advantages of driving a battleship by steam turbines or diesel engines. Any decision obtained upon such a subject by means of a popular vote can be demonstrated mathematically always to be wrong. The more complex a subject is the more certain it is that an understanding of it will be confined to a few people who will, of course, always be outvoted by the majority who do not understand it.

But this is not true of policy. Any man who is not a congenital idiot can decide for himself whether he wants to starve to death, live in misery, or live in comfort; and I can assure you that you have only to unite implacably upon a common policy, and to pursue it, and the proper means for realising that policy will be found for you.

Douglas at Newcastle

AN IMPRESSION

TO the critical observer, the most noticeable feature in the address of Major Douglas on Tuesday, March 9, in the City Hall, Newcastle-on-Tyne, was the remarkable degree of concentration given to his remarks from an audience drawn from all walks of life.

The Earl of Tankerville, who took the chair, prepared the minds of the audience for Major Douglas’s speech by stressing the ability of people in association to get what they want.

Major Douglas’s points were received with keen appreciation, for Tyneside of all places is conscious of the hold which the policy work for work’s sake has upon this mad world.

To say that the meeting was most encouraging to enthusiasts on Tyneside is to express local opinion mildly. Many contrasts were made with the visit of Major Douglas some six years ago, and the progress made was very obvious, as well as conducive to constructive optimism.

The way in which Major Douglas’s remarks, both in his address and in answer to questions, were received, and the outstanding absence of petty bickering gave one real hope for the future. E.J.R.

CAMOUFLAGE FROM CAMBRIDGE

By J. Scott Kyle

THE 8,000 words or so which this pamphlet* contains are devoted partly to an attack on the A+B Theorem after the manner of Messrs. Copland, Robbins, *et alii*, partly to warning Communists, both actual and potential, of the danger in Social Credit to the theory of the Work State as practised in Soviet Russia, and partly to telling readers to blame for our present troubles, not the banker, but that vague abstraction the capitalist class.

Major Douglas dealt once and for all with this kind of attack on the A+B Theorem in “The New and the Old Economics”; there is no point, therefore, in dealing with it here. It is interesting, however, to examine the other two aspects of Mr. Dobb’s pamphlet.

Planned Work

In the first case there is the usual glib talk of the Workers’ State, planned production, abolition of unemployment, and so on, all of which parrot cries do not bear a moment’s investigation. For instance, if the State is to belong to the workers only, then, with the increase

of mechanisation, we may look forward to a handful of people owning the entire country: the logical end of a Workers’ State is an oligarchy. If unemployment must be abolished, then machine production should be stopped and the invention of new machines prohibited.

Apropos of this, it is interesting to note that in the early days of the U.S.S.R. an attempt was made to abolish the machine, and that the counterpart, prohibition of invention, has been advocated by that mouth-piece of finance, Sir Josiah Stamp, inside the last few months. The dicta of Communism and of finance are not incompatible.

Fear of Life

To get on, though, with Maurice Dobb, Master of Arts in the University of Cambridge, as he styles himself: he, like so many intellectuals, is a Communist; that is, he stands for the elimination of the individual and the establishment of the group. This outlook seems to arise fundamentally from a fear of life to which the huddled-in-the-herd nature of Communism panders.

The intellectual mind of a certain type is muddled by theories and is never in contact with facts, so that fear and indecision are bred, and the

escape from responsibility offered by Communism looks uncommonly attractive. For example, in one part of his pamphlet Mr. Dobb talks about gluts of foodstuffs and idle men and machinery, yet, five pages further on, he accuses capitalism of thriving on the restriction of production. In other words, the capitalist (meaning the private owner of the means of production) profits by a shortage; therefore he has produced a glut. Faced by such an obvious fallacy there are two courses open to a man. He can accept responsibility and search for the flaw in his reasoning, or else he can run away from responsibility and let his *non sequitur* stand as a monument to his indecision. Mr. Dobb has chosen the latter course.

But Mr. Dobb’s type of intellectual can be a menace, for two reasons. First, a Master of Arts in the University of Cambridge is popularly supposed to be a man of learning, and weight is given to his statements on that account. Second, though he may be sincere in himself, he makes an excellent stalking-horse for the unscrupulous power-monger whose prominence and publicity can be given to intellectual ideas which advocate the subjugation of all individuals other than the power-monger him-

self. Bearing this in mind, consider that the London School of Economics, for instance, was endowed by one of the most powerful financiers of the last fifty years, Sir Ernest Cassel, while its staff and students include a large number of the intellectual type referred to.

Corruptio Optimi Pessima

It is most disturbing, then, to find the virus spreading to that home of science, Cambridge University. Especially is it disturbing in view of the following quotation from Mr. Dobb’s pamphlet:—

“The small farmer, the artisan, and the ‘little man’ generally ‘feels the pinch’ most acutely in the form of ‘dear credit,’ onerous mortgages, etc. He is very ready to see the enemy in a group of bankers and financial swindlers, and to accept the easy solution that the cause lies with a few evil persons rather than with a whole system and a whole class” (Mr. Dobb’s italics).

Major Douglas has said, “You cannot fight robbery; you can only fight robbers.” The clever robber knows this perfectly well. How nice it must be for him to have a Master of Arts in the University of Cambridge preaching the impossible.

* “Social Credit Discredited.” By Maurice Dobb, Master of Arts in the University of Cambridge. (Martin Lawrence, London, 3d).

A Letter to a Supervisor

PERSONAL SOVEREIGNTY

THE aim of "Local Objectives" is to rouse the people's will by experience of success in the attainment of some objective. My feeling is that the way to do this should not (cannot, with useful effect) be imposed by any central organisation, but that such objectives should be "run" by spontaneous organisation of the people concerned, guided into the right line by those (i.e., at first ourselves) who know how. Therefore, I think that groups should work out their own organisation for this job of getting the public to initiate demands.

In other words, this work should be progressively decentralised, from the Secretariat to the groups, and from them to the public. We shall not have accomplished much until the public themselves "catch on" and demand results. It is at this stage that I see the need to "keep demand inviolate," as the enemy will certainly try to divert the clean demand for results, backed by the strength of unity, towards methods or persons, with the inevitable break-up of that unity which is the strength of the people.

Background

I agree that the real substratum of the background is the nature of political democracy. But you will agree that at some point these principles must be brought to a head. It is useless to teach "demand results" in *vacuo*, and the result people want is the National Dividend, that will give freedom in security. We have proved that clearly enough.

This connection between "Local Objectives" and the Electoral Campaign is of critical importance. In the Electoral Campaign we have a mechanism which will get people what they want. We must ensure that the power which "Local Objectives" will arouse finds this mechanism, and is not diverted or dissipated.

First Steps

It is not the point of "Local Objectives" to inculcate principles. The first link between present conditions and the new democracy is the gaining of results, and the effect which this will have, progressively, on the psychology of the individual. So far as the masses are concerned, it is by practice that they will absorb rather than consciously learn principles.

Organisation at this stage (Local Objectives) should be sporadic and spontaneous (so far as possible). This is, as it were, the very first step of the infant democrat; it should be easy, and should get him where he wants to go; and, above all, bring out his own initiative. This means that it is not to the proper point for local objectives to be run by us, or as a group, etc.; rather the ideal is to suggest our ideas in such a manner that they shall strike a spark where tinder lies, and then fan and control the flame in the right direction.

This may well be a counsel of perfection in the early stages; but the point remains. We shall invoke the sense of mastery not by examples of results gained, but by each person's experience in exercising the initiative used in gaining them.

Centralisation

Demand should spring spontaneously from the people, and therefore central direction and organisation should be minimised in this (the expansion of the bellows).

In the compression stroke—in the use of the demand to overthrow finance and attain freedom—organisation and control should be as definite and compact, and complete, as we can make it.

Therefore, so far as the people—the masses—are concerned, our whole object is practice, to get them by attaining some particular result to realise that the same method will get them something else they want. That is to say, the function of the masses is to dictate policy, and we should be wrong in expecting or trying to get anything more from them; as masses ("the mob"), their function is confined to that—the dictation of policy. We should, for instance, be

wrong in expecting them—the "forty million citizens"—to understand the theory of democracy.

Then what we want *within our organisation* (the compression stroke) are, as it were, the natural "experts" in political democracy. Each local objective will show up certain individuals who have a turn for such matters, and who, as Lord Tankerville puts it, will *understand*. Our endeavour should clearly be to enlist these people and draw them—according to their capacity—inwards towards complete knowledge.

"Got a Pencil?"

When the baby first tries to walk, we encourage it. We don't say, "run across the garden, Tommy, and fetch me that ball," we arrange that his first steps are easy—and when he succeeds in staggering from one chair to another his chuckles denote nothing less than an enhanced sense of mastery over his surroundings.

First steps, then, in the advance towards the new democracy, should be easy and successful, and, if possible, should not lead to broken knees.

So the best local objective to encourage is:

Something most of the people concerned really want.

Something their demand is likely to secure—quickly.

Something, therefore, quite small to begin with.

We are out to help the "infant" democrat make his very first step—to ask for what he wants—to demand results—which is to dictate policy.

He should do this "off his own bat"; he must be inspired, not by instructions or orders; but by suggestion *where desire already exists*.

We are all used to hearing complaints about overcrowded or dirty trains, insanitary collection of rubbish, badly paved or unpaved paths, dangerous road crossings and what not. And now we see the point, we know what to say.

"Why sit down under this? There must be scores of people who think just the same. Let's do something. Why not tell the Council (or Company) just what we do want? Where would they be without the public? Come to think of it, this Council is there to do what we say, isn't it?"

"That's it, let's make a clear, simple demand for what we want, and see we get it. Who's got a pencil?"

Like most of Major Douglas's ideas, it is simplicity itself—keep eyes and ears open, find out what any group of people want, suggest to them the way they can get it, inspire them to some easy combined action, and give them what help may be necessary.

Such "Local Objectives" are now being taken in hand throughout the movement, and in fact some groups are already reaping the immediate advantages of action on these lines, both in local appreciation and in increased membership.

HEWLETT EDWARDS

POSTERS

A supply of blank SOCIAL CREDIT posters is now available. These can be used to display items of special local interest.

SUGGESTIONS

ALMOST daily we receive letters from friends who, urged by a zeal for more and better effort towards our common objective, make many and varied suggestions for the staff at headquarters to carry out.

Some of these suggestions are very good, some are indifferent, and some have already in the past proved failures in practice. The most common feature of all these well-meant advices is that they involve spending more money than we have. Every director could immediately make improvements in his department had he more funds with which to carry them out.

Apparently many of our friends

By M. de Castro A SONG OF SOUND FINANCE

WE know that words are little sounds, which serve to keep our thoughts in bounds, These, otherwise, might dangerous prove, and undermine the sounds of love:

The ringdove's coo, the gentle moo of cows that cud serenely chew.
But the sound that over others
Claims the rights of elder brothers
Is the sound of
Sound Finance.

In amongst the rolling downs,
and the walls of many towns,
Echoes linger . . . echoes pass
over valleys . . . over glass
Of voices high that strife deny,
in spite of bombs and gas supply.
But the echo of the last
Rather blatant little blast,
Is the sounding
Sound . . . of
Sound Finance.

Committees large and persons wise
combine to put a stop to lies.
The FACTS of life are clearly told
in letters large and headings bold.
We all confess that in the Press
ripest wisdom is . . . no less.
While newspaper owners fey
With insistent voices bay
At the sound of
Sounding—sounded
SOUND . . . FINANCE.

FINANCE

Fools make wars . . . and peoples perish,
but the sound of "SOUND" we'd cherish.
All the earth shall be united—
crops (where necessary) blighted.
Who need fear, . . . this great idea
will always serve . . . the way to cheer.
And the B.B.C., we pray,
Circumspectly . . . will relay,
Night by night . . . and day by day,
Sounding . . . sounds of
Sounder . . . sounding
SOUND . . . FI-NANCE.

Economists of *all* the schools
are early trained to keep "the Rules."
City men of every grade
internationally arrayed
control the means to keep up trade.
Loans are issued . . . debts are paid,
Which were made . . . in the shade,
With the aid . . . of the blade
Damocletian . . . retrograde,
Of the sound . . . sounded sound,
Sounding . . . sounder,
SOUNDEST . . . SOUND OF
SOUND, SOUND, SOUND, SOUND,
SOUND . . . FI-NANCE.

FINANCE OF THE MONTH

By A. Hamilton McIntyre

Metal Prices

THE prices of metals have in some cases risen to double what they were a year ago. This applies even to some ferrous metals, but even more so to the non-ferrous group. Producing and selling pools of the non-ferrous metals groups have been having a busy time with association meetings. It seems that for a time all in the garden was lovely and the pool meetings were able to congratulate each other.

Now, according to one report, however, there is a growing fear that the increased demand for metals arises from a real demand for use. The idea that metals should be produced for use is, of course, a very disturbing idea to a group of people who prefer to look on metals as being something out of which not to make things, but to make money.

Each Other's Washing

There is an old phrase which says that you cannot live by taking in each other's washing. This, from a certain point of view, is quite wrong, because the whole principle of distribution of labour means that we do nothing else but take in each other's washing. That by the way . . .

The phrase has been recalled to my memory by reading an address on our monetary system given before the Institute of Chemistry. The lecturer, Dr. W. H. Coates, draws a picture of the interworkings between the banks, discount houses, H.M. Treasury, and the Government Departments, and shows in detail the effect on their accounts of the

various transfers of bills, notes, gold, etc.

It is amusing enough to picture these transactions between, say, the Bank of England, the exchange equalisation account, the money market, and the joint stock banks, but it is positively hilarious to imagine Government departments of one kind and another such as the Post Office, the Road Fund, etc., buying and selling Treasury bills, War Loan, etc. The lecturer puts it rather naively when he says, regarding these departments:

Through the nature of their particular functions, holding considerable balances of money from time to time, they also play some part in the British monetary system, for they constitute a form of investor which may be relied upon to obey the directions of the Government.

This is taking in each other's washing with a vengeance. One might say the washing goes round and round, but it never gets any cleaner. Just imagine the Treasury borrowing half a million on Ways and Means Account, while the National Debt Commissioners are buying half a million War Loan.

An Illusion

One might ask why is all this roundabout rigmarole adhered to? It seems to me that the answer may be something like this: If all the banks, discount houses, Exchange Equalisation Account, and Government investment departments were rolled into one, it would probably become obvious sooner or later that no really useful function was being performed; but by splitting them up into sections and putting each section under different authority an illusion is created of something useful being done; and the more intricate it is made the more important the outcome must appear to be.

The Real Basis

What is the real basis behind all this? Dr. Coates suggests it in the following extract:

From a mechanical point of view the monetary system rests, first, upon an accountancy basis, and secondly, upon certain conventions of the banking world . . . As for conventions, they may be described as voluntary rules of action or conduct. They play a considerable part in our monetary system, as indeed they do also in the British Constitution, and, if one may say so, in society and all our games.

This, it seems to me, is the best thing he said in his lecture. The whole monetary system, therefore, is just a game. We didn't ask to be

allowed to play. We didn't make the rules, and the questions we have to answer are: Do we like the game, and do we want to play any longer?

B.I.S.

Sir Otto Niemeyer was on March 8 elected chairman of the board of the Bank of International Settlements for three years. In the past, the posts of chairman and president have been held by one person, but in future these posts are to be held by two separate persons, Dr. Beyen having been elected president.

The meaning of these moves is not immediately apparent, but I might hazard a guess that Sir Otto Niemeyer would not have taken the position if he had been destined to be the next Governor of the Bank of England. Whether this means that the Norman Conquest will continue for another three years I am unable to say.

Raising the Wind

THESE four useful references are taken from an article on the Defence Loan fraud written by Mr. Norman Smith in *Forward*, March 13.

Sir Josiah Stamp ("Problems in Finance and Government," p. 242): "People were induced to subscribe to War Loan by raising loans at the bank, either on the security of the loan itself or of other collateral."

The late Mr. A. A. Baumann, one-time Conservative M.P. (*Evening Standard*, August 25, 1931): "During the war individuals were advised by the press and by public men to borrow money from their banks to subscribe to War Loans."

Viscount Snowden ("Labour and National Finance," p. 28): "The banks have been encouraged to lend to their customers for investment in War Loans. By this practice additional credit has been created for which there is no security in real wealth. In addition to this, the banks have themselves subscribed largely to the War Loans out of deposits standing to the credit of their customers. The War Loan scrip obtained by the banks for their investments has been deposited in the Bank of England as valid security for further loans to the Government. By this manipulation of credits a vast amount of Government indebtedness has been created which is not represented by savings."

SECRETARIAT DINNER

"TO judge by some of the things written and said by Mr. Savage, Prime Minister of New Zealand, there appear to be many ideas in common between the present New Zealand Government and Social Credit."

So said the Earl of Tankerville, presiding over the dinner on March 22nd at the Waldorf Hotel, London, at which the Social Credit Secretariat welcomed the Rt. Hon. Walter Nash, Minister of Finance and Customs in the New Zealand Government.

It was a most successful function and despite the awkward date (Monday in Easter Week), chosen to suit the convenience of Mr. Nash, the attendance was 164, including Mr. and Mrs. Nash, Major and Mrs. Douglas, the Earl and Countess of Tankerville, Professor Harris (Professor of Anatomy at Cambridge University), and most of the Directors of the Secretariat.

If, Lord Tankerville went on, we discussed the objectives of Social Credit — without labelling them Social Credit, or anything else — it would be found that most people agreed with them.

The main objective was economic freedom-in-security for the individual. Everyone wanted freedom of thought, speech, and action; and everyone wanted security.

All of these objectives were physically possible, and, said Lord Tankerville, whatever was physically possible could be made financially possible.

Fixed Responsibility

Those who were working with Major Douglas were therefore trying to get people everywhere to realise their democratic sovereignty by demanding only the results they wanted, Governments should saddle the experts, not themselves, with the responsibility of finding whatever may be the best technical methods to achieve those results.

Nevertheless, we were keenly interested in the financial views and proposals put forward by Mr. Savage, and he quoted extracts from his pre-election pamphlet entitled "The Case for Labour":

"Under present conditions there is no security for anyone. The comparatively well-to-do person of today may be a pauper tomorrow after having spent a lifetime in attempting to prepare for old age.

"... there is no reason for waiting for other countries to move before beginning to put our own house in order."

"Unless purchasing power of the masses keeps pace with increasing production, there can be no legitimate object in more production."

"The public credit should be the means used to establish a money system which would equate buying power with production..."

"Without goods and services (production), our money system could not exist. Why, then, harness it to anything else — internal or external?"

"The solution of the money problem lies in the establishment of a national banking system which will carry out all the functions of banking at the cost of providing the service."

"The money system should be based on goods and services. This would enable payment, from the public credit, to be made to farmers and others in equitable relationship to services rendered, and without increasing taxation."

"It is neither possible nor desirable to help one section of the people at the expense of the rest."

Lord Tankerville expressed the hope that Mr. Nash would report what progress had so far been made towards achieving Mr. Savage's programme, and particularly whether the New Zealand Government had been able to make such progress without, as Mr. Savage had put it, "helping one section of people at the expense of the rest," and "without increasing taxation."

False Democracy

Major Douglas, proposing the toast of "The Guests," referred to the intense loyalty and affection of New Zealanders for all things British. Among those things we considered to be particularly British was what we called "democracy"—a term so little understood that it had become perverted.

A fair example of the modern ten-

dency to specialisation, he said, would be provided by questioning any ten men in the street at random. Each one of them would probably have something to say worth listening to—some one subject on which he could give a considered opinion, even if it were only who was going to win the Boat Race—but in regard to other subjects than that on which he happened to specialise, his opinion would probably not be of much value.

Suppose, went on Major Douglas, that amongst the ten there was by chance one man with a broad knowledge of political economy, and questions of increasing difficulty on the problems of managing the country were put to each of them: it was mathematically certain that in a very short time the majority would be found to be wrong, and the minority of one right.

The advertised theory of representative government meant that the Member of Parliament represented a body of people who were always wrong! This had led to the assumption that a Member of Parliament was not a representative, but a delegate empowered to become expert at large upon any subject whatever. Whatever that might be, it was not democracy.

True Democracy

Suppose on the contrary questions of decreasing difficulty were put to the ten men, questions which eventually became so simple that everyone was bound to agree, and there could not be a minority opinion? There could, for instance, hardly be a minority opinion about such a question as, "Would you rather have toothache or not?"

When questions were brought to a level of that kind, where common experience was more important than uncommon intelligence, there was a field for genuine democracy, for the majority would always be right, and there should be no minority.

When the majority had decided on these questions, the technical experts should be given a free hand, and not be interfered with by democracy in his task of producing the results desired.

Only by the application of these principles outlined should we defeat the dictatorship — open or concealed — which existed in every country, including our own, because the only thing which would infallibly defeat dictatorship was genuine, and not spurious democracy.

It was, said Major Douglas, to the creation of a genuine democracy that the Social Credit Secretariat was devoting most of its attention. If its methods failed, there could be no hope for British culture.

Social Credit

Success depended upon getting back to the fundamental reality that people associate in order that, in association, they should get those things they wanted. They did not associate in order that they might be ruled in association.

People associated together freely under discipline, so long as that discipline was not allowed to become an end in itself, but was kept merely as a means towards getting those things that people agreed in common they desired.

Mr. Nash, responding, said that he was not a Social Creditor, although he declared himself to be an ardent individualist and a believer in the freedom of people to choose for themselves. Most important of all, he believed with Major Douglas in economic freedom, the first step to which must be Government control of the credit and currency system.

Mr. Nash Accepts Responsibility

He attributed the sweeping majority (55 out of 80) of the present Government of New Zealand at the last election to intense dissatisfaction with the previous Government and with the money system, together with a feeling that the Labour Party would give economic freedom to the mass of the people

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in accordance with the programme the party had consistently put forward for over 20 years. Further, the Prime Minister, Mr. Savage, inspired confidence by his complete integrity.

The first Bill passed after the election gave the new Government all the power it wanted to take control of credit and currency, and there would therefore be no excuse for the Government if everything that could be done with money was not done. If the Government failed, said Mr. Nash, the responsibility would be the Government's.

No resources of the country should remain unused so long as anyone suffered for their need; he himself promised that to Social Crediters who had wanted reassurance before voting for the Labour Party. There was one condition, however—no one should go short, but he must vote if he was able.

Although there might have been some grumbling about taxation, said Mr. Nash, already since the Labour Government had come into office there was no country better run along these lines than New Zealand. The destitute had been fed and clothed, deserted wives were pensioned, old age pensions had been increased, food prices had been kept down.

Absolves Technicians

The central bank had been nationalised and was now under the complete control of the Government, which thus had control of all bank procedure. The problem now was how to use that power, and Mr. Nash felt that before he, as Minister of Finance, could exercise it and pass instructions for something to be done he must himself find out how to do it.

Mr. Nash paid a tribute to Major Douglas as the man who had done more than anyone else to bring before the world the frightful disparity between production and consumption, so that people were shocked when they thought of the material blessings that were withheld to keep back the spiritual development of the people. When it was said that man did not live by bread alone it was implied that man must first of all have bread. Man could not have spiritual freedom until he had economic freedom, and the objective of the New Zealand Government was to provide economic freedom.

In spite of the warnings of Lord Tankerville and Major Douglas that Governments should saddle experts with technical responsibility, Mr. Nash, in conclusion, insisted that the responsibility was the Government's, and they would not put it on to anybody else.

Enemies of Freedom

Professor Harris, of Cambridge, who also responded to the toast, told of his early experiences in South Wales, where he had seen the decay not merely of industry but of a

whole people. While the inventions of Bessemer and others lead to increased production, they lead also to the decay of family life and of skill. As industry declined and the great steelworks of South Wales closed down one by one, the blow fell hardest on the skilled worker, so that those who had contributed most to productive capacity suffered worst.

King Edward, on his famous visit to South Wales, after seeing the derelict works of Guest Keen at Dowlais, said "Something must be done." Something had been done. Those works had now been finally demolished, so there was no possibility of the industry being revived there.

Professor Harris, referring to the campaign for compulsory physical training, said that it seemed to be forgotten that, unless food was provided first, physical exercises merely made people more tired than they already were.

The type of mind that demanded compulsory physical training was more dangerous to the British heritage of human freedom than any foreign dictators. This precious British heritage was in danger of being lost. It did not depend upon the head but upon the heart. The common Britisher, who had no respect for professors and exalted authorities, had something under his waistcoat which would survive civilisation.

Lt.-Colonel J. Creagh-Scott, D.S.O., proposed the toast of "The Secretariat," to which Mr. L. D. Byrne replied.

Money Leaflet.—This useful leaflet, which consists of a list of verified statements about money and the power wielded by the money monopoly, quoted from authorities recognised by "sound finance," is now available in quantities at half price (namely 4s. 4d. a 1,000, or 6d. a hundred post free) from W. A. Barratt, 10, Warrington Road, Fawdon, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

A Result of the Newcastle Meeting.—A local bookseller reports a greatly increased sale of Major Douglas's books since the meeting reported on page 2.

ALSO AMONG THE PROPHETS

The following remark by Professor Dennis Robertson is quoted from *The Listener* for February 4, 1931.

"In England as a rule we rub along very nicely without inquiring too closely whether the ultimate fount of financial policy is to be found in Downing Street or Threadneedle Street.

But even we may be tempted to hold that while the execution of policy must remain a matter for experts, its broader aims and purposes ought to become increasingly a matter for public discussion and even public control."

LOCAL OBJECTIVES

Organisation

IT is sometimes asked whether Groups should organise their "Local Objectives" under a special supervisor, in the same way as the Electoral Campaign, Publications and other departments are dealt with by their own Supervisors within groups.

Organisation, being only a means to an end, requires (especially in this campaign for Local Objectives) considerable flexibility, and, to quote Major Douglas, "the closest attention to realism."

Groups are free at this stage of the campaign, to nominate, if they wish, any one or more persons (including present supervisors) to initiate or obtain co-operation in this Local Objective Campaign, at the same time bearing in mind the principles of individual responsibility and initiative, as well as association for an end in view.

The Secretariat Director of the L.O. Department is prepared to co-operate with any such person nominated by a Group for this purpose, as well as to advise individuals acting on their own initiative.

It is important, however, that, whenever a local objective is undertaken, every endeavour should be made to gain some permanent adherents (even if it is only one or two) who can understand our main objective, and who can be relied on later both for concerted or individual action when the time comes.

Later on, when increasing unrest will be spreading, it will be only by such people "who know what to do and how to do it," that we can hope to counter the enemy's efforts to confuse the issues; and prevent him from making use of strikes and general discontent for his own purposes, as is now being done in France and America.

Conference

It was originally thought that a conference would be advisable to initiate the Local Objective Campaign; but the idea is spreading so quickly throughout the movement that action is already being taken and Groups are organising themselves for the work. The Conference will therefore not be held immediately, so that the invaluable experience gained in this initial action may be pooled.

As the Coronation will monopolise attention (and accommodation) in London during May, it is proposed to hold the Conference in June. The actual date will be announced in an early issue of SOCIAL CREDIT.

Alberta and Debt

Douglas Cadets should read THE FIG TREE, the Social Credit Quarterly, edited by Major Douglas. They should also bring it to the notice of others, and especially get local libraries to take it.

The current (March) issue contains a remarkable article by Major Douglas on Alberta that everyone should read. It shows graphically how the money monopoly has got the whole Province into its debt.

THE 1930 CLUB.

THE next meeting of the 1930 Club in London will be held on Tuesday, April 6, at 6 p.m., in the Essex Stairs Tea Rooms, Essex Street, Strand. Members of the National Dividend Club will be welcome on this occasion.

Mr. W. A. Willox will speak on the relation between the Electoral Campaign and the Local Objectives Campaign." Major Douglas hopes to be present.

FIG TREE

FIG TREE binding cases (See Miscellaneous Advertisements in SOCIAL CREDIT, Page 7.)