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FOR POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC REALISM

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FEDERAL UNION UNPOPULAR

By JOHN MITCHELL

Those who would build a bridge required to stand for the briefest period and to take the smallest strain must pay some regard to the underlying realities of bridge building, to the natural laws which have the inexorable power, automatically applied, to penalise even the minutest disobedience. To build a bridge that will endure indefinitely under severe strain, necessitates such a degree of obedience to reality that it can be said for certain that only those possessing a true humility of mind will achieve it.

There is much to lead one to suppose that those who in concealment are striving to govern the world by economic or political means, are not lacking in appreciation of realities, otherwise they would have failed in their evil designs long ago. What they lack is humility; they lust for power, and therefore they are continually building bridges which collapse. Their tools are men who often differ from them in that they are guided in some cases solely by lust for power and in other cases by idealistic conceptions, abstractionist ways of thought which are the opposite of reality.

There have been occasions when we would have supposed that those responsible for what is written in *The Times* have the degree of seriousness of mentality required only for building castles with cards. But a more general acquaintance with that journal makes one think that however unsocial and impossible of achievement are the aspirations they harbour, they are political realists. Such a view would explain the contradictory nature of two of their utterances. On November 3, 1939, there appeared in a leading article in *The Times*, the statement:—

“It may well be that eventually the solution of European or even of world problems is some form of federation ...”

And yet the first leader of August 30, 1940, stated in reference to German propaganda in the U.S.A.:—

“More dangerous still is the small band of enthusiasts on both sides of the Atlantic which from time to time canvasses romantic schemes of world-wide political Federation.”

That *The Times's* sense of political realism should lead it to this conclusion is encouraging. But its realism is confined to politics, for we are told: “If Europe is to become once more a prosperous as well as a peaceful land, common economic planning and economic policy have become imperative.” And we are also advised to: “tell ourselves frankly that the United States have no intention of concerning themselves in the political future of any European

country or of co-operating in any new political order outside the Western Hemisphere.” But if political federation is out of the question “.....we can count with confidence on the prospect of American collaboration and American generosity after the war in the field of economic and social reconstruction; and this is yet another reason for thinking in the first instance in these terms.”

And so we are back where we started. Those who have any basic knowledge about the question at all know what “American” collaboration in economic and financial matters meant in the period intervening between the last and the present war. The financial *de facto* federation of the Central Banks of the principal countries of the world governed by “American” Finance from Wall Street, resulted in the economic catastrophes and social tragedies which afflicted the world between the two wars, and out of which arose the present conflict. The policies advocated in *The Times* during this “twenty year crisis” were in slavish obedience to this world financial policy dictated from America. Now these unrepentant sinners have the impudence to advise us to follow the same old fallacies. We are told among other things that “When arms are laid down at the end of the present war, it may well be prudent to devote our immediate energies to the practical needs of relief and reconstruction, and postpone any attempt to build a more permanent political framework until a clearer perspective has had time to emerge.” And also that “The Cabinet even now would do well to set up a qualified body to draw up a scheme of Government, local Government, and industrial action, and to make it as complete as possible.”

“.....Industrial policy and social policy will have to be brought together in an all-embracing welfare policy. In the shaping of that policy the Government will find many willing helpers if it enlists their aid. A pooling of knowledge and of ideas is required.”

The reason for all this concern is alleged to be that “So much of the industrial economy will be dependent on Government expenditure that the immediate cessation of Government spending without a substituted source of employment must cause a collapse.”

The Times thinks that what is necessary is an “early review of the needs which will have the most urgent claim on our liberated resources of production.”

Now one thing cannot be contested—and that is that

after the war is over our capacity to produce the material things people want will be greater than it is during the war. What then can possibly cause a "collapse"? Quite clearly, if the producer is then in a better position to produce, any collapse could only be caused by lack of consumer's purchasing power. This purchasing power is dependent upon the control of credit and the control of prices. As Major Douglas said as long ago as 1920, "The real struggle is going to take place, not as to the necessity of these controls, but as to whether they shall be in the hands of the producer or the consumer."

A "welfare policy" such as *The Times* advocates—or for that matter, any 'welfare' policy—postulates that the control of credit and prices should not be in the hands of the consumer but in the hands of those who are obsessed with the notion that the consumer must not manage his own affairs but must be managed. The whole crux of the issue which is now erupting a distracted world, hinges on this

question of who shall decide policy.

Major Douglas pointed out in 1920 that "The essential nature of a satisfactory modern co-operative state may be broadly expressed as consisting of a functionally aristocratic hierarchy of producers accredited by, and serving, a democracy of consumers." There is a rapidly growing body of people who believe that an increased use of credit facilities is desirable as well as essential, but any action taken in regard to this will lead to disaster unless it is recognised that the fundamental reason why people associate is for goods and not for work; and that the consumer must be given adequate means for exercising his policy.

If the people of this country were to accept any "scheme of Government, local government, and industrial action" advised by any "qualified body" propagandised by press and Government, they would lose the peace—whatever they did with the war.

EYE ON PARLIAMENT

The following passages are taken from the House of Commons Official Report (Editor, P. Cornelius), known as 'Hansard'. The date and occasion of the words are given above each section, and the speakers' names by the side. The number of columns occupied by the printed report of each section cited is also given. Lack of space imposes a severe limitation on the selection of matter for reproduction.

August 21.

Oral Answers to Questions

(37 columns)

ANGLO-IRANIAN OIL COMPANY (SALES, JAPAN).

Mr. Mander asked the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs whether, in view of the closing of the Burma Road for the supply of war materials for China it is proposed to cancel the sale of 1,000,000 barrels of oil to Japan made in April, 1940, by the British Government-controlled Anglo-Iranian Oil Company with the express approval of the British Government?

Mr. Butler: I have nothing further to add to the reply given by my hon. Friend the Minister of Petroleum on this subject on 23rd April.

Mr. Mander: Could anything be

more grossly unfair than to supply Japan with oil to attack China at the same time as China is refused permission to receive supplies along the Burma Road?

Mr. Butler: His Majesty's Government on the date mentioned said that it was not their policy to interfere with the commercial activities of this country.

Mr. Stokes: To what extent are His Majesty's Government being influenced by vested interests in oil?

Mr. Noel-Baker: Is it not most desirable that the Government should avoid the charge of having, in effect, put an oil sanction upon a victim of aggression while continuing to supply the aggressor with most of his requirements?

Mr. Butler: I agree that there is force in the hon. Member's point, but the Government has always endeavoured to keep themselves free from such charges. I have referred to the original answer given by the Minister for Petroleum. The hon. Member will see from that answer that there is no other limit to this transaction.

Mr. McGovern: Is this policy supported by the Labour members of the Government?

Mr. Butler: All Government decisions are unanimous.

Mr. Noel-Baker: Will the right

hon. Gentleman undertake to have this matter reconsidered, in view of the fact that it is not possible to lay down a principle like that enunciated in the reply referred to in April, and that the Government must consider the political and other bearings of commercial transactions in petroleum?

Mr. Butler: I am certainly willing to communicate the views expressed by the hon. Member to my hon. Friend the Minister for Petroleum.

DEFENCE REGULATIONS.

Mr. Kirkwood asked the Prime Minister whether, in view of the large number of Regulations being issued affecting the liberties and property of the people, he will explain the process which is followed before such regulations are issued by the various Government Departments, Ministers and/or officials concerned; and what steps he is taking to ensure that all persons who were appointed to positions of authority in peace time possess the temperament and capacity to exercise the wider and more arbitrary powers now being conferred upon them?

The Lord Privy Seal (Mr. Attlee): I have been asked to reply. I presume my hon. Friend has in mind Regulations made under the Emergency Powers (Defence) Acts, 1939 and 1940. Drafts

READY SHORTLY

'THE REAL AMERICA'

AND

'THIS AMERICAN BUSINESS'

By C. H. DOUGLAS.

Major Douglas's articles in *The Social Crediter* of August 10 and 17, reprinted as a pamphlet.

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of all such Regulations are fully considered by the Government before they are made. The Regulations are laid before Parliament and, as my hon. Friend is aware, either House can within 28 days pass a Resolution for the annulment of any such Regulations. This procedure does not apply to the Orders and Rules made by Ministers under individual Regulations, but the action of Ministers can, of course, always be discussed and criticised in Parliament. As regards the last part of the Question, the suitability for their posts of all persons appointed to positions of authority is constantly under review.

August 22.

Written Answers (48 Columns)

POLISH NEWSPAPER (ARTICLES).

Mr. Gallacher asked the Minister of Information whether he is aware that articles, of a violently anti-Semitic character from the pen of M. Marian Seyda, a member of the Polish Cabinet, are appearing in the Polish language newspaper *Jestem Polakiem* published in London; whether such articles have been submitted to censorship; and whether facilities for obtaining paper have been granted to this journal?

Mr. Nicholson: No, Sir. The submission of such articles to censorship is not compulsory and these were not in fact submitted. No facilities for obtaining paper have been granted by my right hon. Friend's Department.

GOVERNMENT BORROWING

Mr. Stokes asked the Chancellor of the Exchequer whether, in view of the fact that he is borrowing bank deposits at $1\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. direct from the banks, he will offer an incentive of 1 per cent. to depositors to deposit with the Treasury direct, thereby enabling them to obtain 100 per cent. increase in the deposit rate now being received by them from the banks?

Sir K. Wood: No, Sir. In so far as the Government desires to borrow for short periods, I think the best course is to issue Treasury Bills or to borrow from the banks under the scheme inaugurated last month.

Adjournment (Summer)

(61 columns).

INTERNEES.

Mr. Rhys Davies: ... We remember the horror that sprang up in this country when Hitler put Jews, Socialists and Communists into concentration camps.

We were horrified at that, but somehow or other we almost took it for granted when we did the same thing to the same people. Of course, distance lends enchantment to the view, and *vice versa*. I have heard it suggested that there are some in authority in this country with Fascist tendencies and that this is the reason why some of the Jews have been put away. I do not believe a word of that. If I had to speak for this Government at any time, I would say that the reason why this has been done is really the fear of invasion. When some of the Jewish people complain to me and when I speak outside this House I give that reason, but here I would like to tell the right hon. Gentleman exactly what I think about the situation. I would like to strike another personal note, if he does not mind. The right hon. Gentleman has been in India as Governor. I hope he is not giving us the Bengal touch in British administration.

Earl Winterton (Horsham and Worthing) Now I want to come to the policy of internment, which I wish to defend with all the vigour I possess. In the whole of these Debates certain facts have never been mentioned at all. To listen to some speeches, one would suppose that the only people who have been interned in this country are friendly aliens. That is not so at all; dozens of British subjects have been interned, and many members of the Fascist party, which I am not going to defend in this House, have been in prison for eight weeks without going before a tribunal. This is not a question which applies only to Jews, and, although I do not want to enter into a controversy, I think it is only fair that, if we want to attack the policy of internment, we should deal with it generally. After all, the House has a great responsibility in this matter. It is no use attacking the Minister when Regulations, which practically abolished Habeas Corpus, were passed in one afternoon with hardly a protest—

Mr. Silverman: Does the right hon. Gentleman realise that in the case of British subjects this House was careful to restore their rights under Habeas Corpus and that no British subject can be arrested except under Regulation 18B?

Earl Winterton: With all respect, I would say to the hon. Gentleman that if he knew what I know, he would know that the Regulations do not give a great measure of ordinary relief under the law. However, more will be heard about that story in the future. I am not attacking

the Government's policy, I am in favour of it, and I say deliberately that the right hon. Gentleman is carrying out with great courage and efficiency the dictates and policy of the whole Government. It is easy enough to attack individual Members, but if you want to do the bold thing, attack the Government and the Prime Minister, not individual Ministers. It has been constantly asked in Debate why there should be wholesale internment of alien and anti-Nazi and friendly aliens? Now I will mention some of the unpalatable facts that I said I would mention. In the first place, again and again in the countries on the Continent which were invaded by Germany it was found that refugees aided Nazis in their march. The whole proof is there for anyone to see. Anyone who listened to the broadcasts of one of our Ministers in one of those countries has that proof.

Now I would like to mention another point—the treatment of internees in German camps. This has been of such a horrible character that those of us at the Home Office, when I was there, were almost robbed of our sleep. Only a half of the horrible facts were told in the White Paper which was published last autumn. It would have broken the law relating to obscenity if some of the details had been published. People were abominably treated. I did not get my knowledge as chairman of the Evian Committee, but I picked it up in that capacity, and I am convinced that cases did occur where Germans said to refugees, "We are going to give you and your people a much worse time, but we will give you the opportunity, if you like, of going to other countries providing you will help us in any way you can." No mesh, however small, in the police system of any country could possibly prevent that, and when people talk about the provable loyalty of people from Germany, such a thing is a contradiction in terms, and almost impossible to prove.

I will now tell the House something for which I take full responsibility. Perhaps I got the information not in a proper way. It has never been made public, and I propose to make it public now. The wholesale internment of aliens resulted largely from public pressure inside and outside this House. Whether it was right or wrong, it was done, but my postbag was full of letters from people who said "We are sorry for these people who have come from Germany, but we are more concerned with the safety of our State." The statement I wish to

make is that after these people were interned there was much less leakage of information from this country to the Continent than before they were interned. If I got up before any public meeting of constituents in this country and asked, "Which do you put first, the safety, honour and welfare of this realm, or the interests of foreigners, however badly treated?" there would be one shout in reply, "England." I want to point out that a great many of these unfortunate people came to this country largely as a result of the activities of the committee, of which I had the honour to be chairman, working in co-operation with the British and United States Governments. They came here in order to proceed overseas to America; I think there were something like 50,000 aliens in this category, and I am most anxious to see them go to America and other countries as soon as they can.

..... My hon. Friend below the Gangway, when he says these people had been proved friends of this country, is wrong. They came here in order to get into the United States, so, therefore, let us try to preserve a moderate attitude on this subject, and try to remember there are differences between many of us who feel strongly on this refugee question. I am in touch with certain prominent Jews in this country who have done a tremendous amount for their co-religionists in Germany.

They would not like their names mentioned, and it would be a gross breach of friendship to mention them. They have said to me again and again, "Preserve us from the extremist Jewish and Gentile friends of the refugees in the House of Commons and elsewhere." Let us do everything we can, by question and otherwise, to induce the Government to bring about better conditions in the camps where that is necessary, but let us remember that, as far as the general policy is concerned, the interests of this country must come first. It is easy enough to abuse the military authorities, but they are the people responsible for the safety of the country in time of invasion, and in a constituency like mine, had there been invasion, a single enemy alien found guilty of a crime against the State would have been in real danger of his life. I should have been asked, "Why do you ask these people to come here?" Let us, in the interest of the aliens themselves, remember that there are two sides to the question.

Sir J. Anderson: The next

point is, is it not the case that a fair proportion of those friendly aliens still have friends and relations in Germany, still have material interests in Germany, and as a result might be subject to pressure which would lead them, perhaps at the hour of our greatest peril, to take action, on an impulse it may be, which afterwards they might greatly regret? Further, is it not the case that these enemy aliens include quite a large number who, perhaps because of the experience they have gone through, are fundamentally defeatist, who, if it appeared that the enemy was making progress in an attempt to land on our shores or by parachute, would lose heart, would be a source of weakness, and would tend to lower the morale of the people around them, and might be tempted in the last resort to try to make terms? If it is impossible for the Home Secretary or any responsible authority to give a satisfactory answer to those questions, what is to be done? Are the military authorities to be told that, although for the reasons indicated they regard the presence of a large number of people of this category, who may contain these dangerous elements—it is really a matter of numbers and not of individuals—as a real source of danger and as adding materially to the responsibilities and anxieties which our military authorities would have to bear if an invasion of this country were attempted, the demand that these people should be put out of harms way for the time being should be rejected? I say, No. I say that as things developed there was no choice at that time. I think it can be fairly said with confidence that under the conditions which we have to contemplate of possible enemy invasion, the position of these people, if they were at large, might not only become one of greatest discomfort, but of peril. Believe me, that is not a consideration which can be lightly rejected. We have seen how quickly feeling works up, and we all of us know how tense the situation was throughout this country six weeks ago. I saw last week, when there were reports of parachute landings on a large scale, the beginning of the same kind of thing, until such reports were proved to be unfounded.

..... So long as the danger of invasion is a reality—and we have been told that it still is—we must maintain, in substance, the policy of general internment. That does not mean that we ought not to do, and do speedily, all we can to alleviate the situation.

..... The policy of general internment, as has been pointed out more than once, inevitably resulted in the internment of some of the bitterest and most active enemies of the Nazi regime. Our difficulty there has been to invent some test to decide the genuineness of the alleged hostility or opposition to that regime, if possible some objective test. At my request the Asquith Committee have given careful consideration to that matter, and on the recommendation of the committee I have decided to adopt a new category on the following terms:

"Any person as to whom a tribunal appointed by the Secretary of State for the purpose reports that enough is known of his history to show that by his writings or speeches, or political or official activities, he has consistently, over a period of years, taken a public and prominent part in opposition to the Nazi system and is actively friendly toward the Allied cause."

I propose to appoint without delay a suitable tribunal for this purpose.

Mr. Wedgwood: Does that cover anti-Fascists?

Sir John Anderson: Yes.

Mr. Peake: With regard to general welfare in the camps, it is a complete mistake to suppose that these people are in need of a lot of welfare workers to organise them into groups of this sort and that for study. These people are intelligent and clever; many of them are highly skilled and already have organised themselves to a very extraordinary degree. They do not want busybodies coming along to give them moral uplift. The morale of the people in these camps is a great deal higher than hon. Members have been led to believe, and, in fact, they bear their internment with a great deal more philosophy than do their friends outside.

..... At the present moment about 120,000 letters a week are going to internees, which gives some idea of how many friends these people have. All those friends seem to be writing either to me or to Members of Parliament. The fact is that these good people believe that influence can secure their release, as indeed does the hon. Member for Barnstaple when he spoke of the volume of pressure which he and his friends were bringing to bear on me in regard to one particular case. It is the highest tribute to the Officials of the Home Office that so far that pressure has apparently been resisted. Personal pressure will not have the slightest effect in securing the more rapid release of any alien from internment. It is not at the present stage a matter of a testimonial.

WHITE MAGIC

By B. M. PALMER

When I told a friend that I had been reading the *Protocols of the Learned Elders of Zion** during my fortnight's holiday, he expressed surprise that I could endure to look at such a book amid the heavenly scenery of southern Sussex. For it is heavenly in the sense that it is so different from what we have made of some parts of our country as to seem unearthly; from so many viewpoints one may pause and say, "This is perfect; there is nothing here that I would alter—if only I could remember it for ever—see these rolling downs and clustering woodlands in the darkness of next winter amid the 'spurious whig culture' of London."

Even the war did not obtrude itself although the whole area was an armed camp bristling with soldiers. The keynote was camouflage, and it was possible to go for miles through unspoilt country. Which brings me back to my first point: that for me at least, a place like this was about the only one in which I could read those Protocols. For as Douglas says, we cannot appreciate anything unless we know its opposite. To raise my eyes from the printed page and see that ripened wheat field, those massive oaks, and to know that the English people around me were aware as I was that we were fighting for the very existence of these things—never mind the intellectual knowledge of "why", that doesn't matter so much—there was my reality giving the lie to what I was reading from the printed page. I knew it was a lie, and was defeated already, and this made it possible of contemplation without discomfement.

Arguments concerning the origin of this book seem to me about as profitable as the Bacon or Shakespeare controversy, and about as useless. What Henry Ford said in 1921 is probably the best comment, "They fit in with what is going on". They still fit, in the sense that they give an exact description of the workings and aims of a certain type of highly intellectual mind that is attempting to run the world to-day, and has met with a certain amount of success.

**Protocols of the Learned Elders of Zion*, issued by the Britons Publishing Society, 40, Great Ormond Street, W.C.1. 1s. 3d. nett.

A lorry load of singing soldiers goes by—they wave—and everyone here, civilians and military alike, says "good morning."

"We have fooled, bemused and corrupted the youth of the Goyim".

Yesterday we saw a spitfire on the tail of an enemy bomber, with the usual results.

"The recognition of our despot may also come before the destruction of the constitution; the moment for this recognition will come when the peoples, utterly wearied by the irregularities and incompetence—a matter which we shall arrange for—of their rulers, will clamour, 'Away with them and give us one king over all the earth who will unite us and annihilate the causes of disorders'".

At this point I feel that the vulgar comment "Sez you!" is called for. This book, written with the fiendish intellectual cunning found with a certain type of insanity, though it constantly amazes me by its insight into the baser side of human nature, has nevertheless its blind spot. There is something in this country which we English-born do not ourselves understand—although at the present moment we are being swept along in its current, part of the motive power as the violinist is part of the orchestra—even though we feel it with the greatest intensity. The authors of the Protocols, whoever they may be, and all who subscribe to such plans for world domination, have made no allowance whatever for this thing. In the end it is going to defeat them with an utter and annihilating defeat from which there will be no recovery. We are all feeling its growing strength—read Commander Sir Archibald Southby's speech reported in this paper on August 17. He said he believed the 'masses' were optimistic, exceedingly courageous and quite unworried. They were not in need of being told by the B.B.C. to be courageous and to stand up to the situation. To be part of the mass in the sense in which Sir Archibald Southby used the word is what we should all strive to be. We are not Ishmaelites, less now, perhaps, than at any other time.

Conrad, I think, understood us because he loved England so much. He

would have known the spirit that is abroad to-day for what it is.

There is a passage in *Lord Jim* telling how, after his act of cowardice, he felt he would never go home again.

"We return to face our superiors, our kindred, our friends—those whom we obey, and those whom we love; but even they who have neither, the most free, lonely, irresponsible and bereft of ties, even those for whom home holds no dear face, no familiar voice, even they have to meet the spirit that dwells within the land, under its sky, in its air, in its valleys, and on its rises, in its fields, in its waters and its trees—a mute friend, judge and inspirer. Say what you like, to get its joy, to breathe its peace, to face its truth, one must return with a clear conscience. All this may seem to you sheer sentimentalism; and indeed very few of us have the will or the capacity to look consciously under the surface of familiar emotions..... Yes! few of us understand, but we all feel it though, and I say *all* without exception, because those who do not feel do not count. Each blade of grass has its spot on earth whence it draws its life, its strength; and so is man rooted to the land from which he draws his faith together with his life."

As Social Crediters we understand the importance of the individual, and how each of us, as a distinct personality, should be a growing bud of untrammelled and *unknown* possibility, with its own distinct value; but each of us is rooted in the Social Credit. It is a manifestation of this which Sir Archibald Southby is feeling to-day—"the masses are optimistic, exceedingly courageous and quite unworried." Against this, Black Magic can do nothing—perhaps it is the only thing against which it is powerless, and possibly for that reason, and in self-defence, it turns a blind eye to that "disembodied, eternal and unchangeable spirit, its saving power, the grace of its secular right to our fidelity, to our obedience."

The delay in despatch of *The Social Crediter* of August 31 was due to circumstances beyond our control.

Every effort will continue to be made to ensure that readers receive the paper on the day of publication.

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Saturday, September 7, 1940.

SIR GEORGE PAISH

Sir George Paish has been saying he got 'America' into the last war, and means to get 'it' into this one. And everybody else over here thought it was the Lusitania! How odd! Sir George Paish's claim, though possibly a little over-exclusive of not inconsiderable assistance on the part of interests favourable to his mission, has more sense in it than the idea, current for so long, that 'America' arose 'in its wrath' or anything of that sort. Regarded in the cold light of *Warning Europe* and other documents concerning the mode of occurrence of wars, which are now fairly common knowledge, this particular 'bean' does not seem to be of a particularly explosive kind to spill. Possibly Sir George has spilled some others. Lord Lothian, it is reported, has told him it would be better for him to leave the country as soon as possible, "in the interests of Anglo-American relations." It is said Sir George is quite willing to do this, although what he intended was to tour the U.S. for three months lecturing. Sir George Paish went on an Official Mission to America in 1914. In 1931 he wrote *The Way to Recovery* and in 1937 *The Way Out*, a combination of titles which by no means implies that Sir George is wont to alter his direction. He is a believer in a permanent League of Nations, but not, apparently, in anything which might place human society on a naturally secure basis. It is hard to make clear to people that a Leagued World, such as our internationalists desire, would be a Beleaguered World. Every League is *in league* with something against something else. To make one side world-wide is to make the other side world-wide as well. If the two sides are clearly and correctly described all might be well. Probably the tiff with Lord Lothian,

who holds much the same views as Sir George Paish, will not make any issue much clearer to Americans, and unless it does it is not of much consequence.

CONFIDENCE TRICK

The City Editor of the *Daily Express* said in the issue of August 31:

"Captain Crookshank, the Financial Secretary to the Treasury, yesterday re-emphasised an obvious truth which has apparently escaped the notice of the Big Five Banks.

"Speaking at Plymouth, he said: 'To sell a pre-war investment and buy Savings Certificates or bonds is no real use at all. It is merely a transfer from one thing to another. What we want is new money—money put by out of earnings now—not what you put by years ago.'

"In other words, selling out Ordinary shares and investing the proceeds in Defence Bonds is not patriotism. It is a form of stupidity which has harmful effect, by causing a slump in equities on the Stock Exchange.

"Yet it is just this course that the banks are compelling many of their customers to take. The banks' defence of their practice in forcing clients to pay off overdrafts by selling the shares lodged as security is that the banks need funds to lend to the Government for the finance of the war."

It would be under-estimating the intelligence of bankers to suggest that they did not 'know' a thing like that: it can only be concluded that they are using investors' patriotism and the national emergency in this way simply

because they wanted those securities. If they continue with such behaviour then at the end of the war all industry will be included in the already large grip of the bankers and the country will have been 'nationalised' by stealth. Instead of pointing out the consequence of this colossal confidence trick on the part of the banks the *Daily Express* proceeds glibly:

"Perhaps Captain Crookshank's lesson in elementary economics will at last ring bells in Lombard Street. The way in which the ordinary citizen can help his country is by doing without now and every day until the war ends.

"Provided he cuts down his consumption to a bare minimum and everyone else does the same, it does not matter twopence to the country whether he has an unsecured overdraft or not."

To have recognised the possible desirability of the 'unsecured overdraft' is something. But it is not nearly enough.

From "Punch" of August 28:

FABLES FROM THE ISH

By R. M.

The Prime Minister, the Toughs and the 2.30.

An unscrupulous Mongol Prime Minister made use of a group of toughs whose duty was to cause to be fulfilled the predictions of a certain Prophet on his payroll. Thus the Prophet would announce that a bridge would collapse, and they would cause it to collapse at the proper time; that a building would turn white overnight, and they would secretly paint it. After some months of miraculously fulfilling prophecies the Prime Minister, rubbing his hands, told the prophet to announce that Karakoram would win the 2.30. At the same time he told the toughs to see that Ogotai won the 2.30.

Consulting among themselves, the toughs determined to cause Wenchow to win the 2.30.

The toughs backed Wenchow to win. The Prime Minister backed Ogotai. The prophet complacently backed Karakoram.

Extruh! 2.30 result. 1. Meng T'ien. 2. An lu-Shan. 3. Tangent. 100-8, 33-1, 5-2. Seventeen ran.

THE BATTLE OF THE AGES

By L. D. BYRNE

A speech given to the Vancouver Rotary Club on June 11. A brief summary of the address from the "Vancouver Sun" appeared in "The Social Crediter" of July 13, incorrectly attributing to Mr. Byrne the statement that the totalitarian nations represent International Finance.

Last September, when the British Empire, with France, was forced into the present war to meet the threat of totalitarian aggression as exemplified by Nazi Germany, there was a tendency in some quarters to minimize the nature of the struggle upon which we had entered. I believe that to-day there is no thinking person who does not realize that the present war is going to prove a terrific affair, and that upon its outcome depends not merely the future of civilization, but possibly whether civilization will survive.

What is not, I think, widely understood, is that the war is the culmination of a universal conflict which is raging in every country and between nations. This conflict has been developing for centuries and we have now entered upon its final phase, which I have termed "The Battle of the Ages."

There are in the world two—and only two—social philosophies or philosophies of life. These two social philosophies may be correctly described in modern terms as "democracy" and "totalitarianism." In these days we hear a great deal about a variety of so-called ideologies such as Socialism, Communism, Nazi-ism, Fascism, Technocracy, and what not. In point of fact there is little fundamental difference between them. In these matters it is a safe rule to always get down to the first principles in order to find out the facts of the case, and I propose to spend just a few minutes in dealing with the basic principles of the two social philosophies, democracy and totalitarianism. All the various social systems which are being advocated so vociferously fall under one or other of these headings.

Democracy

There is probably more confusion of thought regarding the nature of democracy than almost any other subject of equal importance. Democracy is a very definite social system, based upon certain fundamental principles of organization. I suggest that a correct definition of democracy would be "government and management of a people's affairs to give them the conditions and results they want." The basis of a democratic social system is the sovereignty of the people as a whole. Obviously, to be sovereign or the supreme authority, the people must determine all questions of policy—in other words, the management of their affairs should yield them the results they want. This will involve the greatest possible decentralization of power.

If you have that clearly in your minds, you will readily see that a social system built on democratic lines is the natural form in which society should exist. Individuals will associate voluntarily only under one impulse—namely, that in association they will get the results they desire in common, and which would otherwise be impossible to attain. This was the basis upon which the first settled community came into existence some 6,000 years ago, and this is the basis upon which community life and civilization has developed.

In democracy, then, the people should decide what shall be done and who shall do it—that is the prerogative

of sovereignty. Therefore in a democracy the State and all its institutions exist to serve the individual members of the community, and the organization of the community should be carried out to ensure that the people obtain the results they collectively desire. Responsibility for how the people's wishes shall be carried out—i.e. responsibility for methods—must be left to those entrusted with the task.

The objectives of a democratic society are the objectives desired by the people—and those are maximum personal security and maximum personal freedom.

Totalitarianism

In contrast to the democratic social system, totalitarian society is based upon centralized power. The people are not sovereign. All power is centralized in the hands of the ruler or ruling group who are identified with the State. The ruling body as the sovereign authority imposes its will upon the people and gives the people what it thinks is "good" for them. Under totalitarianism, the individual exists to serve the State and its institutions.

If you have a situation in which a few are manipulating the many and imposing upon them conditions which are oppressive, it will inevitably lead to internal dissatisfaction which will have to be dealt with by coercive measures. Mass regimentation, brutal suppression of individuals and individuality, and the creation of a powerful armed force at the disposal of the ruling group always result from the adoption of the totalitarian philosophy. The will to power under which the rulers secure their positions of authority ensures that the type of person who desires power for the sake of wielding power always gets pushed to the top. The result is not only the imposition of harsh conditions in the country, but it develops towards aggression against other countries. Moreover, under the totalitarian system, the rule of "might is right" very quickly destroys cultural development and attacks religion. The State and its titular head become the idols of national worship.

The social philosophy of totalitarianism, or society organized on the basis of the sovereignty of a ruling group who wield absolute power over the people, is the very antithesis of democracy and what we know as a Christian social order. It denies every basic principle of Christian teaching regarding the relationship of man to man. The totalitarian social philosophy is based on jungle law. We are getting a first class demonstration of this to-day.

Let us now turn to the situation which existed before the present war. Unless we understand at least one aspect of that situation, we will not understand either the nature of the issues which are being fought out to-day or the probable trend of events in the future.

It is always easiest to take an illustration nearest home. The outstanding feature of the pre-war situation in Canada—in common with every other country—was what is generally referred to as "poverty amidst plenty." In Canada

we have a country with tremendous resources in rich food growing lands, timber, metal deposits, oil, coal, fisheries and so forth. With these resources and the knowledge of modern power production methods, it would have been possible in peace to organize the economic life of the country to provide an abundance of food, clothing, houses and most of the amenities which people want. In short, Canada could have enjoyed a very high standard of living. Yet during those years the vast majority of the Canadian people were insecure. Many of them were destitute. Over whole areas housing conditions were appalling. Yet side by side with this widespread want we had idle men and idle resources. Besides, a large section of the working population was engaged in unproductive—and in many cases, wasteful—activities. The individual's life was made more miserable by oppressive and ever-mounting debt and harsh and ever-increasing taxation.

The Reason

Canada is a constitutional democracy. The question at once arises, "Were the people getting the results and conditions they wanted from the management of their affairs?" To that we must answer emphatically "No." This reveals a very alarming situation, because it means that somebody, by some means or other, was imposing upon the people against their will, oppressive conditions which they did not want. Democracy was being thwarted. Instead of government in accordance with the will of the people, the nation was having to submit to the management of its affairs yielding results which the people did not want.

On going into the matter further in order to allocate responsibility, we find that the fault did not lie with producers and distributors. Producers were able and anxious to produce more, but they lacked markets. Yet here at home was a vast unsatisfied market as represented by the impoverished condition of the people. The people wanted the goods. The merchants wanted to sell them the goods. All that prevented the people from obtaining the goods which could be produced in abundance was their inability to buy them. They lacked purchasing power.

In the complex economies of the present day, purchasing power is distributed to the people in the form of money. Therefore it becomes evident that the stringent economic conditions being imposed upon the people were being imposed through the operation of the monetary system. Moreover, we find that debt, taxation and most of the oppressive features of the situation are products of the monetary system. So on even a cursory examination of the facts, it becomes evident that people were being prevented from obtaining conditions and results they wanted from the economic life of the country by the operation of the monetary system. Therefore the persons who controlled the monetary system were not managing it in accordance with the will of the people. They were imposing upon the people a policy of their own.

It should be obvious that in such a situation the monetary system had become the effective instrument of government in the country and those in control were exercising a power greater than that exercised by the people's elected government.

You will recognise that the resulting social order was not democracy in its true sense in spite of the people enjoying democratic rights. For all practical purposes we

had totalitarian rule by the money power.

Now we find that exactly the same sort of thing was going on in Britain, France, the United States, Australia—in fact, every country enjoying a democratic constitution—we are forced to the conclusion that this money power is international in its sphere of influence, and that it has been pursuing the identical policy everywhere in defiance of democratic constitutions and everything else.

It will be obvious that the existence of similar conditions in all democratic countries in defiance of the wishes of the people, indicates that the manipulators of the world's monetary systems have been pursuing a uniform policy everywhere. Widespread and unnecessary poverty have been inflicted on entire populations with complete ruthlessness. Debts and taxation have risen to the point where they become tyrannous in their effect. Step by step control of all economic activities have become centralized in huge corporations. Democracy has been attacked—social systems involving centralization of control on a vast scale have been publicized—and generally the whole situation has developed towards centralized power with money as the instrument of control.

This policy, as I said, has been a universal policy. Now policies do not just happen. Men make policies and men administer them. Towards what objective, then, has the international money power been working?

If you will examine the evidence you will, I think, be forced to the obvious conclusion. The clear and definite objective of the international money power is the complete domination of the world. These men intend to establish something in the nature of a world state over which they will exercise absolute domination. In short, their objective is the super totalitarian state. I realize that this may seem to you fantastic and far-fetched. It should not, however, for we are getting a demonstration that to power maniacs with the totalitarian mentality nothing short of absolute world power is enough.

Standing between the nightmare of world tyranny and humanity is the British Empire and the established democratic constitutions of the world, which collectively represent mankind's victory over the forces of the totalitarianists down the ages. Therefore if the international money power hoped to achieve its end, it had to use its power for the removal of these two formidable obstacles. The destruction of democratic constitutions and the destruction of the British Empire as the bulwark of democracy had to be its aim.

The Last Fifteen Years

The mists begin to clear when we consider the amazing events of the past fifteen years from this aspect. During those years the totalitarian nations were able to build powerful war machines. With them there was no question of "But where is the money to come from?" The necessary foreign credits and internal monetary arrangement were provided to ensure that they prepared and prepared thoroughly for war.

War against whom? What constituted the only threat to the wild dreams of power drunk, strutting totalitarian dictators? The democracies in general and the British Commonwealth of Nations in particular.

With its vast resources the British Empire could have built a war machine against which no totalitarian nation or group of totalitarian nations would have dared to risk

a war. But it could not have done so within the limitations of the orthodox financial system. Burdened with huge debts and oppressive taxation from the last war, any attempt to embark upon the large scale rearmament programme demanded by the situation would have led to increased debt and taxation to a point which would have led to collapse of the monetary system.

Those in control of the world's monetary systems saw to it that whatever happened those systems remained unchanged. Thus the totalitarian powers—Germany, Italy and Russia in particular—were permitted to create tremendous war machines, while Great Britain and the Empire, France and the other democratic countries were able to prepare to meet the inevitable attack only within the limits permitted by their monetary systems.

Speaking at the outbreak of the war Mr. Neville Chamberlain warned us that we would be fighting evil things. In the words of St. Paul—"We wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places."

To-day the British Empire is menaced as it has never been menaced. To-day the future of humanity and everything worth while which we have achieved is at stake. The destiny of the world is in the hands of the British peoples and the fate of civilization will be decided by the outcome of this terrific struggle upon which we have entered.

Personally I am completely confident of the ultimate out-come—for reasons I shall explain in my concluding

remarks. The essential task which confronts us is to inflict decisive defeat on the enemy. With the vast resources of the Empire and with the determination to achieve victory there can be no doubt of our ability to crush the armed threat of totalitarian aggression. We shall have to face dark days and we shall have to call forth all our resources of material, character, courage and faith—but we can do it.

We must locate the enemy in every sphere of his influence. It will be rank folly to hurl ourselves against his armed forces with the chains of a restricting monetary system sabotaging our every effort.

I will leave the matter there. In conclusion may I point out to you that this final phase of an age-old conflict between the social philosophies of democracy and totalitarianism is fundamentally a clash between the principles of the Christian ethic and the principles of paganism. If you will go into the matter as fully as I hope you will, you will find that democracy is synonymous with what we term a Christian social order.

The conflict in which we are engaged on the physical plane is, in my view, but one aspect of a conflict being fought out on a higher plane. It can properly be described as the final clash of the struggle between the Powers of Light and the Powers of Darkness. It is the Battle of the Ages. That is why I am so confident of the outcome.

"...we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places."

European Background

(VII) The Classical Revival and the Church of Rome*

By NORMAN F. WEBB

We have seen how the Christian Church rose to meet the attacks of barbarian force. But these attacks successfully countered, a much more subtle and potent foe to Christianity appeared in the guise of Classical Learning. It is not at once evident why this should have been. If we are correct in summing up the Greek spirit—the spirit of humble, interested enquiry—as the essence of Greece, what fundamental incompatibility could there be between it and that attitude of mind outlined in the Sermon on the Mount? The Greek Church seemed to find no incompatibility. The Early Fathers of the Church—pre-eminently St. Augustine, the Neo-Platonist—were deeply versed in the works of Aristotle and other Greek scientists. And yet when Greek learning came to Western, Medieval Europe, in the manner previously described, there was antagonism.

It must not be forgotten that it was predominantly through the Jews that the introduction was made, and that the Cordovan School, from which almost all the translations of the period emanated, was responsible for a number of books of a profoundly materialistic character, notable among them the *Fons Vitae*, by the Jew Solomon Ven Gebirol, which had a wide influence on Western Christendom. It will be seen, then, that when at last these two great streams—the Christ-idea of Unity, and the Greek scientific spirit—met and mingled in the West, both were to some

extent compromised and distorted.

Yet even so, their fusion produced astounding, if contradictory results. From the twelfth century to the end of the 15th in Italy, and till the end of the 16th, taking in the more Northerly and Westerly countries of Europe, there was such a sudden expansion of the human creativeness as cannot be paralleled anywhere in history. In its early stages, at least in painting and the arts generally, it did not appear as in any way anti-Christian. It seemed more a development and crown on the Christian Churches' labours. Whatever the philosophic origin of its later development, its first artistic impulse came from Constantinople—probably as the direct result of the brutal sack and short occupation of that city by its Latin co-religionists during the Fourth Crusade. The earliest Italian painters and architects, such as Giotto and Brunellesco at the end of the 13th century displayed a simplicity and straight-forwardness that was at once both Greek and Christian. But gradually the movement became reaction, in which the baser, Pagan, elements of Classical culture were re-emphasised, and the scientific spirit, and simplicity of Greece, and the genuine Byzantine piety were correspondingly depressed.

Against this reaction the Church had not the vitality to make a stand. Demoralized by secular and intensely bitter contests with her own creation, the Teutonic Roman Empire, and by her own ever-increasing material state and commitments, her instinct and vigilance failed. In France

*The first instalment of Part VII of *European Background* appeared in *The Social Crediter* of August 31.

in the 13th century some efforts were made to regulate and stem the stream of Judaic Rationalism which constituted the Cordovan school's main contribution, beyond the translations from the Greek Classics—translations, incidentally the spirit of which was regarded with definite suspicion by such an enthusiastic Aristotelian as Thomas Aquinas. But the Church had by this time let most of her fundamental Principles go, and was using indiscriminately whatever weapon came handy to preserve her existence. Paganism was in the air, and she had become hopelessly deficient and weak in the proper and only antidote to it—the Christ-idea.

The culmination of the first stage of this movement, called Humanist, came at the end of the 15th century—the end of the thousand years assigned to the Middle Ages—and is arbitrarily called the Renaissance by historians. Constantinople, after centuries of gallant defence, had fallen to the Turks in 1453, and the final dispersal of its remaining libraries and Greek scholars has supplied historians with a plausible and ready-made explanation of the phenomenon with which we are dealing. But the truth is that as far as Italy is concerned the real, intrinsic glory of the conjunction of Western Christendom with as much of the Greek spirit as might pass through the intermediary of the Jewish mind was over by that time, and what was left of the century, while remarkable in appearance, was little more than an orgy of revived paganism, with the Papacy and the policy of the whole of Italy in control of a single family of bankers of unknown and apparently undiscovered origin—the Medici.

This period is of exceptional complexity. It is obvious that the true significance of the re-birth implicit in the name Renaissance was far more a re-birth of the spirit of pagan Rome, containing some new element introduced possibly from pre-Christian Palestine, than a re-birth of the spirit of Greece. It was specifically and avowedly anti-Christian—an attitude of mind that, impossible as it may seem, did not stop short of the Papal throne.

It would almost appear as though the Infidel during

the centuries that his arms had openly assailed the walls of Constantinople, had been also engaged in a subtle outflanking movement *via* Spain, and that when Eastern Christendom fell, Rome had already capitulated in spirit and was unable to hear or respond to the Byzantine Emperor's appeals for help against the Turkish attack.

The Renaissance cannot be said to come from reaction to excessive discipline of the Roman Church. The Popes were patrons of the arts; and the Church liberally encouraged all those tendencies that went to make this extraordinary phenomenon, which led directly to the Reformation and the end of the Church's great dream of a united Christendom. It was a really astounding age! Look at Florence, where we have Cosimo de Medici, suave, treacherous, cultured money-lender, who had all Plato's works translated at his own expense, and died listening to one of the Dialogues read aloud! Could our age beat that for sheer, unadulterated contradictoriness? And in the same city Machiavelli, an even more significant product of the age, ignoring Greece and steeped in the Roman classics, which gave him the basis of his famous *Prince*, the philosophic exposition of the Devil's creed that the end justifies the means. While in Rome, Cosimo's son, as Leo X, openly unbelieving and pagan, like most of the Renaissance Popes, was actively hastening the disruption of the Church by his wholesale marketing of indulgences.

Pantheism had captured the Christian citadel. Since perhaps the 11th century the hand of the Church had been gradually losing its hold upon the key of Unity, which alone can unlock the door to Jesus of Nazareth's Kingdom of God; and the Church, as she approached closer to the spirit and state of mundane power, herself became a rival to that other State, so that in sheer self-defence she was forced more and more to abandon the idea of it as an immediate and concrete reality, and to transfer Heaven to the sky and the hereafter, there to become a pious hope and an abstraction.

NEWS & VIEWS

M. JEAN ZAY

"Lt. Jean Zay, the French ex-Minister, arrested at Rabat, Morocco, by the military authorities and taken to Clermont Ferrand to be tried for desertion from the army in time of war, was questioned by a military examining magistrate.

"He was assisted by his two counsel, Maitre Alexandre Varenne, a former Governor-General of Indo-China and one of the former leaders of the Socialist group in the Chamber, and Maitre Ferrand.

"It is understood that M. Zay intends to take a third counsel to defend him, Maitre de Monzie, who was Minister of Education in three successive Cabinets in 1932-33, Minister of Public Works in the Daladier Cabinet, 1938, and also Minister of Public Works in

M. Reynaud's Cabinet formed in March of this year.

The military tribunal of the 13th region, before which he is to be tried, will sit at Clermont Ferrand, but the date of trial has not been fixed. M. Zay left France in the liner *Massiglia* with other Ministers and ex-Ministers when Marshal Pétain announced the armistice." — *The Daily Telegraph*, Aug. 30, 1940.

• • •

M. Jean Zay is a Jew and a prominent freemason of the lodge "Etienne Dollet". M. Camille Chautemps is also a freemason, a "Sublime Prince of the Royal Secret"; M. Bonnet is a high official of the lodge "La République"; and M. Yvon Delbos is of the *Tiers Ordres Maconnique*.

BRICKS

At the beginning of the war, local brick companies, it is said, let it be known that unless local orders were given to them they would not be able to pay their rates. Local authorities bought from them, not always the cheapest source, to avoid losing their rates.

The Government, which pays part of the cost of local A.R.P. work, heard of this, and insisted that local authorities should buy in the cheapest markets. Consequently they bought from the national brick works, even if this meant that the bricks had to be carted long distances by rail to the site.

The local companies were cut out. Now, when demand is so heavy that the national companies cannot deal with it, the small companies are closed down. The building of many works of immense importance in the war effort has been delayed by slow delivery of bricks and shortage of bricklayers, at alternating times.

RAILWAY FARES ENQUIRY

At the public enquiry into the proposed increase of fares of the London Passenger Transport Board and the main line railways on September 2, Mr. Moelyn Hughes, who represents a number of local authorities, said that information asked for and promised previously by the Railway Executive Committee, had not been supplied, and that until this information was given it was a waste of time for him to try to cross-examine witnesses, and his position was consequently almost hopeless.

Mr. Comyns Carr, K.C., for various coal interests, said that information promised to him on Tuesday did not reach him until Friday, which was most unfortunate.

Mr. Alfred Taylor, for the Railway Executive Committee, replying to these criticisms, said the committee were prepared to supply the Tribunal with all the information that they had called for. "It is not fair for them," he said, apparently referring to the criticisms, "to complain that they have not been satisfied." The committee had communicated with the Minister of Transport about how far they could go in giving information, and the information they were giving was that which had the approval and consent of the Minister. Mr. Carr again protested against the committee's attitude about questions asked concerning actual receipts, some of which, it had been said, would not be available, but which had been prepared for the Command Paper which had been published. He described this as a 'monstrosity'. "The Railway Executive Committee", he continued, "is coming here demanding an increase in fares and charges which under the arrangement inures primarily for the railway companies, and giving information which suits their fancy and refusing what they don't want to tell us. It reduces this committee to a nonentity."

In further discussion the Chairman said he had no doubt that there were "good reasons why it is not desirable that certain weekly returns should not be produced. The reasons will be obvious to most of us."

Mr. Comyns Carr remarked that no reasons had been given to them.

The Chairman said, "No. It may be undesirable to give the reasons. There are certain reasons which the majority of the people here will appreciate without having it shouted from the housetops."

When Sir William Wood gave evidence for the Railway Executive Committee he was questioned at length by Mr. Comyns Carr on freight charges and on estimates. Mr. Comyns Carr then went on to ask why, when the railway companies had had the benefit of coal at pre-war prices until the contracts fell in, and when they were only required to pay 11 per cent. increase on an average for locomotive coal, should they want an increase of 17½ per cent?

Sir William Wood said that railway rates were not based on the price of coal.

Mr. Comyns Carr then "purported to show" (*The Times*) that of the £44,500,000 sought to be found by the rail and road increases, £17,000,000 was already accounted for on the estimates before him, leaving £27,500,000 to be raised by increased fares and rates.

Mr. Moelyn Hughes then questioned Sir William, and elicited the information that he was still an official of the L.M.S. Railway Company while he was also a member of the Railway Executive Committee. Mr. Hughes said it was clear that in the exercise of control which the Minister of Transport had taken he had set up a Railway Executive Committee to advise him; Sir William Wood responded that they were acting as his agents. Mr. Hughes suggested the committee was in fact running the railways subject to the Minister's direction, and if he wanted to direct anything relevant to that he went to the Railway Executive Committee. Sir William Wood replied "Not necessarily." He said that the committee included four general managers of the main line railways and the chairman of the L.P.T.B. Mr. Hughes said that they were employed by the railway companies. Sir William Wood replied that they were still acting as agents of the Minister. "I challenge you," he went on, "to suggest that I am doing anything else or acting in any other capacity when I am acting on the executive committee. When you suggest that I am acting on the executive committee for my company I am not."

Mr. Hughes said that he was not suggesting that at all. In reply to the Chairman he explained that the purpose of his questions was that the exact status of the Railway Executive Committee should be made quite clear. He was not suggesting any impropriety. He did suggest that as the figures were compiled by a committee which was made up of the chief executives of the railway

companies, which would be the chief beneficiaries of the increases which would be put into effect, the figures should be criticised a little more when they came from that direction than if they had come from a purely outside body. He was not questioning their accuracy.

The Chairman said he interpreted Mr. Hughes's questions as suggestions that the figures might be looked upon as a "little suspect", because they were produced by people who were beneficially interested.

Mr. Hughes continued that that was as far as he wished to take it. He submitted with respect that the questions were quite proper.

Sir William Wood pointed out that the figures in question had been examined by the Minister's experts in detail and had been substantiated by the Ministry.

The enquiry was adjourned.

MORTGAGORS' BOUNTY

As air-raids increase many householders are faced with the prospect of allowing the building society to put in hand the larger repairs and adding the cost to the amount of the mortgage. So that they will soon be paying more for houses which have certainly not been improved.

Occupiers are also feeling that to be charged a fee for a building-society surveyor to inspect the damage is adding insult to injury.

"AS POTENT AS GOEBBELS"

The following is from the "Daily Express" of September 3:

"A year ago this morning, at 11.15 a.m. people went to their shelters for the first time.

"They answered an instinct that told them to get below. For they had been taught, by propaganda as potent as Goebbels, that the syren wail meant destruction. They were victims of an idea.

"Now they know different.

"The daily toll of raiding bombers and escort fighters that fall on our coast mounts. The shelter is by no means the only defence.

"The people have decided that they will not submit to this menace. . .

"They mean to fight their enemy by working. They consider themselves industrial soldiers."

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND MEETINGS

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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 Association: Weekly meetings every Tuesday evening at 7-30 p.m. at the Friends Meeting House, King Street, Blackburn. All enquiries to 168, Shear Brow, Blackburn.

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LONDON LIASON GROUP. Next meeting, Saturday, September 14, at 2-30 p.m. for 3-0 p.m. at 4, Mecklenburgh Street, W.C. 1. Enquiries to Mrs. Palmer, 35, Birchwood Avenue, Sidcup, Kent.

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- Economic Democracy (edition exhausted)
Social Credit 3/6
Credit Power and Democracy ... 3/6
The Monopoly of Credit 3/6
Warning Democracy
The Tragedy of Human Effort ... 6d.
The Use of Money 6d.
Approach to Reality 3d.
Money and the Price System ... 3d.
Nature of Democracy 2d.
Social Credit Principles 1d.
Tyranny 1/6.

By L. D. Byrne:—

- Alternative to Disaster 4d.
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