A Happy Christmas
To All Our Readers
THE ALTERNATIVE OF DICTATORSHIP

By G.W.L. Day

Some of the newspapers have been telling us that we can go about our Christmas shopping with light hearts because, God and Hitler willing, there will not be another major crisis until the Spring.

In the meantime, they say, we have a breathing space to save the ship. We are drifting on to the rocks, and our present political machinery is inadequate to save us. Democracy may be all very well in theory, but in a world of dangerous realities it won't work. We must come down to earth, and the people must have a Leader.

To prove that democracy won't work and that the people want a Leader, they point out that half the Electorate is too apathetic to vote.

Although the argument is unsound, the facts, of course, are quite genuine. "Mass-observation," writing in The New Statesman, gives some interesting information on the subject. Those who do not use their votes, he says, are by far the biggest "Party" in municipal elections and a powerful third party in parliaments. Altogether there are about ten millions of them.

For the last eighteen months he has been collecting data from "worktown" and adjacent northern constituencies, an area covering about 30,000 voters. Here are some of his results:

- About three-quarters of the married voters act in the same way—both vote or neither vote. Just over 85 per cent. of these choose the same candidate as their husbands, always.
- As regards non-voters, here is a table giving statistics for people of different ages:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age</th>
<th>At Municipal</th>
<th>At Parliamentary</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>21-25</td>
<td>86</td>
<td>81</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26-30</td>
<td>84</td>
<td>77</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31-35</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>36-40</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>41-45</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>46-50</td>
<td>87</td>
<td>86</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Researches in America and on the Continent showed that all over the world the better-off people are the more likely to vote. Non-voters among the working class are proportionately just about double the non-voters in the Upper Middle Class.

In general, then, only the middle-aged take much interest in voting, and among these a large proportion are "Haves," who vote, presumably, to preserve the status quo.

All this, declare those who wish to fascise the country, proves that democracy won't work and that the people don't want it. What they do want is somebody who will take decisions for them and save them the trouble of voting. A dictator, in fact. Before agreeing, we must ask why it is that the ten millions don't vote.

Some, perhaps, are too lazy or fatalistic, or too much immersed in idle pursuits.

Others, however, are neither lazy nor fatalistic, but realise they are given only a Hobson's choice.

OLD TUNE
(with variation)

(Can be played anywhere, any time)

Sensed and with, when hope is low,
Thousands yet, as the plot thickens,
Thousands yet, who fight with spooks,
Shall be told, and told with laughter,
Money's made with noughts in books.

-Nicholas Mere

U.S.A. National Income

A national income of $65,000,000,000 for 1938 was forecast on November 24 by Daniel C. Roper, U.S.A. Secretary of Commerce. This total, if realized, will be the highest in the U.S.A. since 1930, with the single exception of last year, when the national income reached an aggregate of $69,000,000,000.

Income payments represent income paid out, not national income produced, and include relief payments, which totalled in the first ten months of this year $30,000,000 more than in the corresponding period a year ago and constituted 6 per cent. of the total income receipts, as against 4 per cent. in the similar period last year.

THE FIG TREE

THE DECEMBER ISSUE, JUST OUT
contains an important article by G. F. Powell reviewing the Alberta situation.

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

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


COMMENTARY

Two Old Chestnuts
The Ministry of Labour will be known in future as the Ministry of Labour and National Service.
This title embodies two ideas dear to the hearts of the bankers—that it's naughty of you to get money without working for it (though labour-saving machinery was invented to save labour), and that the individual should serve the state (though if a war comes it's you who gets killed and not the "state.").
The only catchword missing seems to be something about "moral rearmament."

The City's Weight
The Prime Minister, speaking at a luncheon in the House of Commons on December 15, 1938, said that the City of London was one of the great influences in the country which carried weight abroad.
Since the City has laid the dead-weight of debt on all the Dominions, Colonies, and a large part of the Continent and the Far East, this is certainly a pregnant saying. Newfoundland, in particular, groans under the weight of the City's influence.

Echo of 1914
"In the words of the old music hall jingle of the 19th century," said Mr. Stanley, President of the Board of Trade, speaking in the House of Commons on the Export Guarantees Bill on December 15, 1938, "We don't want to fight, but, by jingo, if we do, we've got the men, we've got the brains, and we've got the money too."

This reference to the last war, which was brought about by the same cause (the fight for export markets) that the Export Guarantees Bill seeks to perpetuate, is unfortunate—to put it mildly.

If we have got such a lot of brains and money, why aren't we able to buy our own goods?

Another Murder by the Money Power
"A woman who was said to have been worried because there was no money to pay for the rent and to provide Christmas toys for her children, was bound over at Old Bailey yesterday on a charge of placing 6d. in the house.
She is Annie Elizabeth Emily Newman, 23, of Beck Road, Stratford, E., and the original charge was one of murder.
"Mr. J. F. Eastwood, K.C., defending, said that he did not think that in all his experience he had met such a sad case.
"Owing to the continuous illness of the children's father, bound with the rent, and had to pawn some of her husband's clothes. On the day of the tragedy she had 6d. in the house.

"(What hurt her and, perhaps brought about the tragedy, was the fact that the children were asking what they were going to get at Christmas," added Mr. Eastwood."—Daily Telegraph, December 14, 1938.
"Poverty in plenty was the crime, but it was the victim who stood in the dock and not the perpetrators—the central bankers.
"Remember, firstly: this case got publicity, millions suffer in silence.
"Secondly: charity can alleviate, only Social Credit can abolish this great evil.

Still More Sabotage
The Daily Telegraph of December 17, 1938, in discussing the problems of the Lancashire cotton industry, says: "One is that of surplus output capacity, the bugbear of every contracting industry. What is urgently needed is the orderly reduction of surplus plant."

If a foreign bomber were to destroy our factories, or an individual were to set fire to them, we should be rightly indignant at the enemy or the criminal, yet we sit back quietly and let financial tyranny destroy our 'real wealth in an 'orderly' manner.

Given more new money (not out of someone else's pocket) there is scarcely a single British man, woman or child that could not make good use of at least 100 per cent. more from Lancashire now.

Frustration
On December 14, a Bill was introduced in the House of Commons to prohibit boys under 16 from working in mines, as 38 per cent. of them suffer from accidents.

The Bill was defeated on the grounds that Parliament should await the findings of the Royal Commission.

As a means of frustrating the will of the people, there is nothing so good (or so bad, according to whether a banker or a citizen is speaking) as a Royal Commission.

It means that the satisfaction—or even discussion—of the people's demands is put off for an indefinite period.

The Pecksniff Touch
From the Daily Telegraph, December 13, 1938.

After discussion between the French and British experts it is probable that both missions will join with Treasury officials in working out a method of placing £30,000,000 at the disposal of the Prague Government over the next few years.

"Discussions have been taking place in Paris on the basis that Czechoslovakia, if properly financed, can still be made independent of German influence."

So it appears that Czechoslovakia has escaped from "German influence" only to fall into the clutches of British and French usurers, who will make a "generous" loan, and incidentally rake off a "generous" rate of interest. What price national "independence"?

Release the Robot!
Some of the most fascinating wonders of modern London and the modern world are illustrated and explained in detail in the Daily Telegraph and Morning Post Book of Diagrammatic Drawings.

Among the subjects dealt with are the research ship Research, the launching of the new Cunarder Queen Elizabeth, the giant telescope built in England for the new Radcliffe Observatory at Pretoria, the world's highest cable railway, the Dartford-Purfleet Thames tunnel, London's new Fire Brigade Headquarters, the latest tube trains, and Waterloo Bridge.

These things give us a glimpse of what might be commonplace if science and invention were freed from the handicuffs of an outworn financial system.

Pensions!
Backed by 700 aged and infirm men and women, each paying a penny a week, Mr. A. J. Fowler, of Page's Walk, Bermondsey, S.E., hopes to start a national campaign for pensions for all unemployed people.

Mr. Fowler himself has been unemployed owing to poor eyesight and dependent on poor law assistance for twelve years.—Sunday Express, December 13, 1938.

U.S. Pensions
A bill to increase old-age pensions to £3 a week will be introduced in the next American Congress, reports a news item. Present rates vary—according to the amount paid in—from 10s. to £4 2s. a week.

Help the Movement
NOW!

With actual Money Saving

Wholesale Price to Social Crediters and 3d. per lb. sent to Social Credit Funds

FINEST TEA

3/2 Choice Ceylon for 2/6

3/6 “Indian and Ceylon” for 2/4

2/10 Choice Coffee for 2/2

10 lbs. Carriage Paid

5 lbs. 4d. extra for carriage

Chota Hazri Tea Co., Ltd.
33 Moorfields, Liverpool
Comedy of Errors

SELF-SUFFICIENCY AND SOCIAL CREDIT

By ARTHUR BRENTON

Dr. Schacht's visit to Mr. Montagu Norman, and the reported object of it (see the News Chronicle of December 13) sets a conundrum for students of finance. The President of the Reichsbank is said to be wanting a deal with the Governor of the Bank of England in which Germany shall get facilities for (a) increasing her imports of raw materials and (b) increasing her exports of goods which she is content to sell, but with the proviso that the value of her extra exports shall be greater than that of her extra imports. The reason for this proviso is that Dr. Schacht wants to acquire a balance of foreign credits (preferably dollars as well as sterling, since the Bank of England and the Federal Reserve Board are probably joint parties to the negotiations) in order to be able to finance the evasion of Jews from Germany. It is further stated that Dr. Schacht would like to get the aforementioned raw materials "on credit," or else to "float a loan" in London—which amounts to the same thing. In brief, he wants to borrow the raw materials he needs, and sell outright for cash the goods he does not need. In that way he will acquire foreign credits for financing the Jewish Exodus.

The process, as described in the News Chronicle, is that the Jews will be provided with these foreign credits in exchange for their "holdings of marks or property in Germany." According to figures given by Vernon Bartlett in the News Chronicle, the Jews will receive only from four to six per cent. of the value of these "holdings" when the fines and discounts imposed by the Government and the Reichsbank have been deducted. These are the following:

- Assassination Tax
- Repairs Tax
- Capital Flight Tax
- Jewish Relief Tax
- Conversion Tax

Successively levied on a token figure of £100 they will be seen to reduce it to about £6.

The writer of the "Londoner's Diary" in the Evening Standard (December 13, "Late Night Final") edition, alludes to the fact that Dr. Schacht has been a close personal friend of Mr. Norman for many years; he also states that until the recent crisis Mr. Norman's nephew, Mr. Mark Norman, was on the staff of a bank in Berlin where Dr. Schacht "had the opportunity of god-fathering" him; and lastly he makes the comment:

"Politically Dr. Schacht no longer counts in Germany. On financial matters his advice may be taken if it accords with the Fuehrer's predilections."

These pieces of news and comment do not appear in the "Final Night" edition of the Evening Standard, the really final edition—which only shows you how quickly news gets out of date in these times of speed and hustle. On comparing the two editions it appears that these items were cut out to make room for some chatty details about (a) the late Mr. James McNell and (b) Mr. David Kirkwood's sons. No harm done, of course; for, after all, to the majority of readers of that paper it is probably more interesting to learn that Mr. Kirkwood's son, James, is an architect than that Mr. Norman's nephew, Mark, is a banker. All the same it is not more important, because though an architect might create eyecorers occasionally, a banker is creating bedsores perpetually.

The news about the meeting of the two central bankers induces the reflection that when it's politics Chamberlain goes to see Hitler, but when it's finance Schacht comes to see Norman. When it's principles and plans of action, Hitler is the Mountain and Chamberlain is Mahomet; but when it's powers and means of action, Norman is the Mountain and Schacht is Mahomet. "Politically Dr. Schacht no longer counts in Germany," remarks the writer in the Evening Standard. Well, nor does Mr. Norman in England. It is the policy of both to keep out of politics, i.e., above politics. They need not count in politics because they can count out the politicians.

It is not clear what the Evening Standard's paragraphist means by saying that Hitler only accepts advice from Schacht when it suits him to do so. If true, one could not assess the significance of the fact without knowing the circumstances of the occasions when Schacht's advice was not taken. One can easily imagine circumstances in which a central bank might find it politically expedient to assist a given policy against its bitter judgment as a technical referee. As a matter of fact, all the central banks, since the war, have been consenting and collaborating parties to such breaches of the rules of prudent finance as would make the old-time bankers turn in their graves. But in no case has any one of them tolerated any change in the basic design of the mechanism of cost. Expansion of credit, expansion of extra-Budgetary debt—yes, these "unsound practices they will put up with" but not the "crude change, in accounting" which would lead to the end of their invisible political dominance.

Many people, including upholders of Social Credit, do not believe that the central banks completely control the policies of the Governments with which they are severally associated. They think it a tenable theory, for instance, that the German militocracy can give orders to the Reichsbank and can empower it to bargain with other central banks for, let us say, their "benevolent neutrality" to the German economic experiment. In this picture Schacht appears as a national financial plenipotentiary who is able to tell the Basle combine of international financiers where to get off and keep out. And this picture is exhibited to support the suggestion that autocratic Governments are more effective challenges of the rights and power of Basle than are democratic (or pseudo-democratic) Governments. Thus Hitler, Mussolini (and, maybe, Stalin) might turn out to be agents of the deliverance of the world from the economic labyrinth. Mention of Stalin, incidentally, arouses the reflection that the prospects of this eventuality would be brighter if the brown and black autocracies were not at loggerheads with the red one. In domestic politics, when the Administration in power is confronted by two (or more) Oppositions who hate each other, it is so much the more secure against dislodgment. And so it must be in European politics.

But apart from this you have to start at the beginning and ask yourself exactly what orders an autocracy can give to its central bank. To put the question in another way: what orders is a central bank, such as, able to carry out? The answer is: orders to provide all the credits demanded by the autocrats for their purposes. Taking Hitler and Schacht as examples, Hitler can, in theory, say to Schacht: "I want so many marks to spend: see to it." Well, as we all know, the marks can be provided. They cost nothing to manufacture. Further, as Mr. J. M. Keynes has declared, there is "no limit" to the expansion of credit in any country provided that all the central banks "keep in step." This proviso is a reminder that whereas Hitler could make Schacht expand German credit he could not make Schacht prevent Norman or any other central banker from expanding British or any other native credit. All that Schacht could accomplish would be to set the pace of general expansion in Europe and the rest of the world.

"Setting the pace" of the expansion would impose on Basle the task of arranging the co-ordination of the various expansions necessary for its central-bank members to "keep in
step.” And the task might be embarrassing as well as distasteful. But it could be accomplished if the technical basis on which Basle’s power of control is to be founded is never written.

The Technical Basis

Now, advocates of Social Credit who have assessed that something valuable may come out of the Nazi continuation of universal discipline with ordered economic planning, are entitled to point out that it ought to be much easier for Hitler to get price-control working as described than for us, say, Chamberlain or Roosevelt, to do so. But for that very reason, the absence of evidence that he is attempting such a policy affords more cogent support for the inference that he objects to the policy than the same absence of evidence affords in Britain and the United States. The British Premier and the United States President can at least plead that “public opinion” is not ripe for such a profound innovation; but the Fuehrer, who has ripened German public opinion to the state of rottenness, cannot enter the same argument. Industry would look at the maxim “Produce more: consume less,” and imagine that wage and salary-earners volunteered en masse to take half their previous incomes and put in a few hours more work a day. Industry would look healthy, wouldn’t it, with revenue down fifty per cent. and overhead costs diminished!

And the maxim for nations: “Export more: import less” is manifestly absurd. Where are the export surpluses to be dumped, and where is the money to pay for them coming from? If the Bank for International Settlements were to acquire an island to store the goods, and were to buy exported goods outright with new credit, that would be talking business so far as it went. But then, everybody would ask what was the matter with buying the goods without putting them on the island, and letting them be dumped among those tin cans that are so tidily disposed of by the name of “household refuse.” But, of course, that would be a most dangerous innovation! Banks do, in principle, buy exported goods, but only with the intention of selling them in exchange for promissory notes called “debts”—and seeing that the goods are the only security for the loan of themselves (!) they must, of course, be non-consumable, i.e., capital goods—ideally everlasting goods. Railway lines for Abyssinia, for instance. You see, the difference between trams for backward areas and meals for hungry people is that the rails “produce revenue,” whereas the meals do not. Don’t ask, please, how rails produce revenue. That is a secret—one which the directors of British railway systems are trying to find out at this very moment. Wait for their report.

Reverting to the theory of German self-sufficiency as a preparation for Social Credit, there is this objection to its credibility, and it is that Schacht is dealing with other central banks for help in making this preparation. He can hardly believe that Basle is not aware of this potential value of self-sufficiency; and if so he can hardly expect Basle to help him towards that objective without some guarantee that it will not be used as a means for giving Social Credit a practical trial.

So it seems that we must wait a bit before we can make up our minds on the subject. And we can do so with serenity, knowing that our uncertainties are matched on a magnified scale in the highest circles of the Financial Monopoly. There are heads more uneasy there than any that wore a crown.

THE DARK ART

Says the leader of the Daily Telegraph on December 15:

“In the case of Germany the ingenuity of Dr. Schacht has succeeded in shrouding the public finances in a veil of complete mystery.”

Well, what of it, who knows the mystery of Mr. Montagu Norman’s Equalisation Fund?

Huge Deficit?

Italy’s Budget estimate for next year shows a deficit of £54,000,000.

Yet next year Italy plans to double the current year’s expenditure on defence services. Next year the arms bill will be £100,000,000.

Isn’t finance wonderful? The more you haven’t got, the more you intend to spend.

If this goes on, the cat will soon be out of the money-creators’ bag!

FOREIGN STAMPS

A Source of Revenue

Those of our readers who live abroad—especially in the British Colonies—or who receive letters from abroad, are requested to collect and send to us the stamps from the envelopes.

Those who are in a position to make offce collections are specially asked to cooperate. Don’t attempt to dismantle the stamps, just tear off the corner of the envelope and post the accumulation periodically. Small quantities or even odd stamps enclosed with correspondence are very welcome.

Pictorials and high values are specially desirable.

SOCIAL CREDIT SECRETARIAT LTD.

163a Strand,

Open Day At The Central Bank
By B.R.

SOME little time ago the doors of our Temple of High Finance were flung open, for one day only, so that the masses might see just how intricate is the mechanism of modern money, and how wholly worth striving for is the present system.

From dawn to dusk the premises were thronged by a seething and open-mouthed crowd intent on seeing just where the money does come from. Later, from 9 p.m. to 10 p.m., the Central Bank was open to children only, what time their progenitors had a quick one with the City fathers.

In their efforts to make the day a success, the organisers left no turn unstoned. The visitors were conducted over the whole building, except for the directors' wine cellar, and the explanation of nothing (where the money comes from) was omitted.

Within the machinery hall, where, in order that the printing presses may not be overloaded, real wealth is destroyed at a rate beyond human conception, the noise of the giant destructors made conversation impossible. Therefore explanation of the details was effected by sleight of hand. The efficacy with which this was done was proved by the fact that our special representative (who was admitted only after pronouncing the magic word "Alberta"), unwittingly left this hall without his wallet, the contents of which he later had the privilege of seeing in the process of being cancelled out of existence.

In further praiseworthy endeavours to bring the intricacies of making money out before my time-s—but I feel we have got to eliminate technical terms. to some given him when he called along at No. 10 to discuss the little matter of a £100,000 loan from his bank. But then I don't know whether Henry would have liked him. He was always a trifle horrid. Charlie Chan.—Contradiction, please. No bloodstains on steps of Bank do not have been high ....

The Countess of Oxford.—This evening I want to talk to you about the elder Rothschild. To my great regret I did not know him personally—he was a little before my time—but I feel we have got on extremely well. Apparently he had much of that cite de sienne and bonhomie which has always been such a characteristic of the Tennants, and I can imagine how brightly he would have shone as the great-great-grandfather-in-law of the Economic Reform League. I can imagine, too, how warm a welcome I would have given him when he called along at No. to discuss the little matter of a £100,000 loan from his bank. But then I don't know whether Henry would have liked him. He was always a trifle austere, was Henry, to those who endeavoured to keep the people's will from prevailing. I am sure that old Meyer Amschel would not have granted such loans to the majority of commoners, and I am inclined to think that the coefficient of friction between Henry and him might have been high.

Emergency Lecturer (borrowed at the last minute from the Zoo).—I have here a specimen of the genus lizardis politicus, to wit, a Member of Parliament, known in some parts of our globe as a chameleon, or earth lion, and in other parts as a public servant. Owing to certain pigments under its outer cuticle, the chameleon is able to change colour rapidly, and will often assume the colour of the ground it is placed upon. When set on Fuller's earth it ....

Lord Baldwin.—(Having struck a match on the seat of his trousers and lit a dottle in an old clay pipe, the noble earl was heard to mumble something about human sacrifices, at which our special representative fled invariably.)

Beachcomber.—Prostrate with gout, I have had the leisure to become a bank-watcher. I have been lucky enough to identify, in addition to Dr. Strabismus, of Utrecht (whom God preserve), that rare visitor to our shores, the Clarence, or Skinner, bird, who was parting company from that even rarer bird of passage, the lesser snake-backed prosperity. This year we are exporting to distant Osh Kosh, Wh ...

It was at this point that the Lutine bell rang to announce the free distribution of paper scrip, and, so far as our special representative is concerned, the rest is silence.

EXPORTS and WAR or PLenty and PEACE

Competition between one country and another to obtain increased foreign markets for their exports makes friendly relations more and more difficult, leads along the path to war.

It means, too, that the countries are steadily increasing their production and ability to produce. The world is getting richer and richer in goods and services, but this realisation means that cost effort and skill to produce.

At the same time the people, who produce this real wealth, are not able to absorb it—their access to it through money is inadequate. Hence the struggle to export it.

There is no good in producing what cannot be consumed. There is less good in doing so if it leads to war. But there would be much benefit if the production were made available for the enjoyment of the people who bring it about.

They need it and, by using it, instead of forcing it on others who cannot afford it, they would pave the way to peace.

There could easily be plenty for all.
The "Trouble" of Nature's Bounty

At the meeting of the East Suffolk Education Committee recently Lord Cranworth called attention to the report of the School Attendance Committee, in which the Medical Officer stated that there were 42 cases of slightly below normal nutrition in scholars examined. The report also stated that 1,430 children had been examined. Were the 42 cases found amongst the 1,400 children examined? If so, the proportion was a little higher than usual.

Dr. Wood White said the figures had nothing to do with the 1,400, but were out of 475 children under routine examination.

Lord Cranbrook: Then that is one in eleven.

Dr. Wood White: That is nothing like the proportion. This is a false position and I think the proportion is much higher.

Probably Dr. Wood White is correct. There are 4½ million people in this country with four shillings, or less, per week to spend on food, and some nine millions with six shillings or less; both sums are below the standard necessary for adequate nourishment as set by the British Medical Association.

There was some plain speaking at the Farmers' Club dinner held at the Trocadero.

The Earl of Forstersham, Parliamentary Secretary of the Ministry of Agriculture, who was deputising for the Minister of Agriculture (Mr. W. S. Morrison), said: "In the present uncertain conditions of the world any plan or policy prepared to-day may be upset by some sudden change in economic or financial conditions throughout the world and may have to be amended or revised. The time of conditions in our country may have just as serious effects."

Barley was a case in point. A combination of high yield and increased acreage had sent up home production by 200,000 tons over last year. This was about three times as large as the increase in imports, and there was little doubt that one of the main troubles was the bounty of nature.

Mr. Geo. Gibbard, president of the Farmers' Union, who responded, at once took Lord Forstersham to task and in particular challenged his remarks about over-production. He did not know whether this observation applied only to overseas production, but if he used it in connection with home production he refused to accept it. (Loud applause.)

It could not be the case in a country which imported rather more than half of its food requirements. His feeling was one of intense disappointment when he thought of the difficulties the nation allowed to beset agriculture continually, especially after the gallant fight British farmers had put up for so many long years.

He had never known more unrest, uneasiness, and uncertainty than existed amongst farmers to-day. There was a question whether agriculture could continue at all in many parts of the country.

We suggest that Lords Forstersham, Cranworth and Cranbrook concentrate their attention on the part finance plays in economic conditions, which impose malnutrition in the midst of abundance.

Wealth Increasing in the Balkans

Prolonged study of the soil and climatic variations in the Rize area has brought Turkey on the threshold of large-scale tea production, more than sufficient for the whole country's domestic requirements.

The application of new refining methods by the Italian plants at Bari and Leghorn is causing a sharp rise in the production of crude oil in Albania, from 33,760 tons in 1936 to 88,510 tons in 1937, and to over 100,000 tons during 1938.

Rice production in Greece has risen to over seven million kilogrammes (7,000 tons) during the present year, compared with three million kilogrammes (3,000 tons) in 1937.

Bulgarian grape exports have risen from 135 tons in 1926 to 6,500 tons in 1931 and 36,000 tons in 1937. Germany took 38,000 tons of last year's supply, and Great Britain 3,000 tons.

Cotton growing is making big strides in Roumania under the aegis of the official Textile Department. The area under production is to be increased by twelve times between 1937 and 1939.

Turkish coal is getting a bigger and bigger sale in the Mediterranean bunkering ports. The production of about 2,000,000 tons this year is being increased to 2,500,000 tons in 1939 and to 2,850,000 tons in 1940. Thereafter it is estimated that the annual increase will be from 300,000 to 500,000 tons. Some of the coal mined along the shores of the Black Sea is among the best in the world.

The tobacco output of Greece, Turkey and Bulgaria last year reached over 170,000 tons, and the tobacco exported from Greece was nearly 10 per cent. higher than in the previous year.

The first gold mine in Bulgaria is about to begin operation, and copper belts in the south of the country are being prospected.

There are promising indications of the existence of fairly large quantities of oil in Crete.

Electricity production in Greece has risen from 891,000 units in 1927 to 73,535,543 units in 1937.

Rocksalt deposits, stated to be sufficient to cover the requirements of the country for 1,000 years, have been discovered in Bulgaria.

The Yugoslav Government is consulting a well-known Californian expert as to how bigger, better, and more figs can be produced from the 600,000 fig trees along the Dalmatian coast.

The copper output of eastern Serbia has increased by 15 per cent. during the last 12 months.

Vast bauxite (aluminium ore) deposits have been discovered in the Hercegovina district of Jugoslavia, and exploitation of the beds is to start shortly. Even without these new deposits, the value of Jugoslav aluminium exports in the first six months of this year was 11 million dinars, compared with only 4 million dinars during the whole of 1937.

In the constant discovery and production of new real wealth in the form of minerals, foodstuffs, textiles, and better services, the Balkans are no different from any other country. But the poverty in many areas is horrifying. How is it that the greater our real wealth becomes, the deeper we are all in debt, and the more we are taxed?
The Hoodoo In The City

Sixty thousand casualties in one day, that's what happened on the Somme! When the battle was over, it had cost 420,000 casualties.

It is awful to contemplate the possibility of another war, yet the fear of the future that is lurking in men's hearts and minds centres in that very thing. The shadow of the bombers with their cargoes of dreadful pain and death, haunt men's dreams and undermine their waking thoughts with a nameless fear.

Why are we so obsessed? Why are the nations arming? The symptoms of violence occur daily. The spokesmen of the European powers betray bitterness and wariness in their speeches while people starve?

It is the prime mover in discord, is by suspicion, testiness, and a trend towards national difficulties. The movements of international financiers are rarely reported, and when they happen they are about remains a mystery, and is restricted and destroyed?

The common people everywhere want peace. What, then, is the cause of the tension? And why is it getting worse?

It is because the source of the quarrelling, the prime mover in discord, is by common consent carefully covered in public affairs. There is a tacit conspiracy always to provide a diplomatic smoke-screen to cover the part played by finance in international difficulties.

The wholesale conspiracy of deceit and taboo surrounding finance and its relativity to the troubles that afflict us explains why we are drifting towards war, when all the peoples want peace.

The distressed areas and the sufferings of the people who live in them, were the direct result of decisions taken by a few financiers—who have never yet been challenged by those who, in the name of the people, are supposed to be ruling the country.

Why can't people aged 50 have an adequate pension to buy what is now restricted and destroyed? Finance?

Why do we throw fish back in the sea, while people starve?

Money itself is not more important than life, either. Money costs nothing to create. Every life that is lost through lack of money indicts the present financial system as criminal. And let is be remembered there are men who control the financial system, it does not work by itself.

They must be brought to account. Their decisions made over the past twenty-five years cannot be justified either by the events that have followed or by reason.

We, the people, must learn to stand up straight and rely on our own native common-sense. The first step towards this is to refuse to accept or to listen to the hoodoo-language which pervades everything financial. It is the language of the devil, for it never calls a spade a spade, it is designed to deceive, to confuse, to bewilder and to over-awe the straight and simple man, so as to exploit him completely. It is a foul and crooked language—full of "swank," "conceit," "pride" and plain "cheating."

Away with it! Let our common-sense guide us and give us confidence. Let us demand what our common-sense tells us is possible and reasonable, and act accordingly, knowing what to do, and whom we are dealing with.

Do not trouble to learn the language of the City, or to try and understand the lunatic ravings in the financial columns of the "free to be bought" press. It is not our language. It is not common-sense.

It is not our business to justify our democratic demands, nor should we listen to the incantations of the Medicine Men when they try to bewilder us with their dark litanies. Beware of all who do this. Our common-sense tells us the fish, the milk, the potatoes, the beef, the butter we now continually destroyed can be distributed.

If those who now sit in Parliament will not, or cannot, get this done, our common-sense has proved them all dangerous men who must be replaced.

Make no mistake, if we neglect these homely, everyday, common-sense things, and fail in getting our will obeyed, the war men fear will come. Its very threat now present is due to not having done this verything over the last twenty years.

The millions of pounds now being spent to re-arm, have been created for the purpose. Had they been created to enable the poor to live in plenty, instead of paring their subsistence down to semi-starvation levels, the need to re-arm would have never arisen.

What about £2 a week to all not gainfully employed over 50 to start with? That's one beginning towards common-sense and away from the spellbinding hoodoo of the financial Medicine Men. They will hate the idea!
A GREAT NEW LIGHT

What Pensions At 50 Would Do

End Poverty — End War

“NEW measures to aid export trade”—that is now a common heading in the daily papers. And not only Great Britain, but Ireland, France, Germany, Italy, Poland, Czecho-slovakia, Argentina, Brazil, Australia, New Zealand, Africa, Canada, the U.S.A., and all of them, are up against the same difficulty — the finding of markets outside their own bounds whence they may export their surplus goods and services.

Every country competing with every other country for outlets for surplus production! No, one seems to question that it is “surplus,” because at the same time as the cry goes up for “aiding export trade,” no word is said about making it easier to import things. Indeed, every effort is continually being made by each one of the various countries to keep down imports. Tariff barriers are thrown up or built higher, and new industries are encouraged to manufacture at home what may be more easily produced abroad — and for no other reason than to keep out of our own country the things the other countries wish to export.

All this is overwhelming and unanswerable evidence that the world is already faced with such an abundance of production, such a plethora of plenty, that could immediately be applied to the abolition of poverty.

No reasonable and normal person wishes to perpetuate poverty. The poor themselves hate it. Everyone in his senses is ashamed of it, with its squalor, dirt, ugliness and unhappiness — its eternal worry and the feeling of utter insecurity it engenders.

There is no justification whatever for its continuance. And, moreover, the measures necessary to keep us poor are extremely dangerous, apart from their immediate effect in causing untold wretchedness to mankind.

The measures that keep us poor when plenty is all about us — the restrictions on importation, and the struggle to export abroad what other countries strive to keep out — these are measures of economic warfare. They engender hate and suspicion, they keep whole nations poor, they are the direct prelude to military war.

If, instead of forcing exports and shutting out imports, the people inside every country were enabled to provide the markets at home which cannot be found and won abroad without dangerous struggle, two things would at once be achieved.

First, the economic war between nations would be immensely eased, and friendliness would take the place of enmity; and, secondly, our own people at home would have more of the good things they can and wish to produce. Thus the fear of war and the discomfort of poverty would simultaneously disappear.

How can it be done? What about Pensions at 50? Pensions of £2 a week for everyone above the age of 50 who is not employed for pay, and who is not a paying employer of labour!

There need be no more difficulty about financing the scheme than there has been about finding £10,000,000 for the Czechs, or guaranteeing £75,000,000 for exports, or £1,500,000,000 for armaments. The need has only to appear dire enough, and is without any immediate increase in taxation, the money is there, created out of bankers’ inkwells.

No, there is no difficulty about producing the money — without adding a penny to taxation — for the goods are here already to back it.

Think what other benefits £2 a week for every unemployed person over 50 would bring! Many who now get that amount in wages, or less, or even a little more, would give up their jobs and migrate from the overcrowded cities to the country, there to cultivate gardens and grow their own vegetables and flowers, and gradually restore the ancient loveliness of our village and country life.

Then there would be thousands of jobs thrown open in this way for the thousands of young people who cannot find work and now decay in idleness and penury.

Old folk, too, who subsist on the wretched 10s a week Old Age Pension, and many more who live on the aims of their already poor relations — all these would have a great burden of worry and famine lifted from their shoulders.

Yes, great would be the good if this thing came about: £2 a week for all above 50 who are not gainfully employed.

It can come about if it is wanted by enough people to demand it effectively.

W.A.W.

TWO NEW PAMPHLETS

The Real Crisis shows in broad outline the real meaning of the planning and rationalisation schemes that have afflicted our country and its people during the past eight years.

Informative in relating the activities of the P.E.P. and clarifying the real dangers of the policy behind the plausibly advocated planning idea. The attack on liberty and personal independence is capably exposed, but no particular schemes to counter the planners is outlined.


Where is the Money to Come From? An illustrated account, well authenticated, of the monetary experiments of Guernsey, Schwanenkirchen, Wörgl and the Scrip and Barter Groups of the United States. Written by Jeffrey Mark and published at a shilling by C. W. Daniel Company Ltd., 49 Great Russell Street, W.C.1. A pamphlet every Social Crediter interested in monetary technique should possess.

Who Arranges Van Zeeland’s Tours? M. Van Zeeland, the former Prime Minister of Belgium, has arrived in Ottawa as the guest of Lord Tweedsmuir, the Governor-General. — Press item.

It would be interesting to know who is behind Van Zeeland. The publicity he and his plans get cannot be explained by any known merit; there is a person pushing behind, just as there was behind the Milk Bill and other measures designed to a policy hatched in the dark.

“The Truth Shall Set You Free” Keep open mind to every thought that c’er shall uttered be: Heed Seer and Saint and Scientist, of knowledge seek the key: Some aspect of ALL-TRUTH shall dwell where lies Sincerity,

So mark the words of one of old— “The Truth shall set you free.”

From those who fain would stifle thought and hold your minds in fee,

Turn ye aside and heed them not,

Your eyes shall see God’s Radiance whilst theirs shall holden be:

Then unafraid and swift to learn— “The Truth shall set you free.”

Stephen Chambers
**On This Earth**

The General and the Particular

Mr. Hudson, Secretary, Overseas Trade Department, asked the House of Commons to increase guarantees from £50,000,000 to £75,000,000. (Mr. Printer, get these noughts right, in the magic of making money by writing figures in books.) This was in moving the second reading of the Exports Guarantee Bill.

As an instance of Socialist enthusiasm, Mr. Ellis Smith (Socialist, Stoke) welcomed the Bill as one who was kept in employment for a considerable time, with thousands of others, by such facilities as were provided by it. He doubted if £75,000,000 would be sufficient, with the situation. Living in the stone age of "work," Mr. Smith's opinion on the adequacy of £75,000,000 (you can write these noughts easily) might be valuable to those who believe that man shall not eat unless he works—and right up to the crack of doom. Living in the "power" age, Mr. Smith's opinion shows that he is mesmerised by money, and by the idea that the only claim to money is by working and working hard for it. The following is put on to this without comment:

MEANS TEST: COMPLAINT OF ANOMALY

Mr. George Hall (Socialist, Aberdare) raised the question of an anomaly which he said arose out of the operation of the Means Test regulations.

He instanced a husband and wife with no resources living in a house with a rental of 9s. a week with a total allowance of 17s. 6d., in which two were unemployed, with receiving benefit living at home. He said that the amount of the allowance which the household received for himself and his wife was reduced from 27s. 6d. to 20s., although the Minister of Labour had said he would receive 21s.

**Fear and Yet Fear Again**

The wonderful people who take all the public limelight must learn to be moderate. Here is Mr. Winston Churchill, who has views of his own on the High Priest of Finance, trying to make our public limelight must learn to be moderate. The man in the street might all of a sudden decide that his world was not worth living in—and he might make up his mind to make a better one. It will be noticed that damage to property only is mentioned. Verb. sap.

**The Press**

Congratulations to Sir William Crawford, in defending the advertising profession and the British Press. He described as "pernicious nonsense" allegations recently made by Mr. Wickham Steed that advertisers persuaded editors to omit or "tone down" depressing news.

There may be cases of "depressing" news not new but new to many, but we have not noticed them. We are prepared to affirm and defend the newspapers on their ability to be the dreariest and most dismal examples of the printed word, and we thank Sir William Crawford for giving honour where honour is due. If the newspapers were human, and taught their readers to laugh, . . .

Some Captions in One Newspaper Issue

"U.S.A.'s London Envoy Attacks the Nazis," "Duce Strikes New Blows at Jews," "Foster Mother Accused: Story of Dead Boy in Loft," "Nazis on our Vanished Confidence," "Ex-King Alfonso Will go back if he is asked," "Woman's Alleged Statement: Tied Child to Bed"—and so on. Try the experiment of writing all the caustions out of any newspaper in this manner, and then you will be in a position to see what it is the newspapers think you want. You will see their contempt for you if you have only one eye.

Some Captions in a Newspaper—

For Intelligent Beings

(Yet to be published)

"Chinese Send 16,000 Tons of Ginger to Japan as a Gift, Japanese Retailers by Sending 20,000 Cherry Trees to China," "All People in England have Enough to Eat: Word Malnutrition Strangled and Thrown in Trafalgar Square Fountains," "Hitler Seen in Bow, Drinking a Pint of Beer with Bernard Shaw," "German Hands Heard and Seen all over the United Kingdom," "Berenangia Chartered as a Free Pleasure Steamer," "Not Enough: White Gloves for Judges," "Man Seen Kissing his Wife," "Agriculture included in the Professions," "Nations Decide that the Problem is, How to Live on the Earth—not How to Blow Each Other Off," "Outbreak of Common Sense," "Common Sense Infectious"—and so on. A freer economy is available, and will come; you will think better of yourself and your neighbours than the newspapers do. And you will be right, strengthened with the knowledge of the simple basic facts of Social Credit.

**Pilgrim's Progress**

Hail! and Hallelujah to Mr. Hannen Swaffer. It is never too late to mend. In an article in Lilliput for January, 1939, that famous journalist contributes a forthright article called "What is wrong with our Press?" Every paragraph is a good, straight left at the pugly face called The Press. He concludes, does our pilgrim, as follows:

"And, if any of us complains that the nation has betrayed its dead, that the age of bounty was here all the time, if only we had seen it, and that the age of leisure has dawned, well, I blame more than anybody the profession to which I belong.

"It may be that I am old-fashioned. But I take it seriously." Mr. Swaffer must know about the Age of Plenty and Leisure. We shall wish him well in his knowledge, and hope that his outspokenness will be followed by others who can see the trick in the money game. Their words for freedom will also be freedom for themselves, and a hastening of the day when hoodwinkings over money come to an end.

**Tail-Piece**

"The consolation of this life," wrote Voltaire, "is to say what one thinks." With the warm fire in one's heart, and even an elementary understanding of how money is made, the Social Creditor will be an impregnable ground in living the truth of Voltaire’s remarks. And the determined believer in Social Credit will be pleasantly surprised to find the number of people interested; how could they be otherwise, for its strength cuts away all the entanglements of politics, the scarecrows of economics, and leaves the ground clear for something better, at an early date, on this earth.

Nicholas More.

**A Smile**

The mill foreman came upon two darkies walking slowly up the road, single file.

"Say, you, why ain't you working?"

"We's working, boss, sho' nuff. We's carrying this plank up to the mill."

"What plank? I don't see any plank."

"Well, for de Lawd's sake. Abe, ef we ain't gone an' forgot de plank!"
A Christmas Tale

(that can be made to come true)

By R.L.D.

The House of Commons was so packed that some members could not find a seat— they overflowed into passages and lobbies. When the Prime Minister rose you could have heard a pin drop.

“Mr. Speaker and Honourable Members: In accordance with the mandate given by the instructions of the majority of our people, I have pleasure in announcing that the Pensions at 50 legislation will take effect at once. The warrant books are already in the post, addressed to the beneficiaries, and to-morrow morning every British-born man and woman in Great Britain of 50 years of age who is not drawing wages, or who is not paying wages, will receive one. Arrangements have been made for the paying of pensions of £2 weekly at every post office to each person presenting his or her book. The first payments will be made next Friday, so that two payments will be made before Christmas Day.” (Cheers)

Next morning, the press carried banner headlines congratulating every pensioner—with the exception of the Financial Echo—which came out with broad black hearts, and forecasted that the last nails had now been knocked into the coffin of the British Empire.

Mrs. Smith was happier than she had ever been before, not because she had the pension, but for Granny’s sake.

How proud she had been to pay her 20 shillings towards the family exchequer last Friday! And now she is buying presents and trying to hide them. They all loved Granny, but it had been a struggle in the past to make ends meet, for 10s. had not been enough to cover her living expenses before. How happy she was to be able to do a bit of shopping on her own now, and to carry a purse again.

Although the pension scheme has only been operating six months, it has justified more than was ever expected of it. Petty crime cases, for instance, have declined by 85 per cent.; those institutions which used to be referred to as ‘work-houses’ are all empty (cheers); the number of registered unemployed was, of course, automatically reduced when all pensioners were crossed off, but a marked improvement has occurred since, and only 56,000 are now drawing the dole, the lowest figure returned in the history of the Unemployment Insurance Act.

“Mr. Soames reached for the phone and dialled. “Hello, is that Mr. Willet . . . ? Soames speaking. Can you repeat at once my monthly coal consignment, I’ve nearly sold out . . . What’s that—the third repeat you’ve had this very morning.—I can’t help it, old man, I must see to my customers, these pensioners are all double that orders for coal! So my draymen tell me—and a jolly good thing, too, I think . . . Thanks very much, yes, you are right, the coal trade is beginning to boom—so are the others, even the rag and bone trade is booming, people are throwing away old clothes and buying new—ah, well, Yorkshire and Lancashire can do with that business too, the mills are getting really busy for the first time since the war, but for a better purpose this time, old man, eh? This pension scheme is the greatest thing ever passed into law! Good-bye.”

The Prime Minister was speaking again to a packed House of Commons: ” . . .

FROM CANADA’S WEEKLY

December 16, 1938.

The World’s Grain Kings

“No, they are not millionaires, but two young brothers, boys almost, who live at Wembley, in the Peace River country of Alberta. The elder brother, F. Rigby, aged 23, has just been crowned “Wheat King” at the great International Grain and Hay Show at Chicago, and the younger, W. Justyn Rigby, who is only 20, takes his place beside his brother as the “Oats King.” While Canadians are naturally proud of these two young Alberta farmers, some credit for their remarkable dual achievement must be given to the authorities. The success of the Rigby brothers has ensued from the policy adopted by Canada for the education and development of her young farmers. The Rigby brothers, in co-operation with their father, work a farm at Wembley, but it should be noted that both gained experience in raising grain as members of the Canadian boys’ and girls’ farm clubs. Another interesting fact is that the elder brother gained the wheat crown with an exhibit of the Reward variety. Reward is a product of the Canadian Government experimental Farm at Ottawa, and was developed there in 1924. The success of young Rigby with his grain marks the seventh consecutive time that it has come out on top at the annual competition at the Chicago show. High tribute this to the success of the Young Canada Farming campaign.”
California Pension Plan

IN November, 1937, a group of men got together in Hollywood, and, alarmed by the increasing poverty of the inhabitants of this State on the one hand, and the sight of widespread destruction of foodstuffs in thousands of tons on the other hand, they decided to start a campaign with the objective as set forth in the following Articles of Association:

"The purpose of our organisation is to conduct a campaign to obtain a pension of not less than $30.00 per week for every qualified citizen of California over 50 years of age. This pension is to be payable in warrants of the State of California qualified citizen 'of California over 50 years of age, in the denominations of the State, and will bear the promise of the State to redeem them in lawful money of the United States, without interest, one year after issue...."

"It is the purpose of this Association to draft the law which will establish this pension plan, to place it upon the Constitution of the State of California; to circulate an Initiative Petition to put the proposed law on the ballot to be voted upon at a special election or at the next general election; to conduct a businesslike, able in warrants of the State of California qualified citizen 'of California over 50 years of age, in the denominations of the State, and will bear the promise of the State to redeem them in lawful money of the United States, without interest, one year after issue...."

Volunteer workers were then called for to circulate the Initiative Petition for the amendment to be placed upon the ballot at the next election. According to law, 186,000 signatures were necessary for this purpose, but over a million names were collected. Apart from local flurries and individual interest, very little was heard about the Plan until the Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce brought suit for an injunction to prevent the measure from appearing on the ballot of November 8 this year. This brought the Plan into prominence, and gave it publicity throughout all the other States. The idea spread like wildfire, and when the Supreme Court of the State dismissed the suit it looked as though Proposition No. 25 on the forthcoming ballot would sweep the State with an overwhelming majority.

The original intention was to pay the banks a commission for handling the warrants and necessary revenue stamps, and for some time after the lawsuit was dismissed the banks kept silent and their co-operation was taken by a great number of people for granted, as warrants are already circulating all over the State in connection with indebtedness of municipal and other authorities who are without the ready money to meet their current obligations.

Seeing that the movement was reaching surprising proportions, with a rapidly increasing membership who were contributing to the expenses of the campaign, after the banks had a taste of its strength in the unexpected defeat of the veteran Republican Senator, Wm. G. McAdoo, they decided it was time to shoot their bolt, and so the California Bankers' Association gave forth its blast early in October:—

"Banks could not take the so-called warrants and pay cash for them, could not receive them for deposit, could not buy them for investment and could not make loans on them."

This of course was a very serious setback, for it frightened a lot of people who still believe that banks only handle other people's money and are the honourable guardians of it. The meetings and the radio-talks went on steadily and regularly, and the membership mounted up to 250,000, with all of them paying anywhere from 30 cents a month up. Motor- vans with loud speakers drove through the countryside, gathering people together wherever there was an opportunity, and the Plan was the most talked-about subject for the last few weeks of the campaign.

The Plan was defeated at the polls, but the adherents voted in a sympathetic Governor, Assistant-Governor and Senator, and the incoming Governor has promised that he will call a special election on this one issue of the California Pension Plan as soon as another Initiative Petition has been circulated, and sufficient signatures obtained. The amendment is being re-written, retaining all its salient features, and eliminating those that met with unnecessary opposition, and before many months of the New Year have passed, the Pension Plan will once more give the banks another stand-up fight.

The waves rise higher on the beach each time one rolls in, and like King Canute in the old story, some day the banks will find that even all their terror-inducing power cannot hold back the demand for economic freedom when it rises at last with the full and irresistible strength of the people.

December 5, 1938

H. E. H.

CONTROL OF NEWS SERVICES

The Times of December 13 reports that: "Captain Ramsay (Peebles and Southern, U.) asked leave to introduce a Bill to amend the Companies Act, (1929), with the object of conveying it to the House as a measure drawn in order to protect the consumers and the shareholders against manipulation and control for their own ends—he made no charges, but the Bill was to eliminate the risk, if there be one—by big finance, whether the group consisted of British, foreign or international financiers."

"Influencing public opinion could not be done more effectively than by carefully editing the news by the selection, distortion, and concealment of news. (Cries of "Oh!!"). It was for that reason, for that special danger and the precedent attaching to it, that news agencies, newspapers and periodicals only were mentioned in the Bill. In order to get some idea for the purpose of conveying it to the House as to whether there was any reasonable ground for suspicion that that kind of manipulation might be going on, he had the figures of the shareholders of three news agencies looked up at Somerset House. He found that Reuters had an issue of £15,000 worth of share capital and only 74,000 were held by the Press Association. The Press Association had an issue in £10 shares of 9,888 shares. They were held in numbers of blocks of 96 shares by various papers and combines, thereafter no holdings being above 50 shares. Only one big block (over 10 per cent. of the whole issue of capital) was held by a company which called itself the Press Association Share Purchase Company, which had a capital of only £100 with only seven £1 shares issued.

There was one other company, the Central News, which had an issue of 1,000 £20 shares, or £20,000 capital. Seven hundred and eighty-eight of those thousand shares were held in the names of two men. (Cries of "Who are they?"). They were bank officials, and they could not tell whom they represented. Of those shares 592 were bought from New York in December last year and 200 were bought from another person in New York on the same date. Again without making any charges, he suggested to this House that those people who represented the shareholding—no matter who the directors might be—had to do what they were told by those who had the money.

This proposal reminds one that a Press Bill was recently passed in Alberta, but disallowed in Ottawa. A Bill such as that is long overdue in this country, and it would be improved by the inclusion of Captain Ramsay's suggestion. As to "big finance" owning shares in commercial concerns or Government stocks, is there any reason why it should be allowed to shelter behind nominees?
Extracts by H.C.K.

From The Martyrdom of Man, by Winwood Reade. 1872.

The following brief extracts suggest a parallel in present conditions with that of Egyptian civilization:

A people can never rise from low estate as long as they are engrossed in the painful struggle for their daily bread.

There is nothing so certain as the natural inequality of man.

Egyptian progress resulted from the stimulus of War, Famine and Oppression.

Foreign produce became an element of Egyptian life. The privileged classes found it necessary to be rich.

The following brief extracts suggest a parallel in present conditions with that of Egyptian civilization:

The condition of the land became deplorable. The empire, which had excited the envy of the world became deficient in agriculture, and was fed by foreign corn.

From The Great God Waste, by John Hodgson (privately printed). 4s. 6d. 1933.

For the past 25 years I have been engaged in conducting researches and in devising and selling apparatus whereby the costly fluids used in industry—water, steam, gas, high-pressure air, and oil—might be continuously measured and controlled. My work has brought me in contact with almost every industry and with every industrial country in the world. I can trace economies equivalent to £1½ million a year achieved by clients who have made use of my work.

Now I find myself to be only one worker, and quite a small worker at that, out of many workers in a world-wide field of endeavour which has for its objective the reduction of industrial waste.

Thus, Sir Robert Hadfield, F.R.S., in a recent paper read before the Oil Industries Club (1931) has claimed that economies to the value of £500 million have resulted from the use of two only of the many steels he has invented; while the savings due to Edison's work have been assessed at £4,000 million.

Tidings

At Christmas-Tide:

With changing years
Like turns of tide,
Let false depart
And true abide.

Truth beacons e'er
For God doth bide
Through changing years
Times feigned tides.

O'er scan the tides:
Forego the years!
See Christ, empowered
Of God appear.

As 'ridings of great joy'
Of yore.
"Goodwill toward men,"
Shone Bethlehem o'er.

At Christmas-Tide:

W. J. Stevens
Copyright reserved

Prelude To More Tyranny

Greater centralisation of governmental powers is to be sought in Australia, and early next year the Commonwealth Government is to decide whether a referendum of the electors will be held, or whether the seven separate States should transfer powers to the Commonwealth.

Whatever the defects of the State system from a bureaucratic point of view, it at least gives the individual Australians a better chance of saying what they want than a simple Commonwealth would do. Whether a referendum will actually be held seems doubtful. Apparently the Commonwealth Government have been told to get it over this time with certainty, for Mr. Scullin, Leader of the Opposition, who put forward the suggestion now adopted by the other Opposition at the moment in power, said that the Loan Council—one of the most hated of Australian pseudo-Governmental institutions—was an attempt to overcome constitutional restraints. In adopting the suggestion, Mr. Menzies, the Commonwealth Attorney-General, said the Government were convinced that the Commonwealth must move towards greater powers. It is in ways such as this that, little by little, the individual's liberty is being taken away from him. Unless any proposed step is to produce definite and obvious advantages to individuals as individuals it should be resisted, or diverted into something else which will give real benefit. Lack of jurisdiction over fisheries and over agriculture, two of the points put forward for abolishing the separate State system in Australia, is no excuse whatever for greater centralisation. In a world where plenty was neither destroyed nor restricted there would no need to seek bureaucratic powers over such industries. As it is, further centralisation would result simply in fresh marketing (meaning "restriction") boards being set up. Let's hope the Australians have profited from the example of Britain.
To Church at Christmas

By J. E. Tuke

THE papers said "Snow today," and the B.B.C. announcer prophesied twenty degrees of frost. The wonderful warm weather of late autumn seems coming to an end and we start out this morning with ponds and puddles all solid ice and a north-east wind whistling through the trees.

With an extra woolly and a thick overcoat and warm gloves, one walks or trots or runs, as age decides, through the frosty sunlit lanes to the church, with cheery cries of "Wintry this morning," or "This seems like Christmas," and if there were some snow we should probably feel those we met and know.

We are a happy gathering of worshippers, charting of Christmas, and when the boys come home from school or college, and whether we shall be a large party, or good wishes to the more lonely ones.

The service and the prayers and the hymns remind us of "Our Father which art in heaven," and the corollary of brotherhood, and the warmth of friendship makes us forget the cold, icy north-east wind and our hearts are warmed with the ideals of Fatherhood and Brotherhood.

But what about the 13 million brothers and sisters of this our England who have no sufficiency of food or clothing or shelter? What does the keen northerner mean to them? Crying children, harassed mothers and anxious fathers; the carols, the holly and mistletoe and the ideals of Fatherhood and Brotherhood.

Has there been a famine in this or other lands? Has some terrible catastrophe happened in the world? Did Chamberlain not avert war at the last minute at Munich? Is there any shortage of things men, women and children desire?

The factories and mines and workshops are only too anxious to find customers; they devise means to secure customers at home and to enable them to ship abroad to other countries more and more of their surplus production.

The warehouses are full and commercial travellers go round and round to the shops and stores trying hard to earn a commission on the goods, which in turn they hope to sell to their customers, and the factories still go on producing.

What a prodigious display of things to eat, things to wear, things to adorn and things to amuse! And the peddlers throng the pavements with their cheap and clever toys and gadgets of the month.

There is abundance and superfluity, while 13 million want these things, and others possibly more worth while, but without avail, because somebody or some group have neglected to distribute sufficient tickets—copper, silver, gold or paper—to enable them to obtain possession of this wonderful bounty.

What are we going to do about this crazy cruelty? Groups of good and earnest people are banding themselves together to demand pensions at 50, pensions for spinsters, family allowances; but however worthy these aims, further taxation is the only way they can suggest to carry them out. They may ask the question, "Where else can the money come from?"

Readers of Social Credit know the answer to this question. You are told month after month that the community has lost the old historic prerogative of the Crown to create money on behalf of the community; this prerogative has been usurped by the banking system, as we are clearly told by the report of the Macmillan Committee, Mr. McKenna of the Midland Bank, and by Mr. Hawtrey of the Treasury, that the banking system can and does create credit or purchasing power at no cost other than by pen, ink and paper. This gives the system power of life or death over all individuals and of war or peace between nations.

In England we pride ourselves on being a democratic nation. A true democracy should demand that a new order and a new civilisation must arise when no longer unemployment benefits, mothers and widows' pensions, old age or family allowances, payable through taxation, should be tolerated; but the National Dividend, the industrial heritage of the people, who discovered new powers of steam and electricity, and have built up a power and machine age, in which poverty is an anachronism.

Today every child coming into the world has a millstone of debt, about £350, hung round his neck. The National Dividend could provide every man, woman or child with, say, £1 each per week for life; this would give security to everyone and would provide a stable market for the industrialists, the farmers, the warehousemen and the shopkeepers.

Men and women would be free agents; they are creative beings with some share of the Divine in all of them; they hate enforced idleness just as much as enforced slavery.

Vocation would at once have a real meaning; men and women would take their places; co-operation would become a reality, and civilisation would take a big step forward in the centuries of progress.

---

Mr. Aberhart

"The Premier of Alberta is endeavouring to persuade the Dominion Government to help him to re-finance, at low interest rates, more than $1,570,000 of Alberta bonds. Mr. Aberhart has already arbitrarily lowered the rates. He has refused co-operation in a Loan Council through which the Dominion would endeavour to help any Province in that way. The outlook is not considered propitious in the circumstances."

Pensions in New Zealand

It is reported that the New Zealand Cabinet has undergone a reshuffle to enable Mr. Nash to undertake his new duties as Minister of Social Security.

The Social Security scheme provides, among other benefits, for pensions of 30s. a week for both sexes at 60. 
The Bus Leaves for the Village

"I'VE often wondered what would happen if an intelligent being from another planet suddenly came to this earth and one of us who love England had the job of showing him round. What we should have to say is this: here is the country that for over a hundred years has been the richest in the whole world. Come and look at it; come down through the valleys of living death in South Wales, come through the ant heap of the Potteries, through all the grey and dreary wilds of Lancashire, and realise that this is the best we can do, that more than half of the people don't get enough to eat, that more than a third live in conditions to which a self-respecting person would not condemn a dog. That isn't exaggeration, it's literally true—rather an understatement than anything else—and it is rather awful, you know."

"I realise that, Roger, but after all it isn't my fault, is it?"

"I don't know; in a way it's everybody's fault, you know. If we were all as indignant and ashamed about it as we ought to be it would be changed in five years."

"Won't there always be poverty?"

"Perhaps it is our fault—mankind's fault?"

"Maybe—I don't know. But can it be? All the suffering and hopelessness of it—what's that seems to me to be the worst part of it, the hopelessness, that a man should work year in and year out for just enough to live on if every penny is watched, and never have anything more to look forward to."—From "The Bus Leaves for the Village," by Robert Eton.

£2 Pensions at 50?

A Wrecked Industry

Said Lord Lloyd:

"... In the Great War our general merchant navy lost 4,479 ships and 14,287 men were drowned. The fishing fleet, too, played its splendid part, 675 fishing vessels being lost and over 400 men drowned. At the time of the Armistice 37,145 fishermen were serving in the naval forces, and there were still sufficient left to go on providing food for the nation. But, according to Mr. W. S. Morrison the other day, it was estimated that the number of fishermen had fallen from 79,000 odd in 1914 to 49,000 odd in 1937. Here again the primary cause was Government neglect as opposed to the vigorous State assistance enjoyed by our competitors.

"There had been neglect, too, in the vital matter of shipping. The number of men capable of building ships and engines had been reduced by 25 per cent. since 1914, and shipbuilding was still on the downgrade. We had actually become importers of ships instead of exporters. In the past two years orders for the value of £5,000,000 had been placed by British shipowners in Continental yards..."

Said Lord Essendon:

"... The position of the shipbuilding industry was extremely serious. A member of the Shipowners' Federation assured him recently that before rationalisation a few years ago 46 per cent. of the berths of this country were idle; now, after rationalisation and notwithstanding the fact that a large amount of ships were being built on naval account, the unemployed berths to-day amounted to no less than 55 per cent. It was a deplorable fact that at present there should be £1,000,000 of shipping building abroad for British owners, when in normal times we expected to get £10,000,000 of foreign orders in this country. (Hear, hear.) Unless something was done for the shipbuilding industry we ran the risk of their losing their skilled labour..."

in the House of Lords, December 13, 1938.

---

PROGRESS PARAGRAPHS

Technical papers submitted in a recent international competition showed that in the fields of science and engineering covered by the authors, the use of arc welding had saved or could save a total of £35,000,000 by cheaper construction and maintenance.

Investigations made by the British Coal Utilisation Research Association have resulted in the development of domestic firegrates and methods of firelighting which reduce the amount of smoke by 80 to 90 per cent. compared with old-fashioned grates.

At a recent hearing in the High Court of Justice it was claimed that by passing used lubricating oil through a certain type of British filter 95 to 97 per cent. of it could be reconditioned and made as good as new.

By the use of Diesel railcars the County Donegal Railway, in Ireland, has been able to give its customers a faster and more frequent service of trains, which stop anywhere on request, at a cost to the railway of about 4d. a mile, whereas the older and slower steam trains stopped only at stations and cost over 1s. a mile to operate.

A new filtration plant recently installed in the water supply system of a big city cleans and purifies 150 million gallons of water a day.

Large railway wagons carrying certain types of coal lose anything from 200 to 400 lbs. weight a year by corrosion. By the introduction of a copper-bearing rustless steel the life of the wagons has been doubled.
Announcements & Meetings

**Miscellaneous Notices**

**Rate 12 a line. Support our advertisers.**

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

Advertisers are requested to write for space rates to Advertising Manager, Social Credit Secretariat Limited, 163A, Strand, W.C.2.

BIRMINGHAM and District. Social Crediters will find friends over tea and light refreshments at Prince's Café, Temple Street, on Friday evenings, from 6 p.m. in the King's Room.

BLACKBURN Social Credit Study Group meets each Tuesday at 8 p.m. in the YM.C.A., Limbrick. All welcome. Enquiries to Hon. Sec., 47, Whalley New Road, Blackburn.

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

DERBY S.C. Association. Meetings are held fortnightly (Tuesdays) at the "Unity Hall," Room 14, at 7.45 p.m. Next meeting, December 37. "United Social Club" cater for refreshments to all bona fide members of S.C. Association.

GUERNSEY. Persons interested in Social Credit are requested to communicate with Mr. H. McTaggart, "Sherwood," Mount Row, St. Peter Port.

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

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

December 29

Speaker, Mr. R. A. Dorson, "Retiring a Senile Money System." All visitors welcome.

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

SOUTHAMPTON Group. Please note that the Headquarters have been removed to 9, CRANBURY PLACE, SOUTHAMPTON. Tuesday meetings are postponed temporarily. Members please call to see the new and more advantageously-situated premises.

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

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

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

**MEETINGS FOR WOMEN AT THE CENTRE**

**Particulars in January Issue**

**SOCIAL CREDIT CENTRE**

163A STRAND, LONDON, W.C.2

**OPEN**
daily from 11 a.m. to 6-30 p.m. Close 1 p.m. Saturdays. Refreshments.

We Will Abolish Poverty

**ELECTOR'S DEMAND AND UNDERTAKING**

1 I know that there are goods in plenty and all we want of them
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 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 policy prevails

This is the form for Parliamentary electors to sign. It should be sent to United Democrats, 163A, Strand, London, W.C.2. Signatures will be treated confidentially.

For NEW READERS

Read about Social Credit and then see how much more interesting your daily paper becomes.

Social Debt or Social Credit. By George Hickling ........ 4d.
Debt and Taxation. By L. D. Byrne ....................... 6d.
United This Last. By the Dean of Canterbury ............. 3d.
Women and Poverty. By Jean Campbell Williet ........... 4d.
Armageddon. By Jacques ............. 3½d.
Sanity of Social Credit. By Maurice Colbourne ............. 6d.
What's Wrong With the World? By G. W. L. Day ................ 12.
The Economic Crisis. Southampton Chamber of Commerce Report .......................... 6d.
Economies For Everybody. By Ellis Dee ....................... 3d.
This Leads To War. By G. W. L. Day .................... 12.
Six Propaganda Folders:
Waste: The Chosen Fast of God: Feeding Ravens; A Family Needs Money; Foreign Trade; Wasted Lives (4 of each 12.)
(each) ½d.

Leaflets:
"Ask And It Shall Be Given You" (25 per 100) .......................... 6d.
"War (1s. 3d. per 100) .......................... 5d.
"Why Pay Taxes?" (1s. 3d. per 100) .......................... 5d.

Obtainable (postage extra) from

SOCIAL CREDIT

163A Strand, London, W.C.2

New Leaflet — (Page 5, Social Credit, October 7)

**COST OF WAR PREPARATIONS**

12 for 3d.; 100 for 1/6; 500 for 6/6.


Published by the Social Credit Secretariat Limited, 163A Strand, London, W.C.2 Tel. TEM. 1154 (Secretary) TEM. 1143 (Editor) TEM. 1141 (Advertising). Printed by The Blackpsen Press, Ltd., 1a, Middle Temple Lane, B.C., by H. L. Brown. Sole Agents for Canada: The Imperial News Co.