

# THE SOCIAL CREDITER

## FOR POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC REALISM

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SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 1952.

6d. Weekly.

### From Week to Week

Our interest in the matters brought to our attention by Miss Mew, referred to as The Weir Case by the *New Zealand Law Journal* in its issue of May 20, (see page 5), arises from its human aspect, of course; but, as befits the special character of this review, also from the fact that the case is an instance of the clash between the group and the individual revealing the progressive tendency towards the subordination of the latter. Mr. W. H. Bundle, formerly senior stipendiary magistrate in Dunedin, N.Z., appointed to conduct an inquiry, reported exonerating police officers of a charge that they had badgered a young woman into confessing a crime which she had not committed but of which, on the strength of her confession she was convicted. In his report, the commissioner "thought it necessary to refer at some length" to an article dealing with the issue raised, "and this notwithstanding his order of reference, which was confined to an enquiry into specified objective facts." What the commissioner said to lead to objection from the *New Zealand Law Journal* is not at present known to us. It would, of course, interest us and lawyers, who will want to know by what stages, by what "statutory modifications" (*vide* Mr. Parcell), the law bearing on confessions has been changed in a relatively short time, with the effect of completely reversing its earlier character which was favourable not to the State but to the individual in society.

Readers will note Miss Mew's reference to an English case in which a Royal pardon was granted. It is not for us to act upon the hint there conveyed.

We note that *The Times* for August 23 in what is known as its weekly sermon had something to say of Lord Radcliffe's failure clearly to distinguish between Power and Authority.

*Free Britain* quotes the *Jewish Chronicle* for last March 14, for figures of the Jewish population in Great Britain. It says:—"The Jew, H. Soref, who replaced Farran as Conservative candidate at Dudley, has supplied the *Jewish Chronicle* (14/3/52) with a detailed survey of the increase in Britain's unwanted Jewish population. He says: 'At the beginning of the 19th century Britain's Jewish population was about 20,000 of whom 15,000 resided in London. The respective figures for 1952 are 450,000 and 280,000, which covers Greater London.' But . . . Jewish methods of computing their strength are comparable to reckoning Englishmen on the basis of church attendance. The figure of 450,000, large as it is, is obviously a gross underestimation. Our misrulers, with their passionately proclaimed belief in the system of counting heads as the last word in political development, seem paradoxically anxious that the full total

of Hebrew heads shall go uncounted." 58,000 aliens have been naturalized since the end of the war.

What does "Scrutator" in the *Sunday Times* mean when he says of the Persian oil which is not at present flowing, "not that the world misses it"? And that "more important than the flowing of the oil are the terms on which it may flow"? Does he know what he says? It is the crux of the financial-economic vise in which the world is gripped that "the terms" are more important to it than objective physical facts.

A correspondent writes:—"Allow me to draw your attention to the following passage on page 219 of *THE TRAITORS* by Alan Moorhead (Hamish Hamilton, London):—"Here is the atomic power with infinite capabilities for good or evil; but where are the morals to govern it? Somehow a system of government has to be found and quickly, while there is still time."

"Could the Secretariat do anything for this A.M. and prise his eyes open. I would write him myself, but am not good at that sort of venture."

We were grateful for the implied compliment, and reached at once for the prising apparatus, but discovered we were too unrested to wield it.

*The Times* announces concerning Dr. Moussadek's rejection of the joint Anglo-American proposals for a solution of the oil dispute, "New Deadlock Reached." 'Reach' surely implies a substratum if no more of policy. *The Times* does not entertain the theory, which it would condemn as cynical, that the world's politicians are reaching out towards deadlocks and, occasionally, grasping the ripe fruits of their desires. A sub-editor's dilemma, probably: nineteen letters and two spaces to fill the line. NEW DEADLOCK REACHED. It seems as good a reason for what the newspapers say as any.

### Notice to Correspondents

For some reason unknown to us, letters and newspapers intended for *The Social Crediter* posted recently by correspondents at home and abroad, have borne the same incorrect address, 'Albert' being substituted for 'Alfred' in the following:—49, PRINCE ALFRED ROAD, LIVERPOOL, 15.

There are several thoroughfares in Liverpool named in honour of Queen Victoria's Consort. Will editors and private individuals who read this please check their records? The correct address is:—

49, PRINCE ALFRED ROAD, LIVERPOOL, 15.

Prince Alfred was the fourth child of Queen Victoria, and Prince Alfred Road commemorates an incident in his personal history.

## PARLIAMENT

House of Commons: July 28, 1952.

(Continued).

### Home-Produced Sugar

*Sir L. Ropner* asked the Minister of Food the total amount of home-produced sugar for each of the years 1949, 1950 and 1951.

*Dr. Hill*: In terms of refined sugar, 456,655, 677,262 and 601,475 tons respectively.

### Egg Ration

*Mr. Lewis* asked the Minister of Food the egg allocation number at the latest convenient date and the allocation number on the same date last year; and the number of eggs supplied on the ration at each stated date.

*Dr. Hill*: Sixty-three eggs up to 9th July as compared with sixty-six last year.

### Food Subsidy (Commodity Allocation)

*Mr. F. Willey* asked the Minister of Food how the food subsidy during the financial year 1951-52 was split between the various commodities.

*Major Lloyd George*: The table below lists the food-stuffs subsidised in 1951-52 and gives the estimated amount of the subsidy on each:

Bacon ... ..	£m.
Bread and flour ... ..	44.6
Shell eggs ... ..	81.9
Meat ... ..	27.0
Milk ... ..	46.9
Butter ... ..	52.2
Cheese ... ..	24.5
Margarine (domestic) ... ..	18.2
Lard and Cooking Fat ... ..	14.9
Sugar (domestic) ... ..	6.4
Tea ... ..	9.3
Miscellaneous ... ..	14.1
Welfare and Milk in Schools Schemes ... ..	(Credit) [8.0]
Animal Feeding Stuffs ... ..	40.8
	24.5
<b>TOTAL SUBSIDIES ADMINISTERED BY MINISTRY OF FOOD</b> ... ..	<b>£m. 397.3</b>
<b>Add:</b>	
Subsidies administered by other Departments—	
Attested Herds Scheme ... ..	8.0
Fertiliser Subsidy ... ..	8.4
White Fish Subsidy ... ..	1.6
	18.0
<b>TOTAL FOOD SUBSIDIES</b> ... ..	<b>415.3</b>

### Passenger Fares

*Mr. Beswick* asked the Minister of Transport what direction he has given to the Transport Commission as to the social consideration which must be taken into account

when considering any alteration in the passenger fare structure.

*Mr. Lennox-Boyd*: None. The only direction of any kind given by the Minister to the British Transport Commission since the passing of the Act was the recent standstill order on the Passenger Charges Scheme.

### Yeast (Packing)

*Mr. Hobson* asked the Minister of Food if he is aware that yeast manufacturers are forcing bakers to take yeast in waxed paper bags instead of jute bags which results in yeast rapidly becoming mouldy and endangering public health; and if he will make regulations to stop this practice.

*Dr. Hill*: My right hon. and gallant Friend is aware that yeast manufacturers now pack baker's yeast in waxed paper instead of jute bags and that a harmless mould found on some packs has given rise to complaints. Although it is not believed that any danger to health is involved, the matter is being investigated.

*Mr. Hobson*: Is the hon. Gentleman aware that the supply of yeast in this country is a monopoly in the hands of the Distillers Company, Limited, and that representations have been made by the Master Bakers' Association that a report has been received from a county analyst that, as a result of the heat engendered in the wax paper bags because they cannot expand, the spores produced are dangerous and inimical to health?

*Dr. Hill*: It is precisely the scientific problem which is under investigation.

## AGRICULTURE

### Egg Supplies

*Mr. Murray* asked the Minister of Agriculture if he is aware that the reduction of 258 million home-produced eggs for the year ended 31st May, 1952, will create hardship in the homes of the United Kingdom; what was the cause of this reduction; and what steps he is taking to restore this loss, in view of the important part of the British diet that home-produced eggs form at the present time.

*Mr. Nugent*: There are two main causes of this 3 per cent. decline in production. First a deliberate change in seasonal price emphasis with the object of encouraging the production of more eggs in the winter, so that at the expense of a slight decrease in the annual total, the housewife obtains a more regular supply through the year. Secondly, a reduction in profitability of egg production following the Annual Price Review of 1951 may have effected output adversely. Following the Review of 1952 profit margins have been improved, and I hope that production will recover.

### Chemical Spraying

*Mr. J. Morrison* asked the Minister of Agriculture if he has considered the long term effect of chemical spraying on agriculture generally, including stock rearing as well as crops; and if he will charge a suitable committee or council with the duty of investigating the whole future of this question.

*Sir T. Dugdale:* My hon. Friend can be assured that the long-term effects of chemical spraying are receiving attention in various contexts, and I do not think that any additional investigation is called for. The Agricultural Research Council and the Agricultural Improvement Council have had under review the effect spraying may have on the balance of nature, and the A.R.C. and the Nature Conservancy are conducting research on this problem. An A.R.C. Unit and my Department are carrying out investigations into the long-term effects of weed-killers and my Department is also keeping under review the possible harmful effect of sprays on animals. A Working Party under Professor Zuckerman is inquiring into possible effects on products for human consumption.

### The Wash (Reclamation)

*Brigadier Medlicott* asked the Minister of Agriculture if, in view of the amount of agricultural land which has been taken for other purposes in recent years and the fact that this loss of food-producing land is continuing, he will set up a committee of inquiry to examine and report on the possibility and practicability of reclaiming the Wash from the sea.

*Sir T. Dugdale:* Certain areas adjoining the Wash have already been reclaimed since the war by the owners concerned and further areas are now ripe for reclamation. I am considering what steps can be taken to promote further reclamation and see no advantage in appointing a committee of inquiry for this purpose.

*Brigadier Medlicott:* Is the Minister aware that it has been estimated that in the last two years we have lost good agricultural land to the extent of the size of a small county, and that this process is continuing? A really large-scale scheme in regard to the Wash would add many hundreds of thousands of acres of already good land to Lincolnshire and Norfolk.

*Sir T. Dugdale:* From the research which I have made I think the figure which the hon. and gallant Gentleman gave is slightly high. I have had the advantage of visiting that area in recent years and I do not think it is true to say that we have lost large areas of land. In point of fact, the area won from the Wash in the past three years totals some 4,500 acres. But I agree that there is more to be done.

*Mr. G. Brown:* Would the right hon. Gentleman have discussions with the Chairman of the Nene Catchment Board about this? That Board have done a lot of work in these matters. Has he any idea of the extent and the ownership of the land that might be reclaimed?

*Sir T. Dugdale:* I should not like to tie myself down to a figure, but I think that there is a considerable amount of land which is recoverable. It is a question of recovering it at the right moment. If one recovers it too soon one does not get the greatest benefit from it and if one leaves it for too long one also fails to get the best results.

### Crimes of Violence

*Mr. Crouch* asked the Secretary of State for the Home Department how many crimes of violence have been notified to the police in England and Wales during the 12 months

ended 31st May; how many offenders were brought before the courts; how many received sentences of over two years' imprisonment; and what were the corresponding figures for the 12 months ended 31st May, 1937.

*Sir D. Maxwell Fyfe:* This information is not available for the precise periods asked for, but I am circulating in the OFFICIAL REPORT certain statistics for the years 1951 and 1936.

*Mr. Crouch:* Is my right hon. and learned Friend aware of the public alarm at the number of crimes of violence occurring at the present time, and can he state what additional steps may be taken to try to prevent this wave of crimes?

*Sir D. Maxwell Fyfe:* This is a question which I have very much, and constantly, in mind.

*Lieut.-Colonel Lipton:* Will the Home Secretary have a word with the Lord Chief Justice about this, too?

*Sir D. Maxwell Fyfe:* I will take into account all expressions of opinion.

### Following are the statistics:

During 1951, 7,188 offences of murder, attempted murder, manslaughter, wounding, indictable assault, robbery and rape were known to the police in England and Wales. Four thousand two hundred and seventy-four persons were found guilty of such offences, and of those persons convicted at assizes and quarter sessions, 269 were sentenced to preventive detention or to imprisonment or corrective training for more than two years. In 1936, 2,533 such offences were known to the police. One thousand four hundred and twenty-two persons were found guilty of such offences. Sixty-eight of the persons convicted at assizes and quarter sessions were sentenced to penal servitude for three years or more.

House of Commons: July 29, 1952.

## TRADE AND COMMERCE

### Cuban Sugar

*Mr. Dodds* asked the President of the Board of Trade, in view of the glut of sugar in Cuba, if he will initiate negotiations for a new trade pact with that country which would enable the extra sugar to be obtained for sterling to be spent in Britain and thus make sugar rationing unnecessary.

*The Secretary for Overseas Trade (Mr. H. R. Mackeson):* No, Sir. We are heavily in deficit with Cuba on our balance of trade, and any additional purchases of sugar would increase the deficit whether we were to pay for them in inconvertible sterling or not. We already need a substantial increase in our exports to Cuba to pay for the existing level of our sugar purchases from that country.

*Mr. Dodds:* Is not the hon. Gentleman aware of the statement made by prominent people in Cuba that they are prepared to sell sugar at less than 2d. per lb. to this country, the money to be spent in this country, and as rearmament is being cut, cannot some further efforts be made to get extra sugar which would not have the effect of creating hardship in this country?

*Mr. Mackeson:* Yes, Sir. Both my right hon. Friend and I have seen a representative from Cuba, but the trouble at the moment is that we are importing £48½ million from

(Continued on page 7.)

## THE SOCIAL CREDITER

This journal expresses and supports the policy of the Social Credit Secretariat, which is a non-party, non-class organisation neither connected with nor supporting any political party, Social Credit or otherwise.

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Vol. 29. No. 2.

Saturday, September 6, 1952.

### Test Cases

The concern exhibited by Mr. Lyle Wicks, Minister for Labour in the new Government of British Columbia, for what he deems to be the pretensions of the Social Credit Secretariat does not at first sight (not even at second sight, for that matter) make sense. The people who elected Mr. Wicks had probably never heard of the Social Credit Secretariat until he told them about it, through the medium of an interview in the *Vancouver Sun*. And what he told them about it won't rouse them to such a pitch of frenzy as materially to add to the veneration in which they hold him as the champion of their cause against the unjustifiable encroachments of a tiny body of students of politics over in England. They don't know about it—and, in any case, Mr. Wicks is there to save them from its effects! What is there to be afraid of?

We, of course, know the answer; and so, we hope, do those admirable men and women in Canada who are genuinely appalled by the consequences arising from the deterioration in the management of human affairs operating over several centuries. Mr. Wicks is merely one of the consequences, sharing with countless others, the pains and penalties, tinged by such alleviations as he can devise having regard to his personal limitations. (We all have them.) The Secretariat—even the Secretariat—has them.

From this level we lift our heads to the broadcast by Lord Hailsham described in *The Radio Times* as a talk on "The Church, the State and Lord Acton," which we deem significant and important. The 'Third Programme' has a flavour of its own. Bitterly resented by the lowbrows, it is imbibed by the highbrows with that degree of addiction which distinguishes the socially psychopathic. Nevertheless, since the particular addiction of the intellectualist (who is psychopathic genetically) is ideas (*qua* ideas, not, as among the sane, as means to ends, e.g. The Kingdom of Heaven, or what have you?), ideas have to be provided, and through a back-door unguarded by the Enemy, now and again one slips through. We have not yet studied the text, as we hope we shall have an opportunity of doing, of Lord Hailsham's closely-knit argument, which, on hearing it spoken, seemed to be directed towards (1) an adjustment of Lord Acton's ideas on the 'Constitution and (2) a ventilation of the theory which we may describe as the theory of the insufficiency of reason to explain either the aberrations or the course of human social development. The universe is, of course, supra-rational, which is the exact opposite of its being *infra*-rational. The tendency of those who would effect a just appreciation of the place of reason in human affairs is usually to put it

not where it is and must be put somewhere else, either above or below where it is. This is disastrous, and only close attention to a written text can, so far as we are concerned, decide whether Lord Hailsham has avoided this error. Quite evidently (to us) those who are trying to adjust the present frightening perspective are making a mistake concerning the *data*. From the point of view of Reality, there *are* data. Equally, from the point of view of reason there are *data*. It *seems* inexplicable that statesmen in concert enumerate the data as a, b, c and e, when, even we (let alone the mind of God) know them to be a, b, c, *d*, and e, with additions to the list which, however extended would still be incomplete so long as *d* were omitted. If anyone is searching to discover an irrational factor, here is *one*. Man is not called upon to use what he hasn't got, but what he has got; and he is not excused from complicity in his own destruction so long as he disregards the powers placed in his keeping. The plain answer to a man who says he does not know everything, is that he either knows *enough*, or he doesn't know enough. The statesmen of our time are concocting an alibi. Whether Lord Hailsham is one of them we shall see. It is high time someone came along who wasn't.

The transition back to our friends in Canada is now easy. Without derogating in the least from Mr. Wicks, he and they are not on the same plane. It is he, not they, who is pursuing a theory. He has staked his all on the theory that political parties are necessary means to the attainment of a political objective. Nothing is more certain than that in desperation Mr. Wicks's electorate have turned to him because of a quite exceptional distaste for his party's predecessors in office, and not only them but the politicians of all parties known and tried. For the time being, they may share Mr. Wicks's delusion, but only to the extent of their faith in a last resort. Whatever the objective of the electors of the British Columbia Social Credit Party, *their* objective is results, and probably results which they envisage negatively rather than positively: all the known politicians had destroyed their electorate's faith in them. This is realism, and if our friends in Canada can match it with theirs, their task, though difficult, holds promise for everyone concerned.

By C. H. DOUGLAS.

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### A Case from New Zealand

The Editor, *The Social Crediter*.

Sir,—I am sending you enclosed copies of two articles which appeared in the New Zealand Law Journal, also newspaper cuttings with regard to the Weir case. [The original journals and other matter have also reached us.—Editor, T.S.C.] If you would like to have also the statement by the acting Minister of Justice and the statement by the Commissioner of Police, please let me know.

Also enclosed are copies of letters received from Mr. Parcell, the second one an acknowledgment of a copy of the *Odlum v. Stratton* Case, which was posted to him. . . .

In view of the case of Mrs. Margarite Grant-Kinghorn, of Weston-Super-Mare, who is to receive a royal pardon because the Magistrate's Court did not believe her and her children when they said they had bought a licence for their dog, as reported in this morning's *Otago Daily Times*, I am sure you will have the Weir case articles published in *The Social Crediter*, and perhaps we could now seek a royal pardon for Miss Weir.

Yours etc.,

Dunedin, August 16, 1952.

A. S. Mew.

(FOLLOWING ARE THE ENCLOSURES):—

(1)

COPY.

Broderick & Parcell,  
Barristers & Solicitors.

Melmore Street,  
Cromwell,  
18th June, 1952.

Miss A. S. Mew,  
35, Laing Street,  
Dunedin, S.W.I.

Dear Madam,

I am in receipt of your letter of 12th instant. I am quite happy to agree to your sending my article for publication in England. The matter involves a principle of very great importance to the future of New Zealand—perhaps even to to the future of the whole Empire.

I don't think Miss Weir or her parents will do anything. They are more inclined to submit to injustice than fight against it.

Yours very truly,

(Sgd.) Jas. C. Parcell.

(2)

Melmore Street,  
Cromwell.  
2nd July, 1952.

Dear Miss Mew,

I have to acknowledge receipt of your letter of 23rd

#### ODLUM v. STRATTON

In the High Court of Justice, King's Bench Division.  
before Mr. Justice Atkinson

June 21 to July 29, 1946.

(Verbatim report of the proceedings)

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7, VICTORIA STREET, LIVERPOOL, 2.

June, and also of the Report of Stratton's case which I will read with interest. I thank you sincerely for this volume—we seldom see anything of this nature in New Zealand.

Yours very truly,

(Sgd.) Jas. C. Parcell.

(3)

(From the *New Zealand Law Journal*, Wellington, N.Z.,  
Tuesday, January 22, 1952.)

CONFESSIONS: A WARNING LIGHT. *Police v. Weir*.

By J. C. Parcell.

The fact that an obscure country girl of tender years appeared before a Magistrate in a way-back country Court while the Police applied for a rehearing of a conviction twelve months old or more will probably never find its way into the law reports. The proceedings themselves and the haste with which they were conducted might have led anyone to think that there was considerable anxiety in somebody's part that the case should not even find its way beyond the walls of the Court. It may be that the individual no longer matters in this country and that the rights and privileges of the humblest citizen need trouble us no longer. If so, well and good; but, if the principles of justice, as so frequently extolled by eminent personages in New Zealand and elsewhere throughout the Empire, are anything more than delightful opiates for the appeasement of the masses, then this humble country case is one of the most glaring warning lights ever to blaze forth from the administration of justice.

This country girl posted a letter with a £5 note in it to her mother, and her mother did not get it. She inquired from the Post Office, and was required to sign the usual form declaring she had posted the letter. The matter was then handed to the Police. The Police obtained from the girl an admission that she had not posted the letter, and immediately prosecuted her on her declaration. She was convicted. Twelve months later, the Post Office people found the letter and the £5 note in their possession.

This leaves a very unpleasant taste in the mouth. In the first place, the Police seem to have devoted an unusual amount of energy towards getting the girl to confess she was in the wrong. It looks like an application of the principle adopted in some other countries that a Government Department cannot be wrong. This girl, having accused a Government Department of the wrong of losing her letter—a thing they could not possibly do—must be made to feel the weight of authority and withdraw her wicked accusation. However that may be, the fact remains that the girl was so badgered by the Police that, for the sake of peace, she eventually said: "All right. I didn't post it."

As lawyers, we are perhaps more concerned with the machinery of law as it is put in our hands by the legislators, but there comes a time when our common heritage compels us to protest against what our legislators do, and it seems to me that the time has arrived when all lawyers should join to denounce the way in which the law relating to the receipt of *confessions* in evidence has been modified by interested parties over recent years for their own purposes.

In the bad old days, when British prestige beyond the boundaries of the Empire was something to be proud of, anything in the nature of a confession obtained by a Police Officer had a very difficult task to get into a Court of law.

Now, it would appear that the most acceptable piece of evidence is the statement made to the Police. And it has all been brought about by statutory modification.

Has anyone ever stopped to inquire who has been responsible for this change of law? Has anyone ever looked up *Hansard* to see how much it was debated or questioned? Would it be a surprise to anyone to learn that the alteration of the rule of evidence proceeded directly from those who want to use it? And, when we read in the newspapers, with a very large question mark, that certain citizens of a central European country have been condemned of espionage or such like on their own confession, do we ever inquire whether we have not exactly the same machinery here?

The length of abuse which can be caused by the availability of a confession in a Court of law is so great that it is distinctly arguable in the interest of justice that no confession should be used in evidence in any circumstances whatsoever. If individual rights are to be protected, it would appear from what we learn of the activities in Communist and Socialist countries that the party against which protection is most likely to be needed is the State. If the State cannot use a confession, it will not proceed with tactics designed to get a confession. A Communist or Socialist State cannot function unless the State by its officials can dominate the individual.

I believe the time has arrived when the law as to confession should be so altered as clearly to provide that no confession by a person under twenty-one years of age shall be received in evidence unless it is handed into Court by counsel acting independently for the accused, and, in all other cases, unless it is handed into Court by the accused personally or by counsel acting on his behalf.

(4)

(From the *New Zealand Law Journal*, Wellington, N.Z., Tuesday, May 20, 1952.)

#### THE WEIR CASE.

Our attention has been drawn to the Report of Mr. H. W. Bundle as Commissioner to inquire into and report upon the circumstances relative to Miss Weir's written confession to the Police of an offence which, as events prove, she did not commit. That confession led to her being charged under s. 123 (I) (b) of the Post and Telegraph Act, 1928, and convicted of the offence of "fraudulently stating that she had posted a postal packet containing the sum of £5, whereas in fact she did not post it." In that Report, the learned Commissioner has thought it necessary to refer at some length to Mr. J. C. Parcell's article published in this Journal (*Ante*, p. 12), which the Commissioner says "was produced and was referred to"; and this notwithstanding his order of reference, which was confined to an inquiry into specified objective facts: see 1952 *New Zealand Gazette*, 445.

The policy of the *New Zealand Law Journal* is to publish any article by a member of the profession to which he has signed his name, subject only to considerations of space, provided that it is not contrary to professional etiquette or objectionably expressed. Consequently, when an experienced member of the profession writes for the *Journal* an article concerning a matter arising in a district in which he has practised his profession for many years, with a view to an

improvement of the existing law, we do not conceive it our duty to question any statement of his.

If such an article impugns official practices or conduct, or if it is thought to contain any mis-statement of fact, or law whatever, the *Journal* has never declined, and will never decline, to publish a reply by the person or persons affected. In the present instance, we delayed publication of a coming issue of the *Journal* for two days, in order that a statement by the acting Minister of Justice might be published speedily and simultaneously with an explanatory statement by the Commissioner of Police, both in relation to the article: see *Ante*, p. 45.

It is therefore surprising to us that Mr. Bundle in his Report on his Inquiry into Miss Weir's case should have commented that Mr. Parcell's article which appeared in this journal "was apparently published without attempts being made to check the correctness of the statements therein."

We scarcely think that the Commissioner's comment will appeal to practical persons, seeing that Mr. Bundle's inquiry into those facts occupied him, with the assistance of four counsel, for the best part of two days in examining witnesses whose attendance he was able to compel by virtue of the powers conferred on him by the Commissions of Inquiry Act, 1908.

If Mr. Parcell's article is examined, it will be seen that its purpose is expressed in the last paragraph: "I believe the time has arrived when the law as to confession should be so altered as clearly to provide that no confession by a person under twenty-one years of age shall be received in evidence unless it is handed into Court by counsel acting independently for the accused; and, in all other cases, unless it is handed into Court by the accused personally or by counsel acting on his behalf."

The proved facts of Miss Weir's case, as found by the learned Commissioner, including the fact that, at the time of her confession of guilt, Miss Weir was under twenty-one years, may, in our readers' view, be sufficient justification for Mr. Parcell's plea for a change in the Law; and that plea has not been weakened by the findings of the Commission.

It is salutary and agreeable to established concepts of freedom and the rule of law if responsible citizens, of whatever walk in life, are encouraged to draw public attention to what they believe to be abuses, or matters for reform, without having to fear being censured publicly, let alone judicially, if they prove to be mistaken. So much the more regrettable is it that, in the present instance, the learned Commissioner, in criticising the article, its publication, and its author, should have disregarded his order of reference in devoting so much of his Report to a condemnation of it and of the fact of its publication.\*

With the greatest respect to the learned Commissioner, it will remain our policy to provide in the *Journal* an open forum in which members of the profession may express their views to their brother practitioners as to improvements in the administration of justice, and as to alterations, in the public interest, of the existing law.

\*Incidentally the learned Commissioner, in the course of his Report, stated that this *Journal* "is the official organ of the New Zealand Law Society." As all practitioners know, that is not so. (Note by Editor of the *New Zealand Law Journal*.)

PARLIAMENT—

(continued from page 3.)

Cuba and only exporting £7½ million, and we are determined not to take any steps to prejudice the interest of the British Commonwealth sugar producers.

*Mr. Profumo:* If the Government cut out altogether the importation of these fantastically expensive sugar substitutes from the Continent the money saved could be used to buy sugar from Cuba, thereby achieving similar results to that in the mind of the hon. Member for Dartford (Mr. Dodds). Would not that have the approval of the whole House?

*Mr. Mackeson:* That would not solve our balance of payment situation with Cuba, which is in fact almost part of the dollar area.

*Mr. Bottomley:* Will not the hon. Gentleman consider seeing the Cuban Government representatives and suggest that it might be to our mutual advantage to forgo Havana cigars this year and take more sugar?

*Mr. Mackeson:* That is a different question. I am only too anxious to do everything we can. As the right hon. Gentleman says, it is our desire to help the Cubans to purchase more things from this country because, unless that is done, it will be difficult for us to maintain our present purchases.

Cloths (Labelling)

*Miss Burton* asked the President of the Board of Trade whether he is aware of the deadlock reached between shopkeepers and manufacturers on the labelling of woollen and worsted cloths; and, as it was hoped that such labelling would partly replace Utility quality standards, if he will press the Retail Trading Standards Association for an early decision on the matter.

*Mr. H. Strauss:* I assume that the hon. Lady is referring to discussions which have been taking place on a committee of the British Standards Institution to settle a draft glossary of wool textile terms. I am aware that there have been differences of opinion on that committee and that the Retail Trading Standards Association have circulated their views. In accordance with the normal procedure of the B.S.I. in settling standards by consent, a further meeting of its appropriate committee will be held to discuss the comments received.

*Miss Burton:* Is the Parliamentary Secretary aware that in the annual report of the Association they described the manufacturers' proposal for labelling wool and wool mixture as clumsy and misleading? Is he further aware that if those proposals were adopted it would be legal to describe all rayon cloth as worsted suiting, and will he urge the Institution to be quick in making their decision?

*Mr. Strauss:* I am aware of the case put by the Retail Trading Standards Association, some of which the hon. Lady has repeated, but the British Standards Institution is a perfectly competent body to hear and consider these matters.

*Mr. Anthony Greenwood:* Does the Minister agree that it would have been much better to have had a scheme of standards before the Utility scheme was scrapped, and in view of the uncertainty that his action is causing in the woollen industry, will the hon. and learned Gentleman do something to expedite the decision.

U.S. Gifts to Britain.

*Mr. T. Reid* asked the Chancellor of the Exchequer what was the total value of gifts made or promised to Britain by the United States of America since the cessation of Lend-Lease.

*Mr. R. A. Butler:* The gross amount is 2,215 million dollars, of which the composition was shown under "Grants" in the answer given on 26th May to the hon. Member for Norwich, North (Mr. J. Paton). Under the arrangements with the United States, however, 5 per cent. of the sterling counterparts of grants under Marshall Aid and Mutual Security Aid, which account for 2,093 million dollars of the 2,215 million dollars, is made available to the United States Government for certain of its expenditures in the United Kingdom and elsewhere.

Milk (Subsidy)

*Captain Duncan* asked the Minister of Food if he will state in tabular form the total amount of milk in gallons produced on British farms in the years 1947 to 1951 on which subsidy was paid; how much of this was used for manufacture; and how much was dealt with by the Milk Marketing Board in 1938 and what was the proportion diverted for manufacturing purposes.

*Major Lloyd George:* For the calendar years 1947 to 1951 the total quantities of milk on which subsidy was paid, together with the gallonages used for manufacture, for the whole of the United Kingdom, were as follows:

Year	Total Gallonage	Gallonage sold for liquid consumption	Gallonage used for manufacture
	millions	millions	millions
1947 ... ..	1,450	1,306	144
1948 ... ..	1,618	1,419	199
1949 ... ..	1,735	1,513	224
1950 ... ..	1,883	1,557	326
1951 ... ..	1,790	1,567	223

Corresponding figures for Great Britain only (i.e., excluding Northern Ireland) were:

Year	Total Gallonage	Gallonage sold for liquid consumption	Gallonage used for manufacture
	millions	millions	millions
1947 ... ..	1,377	1,263	114
1948 ... ..	1,540	1,373	167
1949 ... ..	1,649	1,469	180
1950 ... ..	1,791	1,515	276
1951 ... ..	1,706	1,522	184

In 1938 the four milk marketing boards operating in Great Britain dealt with a total of 1,210 million gallons of milk of which 845 million gallons were sold for liquid consumption and 365 million gallons for manufacture.

(To be continued).

[Extracts from the Debate of July 22, posted out of course, will appear after the conclusion of extracts from this Debate.]

**Re-settlement of England**

"The old order has changed, but has not yet given place to a new order. There is much waste and chaos, frustration of human hopes and even a danger of national bankruptcy. Possibly life for many is too complicated and standards of living are being confused with standards of life. Houses, Food and Local Leadership are lacking, despite the fact that we can fly faster than sound and heat a house with a split atom. Let us try literally to get down to Mother Earth.

"If permitted by planning authorities, many people would prefer to live in a shack built of Nissen hut or old railway carriage material on their own two-acre holding of marginal land, keeping pigs and poultry, co-operating with similarly-situated neighbours in growing fodder crops and drawing water from a well, to living in a crowded back-street house with another family and enduring the daily drudgery of office or factory life. But the Town and Country Planning Act and Agriculture Act, which have 'socialised values,' tend to check such enterprise and prevent escape from city life.

"Admittedly, it is good to plan for an ideal of better housing amenities for all. But, in view of rising costs of production, danger of war, debts from previous wars, and the tendency to work shorter hours and increase purely administrative services, it is questionable if it is economic to restrict the spirit of enterprise and condemn the people to congested living conditions when there are still large under-populated areas which are not making much contribution to the national larder.

"There is a school of thought which holds that only further large-scale mechanised farming methods can make full and efficient use of our food-producing land. Mechanised mass-production tends to strangle the human soul and necessitate provision of passive amusements costing dollars. Such methods may be necessary for the export trade. But in the production of food for home consumption, particularly much-needed meat and milk, the farmer finds that rising costs of labour and shortage of houses for agricultural workers, whose working hours are restricted and who require higher wages for week-end work, are restricting production. He also finds that fertiliser and mechanisation costs are rising, and that his fields require humus if they are to be intensively cropped.

"Has not the mixed small holding with family labour working all hours, and its dwelling which the planners may consider sub-standard but which is at least a home, a vital part to play in attracting both capital and labour to the land and restoring soil fertility, as well as converting 'waste' from the towns into bacon and eggs?"

(A. B. Hudson in *Rural Economy*, April, 1952.)

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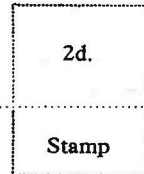
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