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From Week to Week

The Prime Minister (Mr. Winston Churchill) has determined that his greatest service to Great Britain still lies in the future. We agree, but wild horses will not draw from us an untimely description of its nature. He deems it necessary to retain office so long as his greatest benefit to us remains unbestowed. Lycurgus, perhaps the first designer of a New Order, 'bunked' when he had laid the rails, relying on his countrymen's oath not to depart from them, to ensure that his constitution should be inviolate for ever. Sparta perished through the avarice and licentiousness of her citizens, the introduction of money in the reign of Agis being one of the principal causes of their corruption. In retirement (or hiding) Lycurgus is said to have put himself to death, ordering that his ashes should be thrown into the sea. It seems that only just rulers are ever put to death by anyone but themselves.

. . .

Whether it has any deeper meaning than the variegation of colour which some regard as a pleasant feature of the leaves of certain plants we cannot say; but certainly we read with interest the remarks of Professor Vining who, in the pages of the *British Medical Journal*, blows the gaff on the infant-feeding racket—or part of it. Mothers, he says, are now merely the agents and nursemaids of complacent "authorities." When mothers leave maternity "units" they have imposed upon them rules and regulations which not infrequently "lead to the very troubles for which we have blamed the mothers." "These rules and regulations have been laid down by all kinds of odd people accepted at the time as authorities, and many of us have sheepishly continued to teach and practise them. Who, for instance, invented four-hourly feeds for the small infant? Who devised the quite inadequate feeding quantities for most babies on the packets of dried milk, and who laid it down that the infant should take twenty minutes over a feed and should be fed with a bottle open at one end only, which means that the infant is always pulling against a partial vacuum?"

Professor Wilfred Vining is a Leeds child-health authority. Is he protesting against the 'imposition' of rules or only against someone else's rules? In the Welfare State, no rules no food.

. . .

Evidently there are, north of the Border, still some Ministers (*i.e.*, servants) who are able and willing to 'consider' the stuff put before us as wisdom. The Reverend Mr. Greenfield of Edinburgh has been writing to *The Scotsman* taking to task Professor Arnold Toynbee ("all-the-time-we-are-denying-with-our-lips-what-we-are-doing-with - our -

hands-Toynbee"—*International Affairs*, page 809). Someone thought this stealthy underminer of Sovereignty in nations should be given the opportunity of telling us what he thought about God, and so invited him to deliver the famous Gifford Lecture. In the last lecture—they form a series—Professor Toynbee challenged "the claim made by the higher religions and philosophies as involving a moral as well as an intellectual error." In a letter marked by discernment as well as punctuated with irony, Mr. Greenfield says:—

"The Christian may be content to accept it that neither the historian, the scientist, nor the philosopher can, in his own field, accept the claims of Christianity, and he may remember with what scorn St. Paul spoke of the 'wisdom of this world.'

"It is rather different however, when a historian brings a value judgment to bear on the claims to uniqueness made by a higher religion. I am not disputing the right of historians to pass moral judgments—history would be a dull thing without them—but what is the ordinary Christian to make of it when he is found guilty of both an intellectual and a moral error in believing that his religion is the final truth? I confess it is the 'moral error' that rankles with me, because while I may humbly admit that my faith seems folly to the wise, I am sorry if it also seems evil to the good."

Yes, "the good." How neat!

. . .

The hypnotic effect of the notion of "full-employment" is a derivative quite obviously from compulsory destitution in association with the enforced idleness which is the lot of the displaced wage-slave who is simultaneously with his displacement denied access to individual skill and raw materials. His "educational destitution" is irreparable; for the slave's only 'right' to culture is to the slave-culture. That the Vatican seems to bend before the hypnotic blast may be a measure of resiliency. Certainly there is enough in the literature of Catholicism to condemn work as a *policy of enslavement*. The phrase of the Rule of St. Francis, "those to whom the Lord had given the grace to labour" is the subject of comment by the French Catholic philosopher, Etienne Gilson. He says: ". . . since the Rule prescribes that the work must be done with faithfulness and devotion, it is obviously insisting rather on the way one must work than on the necessity of work itself. It says: 'If you have the grace of manual labour, then work in such a way as not to lose devotion,' as though it were to say: 'If you have the grace of tears, weep in such a way as not to obscure your vision'; in the second case it would not be imposing an obligation to weep, nor in the first an obligation to work."

Whose devotion is it that seeks the ever accelerating expansion of industry as a means to enslavement?

PARLIAMENT

House of Commons: December 16, 1952.

(The debate continued).

Kenya

Lieut.-Colonel Walter Elliot (Glasgow, Kelvingrove): . . . This is the problem of the multi-national State. In the 19th century we grappled with and solved the problem of the mono-national State, sometimes by the extermination of other elements within its boundaries. That seems to me a poor way of solving the problem. That was the blunt axe which fell on India causing the separation, with Pakistani on the one side and the Indian on the other, and the Punjab carved into a partition which made the whole land flow with blood. That surely cannot be our solution in East Africa. The problem of the multi-national State is a new problem, the problem with which we are grappling in Malaya and the problem with which we and other people are grappling in other parts of the world.

Miss Jennie Lee (Cannock): We have it here.

Lieut.-Colonel Elliot: It is quite clear that we were a multi-national State in Britain. We have succeeded in coming to a *modus vivendi* one with another over a long period of time, but only over a long period of time. We also have had the advantage, and the disadvantage of incomers. If the Roman Senate had been reviewing affairs in Britain, as we are now reviewing affairs in Kenya, some very bitter things might well have been said about the conduct of the members of the Legions. Yet everyone admits that we are better off for the Legions having been here, and for all their efforts in making roads and for the cities and the laws which they brought with them. So also is East Africa better off, and not worse off, for the members of the European community. If the Africans drive out or exterminate the Europeans, they will be so much weaker, and will be by so much lessening their chances of prosperity just as, if we had succeeded in exterminating all the foreign elements in our country, we would be very much weaker as a people.

Mr. Rankin: Will the right hon. and gallant Gentleman allow me? Is he suggesting that, because the Highlands were never conquered by the Romans, they are the worse off for that?

Lieut.-Colonel Elliot: I will answer the hon. Gentleman in one sentence: Where are the Highlanders going just now but to lands which have been occupied and settled by people who underwent the Roman tradition?

Therefore, do not let us ignore the part which immigrant elements have played in building up States. Let us remember that much of what is being said tonight could have been said about the colonisation of other parts of the world, and yet, had this resulted in the abandonment of those enterprises, the world would have been so much the poorer. What we have to find here is a way in which these new experiments will be successful; not abandon them because they are too difficult.

Of course, there has been delay in the desired progress, but I do not think the supporters of the Motion can entirely dissociate themselves from at least a share in the blame that comes from delay. There has been an accusation about collective punishment. The right hon. and learned Member

for Montgomery eloquently pleaded that theme. But my right hon. Friend was able to quote the fact that such punishment was supported by hon. Gentlemen on the other side of the House, in their period as a Government, with occasional minority protests, and not only supported, but imposed, re-imposed and defended. They cannot bring an accusation now against my right hon. Friend the Colonial Secretary. No; what we want to do is to place the country in such a position that it is not necessary to impose these punishments and that is what we are seeking to do.

We know that these things are deplorable; as the hon. Member for South Ayrshire (Mr. Emrys Hughes) indicated, all measures of force and violence are deplorable, but it is very easy to bring this matter to a *reductio ad absurdum*, that no compulsion should ever be comprised at all. This is an assembly of government, where the process of government is carried on, and, if we do not believe in government, then let us get out of the House of Commons. The House of Commons exists to govern, and it must, therefore, accept the responsibilities of government, amongst which are some rough and ready measures which none of us would like to impose if we could possibly get away from them.

Mr. Ellis Smith (Stoke-on-Trent): Give us some suggestions.

Lieut.-Colonel Elliot: I certainly will. The difficulty about multi-national States is not to be solved by simple reliance upon majorities only. I think that, where there is no clear majority in the State, the State will need to adopt a different form or organisation to the organisation which it adopts when there is a clear, homogeneous nation. These minorities have a fear that each of them will be attacked and digested by the others, either singly or in combination. The Africans fear that we might try to force our authority on them. There is also—and do not let us ignore it—the fear of the settler that, either here or elsewhere, plans may be made for his complete liquidation or extrusion from the land which, after all, he is doing his best to cultivate, from a place where he rightly knows that he has things to teach to those amongst whom he is living, which, without him, they will not learn.

It is not a simple question of majority rule and universal suffrage which, at some foreseeable date, should be imposed throughout the whole of Kenya. A majority consisting of one tribe, which, it may be, would try to vote down or eliminate the other elements, is not a matter of practical politics. Let us take the case of the Masai. They will not admit that position. They have, after all, lived as conquerors in that land not so long ago; they are strong, and might well attempt to bring it about again, and it may well be a successful attempt.

My hon. Friend the Member for Belfast, South mentioned the difference between the two nations. But do we realise how different they are? I myself was chairman of a committee of investigation, the technical part of which was carried out by someone whose name will be well known and respected on the other side as well as on this—Dr. (as he then was) John Boyd-Orr, now Lord Boyd-Orr, in conjunction with Dr. Gilko, the head of the medical service in East Africa. Actually, the Masai man is not only five inches taller and 23 lb. heavier than the Kikuyu, but is also 50 per cent. stronger, in his muscular strength, tested by a dynamometer. He is not going to accept the position simply that because there are

perhaps 10 times more Kikuyu, therefore, the Kikuyu is to be allowed to wipe him out of existence or absorb him into their tribal system.

The hon. Member for Nuneaton (Mr. Bowles) said some rather rash and violent words about some slang abusive terms which he had heard used by settlers about the Kikuyu. He might well have heard hard phrases used about Europeans if he had listened round African camp-fires. He might have heard further that abuse of other people is not confined to that of settlers about the Kikuyu. I have heard some pretty rough things said about me in Clydeside at the time of a General Election. I really do think that it is unnecessary and undesirable, and below the level of this great debate, to bring in phrases like that, which might do infinite damage and cause an infinite embittering of the position. Actually, the Masai think their ways are best; no doubt the Kikuyu also think their ways are best, and is one to be surprised that the Europeans may also think that their ways are best? Our task is to endeavour to bring them together.

The constructive suggestion which I am making is that we make a mistake if we believe that, by melting all these peoples down and making an amalgam of them, we shall bring peace and prosperity to the peoples of Kenya. After we made this scientific investigation, the Colonial Office was terribly preoccupied by the disputes between Jew and Arab, and, later, a great many of these investigations came to an end with the war. This was a great pity. Because a higher standard of living, of course, can only come from a higher standard of production, and that, in turn, can only come, in the case of the Kikuyu, from a higher standard of health. The figures given in the first World War of the call-up for carriers indicated that of 16,700 Kikuyu men called up, 10,900 were immediately rejected as unfit, and, in their march to Nairobi, only 100 miles, another 17 per cent. had to be dropped out.

People speak about wages, but the wages are, in many cases, inevitably commensurate with the effort. A man who is as unfit as that is not able to put out the amount of effort which will produce the adequate economic quantities of products out of which the wages can be paid. It was a great pity that these researches into the public health were not

proceeded with further, because I am sure that the Kikuyu economy based, as hon. Gentlemen know so largely upon starch, as compared with the Masai economy which is based so largely on proteins, produced a race with certainly a lower power of work and an inferiority complex out of proportion—
 . . .—[*Interruption.*] I am merely saying that the high starch intake of the Kikuyu is at least co-related with the high rate of sickness I have given which causes an inability to produce the immense amount of continuous effort which modern industry or mechanised agriculture demands. If we cannot get the production we shall not have the supplies out of which to secure the higher standard of life we desire.

Mr. Rankin: We need Socialism.

Lieut.-Colonel Elliot: The hon. Member says we need Socialism. But these tribes are Socialist tribes. However, they are flocking away from Socialism into a form of capitalism because it gives them better results. It provides no solution for these troubled conditions if we consider the Africans as a race of private enterprisers who are being over-run by the hardy Socialists of the White Highlands. Hon. Members should not try to transplant the conceptions which we have in this country solely and just as they stand to the plateau of East Africa.

I speak here as an unrepentant negrophile. I speak as an admirer of the Gold Coast; I speak as one who has the honour of being Chairman of the Commission which founded two university colleges; in Accra and Ibadan. I bring this forward, partly through vainglory, because I am very proud of it, but largely because I do not wish what I am saying to be regarded as the meaningless bletherings of a blimp who is unable to recognise the great good there is in Africa and the great abilities there are in the Africans. John African must have his house; he must have the place where he lives, "John African lives here"; and for that place at any rate I would be wholly in favour of *apartheid*. I am sure the West African *apartheid* is a good thing. It is a good thing that white men are unable to build there or buy land and that there is a careful separation maintained by the Government between white and black. That is, we have there the possibility of a monolithic black State.

But there are areas in which that cannot possibly apply. Sir Walter Raleigh said—and it is one of the truest things ever said—that there is no more shameful thing in life than to desert a plantation. By a plantation he meant a colony where our own people had gone out to settle. People speak of the Indians in East Africa, but Nehru has not deserted the Indians. Gandhi did not desert the Indians. We do not find deputies in the Indian Congress saying that everything the Indians do in East Africa is wrong, and that everything the Africans do is right. They defend their own people and respect them and stick up for them. We too must remember that after all the settlers are men we ought to understand and do our best to respect. They are certainly living under conditions of great strain and tension. Yet if Englishman, Scotsman, Welshman and Irishman had not gone out to live in these conditions elsewhere in the world we in this country would be in a poor way today, and this Chamber of ours would have few and mean things to discuss.

This is another step in a great adventure in which our race is continually engaged. I believe it is an adventure in which our race can succeed; not merely an adventure

(continued on page 6.)

Again obtainable:

Realistic Constitutionalism

by

C. H. DOUGLAS

Notes for an Address by Major C. H. Douglas to the Constitutional Research Association at Brown's Hotel, Mayfair, May 8, 1947.

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Saturday, January 17, 1953.

The Education of The Prince

Sir Sidney Lee, in his biography of Edward VII, gives an exhaustive account of the almost sixty years preparation for the throne received by the Prince. "The solemn figure of Baron Stockmar, his father's former tutor and present mentor, hovered over the Prince's childhood and boyhood, to the frequent disturbance of his equanimity . . . he was the royal parents' first and last court of appeal . . . Prince Albert and Baron Stockmar bent their energies towards devising a system of education . . . and formulated an educational discipline to which the Prince was rigidly subjected until he reached manhood . . . Freedom in any relation of life was to be sternly denied the youth . . . King Edward looked back with pain on his educational ordeal." His first tutor was dismissed because he attached "undue importance to the Church catechism." And the Prince Consort wrote at length to dissuade the Prince's tutor from taking Edward to communion more than twice a year.

A hundred years ago, the politicians wrote off Canada as part of America and were startled when she prepared troops for the Crimean War. As a reward for this unexpected loyalty, Prince Edward visited Canada in 1860, and saw some of the places where his grandfather had stayed. Prince Edward Island had been renamed, from St. John's, after a Prince Edward, later Duke of Kent, in 1799. They would not have seen any notices, *No English need apply*, nor found English people serving as poor whites in their own Dominion.

When he was 22, Prince Edward "formed a close intimacy with the great Jewish financiers, the heads of the Rothschild family—Sir Anthony, Baron Lionel, and Baron Meyer. Through life, he carried on the friendship with . . . Baron Lionel's sons—Nathaniel, first Lord Rothschild, Mr. Alfred de Rothschild and Mr. Leopold de Rothschild. He formed too as close an attachment to these mens' cousins, Baron Ferdinand de Rothschild . . . and Baron Alphonse de Rothschild of Paris, chief of the French branch of the family . . ." Several Rothschilds ("a large contingent") were among the original 400 members of the Marlborough Club.

Gladstone counterbalanced Disraeli's intimacy with the Queen by a life-long friendship with the Prince. He is perhaps the only Victorian politician whom one could imagine anticipating the modern British politicians latest hypocrisy of conducting services: Cripps and Strachey have already officiated, and the other day Mr. Eden (despite his little contretemps with the *Church Times*) was taking duty, so I read. A decay of faith may be turned to the advantage of

our man gods. I do not think the sanctification (ordination almost) of politicians has proceeded so far in North America.*

King Charles XV of Sweden furthered the Prince's education (1868) "by initiating him into the Order of Freemasons. The Prince remained through life an adherent of the craft . . . His zeal for Freemasonry steadily grew. Before long he was promoted Grand Master of the Order in England (1874) . . . and by virtue of that office became chief of the Royal Arch Masonry." The foundation stone of the Royal Albert Hall had been laid with full masonic ritual in 1867.

Lee's lengthy, even sickly, narrative gives a full account of the Indian tour of 1875-6, and he notes that, "With Sir Albert Sassoon, the Jewish Croesus of Bombay, who ultimately settled with his family in this country [England], the Prince formed a close intimacy, which extended to Sir Albert's brother, Arthur Sassoon, and many other of Sir Albert's kinsfolk." Sir Albert presented Bombay with a colossal equestrian statue of the Prince in 1878. Edward made exertions, partially successful, to check Anglo-Indian arrogance.

Gladstone's Franchise Bill of 1884 followed naturally on the Derby-Disraeli Franchise Bill of 1867, which was supposed to have "dished the Whigs." But the House of Lords rejected this bill, and Gladstone threatened them with "drastic reconstruction." Lee says that the Prince "shared Queen Victoria's dread of popular agitation against the House of Lords, which he regarded as a corner-stone of the Constitution." Apparently, however, he disapproved of their obduracy. They at length came to heel when Gladstone promised to introduce a Redistribution Bill. Lee notes that "when Sir Charles Dilke was giving up his role of the Prince's political tutor, Lord Randolph began to play his part in the Prince's political training." Edward, moreover, anticipated his mother's suspicion of Bismarck, as he was fond of the French.

Lord Rosebery eventually succeeded Gladstone as Premier, for fifteen months (1894-5). Two years previously, he had lost his wife, "the daughter of Baron Meyer de Rothschild." (Lee.) When Salisbury returned to power for his third ministry (1895), "the Liberal-Unionists now joined the Conservatives in office."

Meanwhile the Prince engaged actively in social work. At Gladstone's invitation, he became a trustee of the British Museum, and made the "suggestion of the appointment of his intimate friend, Baron Ferdinand de Rothschild, as a fellow-trustee." Lee continues, "One of the serious interests which grew upon the Prince in middle life was freemasonry . . . the formularies of the masonic ritual . . . distinguished, despite clerical misgivings, his laying of the foundation-stone . . . of Truro Cathedral (1880)."

Baron Hirsch, "the Hungarian-Jewish millionaire," entertained him more than once. Hirsch "had made most of his immense fortune by financing railways in the Balkans and in Turkey, and he devoted a large part of it to improving the condition of members of his race in Russia, where he endowed schools and facilitated emigration to America and Asia Minor . . . high birth on the continent steadily held aloof from him."

(continued on page 8.)

*Mr. Manning preached before he turned politico.

Ezra Pound

by H. SWABEY.

The North American, as far as I have observed, produces goods to wear out, while Great Britain produced goods to last, and so had the rudiments of a consumer economy. The export business, the atom bomb and the decline of craftsmanship have of course, tended to push the consumer still further out of the economic process. So it is refreshing to read booklets by an American that keeps the consumer (the p.b.c.) in view.

The poet-economist has in fact expounded consumer economics whenever he was free to do so. That probably has a lot to do with his 18B type of detention, and the public is left with the evidence of his printed word: recalling perhaps one of his favourite ideograms, which is a man standing by his word. In *Social Credit: an Impact** (first printed in 1935), he wrote: "The reason for growing food is to feed the people. The reason for weaving cloth is to clothe them . . . If the American Government owned crops sufficiently to order their destruction, it owned them quite enough to order their delivery . . . But for everything that is not great art . . . we must know the new cheapness, we must know that its cost in effort, in toil, in sweat, in difficulty, has dwindled and dwindles. . . . Naturally every tax on imports is paid by the consumers."

This pamphlet contains an interesting account of the contrasting bank of Siena ("the *only* bank that has stood from 1600 till our time") based on the abundance of nature and the responsibility of the people, and "the pitiless company of Genoese creditors" who collected the taxes, had "absolute civil and criminal jurisdiction" and formed the Banca S. Giorgio. We warned against statism ("States fail or fall into the hands of ignorant men or scoundrels"); against the Englishmen's diet ("they will go on as they have gone on for 200 years on progressively pejorated diet"); against America who came out of her Civil War with "a dead loss of cultural heritage of which she was utterly and unspeakably unconscious"; and against the socialists: "The intelligentsia, or part of it, delayed Marxian . . . the stupidest set of men in England are the British 'leaders' of Labour." This was written while Bevin was climbing up on the political corpse of George Lansbury. E. Pound, W. Lewis and a few others alone refused to turn pink in that epoch, apart from social creditors. The charge of anti-semitism rather breaks down against one who could write: "The most manly speech I have seen reported in the British Press for a twelve month was made by Lord Melchett. Naturally foreign stock will come in and rule if you don't stand by your heritage."

Douglas, he pointed out, "observed a concrete fact on the books of the airplane factory which he was running and for which he was responsible . . . During the sixteen years that I have been Douglasite, I have never met ANY serious argument against Douglas's analysis That means DOUGLAS."

He commended the Italian Consiglio of the Guilds, "where men are, at least in terms of the programme, represented by men of their own trade." But in addition

to holding that Nazi-Fascist were as irreconcilable as say dice and dates, he sharply criticised the Italian regime in *America, Roosevelt and the Causes of the Present War*, (1944). "The history of the last twenty-five years in Europe is unknown to the Italian people . . . Mussolini was condemned by the international usurocracy from the moment he discovered the connection between the usurers of New York and their creatures in Moscow. This is all fairly well known throughout Italy . . . The Bolshevik was a sham and, to a certain extent, a betrayed revolution . . . What has been lacking in Italy, especially among practical people . . . is a comprehensive survey of the usurocratic mechanism, an awareness of the relationships between commercial transactions, of the relationship between the management of a factory or business and the international monetary system. . ."

The booklet from which I have just quoted together with *An Introduction to the Economic Nature of the United States* describe concisely the American disease. "It is the history of spiritual decadence." He noted that "this modern schizophrenia called demo-liberal derives from neglect in the study of the Classics . . . Certain Classical authors speak too frankly for the tastes of the Grand Seigneurs of Usury." (The Classics were, incidentally, proscribed in the *Protocols*.)

The author has already noted "Wallace ploughing grain under." A few citations from these two short works give an idea of the quality of his history. "The history of usury begins with the loans of seed-corn in Babylon in the third millenium B.C. . . . 1766 B.C., an Emperor of China . . . opened a copper-mine and coined discs of metal . . . he gave this money to the starving . . ." And moving to modern times, "The Compte de Vergennes had every reason to say to John Adams that the newspapers ruled the world . . . It is idiotic to leave the nation's sources of information in the hands of irresponsible individuals and, sometimes, in foreign hands."

"Major Douglas had already by 1920 pointed out the fact of potential plenty. The Loeb Survey Report (1935) has demonstrated the accuracy of the Major's statement. The danger of abundance causes the unleashing of war . . . Wars are provoked in succession, by the great usurers, in order to create debts, to create scarcity . . . 'War is his only way out,' phrase pronounced by a congressman to signify that Roosevelt had made such a mess of things that war was his only way of escape." From the U.S. Treasury Reports, June, 1932-'39, "it can be learned that the Treasury of the U.S. bought ten billion dollars of gold at thirty-five dollars per ounce instead of \$21.65 as in former times." Before the war, every U.S. family could have had a four to five thousand dollar Standard-of-Living.

In 1834-5, President Jackson eliminated the U.S. national debt, and the balance was distributed to the states: "Maine made a *per capita* distribution." But after Lincoln's death, "the real power in the United States passed from the hands of the official government into those of the Rothschilds and others of their evil combine . . . Belmont used to represent the Rothschild, *etc.* Today the Main Office is in New York, the Branch Office is in London."

We may accept Pound's judgement that "the fundamental fraud is monopoly," and further that Roosevelt's "political life ought to be brought *sub judice*."

*London: Peter Russell. 2/6.

What is Money For? (1939) hammers away at the necessity for definition. It is still topical enough: "Both the Douglas Social Crediters and modern Catholics *POSTULATE* the *JUST PRICE* as a necessary part of their systems." And, on another issue, "I wish to distinguish between prejudice against the Jew as such and the suggestion that the Jew should face his own problems. *DOES* he in his individual case wish to observe the law of Moses?"

Turning to England, the booklet closes with something like a prophecy: "Your tax system is an infamy. The farm hand does not eat more because the paintings by Raeburn or Constable are taken out of the Manor House and put in the dealer's cellar under a black and iniquitous inheritance tax.

"The obscuring of the *NATURE* of money has destroyed all these fine things *USELESSLY*. The dismantled Manor House, that could be and ought to show a model of how to live, is made a skeleton for *NO PURPOSE*."

"If any hedger or ditcher got a half-ounce more beef-steak *BECAUSE* the Manor House library was sold off and its pictures put up to auction, there might be some justification in taxes. But there is *NO* justification in taxes as now suffered in Britain."

PARLIAMENT—

(continued from page 3.)

of material things, but an adventure of the spirit. I believe we have things to show to the African which the African will not receive from others. It is true that with Western civilisation we carry disease, death and problems. But disease, death and problems were not introduced into East Africa when we landed there. They existed in East Africa long before we came, and if we went away they would still remain.

This is a new thing. We are trying to resolve the problem of the multi-national State. Let us brace ourselves to it. Certainly let us continue to discuss it and to argue about it and try to expound it here in various ways on the Floor of this House. Because here is where the responsibility lies and to this place again it will return. We cannot shuffle off our responsibilities, either by saying it is the fault of the other fellow, or the fault of the last Government, or the present Government. Nor can we expect a Commission which will come down from heaven and give us the solution to all these problems. This is the anvil on which to strike the iron. The iron is hot; well, that is the time to hammer it. Let us strike there and hammer out here a ploughshare which will till the world.

National Debt Commissioners

Mr. Harold Davies asked the Chancellor of the Exchequer who advises the Comptroller of the National Debt on investment policy.

Mr. Harold Davies asked the Chancellor of the Exchequer the function of the National Debt Commissioners; and when they last met.

Mr. R. A. Butler: The Comptroller General of the National Debt Office is advised by the Assistant Comptroller,

who is also Actuary to the National Debt Commissioners, and the staff of the National Debt Office. This advice is given in the light of information provided by the Departments, which are responsible for the management of the Funds and have moneys to be invested, as to the purposes and requirements of those Funds. In many cases the Departments will have consulted the Government Actuary. Advice as to market conditions is given to the Comptroller General by the Government Broker.

The main functions of the National Debt Commissioners are the investment of a number of public funds, including the Post Office Savings Bank, the Trustee Savings Banks, and the National Insurance Funds, and the application of Government Sinking Funds. They also grant and pay Government life annuities, and have administrative duties in connection with the Trustee Savings Banks.

The Commissioners last met in 1860. Their functions have since been exercised by the Comptroller General of the National Debt Office, subject, where necessary, to the directions of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, and the Governor and Deputy-Governor of the Bank of England, acting as a quorum of the Commissioners under the National Debt Commissioners Act, 1818. The Comptroller General has direct access to them at any time when he requires their directions or authority.

Common Land

Major Beamish asked the Minister of Housing and Local Government what consideration is being given to the use of common land for major housing projects; and whether he is aware that its use would greatly decrease the steady loss of good agricultural land for housing purposes.

Mr. H. Macmillan: My right hon. Friend the Minister of Agriculture stated in the House on 12th June and 27th November last that the whole future of common land is being considered.

As was made clear by my right hon. Friend, while the object chiefly in mind is the contribution which common land can make to national food supplies, the possible use, where appropriate, of some common land for other purposes, such as housing, is not being overlooked.

House of Commons: December 17, 1952.

Charitable Trusts (Committee's Report)

Mr. Peter Freeman asked the Prime Minister whether he has now considered the Report of the Nathan Committee on Charitable Trusts; and whether he will make a statement.

The Prime Minister: I would refer the hon. Member to the answer which I gave yesterday to my hon. Friend the Member for Salisbury (Mr. J. Morrison). I much regret that as it was not reached I was not able to make it then.

Mr. Freeman: The Report having been accepted, is it the Government's intention to amend the constitution of the Charity Commission in order to deal with the many points raised in the Report, and especially to appoint a separate Commission for Wales? Will the right hon. Gentleman consider whether the 100,000 organisations and charities, which control £200 million or £300 million of cash, should be

brought under one efficient national control, and so end this anachronism of private enterprise and bring about an efficient nationalised system of charities?

The Prime Minister: I fear that I should not be treating the hon. Gentleman's very complicated and well thought out supplementary question with the respect it deserves if I attempted to answer it on the spur of the moment.

Mr. J. Morrison: Is the Prime Minister aware that publication of this Report is welcome and that there is scope for some reforms?

Aero Engines (Noise Suppression)

Wing Commander Bullus asked the Minister of Supply to what extent detuners are used in connection with noise suppression of jet engines in this country.

Mr. Low: De-tuners and other British-designed methods of silencing engine test beds are widely used by aero engine manufacturers in this country.

Atmospheric Pollution (Research)

Mr. Driberg asked the Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry of Works, as representing the Lord President of the Council, to set up an inter-Departmental committee to inquire into the causes and cure of London fog.

Mr. Molson: No. A Committee, the Atmospheric Pollution Research Committee, already exists under the Fuel Research Board and includes representatives of all the interested Departments. It guides the research work which the Fuel Research Station of the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research is doing on the problem.

Ministry of Works (Government Science Centre)

Sir W. Wakefield asked the Minister of Works the present position with regard to the Government science centre; and whether it is intended that the necessary buildings should be erected on the South Bank site.

Mr. Eccles: I regret that the planning of the science centre has had to be deferred in view of the need for economy. When the economic situation improves it is hoped to lease a site on the South Bank immediately below Waterloo Bridge.

House of Commons: December 18, 1952

Motor Vehicles (Purchase Tax)

Mr. Edelman (by Private Notice) asked the Chancellor of the Exchequer whether, in view of the harmful effect on employment in the motor industry caused by uncertainty concerning the future of Purchase Tax on motor vehicles, he will make a statement.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer (Mr. R. A. Butler): Yes, Sir. I have received representations on this matter

from the industry and from Members of this House, but I am not convinced that it would be right to anticipate the normal process in which the claims of the motor industry for relief from Purchase Tax will be taken into account together with all the other similar claims by other industries.

Mr. Edelman: While thanking the right hon. Gentleman for this clarification, may I ask if he will make it clear to the manufacturers that it is still his general policy to give the export trade in motor cars precedence over home sales? Would he also say whether, arising out of the Commonwealth Conference, Australia has agreed to restore the cuts in imports which have been so harmful to the British motor industry? Finally, will he say whether, during the three critical months ahead, which may see mass unemployment in the motor industry, he will do everything in his power to use the home market as a buffer against unemployment?

Mr. Butler: I will deal with the first and third points raised by the hon. Member together. We must, of course, keep the export necessity as the first priority. There has been a relaxation of sale on the home market, and in respect of his third point, namely, will we watch the situation in view of possible difficulties, the answer is that our policy must be flexible in this matter and that we are as concerned about employment as the hon. Member and many other hon. Members.

In regard to the hon. Member's second point, about the Commonwealth Conference, if I may be permitted to do so, I should like to refer to paragraph 7 of the now famous communiqué, which stated that there had been an understanding that the restrictions which had to be put on through necessity would be raised if balance of payments difficulties permitted.

Mr. Erroll: As a further contribution to this matter, will the Chancellor prohibit Nigeria from using up our spare dollar reserves by importing American cars when equally good English cars are now available for that territory?

Mr. Butler: All I should like to say about Nigeria and the Colonial Territories in general is that we are extremely grateful to them for the help they have given us in our balance of payments difficulties. I will, of course, also look into the specific point raised by my hon. Friend.

Mr. Roy Jenkins: May I ask the Chancellor, first, whether he does not consider that some leading motor manufacturers have themselves created a large part of the uncertainty which has been affecting the industry by their own irresponsible and premature statements about the effect of the Purchase Tax, and whether he will issue a word of warning against this behaviour in the future? Secondly, is he not aware that if he moves too fast towards convertibility and non-discrimination he will do the motor industry far more harm than his statement this afternoon will do good?

Mr. Butler: I cannot interfere with statements made by public men or by public organs, as has been clearly seen in recent days. I must leave the responsibility for this matter to responsible leaders in the industry, but I hope that my statement will now create a greater atmosphere of certainty than was created previously. Secondly, in regard to convertibility and non-discrimination, the hon. Member may be quite satisfied that these aims are such as must be achieved

only if they are to the advantage of the employment and standard of living of our own people.

Mr. Fell: Will my right hon. Friend consider whether there is any other way of ending the annual uncertainty caused for something like three months of the year, which is having an effect not only on the home trade but also on the export trade, which is founded on a healthy home trade in these industries?

Mr. Butler: I can assure my hon. Friend that the uncertainty is not created by myself or the Government, and that it has been the practice of Governments for many years to have annual reviews of the finances and economic situation of the country. As long as that continues, I am afraid that people must adjust their nervous systems to that situation.

Mr. Jay: In view of what the Chancellor has just said about convertibility, has he seen the statement made by Mr. Menzies, the day before last, that the Conference agreed on clear-cut and constructive proposals for partial conversion at least, and as that is not contained in the communiqué can he tell us whether it is true, and if so, why we have heard about it from Mr. Menzies and not from the Chancellor?

Mr. Butler: I have been asked whether I can control the statements of motor manufacturers. I must say that it is equally impossible for me to control the statements of Prime Ministers of other countries. [HON. MEMBERS: "What about your own?"] I do not desire in this case either to comment on or to criticise the statement made by the Prime Minister of Australia, except to say that it seems to me to fall into general line with the terms of the communiqué which was published.

Mr. Gaitskell: The Chancellor cannot leave it like that. In the first place, his extraordinary disclaimer of responsibility for what other people at the Conference say does not coincide with all the glowing tributes he has paid to the good feeling at the Conference. I would ask the right hon. Gentleman, as this is an extremely important matter which may affect hon. Members opposite as well as those on this side of the House, whether he will confirm or deny what Mr. Menzies said about the Conference?

Mr. Butler: I am not aware that the question of convertibility comes up in answer to a question about Purchase Tax.

Employment—"Houseworker"

Mr. Vane asked the Minister of Labour the cost of publishing the periodical "Houseworker"; and how many copies are printed and sold, respectively, each month.

Sir W. Monckton: The periodical "Houseworker" is the official organ of the National Institute of Houseworkers and is the main source of publicity on the aims of the Institute and the progress made towards their achievement. The periodical is published every two months.

I am informed that in the year ended 31st March, 1952, the cost to the Institute after allowing for receipts from sales and advertisements was approximately £600. Four thousand copies of each issue are printed and rather more than half are sold. From the remainder a free distribution is made to representative bodies interested in women's employment.

(To be continued).

THE EDUCATION OF THE PRINCE— (continued from page 4).

The Prince's friends did not hang back. When the Shah of Persia visited England (1889), he "encouraged many intimate friends—Lord Cadogan, Lord Rosebery, and the Rothschilds among them—to offer the Shah elaborate entertainment." In the same year, Randolph Churchill had the Prince to dine with a weird Frenchman, General Boulanger, a sort of rebel . . . and "the party included . . . Mr. and Mrs. Leopold Rothschild." For his Diamond Jubilee (1897) Hospital Fund, "His friend Lord Rothschild consented, at his request, to serve as treasurer."

When Salisbury proposed in 1890 to swap Heligoland with the Kaiser in return for some East African Protectorates, the Queen objected to the bartering away of her possessions, and said, "Giving up what one has is always a bad thing." Then Salisbury applied to Parliament for the ratification of this Convention. It had previously been held that "the prerogative of acquiring or ceding territory still adhered to the Crown." Gladstone tried to defend the prerogative, but Salisbury nevertheless embodied the transaction in a bill. In 1904, Edward struggled with Balfour over the Anglo-French agreement, but the *entente* was ratified by a parliamentary bill. "The precedent was irrevocable," and who can deny that Churchill, *etc.*, have made abundant use of it?

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