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EUROPE IN THE RAPIDS

By C. H. DOUGLAS

"It is to our interest to maintain a substantial balance of power in Europe. If any one group obtained substantial predominance, we should be faced with the necessity of defending the Monroe doctrine on the American continent."

(Senator Pitman, U.S.A.)

We are all familiar with the story of the old lady visiting the zoo for the first time, who was confronted with a giraffe. After regarding it fixedly, she announced firmly "I don't believe it!"

In the same way, probably most of us are familiar with the idea that there exists a group or body which aims at the domination of the world, and in general our reaction to it is that of the old lady. We feel, in spite of many warnings in history, and even in that curious subject known as prophecy, that the idea is altogether too romantic and even neurotic, and that such things simply could not be.

With this attitude I have always had, and have, much sympathy. Nevertheless, I now feel that to disregard this idea is impossible. Further than that, I have no doubt as to the general nature of this group, its main line of strategy and its present headquarters—they are in New York City in the United States of America. The group is largely composed of "German" Jews, although, like rats, they move where the harvest is richest.

That these reptiles are able and ruthless, is true. But, given the measure of control which they exercise, through their connections throughout the world, on the financial system, no great ability is

necessary to produce the results which are bringing the world face to face with perhaps irremediable disaster. Long before the European war, the technique of "dollar diplomacy" had been tried out and perfected, notably in connection with small South American states. Where the necessary concessions could not be obtained from an existing government, a revolution was, with pathetic ease, fomented, using some possibly quite unconscious "patriot" as the agency through which it was financed. A new government was set up and the necessary concessions to the diplomatists followed as a matter of course.

Now, it must have struck many people besides myself that it was extremely unfortunate for the Allies that the revolution in Russia took place exactly when it did.

Those of us whose memories of the European war are still green, will remember how we all said, in

the early days of the autumn of 1914, "Wait until the Russian 'steam-roller' comes into action." Those of us who, like myself, were in a position to know something of what was going on, remember the appalling diversion of munitions and material into Russia by Great Britain at a time when every shell was badly needed elsewhere. Not only did the Russian 'steam-roller' fail to materialise, but it formed an almost bottomless drain for arms and ammunition, thus ensuring that a war which seemed likely to be over in six months lasted four years and ended with the exhaustion of every combatant—except the United States of America. In fact, the war ended when "victors" and vanquished were alike in pawn to Wall Street.

Similarly, any competent observer knows quite well that no individual reaches the position of Herr Hitler, Signor Mussolini or M. Stalin, without the connivance of forces which he does not control. In these days of mass propaganda through newspapers and broadcasting, both of which agencies, by common consent, are almost exclusively controlled by great financial interests, it is practically impossible, in a country with a large population, for anyone to rise to power and retain power against a steady blast of propaganda and misrepresentation, unless this can be met on an equally large scale. It is not merely conjectural that the so-called dictatorships are playing the game of international finance; it is certain. Nothing could produce the present state of affairs, in which a group of so-called democracies is pitted against a

ON OTHER PAGES

THE STARS AND THE
FUTURE

SWEDISH IMPRESSIONS

FREE PARLIAMENT
MOVEMENT IN CANADA

SIGNS OF THE TIMES

Mrs. PALMER'S PAGE

NEWS SUMMARY

group of so-called authoritarian states, egged on to catastrophe by misrepresentation of each other's motives, other than a desire, external to both groups, to involve the whole world, except some chosen part of it and some chosen group, in a conflict which not one single individual who will fight individually desires. As Mr. Chamberlain correctly said, strong governments are handy instruments for ambitious men. They are an absolute necessity for great wars.

Given a state of affairs such as exists at the present time, a situation arises in which either side will promise anything in order to obtain the aid of the final balance of power, which will, in their opinion, enable them to gain the victory. Even the threat of it is being used to make what little freedom of action still remains an impossibility in the future—which is the end desired.

At the end of the last war, the League of Nations was the instrument designed to impose its will upon the world, with the group to which I have referred directing it. The Bank of International Settlements was its complement. That scheme has miscarried. It is quite clear that the next war which is contemplated will not be allowed to break out until it is impossible for either side to gain an easy victory. It should be obvious to

any intelligent child that the only outcome of such a war is the exhaustion of all the combatants, and that no such war would in any circumstances occur if only those who desire war were obliged to fight in it.

How much of this Mr. Chamberlain knows or suspects, I do not know. That his policy in September was absolutely right, I have no doubt, as I have no doubt of the extent to which this country has been betrayed prior to his accession as Prime Minister.

Equally, the policy applicable to the situation is clear, and on its successful pursuit depends, humanly speaking, the fate of this planet.

In the first place, everything depends on peace. As against this, the centralised powers of government in every country are so amenable to manipulation that, left to their reaction to it, war is certain.

Every minute of peace should be utilised to establish contact between the populations of the countries which will be involved in war, who have nothing to gain from war and everything to lose.

One of the wisest sayings applicable to these times is that you can do everything with bayonets except sit on them. That is where the diabolical ingenuity involved in

splitting the world into so-called democracies and dictatorships arises. The dictatorships (labels like Socialism and Fascism mean nothing) once established, can be safely left to create a situation which will throw the so-called democracies into all the steps leading to war. Appeals to dictators are useless—they can be stopped only by their populations.

In any event, this is no time for passivity. I do not know whether any steps are possible against the individual members of this group and their affiliations in every country, and I should certainly be the last person to counsel vague threats. But if it is possible that real meaning could be given to a notification that whoever comes out of the next war it will not be anyone suspected of having fomented it, I think such a policy would be sound and practical.

The confrontation of fifty selected individuals (not by any means all financiers) with the certainty that they would suffer one thousandth part of the misery they are willing and even eager to inflict on millions of their dupes, would ensure action to make war impossible.

C.S. Douglas

NEWS SUMMARY

England

March 22—Captain Euan Wallace, Financial Secretary to the Treasury, urged the need for strict economy in view of the growing financial burden of defence, when he addressed the Jubilee meeting of the County Councils Association at the Guildhall, Westminster.

In the House of Lords a motion to set up a Select Committee to deal with financial matters affecting

statutory gas, electricity, and water undertakings was agreed to.

March 23—Four explosions occurred in telephone inspection chambers at Coventry, and as a result 1,000 telephone lines were interrupted, and considerable damage was caused to adjoining property.

Mr. Chamberlain stated in the House of Commons that whereas Britain had every wish to aid Germany in the development of her export trade she would stand firm against the use of force against the smaller independent nations.

March 26—Speaking at Grimsby, Mr. Eden advocated immediate formation of a non-party Government and the regimentation of

Britain's industry, wealth and man-power.

March 27—Committees of three are to be appointed immediately by the councils, to be in full charge of local A.R.P. measures in war-time.

Germany

March 22—Memel was ceded to Germany by Lithuania.

March 23—Rumania and Germany signed a Trade Treaty by which Germany takes Rumanian wheat and oil and is to develop Rumanian industries.

March 27—German troop concentrations are reported near Swiss frontier.

Spain

March 26—General Franco's troops began a big offensive in the

The NEW ERA

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Mrs. Palmer's Page

THE PUSHING PURITAN

The present crisis (our third within a year) could not be allowed to pass without an outcry from U.S.A. To any one who realises the part played by American financiers in European affairs since 1918, these gentlemen, with their cries of "wanton lawlessness," "gangersterdom" and "democracy" are, whether they know it or not, in the position of waiting for the cockfight to begin, having first carefully fitted the spurs.

President Roosevelt said:—

"The Government of the United States has, on frequent occasions, stated its conviction that only through international support of a programme of order, based upon law, can world peace be assured."

This sounds like hypocrisy when we remember that Washington and Wall Street forced upon us a policy which is the direct cause of the rise of the Dictators.

The "ordinary citizen" in America, however, knows nothing of this, nor would he like to be told of it. His "Whig-Puritan" morality makes him a fervent worshipper of Internationalism, and as Douglas says, he is never too busy to point out the defects in Europeans.

However, we ourselves, cannot cast the first stone, for we supplied America with her Puritans.

I sometimes wonder which came first, the worship of the money system or Puritanism. Was one the outcome of the other? I think that in the seventeenth century, when men began to prefer the Old Testament to the New, they began to prefer abstractions to reality, so that the symbol of money became of more importance than the work it could do in providing us with the good things of this life.

George Moore said that no great art could live under Puritanism. Perhaps that is the reason why literature has shown a steady decline since the golden days of Elizabeth. Shakespeare saw the Puritan in the offing where he strutted cross-gartered, masking

his familiar smile with an austere regard of control. Never believe for one moment that Shakespeare had the slightest sympathy for Malvolio. His very name is enough to tell you that.

While I was thinking of this, I came upon these words in J. B. Priestly's book, "The English Comic Characters":—

"Shakespeare clearly detested all hard, unsympathetic, intolerant persons, the over-ambitious and over-weaning, the climbers and careerists, the 'get-on or get-outs' of this world. When the will and the intellect in all their pride were divorced from tolerance, charity, and a love of the good things of this world, they formed the stuff out of which the Shakespeare villians were made. But the Bastard and Iago and Richard the Third are the very characters that some of our modern dramatists would select to adorn these acts of hero-worship. So too, to come down the scale, our friend Malvolio, the pushing puritan, is under various disguises, the hero of almost one-half of all the American novels that were ever written."

Thus Shakespeare's villains are rapidly becoming our heroes. There could be no apter comment upon the age of unreality which began when the first fraudulent gold-

smith discovered that he could issue more parchment promises than he possessed gold-plate.

I have just finished reading the "Letters from a Self-made Merchant to his Son" by G. H. Lorimer, and dedicated to "Cyrus Curtis, a self-made man," which are preferable to Samuel Smiles in that they are absolutely free from sentimental hypocrisy; but as a cold-blooded exposure of the business man's outlook they would be hard to beat. I should not have thought the book of so much importance if I had not known that it has been through thirty-four editions since it was first published in 1903. My copy was printed in 1936 by Methuen, at 2/6. The dust cover has these words: "This book describes, in a delightful, racy and picturesque style, the secrets of success in business and in life."

In my opinion, "Old Gorgon Graham" the writer of the letters, is still typical of the average successful business man everywhere, which explains why the latter becomes so pliant a tool for the manipulation of International Finance.

You can't help liking the old man. His nature is so fundamentally honest and affectionate. He is what you would call a good sort. But he worships at one shrine, the shrine of business. It is a religion to him, the whole of his nature is bound back to this relentless and rapacious god. The reward he gets for his life of unremitting service is a few million dollars in the bank. He accepts the toil, the ill-health, the sacrifice and the reward as a law of nature.

He sends his son to Harvard, because he is convinced that it pays. Anything that teaches a boy to get the answer before the other fellow gets through biting the pencil, pays. But no post-graduate course, because his son is going to be a pork-packer, not a poet or professor, "and we don't use much poetry in the packing business, except in street car advertisements, and about the only time our products are given Latin names is

To Meet You

Mrs. Palmer will be glad to welcome friends on Wednesday afternoons from 3—5 p.m., and at other times by appointment at

**4, Mecklenburgh Street,
London, W.C.1.**
(first floor bell)

Seven minutes from Russell Square Station, five minutes from King's Cross.

It is hoped that visitors to London will make a point of calling at that time. Tea and biscuits 3d.

when the State Board of Health condemns them."

There must be no trips to Europe in the vacations. "You are bound to try this European foolishness sooner or later, but if you will wait a few years, you will approach it in an entirely different spirit—and you will come back with a good deal of respect for the people who have enough sense to stay at home."

There is no such thing as freedom, according to Old Gorgon Graham. However high you may climb there will always be something for you to obey; if it isn't a man, it'll be the machine. There isn't any such thing as being your own boss in this world, unless you're a tramp, and then there's the constable.

Women? Well, they're not cut out for business, but they're useful in the home. A married man is worth more salary than a single one because his wife makes him worth more. "He goes a little steadier and works a little harder than the fellow who's got to amuse a different girl every night."

All this can only be changed when there are people who can show by their own example another way of life, just as practical as the old pork-packer's, based on the principles that every rates-campaigner is now learning in travail and pain (but how worthwhile it is!) then the overthrow of Abstractionism will be in sight.

The "pushing puritan" is a very practical man (although he worships an abstraction) and he can only be influenced by practical means. Theories are as meaningless to him as clouds. But he will have respect for someone who knows how to run a Lower Rates Demand Association on principles of association which really work, and produce real results.

For the first time in history something realistically practical, yet founded on fundamental truth instead of on a lie, has been placed before the business man. For the moment he doesn't quite know what to make of it. It is so long since he left off believing in anything but the law of money.

But wait till he sees it working!

B. M. PALMER.

THE WEALTHY WORLD

"Science and World Resources," by Richard Palmer: "Fact", No. 21; 6d.

One cannot describe as 'monumental' a work that is cramped within the limits of a sixpenny-pamphlet, yet Mr. Palmer succeeds in telling a story that completely staggers the imagination.

His chief aim is to show how Science is minimising regional deficiencies in power and material resources by providing either local alternatives or universal substitutes. Water-power, harnessed to the electric-generator, compensates Norway for her lack of coal; calcium carbide united with the air's nitrogen results in a fertiliser that frees the entire world from dependence upon Chilean nitrate deposits. As the author says: with 20 million tons of air covering every square mile of the earth's surface, it would be hard to imagine a more striking transition from local dominance to universal availability.

The chemist has reached a point where it has become physically possible so to manipulate the molecular-structure of the elements with which he deals as to create not only synthetic imitations of 'natural' products but useful substances not to be found in Nature's laboratory at all. Rubber is a case in point. The natural product consists of molecules of *isoprene*—a simple compound of carbon and hydrogen—but a more suitable basis may be synthesised from various allied hydro-carbons. Thus Germany builds up from *butadiene*, which differs from isoprene in that one hydrogen atom is substituted for a carbon and three hydrogens. Butadiene may be made from alcohol which, in turn, is extracted from potatoes, wood, or any decayed vegetable matter—and the synthetic rubber gives 50 per cent. longer wear than the natural one.

One might continue a long time quoting from this amazing story: how plastics to replace wood—and even metals—are being fashioned out of carbo-lic-acid molecules linked with those of formaldehyde, (both of which are derived from coal-tar): how the cellulose of sawdust may be split with hydrochloric and converted

into sugar: how the mineral deposit of sea-water may be melted so as to yield magnesium—a metal which may be allied to aluminium so as to form a compound having the tensile strength of steel; but the list is already formidable.

There are one or two eulogies for Soviet achievement, a suggestion being left that such achievement is impossible without state-control; and the hypersensitive social credit ear will detect an occasional undertone of disparagement of the "profit-motive."

This tilt at the Socialists' Aunt Sally identifies Mr. Palmer's political leanings, and one is tempted to say that this much-decried motive is frequently no more than the very natural search-for-a-living that inspires effort everywhere. To educate mankind out of such a low habit so that all activity shall have a philanthropic aim is far beyond any human competence as yet.

The urge to get the maximum living from a system so abundantly resourceful as Mr. Palmer shows it to be is not the evil that political partisanship would have us believe. The real fault operating against our availing ourselves of technical advances has been very succinctly explained by at least one of the world's leading industrialists. Henry Ford, with typical penetration, puts it in this way: "The present system has got us twisted into producing things to buy dollars with when what we need is a money-system that will produce dollars to buy goods with." That seems to locate the trouble; for only when money comes to be produced in a manner which will ensure the consumption of all possible output; only when an economic order is established in which "human welfare is the sole test of policy," will science and industry be enabled to bend their whole effort to the production of a *physical* rather than a *financial* result. When that day arrives, the Key of Plenty, so painfully striven for, will release mankind into its Golden Age of Culture.

W. L. BAIN.

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FROTTI

We used to laugh together,
But now I laugh alone.
It's easier to weep a bit,
Pity oneself and moan;
Such fun it was to laugh with him,
So hard to laugh alone!

The bankers and economists,
And other men to whom
Abundance is a naughty crime,
Leisure a dreadful doom—
I wish they could have seen him

there

Chuckling in his room.

To yield to his infirmities
He always did disdain;
He laughed, but had to yield to
Death,

He's gone; and we remain
To make his laughter shake the
World

Until the World is sane.

PSHAW.

Social Credit Secretariat

Erratum: (*The Social Crediter*,
March 24, 1939) Director of
Overseas Relations: Mr. R.
Oakley, (Dr. Tudor Jones will
act as Director until an ap-
pointment can be made).

Director of Revenue: Mr. F. C.
Luxton is acting as Director of
Revenue.

CRISIS

Doesn't it show the inscrutable workings of Providence, that we should have a War Scare just when we wanted a war scare to avoid a trade "recession"?

Richard Thomas Ltd., were completely taken over by the Bank of England (privately owned) just in time to make corrugated iron shelters. This has saved Richard Thomas Ltd., anyway.

If you don't like corrugated iron in your nasturtium bed, that's just too bad.

The Archbishop of Canterbury says if we don't have a war now, we shall never be sure of Peace again. How these old friends do crop up, isn't it?

W. W.

THE STARS AND THE FUTURE

Quotation 1. From *Britain by Mass Observation*, by Charles Madge and Tom Harrisson (Penguin Library).

From the enormous horoscope data of the 1938 Press it is possible to construct a whole ethic of contemporary England, and through these columns much editorial policy is promoted as advice for your future. It is no exaggeration to say that holiday travel, city investments, the success of advertisers, rumours of war, can be more powerfully influenced by the paper's astrologer than its leader writer or news editor.

Quotation 2. From *What the Stars Foretell* by R. H. Naylor in the *Sunday Express* of March 26.

Uneasy times bring uneasy minds. So runs my thought as I turn over a pile of readers' letters.

Little good asking the experts. The experts have usually been wrong about the outcome of previous crises. However familiar they may be with the road the world has travelled in the past, they fail in guiding it round the next bend in that road.

Astrological reasoning suggests that the world of to-morrow (meaning the world which will gradually emerge from the rough-and-tumble of the next decade) will bring:—

(1) An astonishing reshuffle of world alliances, resulting in three closely-knit groups of nations.

(2) The power of science and the scientific hierarchy will replace to a large extent the power that religion has had in the past. The scientific hierarchy will seek to

attain the same dominance over the minds and bodies of the masses; that power will have to be checked by the same methods that the tyranny of religion has been checked. The fight for freedom in science will have even more martyrs than the fight for freedom in religion.

(3) Censorship of news, the secret trial, the ascendancy of a privileged official class, the enslavement of the individual to the State—all these evils threaten. They threaten—be it emphasised—in the British Isles—not in certain overseas countries; there already they are in full blast.

Well, it's up to you! You will be one of those who help to determine the pattern of things to come.

* * * *

Whichever way we look at it, Mr. Naylor's forecast is interesting. If it is compiled objectively from a study of the position of the stars governing the nations, then let us thank our stars for the admission in the last paragraph that destinies can be changed by the will of man. If Mr. Naylor has allowed his personal views to shine through the stars' rays, then we should congratulate him for his success in getting some shrewd observations past the censorship of the editor. If the editor himself has promoted the article, he earns the gratitude of his public for giving them a warning in the column to which they turn first, well knowing that here they get much more fun and, at least, as much truth, as in the news reports.

SWEDISH IMPRESSIONS

By Børge Jensen

There has during the last year been a good deal of talk about a Scandinavian Union of Defence. Curiously enough 'Denmark' in the person of Premier Stauning has so far haughtily declined all advances made by the Swedes. This is remarkable since Denmark is the only Scandinavian country which has not re-armed: In fact, the only tangible effect on Danish politics of the two world crises is that a few million Kroner have been voted towards A. R. Precautions and the purchase of provisions for the Civil population. The A. R. P., consisting firstly in the issuing of a pamphlet, which tells people how to behave in the case of air-raids, and secondly, in the cleaning up of the attic lumber-rooms of the capital (starting on February 1).

The Swedish parliament, on the other hand, voted some 50 million Kr. immediately after the German annexation of Austria. Norway also has faced up to the situation.

Sweden is a rich country 'because they have no unemployment.' The enormous *length* of the country partly explains how the "cure" has been effected: there is always the eternal road-building ready to absorb the "surplus" labour. Even so, the foreign motoring-tourist, while admiring the jolly, half-naked and beautifully sunburnt road-builders, are astounded that Sweden has not yet managed to rule out all the "dark spots" on the main high-road between Copenhagen and Stockholm.

There is not much road-building in winter, however, and in the streets of Stockholm in mid-January I was constantly offered things for sale by unemployed, and on the door of my hostess there was a constant knocking by unemployed who, apparently, had not been sufficiently "economical" with their summer earnings.

Stockholm

Outside the Central Railway Station the travellers have to line up as there is a shortage of taxis. We tired of waiting and entered an over-crowded tram-car, inside which there was a notice intended

for those who had been fortunate enough to obtain a seat. It read:

"If you are young and well give up your seat to those who are more in need of it."

There is one thing, however, that anyone can admire about Stockholm trams: they all have little yellow letter-boxes fastened outside, where people in the suburbs can drop letters. These letter-boxes are emptied on arrival of the car at the G.P.O., near the Central Railway Station.

Talking about letters: The Swedish Postal Service take no account of the Sabbath, letters being distributed on Sundays come *a l'ordinaire*, no extra stamps being necessary. Here, at last, is something for all the world to copy.

Like the other Scandinavian countries, Sweden has long since introduced the usual crippled form of a National Dividend: (1) Old Age Pensions at 67, and (2) the dole. Sweden (being a rich country) pays her old people much less than Denmark (a poor country) where, moreover, you are considered pensionable already at the age of sixty (that's why we are poor, says the Danish taxpayer).

The nearest approach to a really democratic action that I have heard of in Sweden was when the old former sea-captain, Georg Törnkvist, toured the country last spring in order to create a public opinion against the fact that the state had, for 60 years, swindled (he used the word in articles) their old sea-men of millions of their pension-money. He lectured, he wrote, he interviewed *all* M.P.'s, and in May, 1938, a motion was *unanimously* carried that a certain sum (formerly spent on futile administration) should be paid in pensions to retired seamen (400 in number).

The progressiveness and modernity of Sweden which we in Denmark so admire is further shown by the fact that she, alone among Scandinavian countries, has adopted the Anglo-Saxon week-end. All factories close at 12-30 on Saturdays, offices at 2 or 3, and only

shops are still keeping traditional hours.

All sports and leisure-occupations are greatly encouraged, and the Swedes, who go about things very seriously and methodically (characteristically enough they sided with the Germans during the War—whereas we in Denmark officially sympathised with the Allied at the same time as we provided the Central Powers with all the food-stuff our farmers could produce) have held the first exhibition *consecrated to one idea*.

The idea to be illustrated was that of *leisure*, and the exhibition which was held at the small sea-port of Ystad on the South Coast was called '*Fritiden*': the leisure hours, the time off.

This was in 1936. In the beginning of January, 1939, the leisure-committee suggested to the Government to submit a bill that the state was in future to be considered the owner of all coastal plots, and that none of the owners could sell without the permission of the government, the aim of the bill being to *secure for the holiday-making towns-people free and easy access to the sea*.

The "non-political" committee were not a little abashed at the storm of protest caused throughout the country, more especially in the neighbourhood of Stockholm.

All the fishermen possessing holdings on the vast archipelago of Stockholm left their islands to attend protest-meetings on the mainland.

The meetings are reported to have been violent, but the wording of the resolutions adopted was controlled and measured:

"We consider it natural and right that everything possible is done for the fishing—and bathing—public, but we maintain that the leisure-committee's proposal is wide of the mark, and that it is a gross infringement of the civil rights of Sweden (property-right)."

It may be that **this** "social-democratic" piece of legislation (so typical of the apparently progressive and essentially retrogressive legislation passed by all the Socialist Scandinavian governments) will never be passed—for it

is said by the Stockholm press that no proposal has given rise to such violent reactions as this one for many years.

The national self-satisfaction has received still another severe blow recently. In the late autumn there appeared a book with the startling title: *Muck Sweden*. Since Ludvig Nordstrom, its author, was a well-known free-lance journalist, everybody read the book and Sweden was immediately divided into two hotly opposed camps: those who agreed, and

those who didn't.

The author set out to visit 43 Swedish provincial doctors and 27 clergymen to find out (on behalf of the Swedish Board of Medicine) the housing conditions in rural Sweden, and the connection, if any, of the housing conditions and the spiritual state of the population.

In his horror of all the dirt and disease and discrepancy, he discovered all over his prosperous country, Nordstrom forgot all about the more academic object of his visit and turned his book into one long accusation of the

authorities.

Everybody who returns from the really delightful and graciously modern capital of this rugged country will immediately tell you of its superb and gorgeously situated town hall. No one, however, seems to be much struck by the fact that in a vast baroque structure built on a tiny island in the rushing waters of the Mälaren there are housed in closest intimacy the Swedish House of Parliament *together* with the Swedish National Bank.

Börge Jensen.

WHAT THEY SAY

Extract from "FOCH TALKS" by Commandant Buguet, (Aide-de-camp to Foch, 1921-1929).

It is not sufficient to issue orders! It is necessary to see that they are executed; people must be watched, one must always have them under one's eye. Believe me, if the duties of a commander were merely those of giving orders, it would not be a difficult task. He must ensure that they are carried out. The commander-in-chief must exercise supervisory functions. When I commanded the Allied Armies, I always had the means of ensuring this supervision; I used to send Derticker here, Pagezy there. I kept in touch with the execution of my orders; they kept me posted. Obviously, when one has subordinates whom one trusts, they can be given liberty of action, but it is always necessary to be certain that orders are carried out. That is the whole secret . . .

During the war, I spent my time in travelling from place to place; I visited the Commanders-in-chief and the general officers commanding Army Corps and even Divisions. When I knew that one of them was in a tight corner, I went back to see him several times in one day . . .

You see, the unified command is only a word. It was tried in 1917 under Neville and it did not work. One must know how to lead the Allies—one does not command them. Some must be treated differently from others. The English are English, the Americans are another matter and similarly with the Belgians and Italians. I

could not deal with the Allied Generals as I did with our own. They also were brave men who were representing the interests of their own country. They saw things in a different light from ourselves. They agreed with reluctance to the unified command; although they loyally accepted the situation, a mere trifle might have upset them and dislocated the whole scheme. I could not give them orders in an imperative manner. One cannot work to a system, especially with them! Anything might have happened. It was necessary to hear their views otherwise they would have kicked. People only carry out orders which they understand perfectly, and decisions which they have made themselves or which they have seen made.

Accordingly, when important decisions were involved, I used to see them, or asked them to see me. We talked and discussed questions between ourselves, and, without seeming to do so, I gradually won them over to my point of view. I provided them with a solution but I did not force it upon them. They were satisfied. I did my best to convince them. Perhaps it was rather a lengthy process but we always got there. A talk in the morning, another in the evening, for several days if necessary. And, when I had made them see my point, I left them, but with a written note which we had prepared with Weygand's assistance. I gave

it to them without appearing to attach much importance to it. "This is a summary of my ideas. It agrees with your own in principle. Perhaps you will glance through it; come and see me again and we will go into it together." A few days later they would adopt this decision, make it their own, and become keen on ensuring its success. If handled differently they would have strained at their chain if I had made them too much aware of it!

That is the method which I adopted with French in 1914, with Diaz in 1917, and with others in 1918. That is the true spirit of the unified command—not to give orders but to make suggestions. They look into the question. At first they are surprised, then they move. Do you know, I carried them on my shoulders the whole time. Exactly! We used to meet Haig twice a week. We met half way at Mouchy. That is why, in such circumstances, Weygand was so valuable to me. He was patient. He used to return to them, go into the question again and explain my point of view, and persuade them. Is not that the meaning of Inter-Allied Command? One talks, one discusses, one persuades, one does not give orders. One says "That is what should be done; it is simple; it is only necessary to will it." That cannot be done on paper; a man is needed! Don't say that it is a difficult problem. It is hardly a problem at all. We have brains and they are given to us to use.

Space reserved by

Secretary: John Mitchell

THE UNITED RATEPAYERS' ADVISORY ASSOCIATION

Sentinel House, Southampton Row, London, W.C.1.

LOWER RATES DEMANDED AT REDHILL

In support of the "Lower the Rates" campaign, which is being waged by the Borough of Reigate Ratepayers' Association, a public meeting was held at Redhill recently. It was addressed by Mr. J. Mitchell (Secretary of the United Ratepayers' Advisory Association), and one of the main points in his speech was that money should be made available to local authorities at between half and one per cent. in one payment.

Mr. G. Stroud presided at a well-attended meeting, and with him were Mr. W. Booker, Mr. W. G. Newman (Hon. Secretary of the Association), and Mr. F. S. Smith.

The Association's Progress

The Chairman explained that the object of the meeting was to instruct members and to interest visitors in the possibility of concerted action. They wanted to bring the searchlight of knowledge to bear upon the relation of finance to rates and to give more publicity to the lower rates campaign which the Association had been running in the Borough for the last two or three months. When the Association got sufficient support, as they hoped it would at the present rate of progress, they would be able to go to the Council and say: "This is what your electors want. It is up to you to get this sort of thing done." In this case they wanted lower rates without any decrease in social services, and that would be possible. Without the co-operation of the majority of the ratepayers of the Borough the Association was powerless.

"A Monument to Ineffectiveness"

Mr. Mitchell said he supposed there were very few Ratepayers' Associations which did not owe their existence to the fact that the level of the rates was intolerable and that something should be done about it. It was a monument to the ineffectiveness of 99 Ratepayers' Associations out of 100 that

rates over the last 25 years had continually risen in spite of the fact that these Associations were brought into existence to keep the rates down. Ratepayers' Associations and ratepayers had pursued a practically consistent policy, and it was the stubborn sticking to that policy which was producing these rising rates. That policy had been to insist, and to confine their attention, to demanding that expenditure should be kept down. They would not get lower rates merely by demanding that expenditure should be cut. There was a campaign, inspired from certain powerful quarters for economy, which aimed at what was called squandering, but people would not get lower rates merely by attacking expenditure. People had got to make up their minds whether their objective was to be just a blind demand that rates should be cut, or, first of all, an examination of all the facts which would show there was a sensible alternative—that, in fact, they could have both lower rates and improved municipal services.

Bank Created Credit

Mr. Mitchell quoted figures to the effect that, in 1936, the total rates collected in England and Wales were approximately £154 millions, and that the local authorities paid out during that year £100 millions in loan charges. He went on to assert that 90 per cent. of that £100 millions was unnecessary, stating that 85 per cent. of public debt was held by banks and other financial institutions and that the bulk of that debt consisted of bank created credit, of nothing more than

figures in bankers' ledgers. That money should be made available to ratepayers at much more reasonable terms, he added. Instead of paying three, four, five and six per cent. for it, the ratepayers should have it, in fact they could have it, at just a little more than it cost to create—between half and one per cent. in one payment. He submitted that this credit money did not belong to the financiers, but to the people, and that the taxpayers should not be asked to pay 85 per cent. of the loan charges, which were burdening them.

"Real Democracy"

Mr. Mitchell went on to ask what the ratepayers were going to do about it. There was, he said, an extraordinary illusion possessing the people of this country that because they were given the vote the only thing they had to do was to make a cross on a piece of paper once in five years. That, coming down to fundamentals, was the cause of all the trouble, because people who would not stir themselves to look after their own interests would always be ruled and exploited by others. The electorate of this country, in nine cases out of ten, seemed to be incapable of even howling for what they wanted. If they really wanted lower rates they had got to tell those people who were in control of their institutions that this was what they wanted. Most councillors were perfectly willing to work with the ratepayers if the ratepayers gave them a chance. If they went over the heads of the councillors, to the dictators at the top, and asked them to kick the councillors, that was sure defeatism. The ratepayers must confine themselves to stating what they wanted in the form of results and go to the councillors of their respective wards and say: "You must represent me in this matter. This is what I want. Go back to the Council Chamber and instruct the financial

(continued on page ten, column three).

Taxation is a negative dividend. It is not true that the poor pay no taxes: the richest are rich because the poor pay most of the taxes.

"FREE PARLIAMENT" MOVEMENT IN CANADA

Former Minister to Washington Unmasks Party Government

Canada's former Minister to Washington, the Hon. W. D. Herridge, launched a campaign to free the Canadian Parliament from "old party" domination at Ottawa, on March 1st.

His speech, the full text of which is published in the *Ottawa Citizen* and other newspapers, coincided with a demand in the Federal Parliament that the *Citizen's* editor should be summoned to appear before the bar of the House of Commons because of criticisms of the administration and with other reactions to attack upon the old order. The Minister's campaign may therefore be accepted as indicating a further stage of democratic awakening. Mr. Herridge at all events presented in his speech a realistic view of this situation and revealed that he has the qualities of the type of statesman and leader needed not only in Canada, but everywhere else.

"I am asked to say what I would do to put democracy on an operating basis," said Mr. Herridge, "to banish the threat of Fascism, to give this country prosperity.

"The first thing that Canadians have to do is to give their country a free Parliament. Because to-day, the Parliament of Canada is not free to serve the people. The Parliament of Canada is controlled by the old political parties. The old political parties are controlled by reaction. Reaction opposes reform. So you must get rid of the old parties. There will never be prosperity in Canada until you do. That is the whole story in a few words."

The first wish of the people was security for all, which now could easily become an accomplished fact.

The rest of his life would be dedicated to the building of a "new democracy." He intended to organise every federal constituency and asked endorsement of the reform candidates in an effort to rally the progressive vote for support of the movement in the next general election.

Canada would never have

prosperity until she rid herself of the old parties. The old parties were controlled by reaction, and reaction opposed reform.

Political reform must precede economic reform. Parliament could have given the people economic security 20 years ago but refused to do so. At last the people were beginning to see that the old line parties, which controlled Parliament, must be voted out of power.

"Then economic reform would be easy."

Only Opening Fire

Mr. Herridge indicated clearly that this was only the opening fire—that it was a speech in answer to those who sincerely believed in reform and who wanted something "on which to hang their hat"—but that it was not a complete statement of his position, and that he intended to elaborate on it later.

He contended he had the only workable answer to Fascism. He would "begin at the beginning" and develop a Parliament which owed nothing to special privilege. The co-operative movement, which was society, would have an opportunity to expand.

Social security—a dream—would become law.

"The job of Parliament would be to build a democracy that would work. We will aim at a minimum of change. But we will not go on until we get results; not a step further than we need to go; not a step short of it. There will be no waste."

Security For Everyone

Straight ahead was security for everyone, observed Mr. Herridge. Faith in the leaders who had faith in the processes of society which would work out economics to the benefit of the maximum number—and not to a special few—was necessary. It was increasingly becoming apparent that the majority of a democracy was making it possible for the status quo to exist and special privilege to thrive. If the majority realized its true power, prosperity could be

assured. Ordinary men and women, with the power which came through organization, could prove it "could be done."

Emphasizing the persistent facts of poverty amidst plenty, and his disillusionment in the Conservative party, Mr. Herridge said the productive power of Canada had failed simply because its purchasing power had not been utilized.

Every second paragraph of Mr. Herridge's address was interrupted by applause. After the delivery of his speech, Mr. Herridge was promised support from many individuals.

Senators and many members of Parliament were among the interested audience.

(continued from page nine)

technicians that you have examined the facts and that this is a reasonable demand." This was real democracy. The real thing to do was to get together as an Association and express their will on their representatives. The ratepayers would not get what they wanted unless they asserted themselves in this way. Mr. Mitchell concluded by appealing to his audience to "help this Association to help you."

During the subsequent discussion one of the audience said he thought local authorities would be glad to borrow at half and one per cent. if it was possible, and Mr. Mitchell replied: "You can move anything in this country if you make the demand sufficiently strong."

A resolution, moved by Mr. Booker, that the Association be instructed to go forward with its campaign on the lines laid down by Mr. Mitchell was carried unanimously.

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SIGNS OF THE TIMES

By D. D.

Some two years ago, the "City," most anxious to show the people of Spain, where *they* got off, openly financed the insurgent Franco, and, according to press reports at the time, either excused or explained this intervention, as an "Insurance Premium against Bolshevism" To-day, on the ground that Hitler (a co-backer of Franco, yesterday) is kicking over the traces, the same "City" now accepts, if it does not actually invoke, the all-powerful aid of the Bolshevists themselves. That the "Bolshevists" should assist the "Reds" of Barcelona, was an abomination; that the same "Bolshevists" should now come and assist the hard pressed "democracies", quite the thing.

If the ways of Sound Finance should thus pass all understanding, the methods resorted to are getting past a joke, and are fast assuming the proportions of an outrage to common sense and to humanity itself.

In England, in spite of an armaments "boom" without precedent, the unemployment figures hover around the two million mark, and it can be safely forecast, that unemployment (of human energy) will tend to rise, simultaneously with material output. A reversal of the armaments program is now impossible. Stop arming, and see the unemployed at 3,000,000 if not more. Such would be a "blessing" of peace". In the meantime, even deluded democrats must live, and for thousands of them the grim alternative seems to be, "Fill shells, or thou shalt not fill thy stomach." And this is the lot of the sons (and daughters) of those who died (or survived, poor devils) that our land be fit for heroes to live in, and the world safe for democracy . . . The Farce of Farces, The Hoax of Hoaxes; the shadow of the Coming Bloody Betrayal of all that those 800,000 white head-stones stand for.

While in Britain, millions must forego the common comforts of adequate food, decent clothing, and civilised shelter, not because these things do not exist in embarrassing abundance, but because they can no longer be sold, the requisite mone-

tary "claims" being deliberately withheld; at the same time, the "one-way-slucies" of finance are wide open, gushing forth the "means" for mass-produced massacre. Winter overcoats apparently defy both selling, and distribution, but pieces of corrugated iron, and gas-masks, do not require "selling" and CAN BE distributed; and this is nothing to the fantastic gratuitous distribution which will take place as soon as the curtain is rung up on the Next Last War.

In France, with dictatorial powers now in the hands of the Government, this country may be described as a "sterling" if not exactly a "crown" colony. All this, so we are told, is for the "Defense Nationale"; but we are still waiting for the public announcement of the prohibition of exports of iron ore, from the Briey Basin, to Germany (only 7 million tons in 1937, and just about the "weight" of Hitler's re-armament during that period). But PRIVATE PROFIT is still sacred, and the Briey Basin Proprietors' God Almighty.

We have heard, that in England, the unfortunate unemployed, for whom there is even no room at the shell-filling benches, are to be "offered" the alternative of "national jerks", or no dole. The City's Sterling Colony has not been long in taking the hint, and while the precious ore may be still safe for Hitler, any "chômeur" receiving the miserable dole will be obliged to accept any "national defence work", where and when it is "offered" to him—or be debarred from the dole for one year.

Little by little, what scraps of individual liberty and security we still have, are being filched away, and mainly under false pretences. We can now expect anything from a postal censorship to a muzzled press, and conscription of body and soul.

Only the other evening, the London News Broadcast informed all and sundry who might be listening, that the French Government had secured its plenary powers, and that the "whole

country" was unanimous behind it—the sort of unanimity a conscript is moved by, when he "answers" the call to do what he does not want to do. If we have had no war yet, in the past two years, *one* very good reason is, that the Leaders, Dictator or Masquerading Democrat alike, are by no means sure as to that "unanimity."

*Le Havre, France,
March, 1939.*

"The idea that each individual is less important than this vague thing called the 'Nation' is perilous."

—Count Raoul de Roussy de Sales.

KIPPER SNACK

Cook lightly two kippers, remove bone and skin, pound to a paste with some butter and a few drops of white vinegar or lemon juice, spread thickly on crisp, cold toast, and decorate with water cress.

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Seasoning.

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*Tested by Mrs. Milburn, 9,
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BANGOR (County Down) D.S.C. Group. Meeting every Monday at 8 p.m., in the Headquarters, 65b, Main Street, Bangor. Private sessions by arrangement. Visit the reading room—keys from caretaker. All enquiries to Hon. Secretary.

BELFAST D.S.C. Group. Headquarters: 72, Ann Street, Belfast. Monthly Group Meetings on First Tuesday in each month.

BIRMINGHAM and District. Social Crediters will find friends over tea and light refreshments at Prince's Cafe, 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 Y.M.C.A., Limbrick. All welcome. Enquiries to Hon. Sec., 47, Whalley New Road, Blackburn.

BRADFORD United Democrats. All enquiries welcome; also helpers wanted. Apply R. J. Northin, 7, Centre Street, Bradford.

DERBY and District—THE SOCIAL CREDITER will be obtainable outside the Central Bus Station on Saturday mornings from 7-15 a.m. to 8-45 a.m., until further notice.

LIVERPOOL Social Credit Association: The date and place of the next meeting will be announced later. Enquiries to Hon. Secretary, Green Gates, Hillside Drive, Woolton.

LONDONERS! Please note that THE SOCIAL CREDITER can be obtained from Captain T. H. Story, Room 437, Sentinel House, Southampton Row, London, W.C.1.

NEWCASTLE D.S.C. Group. Literature, The Social Crediter, or any other information required will be supplied by the Hon. Secretary, Social Credit Group, 10, Warrington Road, Newcastle, 3.

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

SOUTHAMPTON GROUP — Annual General Meeting takes place at 8, Cranbury Place, Southampton, on Friday, April 14th, at 7-45 p.m. Members please note.

SUTTON COLDFIELD Lower Rates Association. A complete canvass of every house is being undertaken. Any assistance welcomed. Campaign Manager: Whitworth Taylor, Glenwood, Little Sutton Lane, Sutton Coldfield.

TYNESIDE 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.

Miscellaneous Notices.

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DERBY & DISTRICT Lower Rates Demand Association. Meetings are held fortnightly (Tuesdays) in Room 14, Unity Hall.

The **NORTH DURHAM Ratepayers' Advisory Association** would welcome support, physical or financial from sympathisers in Gateshead and District to carry on their campaign for Lower Rates and no Decrease in Social Services. Campaign Manager, N.D.R.A.A., 74-76 High West Street, Gateshead.

UNITED RATEPAYERS' ADVISORY ASSOCIATION. District Agent for Newcastle-on-Tyne area, W. A. Barratt, 10, Warrington Road, Fawdon, Newcastle-on-Tyne, 3, will be pleased to assist anyone on new Lower Rates Associations.

UNITED Ratepayers' Advisory Association. District Agent for S. Wales and Monmouthshire, Mr. P. Langmaid, 199, Heathwood Road, Cardiff.

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