

# THE SOCIAL CREDITER

FOR POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC REALISM

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SATURDAY, MARCH 2, 1946.

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## From Week to Week

Mr. Bernard Baruch and Mr. James Byrnes have gone down to Miami so that Mr. Winston Churchill can call on them. This looks as though we might start Part III of the War any time now. Can anyone suggest a nice safe country for the Fellow-Travellers?

We offer our warmest congratulations to Dr. Downey, Roman Catholic Archbishop of Liverpool, on his refusal to sign Mr. Victor Gollancz's "Save Europe Now" manifesto. There are a great many factors in this famine business which demand early investigation. So far as Germany, and in particular, Berlin, is concerned, anyone who has access to such illustrated periodicals as *The Saturday Evening Post* must be mystified at the pictures of well-fed, well dressed complacent looking people (with a considerable sprinkling of prosperous-looking Jews) who sit outside shops waiting to be served. Whatever is the real truth of the world food situation, and it is practically impossible in a Socialist regime for the ordinary individual to form any accurate opinion, one thing is certain. It is being played up for political purposes everywhere. And there are widespread and circumstantial stories of the fortunes which are being made by the sale of luxuries sent from this country but unavailable to the native population.

An observer and listener to one of Professor Laski's orations in New York was asked what he thought of it. "Oh, he just suffers from foot-and-mouth disease" was the answer.

Our efficient monopolies. The "B."B.C.  
6 p.m. February 17. "Sir Akbar Hidery." Better known elsewhere as Sir Akbar Hydari.

8 a.m. February 17. "Mr. John Bracken, Leader of the Preventive Conservative Party." We hope he will prevent an exhibition such as we are putting on in this country.

"A democratic constitution, not supported by democratic institutions in detail, but confined to the central government, not only is not political freedom, but often creates a spirit precisely the reverse."

— John Stuart Mill, *Political Economy*.

"... there is ample proof to show that Nuremberg is a 100 per cent. American concern. It was American initiative, American persistence, and American idealism that produced the final result in the face of serious difficulties... It was the inner circle of presidential advisers, particularly Judge Samuel I. Rosenman, ... who ... favoured the idea ... appointed ... Robert H. Jackson as American representative. An enthusiastic New Dealer, Jackson... is convinced

that it is the duty of the United States to uplift the world, reward the good and punish the evil..."

— Backstage Battle at Nuremberg, *Saturday Evening Post*, January 19.

We get the idea. Kinder Amurrican, Newrumburg is.

We note with regret the disappearance of Mr. Harold Weir from the feature pages of the *Edmonton (Alberta) Bulletin*, and the appearance in his place of the syndicated articles by Mr. Randolph Churchill, whose signature tune appears to be "I am a Zionist."

If we are to believe reports in the Press and from Belgium itself, we are pouring "exports" into that country, whose standard of living is far above that of this hapless land. What good are Belgian francs to us? So far as we are aware, Belgium has no considerable sources of raw material not available to ourselves. Another racket, apparently.

How long is it to be before it is openly stated that we are not dealing with one set of difficulties arising in the United States and another in Russia but with one set of difficulties working through Russia and the United States?

## Evidence

The following has been received by Mr. Norman Jaques, M.P., and is published because of its evidential value as well as for its just appreciation of an outstanding speech in the Canadian House of Commons. Extracts from the speech will appear in an early issue of *The Social Crediter*:—

### COPY.

Institute of Arab American Affairs, Inc.  
160, Broadway,  
New York, 7, N.Y.

Faris S. Malouf, *President*,  
Boston, Mass.

December 21, 1945.

Mr. Norman Jaques, M.P.,  
10958, 87th Avenue,  
Edmonton, Alberta, Canada.  
Dear Mr. Jaques,

I have just read your speech in the Commons, December 17, 1945, with pleasure and admiration. In the blackout on the Arab side of the picture, there shines a flicker of light once in a blue moon, to tell the world of Arab rights. Your courageous speech is that light. Here, in New York, we find that the press, the radio and other agencies of public expression are so completely in the hands of Zionists that we cannot inform public opinion about Arab rights.

America is fair—if it only knew the truth. Unfortunately, we are not in a position to tell Americans what you were able to tell the Commons. Votes are a great factor here, in the ability of the Zionists to present their one-sided views. Business and finance also play a serious part in Zionist support. But all this will serve as a boomerang and strike the Zionists in the face.

Please accept our gratitude for your magnificent defense of Arab rights and we hope you will not mind what use we could make of your speech.

Again thanking you for your service to truth and hoping you will continue the good fight. I remain

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) KHALIL TOTAH,

Executive Director.

## Reflections on Soviet Russia

(Continued)

By BRYAN W. MONAHAN\*

There remains the vital question: Who are the ultimate sponsors of this programme of death and destruction? With this goes the question: What is the ultimate mechanism by which the programme is sanctioned?

Despite the sedulously encouraged modern delirium of materialism—*deus ex machina*—the notion that mechanisms are employed by beings really does underlie virtually the whole of our everyday activity. 'Why?' is forever a question vastly more interesting than 'How?' The search for motive, and that *cherchez la femme* which is merely a subdivision of motive, directs far more than the science of detection. To our personal friends and our personal enemies we invariably attribute motive, good or evil, as the case may be. At what level, then, does a human cease to be a being as we know him as a personal friend or enemy, to become merely a mechanism, a mere channel for the manifestation of 'forces' as impersonal as the wind, driven willy-nilly as dead leaves are blown? When does he lose motive? In the answer is the central fact of sociology: *he loses motive when he is subordinated*. The subordination, however, is to no blind force: it is subordination to the motive of another. So the mechanism for which we search is the mechanism by which subordination is achieved, and behind the use of that mechanism is the motive of him who uses it.

The mechanism is the financial system. Twenty years ago it was believed almost universally that the financial system was an entirely independent system which operated according to its own inherent laws, which could be discovered, like the laws of physics, but not altered, so that we were as subject to those laws as to the law of gravity. The belief has been shattered. That fact makes an examination of the system unnecessary here; it is now quite evident that the financial system has been the chosen instrument of a policy.

Once the unity and essentially extra-national nature of the international financial system is grasped, it is not difficult to comprehend the subordination of national policies to the international policy behind finance. It is a long and complex story, detailed with care in *The Brief for the Prosecution*, by C. H. Douglas, and to this important work we must refer our readers. The essence of the policy, how-

ever, is centralisation—monopoly leading to totalitarianism—carried out by selective financing of any movement leading in that direction. And "the liberal financing of any movement... which attacks the idea of private ownership in anything whatever can be traced without difficulty, if not to Zionism, to Zionist bankers." (*The Brief for the Prosecution*.)

Thanks to Hitler, the average man has been conditioned in recent years to believe that the demonstration of the connection between world Jewry and world monopoly is nothing but 'Fascist' propaganda. At least within the British Empire, however, the sheer weight of events now bears out the demonstration. Hardly anything except open confession—which doubtless will come in due course—could be plainer than the fact that the United States of America is at present being openly used as a 'front' for Zionists in their efforts to secure Palestine, and wreck the British Empire. A study of that undisguised technique makes it much easier to grasp the concealed technique by which one country after another is utilised to further the policy of world Jewry.

But the policy itself seems so fantastic, and therefore unlikely, that it is still too often dismissed without consideration. Yet it is a policy rooted in a view of life; it springs from a mystic conviction; and once we can see it against the background of that conviction, we can realise all that it means.

In 1943 Victor Gollancz published an English translation of *Why I am a Jew*, by Edmund Fleg, which contains a perfect description of the motive force behind the World-ruling Idea.

Fleg describes the mission of the Jews as the achievement of the Unity of mankind. "... that the Messiah may reign on earth... it is necessary that Israel, who is the hope of the Messiah, should remain Israel to the end of her days. Her special law, then, must be eternal, like the universal law." "A nation of priests... a holy people not for herself alone, but also for her mission... to make of herself, as the Talmud says, 'a cement' between the peoples... identifying, alone among all, her destiny with the destiny of all, she wishes to become a people of priests that she may become the priests of humanity." "Israel separates herself from others only to unite them... to work for the reign of justice and peace on earth with the coming of the Messiah... Now God is One, man ought to be One. By his divisions here on earth he shatters the great unity... greater and greater human groups create greater and greater images of the divine unity... Human unity is for the Jew an article of faith, like the divine Unity... another Promised Land, the land that will be when One Man will be... God following his people on their bloody road to human unity."

Put in less mystic language, this means that the Jewish faith conceives humanity as a single collectivity—one great Man, with the Jew as the directing brain. The achievement of this condition is the concrete reality symbolised for the Jew as "the coming of the Messiah." To be the "chosen" people means to be the directing brain.

In terms of practical politics, Sir Alfred Mond put it this way to the New York Zionists: "Has it ever occurred to you how remarkable it is that out of the welter of world blood there has arisen this opportunity? Do you really believe that it is an accident? Do you really in your hearts believe we have been led back to Israel by a fluke?"

(To be continued.)

\*Earlier instalments appeared in *The Social Crediter* for January 12 and 19 and February 23.

## PARLIAMENT

House of Commons: February 4, 1946.

### SUPPLY COMMITTEE: ROYAL COMMISSION

*Mr. W. J. Brown:* Perhaps I may call attention to the fact that on the Supplementary Estimates in the White Paper, the heading under item 19 is "Royal Commissions, etc.," and that seems to entitle me to raise a question. Why come immediately to the Royal Commission on the decline in the birthrate? Anyone who wishes to spend £165,000 on any Royal Commission is wrong, but anyone who wishes to spend that sum on an inquiry why women do not have more children is insane. The narrower this argument is drawn, the more overwhelming becomes the case which I now present. Do we need to send women round from door to door to ask other women why they do not have more children? The reasons are obvious; first, there is no room for them; second, there is no clothing; third, there is no food; and fourth, there are not sufficient maternity wards for them. The whole idea of spending £165,000 of public money to send people round inquiring why people do not have more children is crazy. I look to the Financial Secretary to the Treasury to put a firm foot down on all snoopers of every kind, and especially snoopers who go round inquiring why women do not have more babies than they do. This is an abuse of public monies, and I accordingly invite this Committee to say that they do not think £165,000 should be spent upon the object for which this Supplementary Estimate is presented to us tonight.

*Mr. Butcher:* I would like to follow up what has been said by the hon. Member for Rugby (Mr. W. J. Brown) and say that I, too, regard this as a complete waste of public money on the ground that, as I understand it, there is no obligation to answer the inquiries that may be made at the front door; in other words, a certain class of person will answer the inquiry as they think fit, and another class of person will refuse to answer that inquiry. The results will then be tabulated and will be expected to prove something, and I am bound to say that I think it is quite useless to suggest that in terms of taking a sample of the population, and then permitting people to answer questions or not as they may think fit, you can secure results which will be of any use at all in dealing with so important and intimate a subject as the decline of population.

*The Financial Secretary to the Treasury (Mr. Glenvil Hall):* . . . We wish to find out if we can whether the fashion in the size of families is changing either in the country as a whole or in particular groups, and whether there are differences in the size of the family group according to locality, occupation and social class. Figures of that kind, with others, will be most interesting and useful to any Government, whatever its complexion.

I was asked by the hon. Member for Holland with Boston (Mr. Butcher) how these enumerators and others are paid. The number of enumerators employed in the survey is 12,000, the local supervisors number 1,125, and there are in addition 28 divisional supervisors and 13 divisional officers. Most of the enumerators are working on a part-time basis but some of them, of course, are full-time. Although the amount may appear large, I think that on reflection the Committee will agree that it is not excessive considering the ground to be covered, and the value of the information once it is obtained.

## WORLD CEREALS SHORTAGE

February 5, 1946.

*The Minister of Food (Sir Benjamin Smith):* . . . The collapse of Japan seriously aggravated the rice position because the rice-consuming countries of the East were liberated before rice production could be got into full swing. . . But in the meantime, this country must join with the other countries of the world, in making its contribution to the global war against hunger.

## INVESTMENT (CONTROL AND GUARANTEES) BILL

*The Chancellor of the Exchequer (Mr. Dalton):* . . . Two members of the existing Committee, Mr. Binder and Mr. Neilson, are retiring, and I have appointed in their place, three new members, Mr. Babington Smith, a director of Glyn Mills, and one of the ablest of the younger men in the City, Mr. H. V. Berry, who has just retired from the post of assistant general manager of the Union Discount Company—this gentleman has the unusual qualification of being equally well-known and respected in the City of London and in the Fabian Society—and Mr. C. P. Lister, a relatively young industrialist, who has special knowledge of the export trade.

The other members of the existing Committee are continuing to serve for the present. The function of this Committee is to act as a licensing authority for new issues, and to advise the Treasury on the suitability of particular applications in the light of the policy laid down by the Government from time to time. . . .

I shall myself be Chairman of this council. Some of the other Members will be appointed *ex-officio*, while others will be chosen for their individual capacities. They will include the Governor of the Bank of England, the Chairmen of the Capital Issues Committee, and of the Public Works Loan Board—which, as the House knows, looks after loans for local authorities—the Chairmen of the two Finance Corporations for industry, and the Chairman of the London Stock Exchange. The Council will also contain a prominent trade union leader, whose name I hope to be able to announce shortly; Mr. C. E. Prater, who is Chairman of the Finance Committee of the Co-operative Wholesale Society. [*Inter-ruption.*] Well, why not? The Co-operative Wholesale Society manages much larger funds than many other concerns. We shall have a lot of common sense from that quarter to blow the cobwebs away.

I have also invited Sir Clarence Sadd, Vice-Chairman of the Midland Bank, Sir Clive Baillieu, whom I have selected not because he happens, at the moment, to be President of the Federation of British Industries, but because I think highly of him, anyhow—there is no disqualification in being President of the Federation—and Mr. Nicholas Davenport, who is a stockbroker, but is also well known as a lively writer on financial subjects. That is a fine body of high-powered, collective wisdom. . . .

*Mr. Osborne (Louth):* . . . Instead of the Chancellor wasting his time and that of the Cabinet on a Bill which, to my mind, does not cut much ice, I suggest that he should tackle the question of P.A.Y.E., and say to the workers that anything under £500 a year shall be tax-free, and then we would soon get the production we require.

(Continued on page 6)

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Saturday, March 2, 1946.

### The Great East

It now seems apparent that February 18, 1946, discovered in the last fifty years to be written in the Pyramids, proclaimed by the prophet Daniel (whose existence is regrettably unauthenticated) and transmitted by Mrs. Alice Bailey of New York from Shambala as the day of fate, is D-day for the British Empire. We had a strong suspicion that it would turn out to be that.

If this statement appears to contain a faint hint of ribaldry, it is only because some people will make a joke about the Day of Judgment. An organisation which can not only start an Indian Naval Mutiny, a local war in Palestine, a simulacrum of world famine, even including oranges harvested three months ago and a performance such as the Russian clowns have staged on or about the appointed date, may be, in the perspective of cosmic history, a subject for jeering contempt; but in the twentieth century it is something to be met with action. The main threads of the story can be picked up by anyone. India has a line which leads through Mrs. Besant and Colonel Olcott back to New York; Palestine to the same group of New York financiers who openly boasted of bringing about the Russian Revolution, and dictated the terms and extent of United States collaboration in 1917 and 1942; and the simplest explanation of the Indonesian business is to view it as an attempt to implicate the Royal Dutch Shell so that it may be attacked with "Britain."

There is one redeeming aspect of the menacing situation. As never before, it is coming to the surface. Either St. George or the Dragon is in for a beating this time.

It is not without interest, that on the appointed day, Mr. Winston Churchill should be found in close consultation with Mr. Bernard Baruch, and his tame politician Mr. James Byrnes, at the very comfortable watering-place of Miami, Florida.

### Declining Intelligence

Professor Godfrey Thomson, of Edinburgh University, speaking in London on February 14 on "The Trend of National Intelligence" said that a steady decline in the average intelligence of the inhabitant of the United Kingdom was evident. Children of low intelligence tended to come from large families (*i.e.*, the mass of the voting population). "It was at least in large part due to heredity and it was an important social fact." Whether Socialism is due to declining intelligence, or declining intelligence is due to socialism, may be open to argument, but that there is a connection is indubitable.

The decline began in Germany, the nursery of Socialist doctrine; and during the Hitler regime had become so noticeable that the examination standards of German Universities had to be continuously lowered. What the general

level of intelligence, as distinct from book-learning, was in Russia under the Czars we do not know; but one look at a photograph of the present rank and file of Soviet Russia is sufficiently revealing. And we suggest that the artistic impact of, say, Mr. Aneurin Bevan in comparison with a Cabinet Minister of any Party in the Victorian Era compels a pathetic resort to the hope that handsome is as handsome does. Beauty may not be the same thing as intelligence; but it is merely Cromwellian to suppose that they have no connection.

It may be reliance upon a sinking level of intelligence on the part of its audience, or that the composers of the News Bulletins emitted by the "B."B.C. are all drawn from large families. But it is necessary to look for some explanation of their character. To take one of many instances, the statement that the population of the Argentine is to be rationed in its meat supply to make more available to starving Europe (6 p.m. February 16, 1946) can only be made on the assumption that reception would be by the half-witted or those who think the chief occupation of the Argentine is silver-mining.

The population of Argentina is about 14,000,000 human beings. There are about 35,000,000 head of the finest beef cattle in the world on its estancias, and about 45,000,000 sheep. Does anyone seriously suppose that such a country would submit to meat rationing, or that it could be enforced?

### Libel?

The Attorney-General was asked recently in the House of Commons whether his attention has been drawn to a document distributed in England, without any printer's name or address, by a body called the Catholic Social Guild and written by the Archbishop of St. Andrews and Edinburgh, in which the military operations of our Soviet allies against our Nazi enemies are compared to the onward rush of Mongol hordes and our allies themselves are alleged to surpass the worst achievements of Nazi degenerates; and whether he will prosecute the persons responsible for this publication for libel and for distributing the document without the printer's name and address.

*The Attorney-General:* My attention has been called to the document in question, which appears to have been published mainly in Scotland, in which country I am advised there is no law corresponding to the law of criminal libel in this country. So far as publication in England is concerned, I do not consider, having regard to all the circumstances of this particular case, that I would be justified in instituting proceedings for criminal libel. In regard to the omission of the statutory imprint, inquiries are being made as to where the document was printed, and if, as appears likely, it was printed in Scotland, any question of proceedings will be one for the Lord Advocate.

### In London

The books and pamphlets distributed by K.R.P. Publications Ltd., may now be purchased from K. G. Catmur, 2, Stepney Green, London, E.1, by callers at that address between the hours of 9-30 a.m. and 5 p.m. daily except Sunday and Saturday. On Saturday the hours will be 9-30 a.m. to noon.

No orders will be despatched from this address by post and applications for postal delivery should continue to be forwarded to Liverpool.

## The Trades Unions Cartel

*In view of the present industrial crisis precipitated by Communist attempts to make political use of industrial unrest, according to their technique of the general strike as a prelude to revolution, we publish the text of a radio talk entitled "The Crisis in Trade Unions," broadcast on January 31 from 2KO, Newcastle, New South Wales, and delivered by Mr. S. Morrow on behalf of the Workers' Democratic League:—*

Good evening, listeners. In our talk last week some reference was made to the growth of Communist influence in control of our trade unions. The position at present is a grave danger to the unions themselves as a means for the protection of the workers' interests, and to the welfare of our country as a whole.

There is a large body of unionists who allow themselves to be used as the dupes of their officials. It is too readily assumed that the political views of officials is no concern of the unionist—that they are only in office to carry out the work of the unions. But to the Communist, the policy dictates of his Party come first. He sees the union as a convenient organisation which may be used to the advantage of the Party. It is urgently necessary that inactive members should realise the danger before it is too late.

Our unions were built up by earnest men, loyal to the interests of the workers. The unions have raised the status of the worker to a place of respect in the social structure. If they are to continue to serve the workers they must be kept under democratic control. The League urges workers to recognise the vital need to keep control in the hands of the rank and file.

This weapon, forged for the protection of the workers, is being converted into a machine to oppress and discipline them, not to further their aims. Already individuals and groups who dared to disagree with those in control have found themselves subjected to penalties and victimisation by officials, who should be the servants, not the rulers, of their rank-and-file. Penalties are imposed in the name of the "Union," but that means little when the control of union policy, the making of rules, and so forth has been allowed to pass into the hands of the "select" few.

The present industrial troubles are obviously being spread as widely as possible to embrace as many sufferers as possible. That cannot, in itself, benefit the workers. But the greater the discontent, unrest and confusion caused, the better from the point of view of those who have waited and planned for years for revolutionary conditions. These people hope to hold control of the situation as it develops, and so the worker is being led to adopt the big-stick methods of all disciples of totalitarian gospels, and to throw aside his instinctive respect for law and order, reason and fair play, in solving his problems.

If the present disorganisation of industry can be spread more widely it will bring great inconvenience to all sections, including, not least, the workers themselves. It will turn the sympathy of the public into hostility towards the workers, till the workers will be able to see no other way out except to resort to violence. If they can be made to man the street barricades, after the fashion of European revolutionary movements, they may be used to lift those leaders into the position of supreme masters of the country. Should that occur, the workers might try the effect of attempting to

strike against the decrees of their new masters! If beaten in the rioting, the workers themselves will bear the consequences. The present tactic being used is to "consolidate disputes." When the Bunnerong men struck over a shift-work dispute their problem was taken over and converted into the wider issue of a general 40-hour week. Then came the printing dispute, and the printers were invited to amend their particular policy to bring it into line with the general policy.

The Printing Industry Employees' section wisely decided to handle its own dispute—to mind its own business. It took the only safe course in the interests of its members. As a result, a settlement has now been reached on terms which the men concerned decided were acceptable. The key to democracy is to reduce a problem to the limits of interest and understanding of those concerned. The reverse policy is being steadily pursued in union affairs by the consolidation of disputes, and wider and wider affiliations and amalgamations, under the plea of "unity." This method suits the Comrades admirably. The printers, for example could have had their altered issues settled to the satisfaction, in theory, at any rate, of miners, journalists, teachers, iron-workers, and so forth, but not necessarily to their own satisfaction. The members of other unions, however sympathetic they may be, do not clearly understand the special nature of printers' troubles. Moreover, they have enough problems of their own which naturally receive their prior attention. From this process of enlarging our various problems, it follows that the rank-and-file members, become the easy victims of a few manipulators of union affairs. They cannot follow the details in any particular dispute. They must perforce accept the explanations and advice of those who claim to "represent" so many thousands when they give their own interpretations. The advice, and the remedies, generally boil down to "leave the matter in the hands of your union leaders—and hope for the best." The uninformed rank-and-file unionists thus become mere troops to be directed as their leaders think fit. These Left-wing leaders are becoming a body of professional minders of everybody's business in union affairs. At the same time members are losing or giving away the right to mind their own affairs, without interference by outside organisations.

These same leaders have the impudence to talk of democracy as though they had some respect for it. Will they tolerate any truly democratic decision of policy by the rank-and-file? When the men involved mention such a small measure of democratic control as a secret ballot to decide their policy concerning the continuation of the present B.H.P. disputes, they are given the most extraordinary "reasons" why they should not be allowed to decide that simple issue of policy. And that power to decide policy is the basic fundamental of democracy.

All we get are proposals, initiated by the leaders, for endorsement by the rank-and-file. At one meeting no motions other than those so prepared for submission would be accepted by the chairman. Great play is made of the term "democratically elected," as a justification for elected officials deciding the policy instead of merely administering a policy formulated by the members. Well, Hitler was "democratically elected," too, and with an enormous support, but his regime is seldom referred to as a Democracy!

The workers must, in their own defence, recapture control and organise their unions on a democratic basis.

They must keep all power of making policy (not merely endorsement of a given policy) in their own hands. They must be prepared to mind their own business for themselves and allow nobody to make a business of minding them. They must decide for what purposes they will use their own union machinery and funds, not allow Communist or other leaders to decide how their machinery and funds shall be used as a political weapon.

The Workers' Democratic League aims at rank-and-file control of all unions. It desires to help unionists in the fight to make their unions and their elected officials their servants, not their masters deciding for them the course they shall take. The unions must not be allowed to be used to further the policies of the Communist Party. The League does not ask workers to put it into political power and then enter an industrial paradise. To do so would be a fraud. That is what has already been done. Unionists alone can secure their own victory. Any leader who professes to give them salvation if placed in a position of power should be discarded as suspect.

## PARLIAMENT

(Continued from page 3)

*Mr. Brendan Bracken:* ... To sum up, this Bill is an attempt to establish control by the Treasury over most of the users and providers of capital. I would tell the Chancellor that he cannot run British industry from Whitehall. This Bill fetters enterprise and weakens confidence, and confidence at the present moment is a quality which is absolutely necessary to our recovery. It favours monopolistic business. It will create the worst bottle neck ever known in Whitehall, and it is the most remarkable example of Socialist inconsistency. For years, the party opposite have declaimed against what they call the domination of industry by finance, and how often have they urged against the excessive power of the Treasury. I remember speeches by the Chancellor attacking Lord Snowden for his subservience to Treasury officials. Now what do we find? We find that the high priests of finance, who are the heads of the Treasury, are to be made dictators of British industrial development. So this is how we face the future? ...

## BANK ACCOUNT, NEWCASTLE (INQUIRY)

*Sir C. Headlam* asked the Chancellor of the Exchequer whether he has considered the correspondence sent to him concerning a lady resident in Newcastle-upon-Tyne, who recently was compelled to sell £400 worth of War Bonds to meet her domestic obligations and was subsequently asked by the Income Tax authorities whether the proceeds had been reinvested and, having replied in the negative, was curtly requested by His Majesty's Inspector of Taxes, Newcastle 4th District, in a letter dated 5th November, 1945, to say in what form the proceeds were held, and to submit a copy of her private bank account for inspection; and under what authority this officer made this demand.

*Mr. Dalton:* If the hon. and gallant Member will send me particulars of this case, I will go into it.

February 6, 1946.

## ATOMIC ENERGY: PROFESSOR OTTO HAHN

*Captain Blackburn* asked the Prime Minister on what

conditions the Government have recently returned the German atomic scientist, Otto Hahn, to Germany; and whether he will make a statement as to Otto Hahn's movements and activities.

*The Prime Minister:* Professor Hahn is one of a number of German scientists who had worked on atomic energy research, and who were brought to this country for interrogation. They have since been sent back to Germany where they will be allowed to pursue fundamental research in accordance with any scheme of scientific research which may be approved by the Control Council.

*Captain Blackburn:* Can my right hon. Friend say whether Professor Hahn is now engaged on fundamental research?

*The Prime Minister:* I have no information on that point.

## WAR OFFICE (PERSONAL CASE)

*Sir W. Smithers* asked the Secretary of State for War whether his attention has been called to the conditions under which Miss Daphne Baker, of 307, Court Road, Orpington, is employed at the War Office, particulars of which have been sent to him; and what action does he propose to take to remedy this, and similar cases.

*Mr. Lawson:* I am obliged to the hon. Member for bringing this case to my attention. Miss Baker applied for release in October, 1945, on the grounds that her emoluments were inadequate. This application was rejected. On 25 January, she again applied for release on the grounds that she had insufficient work to do and that she would give better service in her civilian employment. In a large department such as the War Office it is not easy to ensure that clerks who are not interested in their work devote their full attention to it. In view, however, of Miss Baker's representations, she has now been transferred to another branch where her work will be closely supervised.

February 11, 1946.

## PALESTINE (ANGLO-AMERICAN COMMITTEE)

*Squadron-Leader Hollis* asked the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs whether the report of the Anglo-American Palestinian Committee will be published.

*Mr. McNeil:* The final decision on this subject can only be taken in consultation with the United States Government. His Majesty's Government, however, presume that this report will be published.

## NATIONAL INSURANCE BILL

Question put, "That the Bill be now read a Second time."

*The House proceeded to a Division, and MR. SPEAKER stated that he thought the "Ayes" had it, and, on his decision being challenged, it appeared to him that the Division was unnecessarily claimed, and he accordingly called upon the Members who supported and who challenged his decision successively to rise in their places, and he declared the "Ayes" had it, three Members only who challenged his decision having stood up.*

Bill accordingly read a Second time, and committed to a Standing Committee.

February 12, 1946.

### TRADE DISPUTES AND TRADE UNIONS BILL

*Lord Willoughby de Eresby (Rutland and Stamford):*

... Now, a word or two about Section 3 of the 1927 Act, which deals with intimidation. It is extremely difficult for the lay mind to comprehend fully the law on this subject. I listened very carefully to the learned Attorney-General, but I am afraid I am still rather vague about the position of the law on that point. As I understand it, one of the effects of the repeal of this particular Section will be to legalise in the future the picketing of a workman his wife and children in his home. I know the home is not quite what it used to be, and that the Englishman's home to-day seems to be all too often regarded as the lawful playground of the collector of statistics, the political canvasser and the commercial tout and newspaper reporter and so on, and I do not know whether it is much more objectionable to have an odd peaceful picket or two round the house, than to have men arriving to inquire of the wife why she has not had more babies, or, possibly, some other person to solicit support and subscriptions for the very newest and latest peace movement. I think it is a quite unnecessary waste of the time of this House to be engaged in adding one more to the number of people who besiege a man in his home to-day. It even seems to me to be something of a paradox that a Socialist Government should be actually engaged in nationalising industries where trade disputes have been most frequent in the past, and are most likely to occur in the future. When all is said and done, the unfortunate victim of peaceful picketing would probably not be guilty of a more heinous offence than his laudable desire to continue to work for the State, in spite of what his colleagues may be doing. ...

I feel that to get this question in its proper perspective, we have all got to recognise, as, indeed, we all do, that, at the moment, the party opposite can rely upon a large and belligerent majority in the trade union movement. Other parties can only count upon the support of a small and largely passive minority, and this very fact, to my mind, is one of the main arguments at the moment—I am not saying what may happen in the future, when the support of the unions may well be transferred to other parties—for not reversing this system from contracting in, to contracting out. There are, to-day, many widely divergent views in the world as to what constitutes democracy, but I think the definition generally accepted by most people in this country is that democracy is a form of life or government, in which minorities not only enjoy the same freedom as majorities but are, if anything, given special consideration for the very fact that they are minorities, and I, therefore, say that anything which runs counter to this definition can be said to be undemocratic. ...

### A.B.C.A. PAMPHLETS

*Flight-Lieutenant Haire* asked the Secretary of State for War if it is proposed to continue the production of the A.B.C.A. pamphlets in the Army; and whether he will state the total cost per copy issued and the amount of newsprint involved.

*Major Lloyd* asked the Secretary of State for War how many tons of paper were used by A.B.C.A. for their weekly pamphlets in 1945; and how many tons are being used at the present time.

*Mr. Lawson:* It is intended to continue the supply of bulletins on current affairs to the Army and they are still being produced by the War Office. Proposals for future supply are under consideration. The cost per copy issued for paper and printing is approximately two-thirds of a penny. The quantity of paper used in each fortnightly issue is about 2½ tons. 146 tons of paper were used during 1945.

February 13, 1946.

### TRADE DISPUTES AND TRADE UNIONS BILL

*The Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs (Mr. Ernest Bevin):* ... Every overdraft was falling and every credit was falling simply because two men, to whom I shall refer later, had decided on this thing. This decision was taken unilaterally. There was not a word said to any trade unionist. We were assembled by the Prime Minister of the day, Mr. Lloyd George and told that this was necessary. I, personally, asked in 10, Downing Street if we had to face it as the new postwar value of money—I ask the Press to say that I hammered at the Box at this point to call special attention to that—and Sir Austen Chamberlain replied "Yes." ...

Mr. Baldwin put the greatest financial expert in the world in charge of the Treasury, the right hon. Member for Woodford (Mr. Churchill), and the chief official of the Treasury was Sir Otto Niemeyer. [Interruption.] I am telling the story authentically. [AN HON. MEMBER: "But it is irrelevant."] It is not irrelevant, and I am telling this generation the story in order to avoid a repetition in the future. Directly right hon. Gentlemen got into office they started to contemplate our return to the Gold Standard. No sooner had the right hon. Gentleman the Member for Woodford agreed to that course, than Sir Otto Niemeyer left the Treasury to go to the Bank of England. That was very significant. We were brought back to pre-war parity to gold. No single trade union or industrialist in this country, outside the immediate bank directors, was ever told. ...

I had a very curious experience during the general strike to which I think I ought to refer, since the decision of the courts has been mentioned. I am not imputing to the courts any wrongful thing, but I was approached and asked to put up a stooge in order that a case might be stated that the general strike was illegal. I thought that rather curious, but it is on the records of my executive to-day—the whole of the correspondence is there. I declined to do it but later—I do not know how it came about, perhaps it was a coincidence, and I make no accusation or no charge—I saw the judgment to obtain which it had been suggested to me that I should use one of my members. That too, is on the records. [AN HON. MEMBER: "Very significant."] I go further and say that a learned gentleman who was a Member of this House made a pronouncement at that time. I refer to Lord Simon. I came to the conclusion afterwards that the Bill had to be carried to make Lord Simon correct. Finally, when I asked another very learned gentleman, then a Member of another place, "Why did not you make it," he replied, "Do you think I am such a fool?" ...

*Mr. W. J. Brown (Rugby):* ... speaking as a trade unionist of 30 years' standing, and perhaps as one of the very few trade union leaders now living who built up his own union and did not inherit it from somebody else, I tell the House that I regard the "closed shop" as an evil thing from the trade union point of view, and from a number of other

points of view.

I hold first that trade unionism should be a voluntary combination of free men for the protection collectively of the rights that they are powerless to enforce individually. If it ceases to be that, it is in grave danger of becoming something else. Trade unionism is not necessarily a good thing; it can be good, bad or indifferent, according to the quality of the men that lead it, and the men who make up its membership. It may be anything from a harmless goose club to an effective combination, a spearhead of attack, in the battle of righteousness, and in extreme cases it can be an instrument for selling the men up the river. The only way you can guard against that, is to allow the same laws of freedom to operate in the growth of trade unionism as operate elsewhere. Where a union is a bad union, it is a good thing if another should rise in its place. A man not getting the satisfaction from a union that he considers his right should be free to leave and join another. . . .

This is the sort of thing that can happen in a closed shop. Here is a paper—not part of the capitalist press—called *The Word*, and edited by a man whose name will be well known to hon. Members opposite, Mr. Guy Aldred. In this week's issue it quotes the following case. Four men it says were employed by Messrs. Anderson Bros., Engineers of Coatbridge—a "closed shop."

"When their union membership lapsed because of arrears of contributions, the district committee of the A.E.U. asked the management to dismiss them. This was done on the grounds of 'industrial misconduct.'

At the appeal, which was dismissed, Councillor Filson, himself a trade unionist pleaded that union arrears were not 'industrial misconduct' and that the case was one of grave constitutional importance."

I agree, but the appeal was dismissed. So we get a situation in which trade unionists are compelled to pay their contributions through a "closed shop," operating in conjunction with the union, and supported by the Ministry of Labour. I am saying what I feel about this, and I maintain that it is just as much tyranny as the Oddenino circular we were discussing last night. Tyranny does not cease to be tyranny, because it comes from a trade union, and not from a private employer. If we are to make progress we must recognise the rights of liberty, even when it is for the other side. I say that that case is a judicial scandal, if the facts are as stated in the newspaper. And I shall give the Minister of Labour an opportunity of informing the House how his appeal board came to turn down the appeal. As I say I think it is a judicial scandal of the first magnitude and I intend to ventilate it as thoroughly as I can. . . .

February 13.

### RUSSIA (COMMERCIAL OBLIGATIONS)

Mr. Asisheton asked the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs if he is aware that the Government of the U.S.S.R. has been in default since November, 1940, on the non-interest bearing State notes issued in 1935 to the Lena Goldfields, Limited, as well as on its payments to the Tetiuhe Mining Corporation, Limited; whether the U.S.S.R. is still meeting its obligations in the U.S.A. in the parallel case of the Harriman Manganese Concession; and, if so, whether he will explain the discrimination against the United Kingdom.

Mr. Bevin: I am aware of this interruption of payments. I understand that the Soviet Government continued to meet its obligations in the United States of America in the case of the Harriman Manganese Concession until payments were completed in 1943. His Majesty's Government have repeatedly protested against this discrimination, but have not received any satisfactory explanation of it from the Soviet authorities.

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