

THE SOCIAL CREDITER

FOR POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC REALISM

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From Week to Week

Mr. Coldwell, the Socialist (C.C.F.) M.P. who has been in England attending a Conference of Socialists, has given an interview to Canadian newspapers on his return.

Amongst other points, Mr. Coldwell stated that closer contacts between British and Dominion Socialists were arranged, and that the British Labour Party, if elected, will socialise the big industries (*i.e.*, confirm their monopoly and place the power of the State behind it), and that the war-time system of Government purchase and distribution of food and raw materials will be continued after the war, no matter what Government is in office, thus giving monopoly control over production.

So now you know, Clarence. It's straight from the London School of Economics horse's mouth.

The international filibusters, having successfully used the Miners' Federation to expropriate the royalty owners, are now turning their attention to the Colliery Companies' profits. The coal royalty represented about 3d. per ton, and the nett profits represent, according to a letter from Mr. J. A. Cecil Wright, M.P., in *The Times* of November 15, about 6d. per ton.

It is quite obvious that the Big Idea—monopoly with Mond-Turnerism—is in full career in the coal industry. Profits are just a nuisance to the international plotter. He can take anything he needs in money by means of interest on national debts, of which he is the only important owner. Why be obliged to report to shareholders? And dividends give independence. Abolish them.

The terms of reference of the Fuel and Power Advisory Council are: "To consider and advise upon questions, referred by the Minister to the Council, concerning the development and utilisation of the Fuel and Power resources of the country in the national interest." Yes, we know that national interest, Clarence. It speaks with a slight lisp. "The" national interest, in fact.

The London County Council, the Socialist training ground and the proud Alma Mater of Mr. Herbert Morrison, was severely criticised by the Chairman of the Tower Bridge Juvenile Court. A little girl of seven and her brother of ten, had been remanded because their parents were to be charged with neglect. They were both Roman Catholics, and their mother asked that they might go to a convent during the period of remand. Instead, they were separated, and the girl of seven was sent to an L.C.C. remand home at Hammersmith. In this home were forty-four

young girls. Thirteen of these girls of 14 to 17 years old had venereal disease, four of them were thieves, and one of them had attempted to commit suicide.

This is called public ownership and control.

"I believe we must be cautious of recent suggestions which tend to identify freedom of the Press only with Freedom for privately-owned newspapers" declared Mr. ANDREW ROTHSTEIN, President of the *Foreign Press Association*, recently....

"If a private monopoly abuses its power, the public has a right to expose it in the press, on the platform, and by publicity. But imagine the utter powerlessness of the public in seeking redress from the evils, excesses or deficiencies of a Government-owned-and-controlled monopoly in a Socialist economy. The Government would also own and control the Press. Therefore the public could [and would —Editor] be denied expression of its feelings through that medium. The Government would own and control the printing industry, and that avenue of expression would be closed."

—C. BARCLAY-SMITH, *The Answer to Socialism*; p. 96.

It is significant that one of the first acts of the Saskatchewan (Socialist-C.C.F.) Government has been to arrange for the abolition of the post of Lieut. Governor, the representative of the King.

No doubt he will be replaced in due course by a delegate of the New York B'nai B'rith.

It is not so clearly recognised as it ought to be that taxation is simply a method of reducing the individual's control over his future. The individual only shares in the real credit of the country to the extent that he can draw upon it by means of financial credit—*i.e.*, money. Not less, but probably more, guns, ships, aeroplanes, and every other description of production, would have been turned out if the income tax, and every other tax, had been cut by 75 per cent. provided that proper price and wage control had been enforced. Taxation and rationing merely indicate either incompetence or political rancour. One of them is redundant.

The favourite device of the international crook and his bureaucratic agents, however, is debasement of the currency.

Since Government Finance has passed entirely out of the control of Parliament, the House of Lords being specifically barred from any interference with it, and the House of Commons merely acting as a rubber stamp, coin-clipping in its modern and more scientific form has gone on merrily, not merely in war-time, but before. The implacable hostility

displayed in High Financial circles everywhere to the price-regulation proposals of Social Credit is due to the instant recognition of the fact that they are fatal to currency debasement. There is no serious opposition to "stable" currencies, because they are in fact simply a slower form of debasement, just as though you were allowed to keep an apple tree, provided you handed over its increase in size and the apples accruing therefrom.

That the coin-clipping is systematic and not adventitious is obvious from the fact that it is always led by the Post Office, which since the Marconi Scandals has been a key position. The actual debasement contemplated for a given period can be measured with fair accuracy by noting the "price" (not to be confused with the cost) of Post-Office services. The telegraph service to France has just been restored at 3d per word—twice what it was sixty years ago.

The true cost is probably less than one-tenth, so the debasement is twenty times; *i.e.*, the penny is only worth one-twentieth of what it ought to be.

Always bearing in mind that a State is simply an organisational device to enable a few men to control the activities of many, we should still agree that Germans bear a large share of the responsibility, not only for the present war, but for the ideas and objectives which lie behind it. Nevertheless, we are beginning to be highly suspicious of the clamour which would fix the *whole* responsibility upon Germany. There is a great deal too much of the "Hang the Kaiser," "It's that man Hitler," tactic about it. Our suspicions are not decreased by the enthusiasm for Lord Vansittart of the Left-Wing illustrated tabloid published by the Julius Elias (Lord Southwood) interests. Of course, Lord Vansittart may merely be unfortunate in his friends; but we notice that he is very careful not to antagonise them.

Without invoking more esoteric considerations, it is easy to see from the economic and political frictions of the Allies that the virtual elimination of Germany from world politics has accomplished little. We do not say that it has accomplished nothing, because the role of *agent provocateur* is one for which Germans seem peculiarly fitted, and the *agent provocateur* in any form is a public menace. Yet the sudden appearance of Mr. Emanuel (God with us) Shinwell in the dual role of Monopolist-Imperialist ought to make us very thoughtful. The prominence given in *The Times* to the letter of Mr. Will Lawther, in which the claim is made, in the face of every particle of evidence, that "nationalisation" (*i.e.*, uncontrolled monopoly) is the only condition on which the miners will mine coal; the departure of Mr. Horner, the Miners' Federation Secretary, to America; and the intensification of the drive for fantastic electrical generating capacity are all pieces of one jig-saw puzzle in which the future of the common man, so much talked about, and so uniformly betrayed, is once more in the balance.

Perhaps the most significant feature of the *Protocols of the Elders of Zion* controversy is the endeavour to locate their importance in the question of "forgery" or no forgery, to the obscuration of the correspondence with events which alone gives them importance.

That they were not original in the form published by

Nilus is almost certain. It is almost equally certain that they were not merely a plagiarism from Maurice Joly's *Dialogues entre Montesquieu et Machiavel*, published in 1864; but it is more than likely that both the *Protocols* and Joly's parallel passages were plagiarisms from an earlier source not now generally available. But so far from this detracting from the weight to be attached to them, it increases it greatly.

Even if the matter of the *Protocols* dated only from 1905, when they were published, they would be sufficiently striking in their correspondence with events. But, if they were written half a century earlier, they are nothing less than unique. And if the policy which is advocated in them had no challenge but Lord Hewart's book *The New Despotism*, in which they are not mentioned, they would still require a much better explanation than an allegation of forgery. It is no small matter that a Lord Chief Justice of England should lay a charge that the very bases of the Constitution have been, and are being, subverted in a manner specified 75 years earlier.

The disclaimer of the Chief Rabbi, Dr. J. H. Hertz, on behalf of "every Jew" of any responsibility or sympathy with the Jewish murderers of Lord Moyne, illustrates the formidable problem with which the world is faced in dealing with the Jewish race. "The Cairo criminals are men crazed by the fiendish butcheries of their kith and kin in Poland... infected by the evil example of the Mufti's terrorist campaign." So they murder a British official who cannot conceivably have anything to do with either of these matters.

The Paris *Figaro* (February 1932) stated in so many words that Jacob Schiff set up a terrorist organisation "charged to assassinate (Russian) Ministers, Governors, heads of police... and to create insurrection... the cost was estimated at more than fourteen million roubles (£1,400,000). Jacob Schiff was the idol of Jewry. We do not doubt that when a Russian official was murdered, a representative Jew would express the horror of the Jewish community.

It is not hypocrisy. It is the Chosen Race mentality. What do a few unfortunate incidents weigh in comparison with the destiny of Israel?

The long and disastrous reign of Mr. Mackenzie King as Prime Minister of Canada is obviously nearing its end, and, as so often happens, the ostensible agency of his doom is not the real one. The division of the Canadian military forces into a conscript home defence force and a "volunteer" expeditionary force was inept in itself, but could have been defended by an administration with a better domestic record. As it is, the rumour that Mr. King is to step down in favour of General McNaughton is merely additional evidence of his loss of political instinct. The next struggle will be between the Social Crediters and the Communists camouflaged as Liberals, C.C.F. and progressive Labour.

The news that Paris was free stirred the "B".B.C.'s Director-General to an act of Gallic impulsiveness—he ordered a tricolor to be flown from the roof. A sharp-eyed Frenchman phoned to ask the reason. "Paris is free" a delirious voice replied. "Hav'nt you heard?" "Yes" said the Frenchman, "but why are you flying the Dutch flag.?" (*Time*, N.Y.)

PARLIAMENT

House of Commons: November 7, 1944.

RUSSIA (CONSULTATIONS)

Mr. Quintin Hogg: ... How does it come that out of applications for £35,000 worth of advertising in Russian trade journals £34,000 have been refused, as compared with £60,000 accepted on behalf of American newspapers?

Mr. Dalton: ... My only comment is that, in Russia, advertising in the Press is not quite so useful as in certain other countries. The thing to do in Russia is to meet the commissar concerned.

UNITED STATES (EXPORT SUBSIDIES)

Mr. Hammersley asked the President of the Board of Trade if he has any official information on the plans of the Commodity Credit Corporation of the U.S.A. to provide Government subsidies to increase exports from the U.S.A.

Mr. Dalton: Under the United States Surplus War Property Act, which became law last month, authority is given to the Commodity Credit Corporation to sell for export surplus farm commodities at competitive world prices. No details of the Corporation's plans have yet been published.

Mr. Hammersley: Is the House to understand from that that there are not to be any subsidies in connection with these exports of commodities?

Mr. Dalton: I have given the terms of the United States law, which was passed only last month. The farm products, according to our understanding, concern principally raw cotton and wheat. So far, there is no evidence of any intention to subsidise manufactured articles. The subsidisation of farm products may not be to our disadvantage.

INTERNATIONAL CARTELS

Mr. Neil Maclean asked the President of the Board of Trade (1) whether, in reviewing the possibilities of post-war trade, he has under consideration the prevention of agreements between British trading organisations and foreign trading organisations, which will be detrimental to the interests of the British public;

(2) whether he will institute a public inquiry into the operation of cartels and the connection of British firms with foreign firms in the organisation of such trade combinations.

Mr. Dalton: As has been previously stated, no public inquiry will be made into this matter. But I hope that it will be possible to introduce legislation next Session on the lines proposed in Paragraph 54 of the White Paper on Employment Policy.

TYRES

Major Thorneycroft asked the President of the Board of Trade, if he is now in a position to make a statement on the policy to be followed by the Government after the present tyre control comes to an end; and, in particular, what steps he is taking to prevent the Tyre Manufacturers' Conference from establishing a post-war monopoly in this industry.

Mr. Peat: I have been asked to reply. Relaxation of

control must depend, among other things, upon a freer supply of raw materials which is not yet in sight. I am not aware of any suggestions for the establishment of a post-war monopoly in this industry.

Major Thorneycroft: Whether it is for my hon. Friend to reply or not, does he realise that, unless some Member of His Majesty's Government takes an interest in whether a monopoly will be set up or not, all the practices to which I referred in the last question will be reintroduced? Is it not time that the Government set up some machinery whereby these things can be brought to the light of day?

Hon. Members: Answer.

Mr. Peat: The Ministry of Supply may not be in existence when these things will have to be dealt with.

STERLING BALANCES

Sir H. Williams asked the Chancellor of the Exchequer if he will publish a White Paper furnishing full particulars of the sterling balances now standing to the credit of Empire and Allied countries and their relationship to our expenditure and debt position.

Sir J. Anderson: No, Sir. While totals have been published it would not be in the public interest to publish details at the present time.

Sir H. Williams: Would my right hon. Friend give me some indication of when this great secret will be revealed? The other people know about it.

Sir J. Anderson: I do not think they do. It is important to understand the nature of these balances. They are not, in the main, inter-Governmental at all, and they do not figure in the public accounts. They represent an accumulated adverse balance in most cases.

Sir H. Williams asked the Chancellor of the Exchequer in what bank or banks the sterling balances belonging to Empire and Allied countries are kept.

Sir J. Anderson: I am assured that these balances are held with the usual banking correspondents of their owners, but it would not be right for me to institute special inquiry with a view to making the particulars public.

Sir H. Williams: Could my right hon. Friend indicate which of our joint stock banks is now showing an accumulation of about £3,000,000,000 of deposits above its normal deposits?

Sir J. Anderson: It is not necessarily in joint stock banks at all.

Sir H. Williams: Why is it that the Bank of England reveal the fact that they hold many hundreds of million pounds of Treasury bills?

Sir J. Anderson: I think my hon. Friend knows that the relations between bank and client are regarded as confidential.

COAL INDUSTRY

According to replies given in the House of Commons on November 7, 1944 by the Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry of Fuel and Power it is not yet intended to restore the pre-war practice of issuing annual reports of the Mines Department.

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THE SOCIAL CREDITER

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THE COMMON PLAN

A correspondent sends in the following from an issue of the *Chicago Tribune* in 1943:—

Malcolm McDermott, of Duke University, told the North Carolina Bar Association that constitutional democratic government in this country is fast vanishing; in its place there is being foisted upon us national Socialism.

"In order for national Socialism to work," said Mr. McDermott, "certain definite steps must be taken, and they are the same for Fascism, for the two differ in name only.

"1. The people must be made to feel their utter helplessness and their inability to solve their own problems. While in this state of mind there is held up before them a benign and all-wise leader to whom they must look for the cure of all their ills. This state of mind is most readily developed in a time of economic strain or national disaster.

"2. The principle of local self-government must be wiped out, so that this leader or group in control can have all political power readily at hand.

"3. The centralised government, while appearing in form to represent the people, must carefully register the will of the leader or group in control.

"4. Constitutional guarantees must be swept aside. This is accomplished in part by ridiculing them as outmoded and as obstructions to progress.

"5. Public faith in the legal profession and the courts must be undermined.

"6. The lawmaking body must be intimidated and from time to time be rebuked, so as to prevent the development of public confidence therein.

"7. Economically, the people must be kept ground down by high taxes which under one pretext or another they are called upon to pay. Thus they are brought to a common level, and all income above a meager living is taken from them. In this manner economic independence is kept to a minimum, and the citizen is forced to rely more and more upon the government that controls him. Capital and credit are thus completely within control of the government.

"8. A great public debt must be built up so that citizens can never escape its burdens. This makes Government virtually the receiver for the entire nation.

"9. A general distrust of private business and industry must be kept alive, so that the public may not begin

to rely upon their own resources.

"10. Government bureaus are set up to control practically every phase of the citizen's life. These bureaus issue directives without number, but all under the authority of the leader to whom they are directly responsible. It is a government of men and not of laws.

"11. The education of the youth of the nation is taken under control, to the end that all may of an early age be inoculated with a spirit of submission to the system and of reverence for the benevolent leader.

"12. To supplement and fortify all of the foregoing there is kept flowing a steady stream of governmental propaganda designed to extol all that bow the knee and to vilify those who dare raise a voice of dissent."

"I tell you I saw all these steps consummated or rapidly being consummated in Germany in 1936," said Mr. McDermott in his address to the North Carolina Bar Association on "The Lawyer's Place in an Upset World."

"You can readily recognise them as the vital features of national Socialism. They are the cogs that made the Nazi machine work.

"I came to know a German in Munich fairly well as he would talk to me somewhat freely. He told me: 'He [Hitler] has brought us all to a common level,' and then added in a whisper, 'But my God, what a low level.'"

"The Canadian Social Crediter"

"Today and Tomorrow" becomes a National Organ

The Alberta-born Social Credit weekly, *Today and Tomorrow*, has become the official English language organ of the Social Credit Association of Canada, formed in April last at the first National Social Credit Convention, which met at Toronto, and has taken the name, *The Canadian Social Crediter*.

We offer our Canadian brother our best wishes and our thanks for a graceful compliment. To John Gillese, the Canadian writer who has accepted the editorship of the "old friend in new clothes," we send greetings. May he, and we, be ever right in our championship of the world's greatest cause.

Medical Gestapo

"I have nothing, of course, against the Veterinary Surgeon, as such, but it is undeniable that he regards himself as belonging to a superior class of being to his 'patients,' and holds himself as answerable to, and employed by, not them, but another Superior Being of his own class, the owner. Now this is precisely the position of the Human Cattle under a State Medical Service. The interest of 'the State' in your health is much the same as the interest of an owner in his carhorses, namely, that you should be kept fit enough to work at the minimum cost, except, indeed, that the personal feeling and even affection which may exist between a man and his horse are entirely lacking, since you are merely an entry on various forms."

— From *You and the State Doctor* by Charles Mellick.

Electoral Canvass for an Anti-Bureaucratic Representation

"If any suppose that, when an election comes next year, as announced by Mr. Churchill, *unless they take a very effective hand at once and on clearly understood principles*, they will do anything but rubber-stamp an arranged plan, then the lessons of these calamitous years are lost upon them."

The Social Crediter, November 18, 1944.

There is a world-wide, conscious, coalition of High Finance, Grand Orient Freemasonry and Communist-Socialism to bring about world revolution.

The Mond-Turner conference was the first open step in Great Britain.

The present Ministries and Controls are a further progression.

By the agency and complicity of a House of Commons which is an object of contempt wherever its character is known, including the alien quarters whence its stultification has proceeded, the Press (*i.e.*, virtually all of current printed matter, newspapers, magazines and books, for the controls are multiple, ubiquitous and inescapable), the "education" system, and agencies of communication and information, the citizens (electors, 'sovereign people') are forced into a challenge of the whole idea of 'government' as it operates at present.

This idea is that, on the 'result' of an 'election,' which is not truly an election of anything at all even in the most corrupted sense of the word, the whole substratum of men's lives is to be swept from underneath their feet: that by the spinning of a controlled and weighted roulette wheel the objectives of a civilisation are to be frustrated and the fruits destroyed.

The king-pin of this plot is the Bureaucracy itself.

There is no time to lose in pulling it out.

We are assured that, in its essentials, this view, which our journal has been almost exclusively devoted to clarifying since its foundation, is now clearly perceived and accepted by many members of the community.

Their frankness in admitting so much varies directly as the fearlessness of their tempers. Many say they await a 'movement'—*i.e.*, something external to themselves. Doubtless that too is envisaged, though not as a means for the satisfaction of their hopes but rather for the thwarting of them.

It is not enough that 'something' should be done.

It is of paramount importance that the right thing should be done, and at once.

THE FOLLOWING COURSE OF ACTION IS ADVISED:—

SOCIAL CREDITERS IN EVERY PARLIAMENTARY CONSTITUENCY SHOULD BEGIN TO CANVASS FOR AN ANTI-BUREAUCRATIC REPRESENTATION IN THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.

(1) Make known your own refusal to vote for *any* candidate who will not agree to put the reduction of the civil staffs to 20 PER CENT. BELOW THE 1931 FIGURE as the FIRST ITEM ON THE AGENDA.

(2) Wherever you meet the question, "But, what can we do?" say what have you done.

(3) Wherever you meet with the claim that any public agency, whether a candidate for public office or a political organisation, is 'fighting bureaucracy,' enlist its support. Bureaucracy cannot be 'fought' in the abstract, but only in the concrete, and for the purpose of overcoming it without a peradventure. The power of bureaucracy can only be reduced by reducing it.

(4) By all means urge that the displaced bureaucrats be paid (if necessary); but insist that the country cannot stand the added cost of their functioning as well. The bureaucracy may not, of themselves, advance convincing reasons why they should be the first members of the community to receive a National Dividend. It is permitted to do good to them that hate you.

This is not an appeal for the setting up of 'organisations,' but a recommendation to such action as will develop organisation as, when and where it may be required.

Further information will be distributed as the campaign develops.

PARLIAMENT

(continued from page 3)

Information supplementary to the statistical digest of the Department, issued in July last, is given in the Board of Trade Journal. A Parliamentary White Paper is to be issued. A reply to the following question was given on the same day:—

Mr. D. Grenfell asked the Minister of Fuel and Power the quantity of coal mined and raised and the tonnage disposals for each of the half-yearly periods from May 1 to November 1 and from November 1 to May 1, from May, 1939, to November 1, 1944; with separate figures showing output and disposals from opencast workings from November, 1941, to November 1, 1944; and the total sum expended in opencast prospecting and mining during the same period.

NATIONAL FINANCE: SUBSIDIES

Mr. Barnes asked the Financial Secretary to the Treasury how much has been spent on food and other subsidies during each financial year since the outbreak of war.

Mr. Peake: The amounts of the food and other subsidies are shown (for the calendar, not the financial, years) in the Budget White Paper (Cmd. 6520) as follows:—

1939 £20 millions; 1940 £70 millions; 1941 £140 millions; 1942 £175 millions; 1943 £190 millions.

For the current year the present estimate is £225 millions. The subsidies covered by these figures are set out in Note 14 at the end of the White Paper.

PROLONGATION OF PARLIAMENT BILL

Major Lloyd (Renfrew, East): . . . In moving the Second Reading, the Prime Minister emphasised to the House the importance of our keeping together until the end of European hostilities, and the House has most dutifully and willingly complied with all the implications of that request, and is about to give this Bill its Third Reading. The Prime Minister reminded us back-benchers of our obligations to the principle of unity and asked for our continued loyalty to the Coalition Government, and we are going to comply; but I am going to suggest that the obligation lies not only upon back-bencher Members of all parties, but also upon the Government itself. I would ask the Government, with great sincerity and respect, not to allow themselves to yield to the importunities of or political pressure from one partner in the Coalition, so as, by so doing, to strain unduly the loyalty and assent of the other parties. This intervening period which we know is in front of us will not be an easy one. The Prime Minister himself is fully aware of that fact. I would appeal to the Government not to make it harder for us back-benchers of all parties, nor, indeed, harder for themselves, by bringing forward unduly controversial legislation and thus to strain the bonds of unity too far. If the Government do insist upon doing so, and I hope they will not, then they must not be surprised if those of us who are unwilling to sacrifice vital and sincere principles upon the altar of expediency show our disapproval in the Division Lobbies. . . .

House of Commons: November 8, 1944.

STANDARD FACTORIES

Mr. Higgs asked the Parliamentary Secretary to the

Ministry of Works how many standard factories are being erected for post-war production in Great Britain and Northern Ireland; how many are being erected in the mining districts; and from what Vote is he obtaining the necessary funds for this work.

Mr. Hicks: The programme comprises 18 standard factories of which 14 are to be erected in mining districts. They are intended in the first instance for war-time use and will be available later for post-war use. The expenditure is being borne on the Vote of Credit.

Mr. Higgs: Should not greater consideration be shown to owners of blitzed factories; and why are the new factories being erected in mining areas, from which for unknown reasons we cannot get sufficient coal?

Mr. Hicks: The decision to erect the factories is a Government decision.

BRITISH INDUSTRIAL METHODS AND EQUIPMENT

Sir George Schuster asked the Minister of Production whether, having regard to the important facts brought to light by the Report of the Cotton Textile Mission to the U.S.A., he will arrange for similar examinations to be made in regard to other important industries for the purposes of testing British methods, standards of equipment and productivity.

The Minister of Production (Mr. Lyttelton): Examination of the efficiency of our war-time industries against the back-ground of American experience has been a continuous process. . . .

FOOD SUPPLY: PROSECUTIONS

Sir John Mellor asked the Minister of Food why a summons was withdrawn in June, 1944, against the Chief Food Enforcement Officer for London, who, as chairman, was nominally responsible for food offences, of which two members of the London Divisional Food Office canteen committee were convicted; and whether in future private traders will be allowed similar immunity from prosecution in cases where subordinates infringe food regulations without their knowledge or consent.

Colonel Llewellyn: This summons was withdrawn by the Westminster Food Control Committee, who had caused it to be issued. I am informed that this was done because it appeared that no criminal charge could have been proved. No question of immunity from prosecution arose.

Sir J. Mellor: Will my right hon. and gallant Friend be very careful to see that prosecutions are not pressed more harshly against private individuals than they are against public officials?

Colonel Llewellyn: There was no question whatever of that here. In the cases which I believe my hon. Friend is comparing with this case, it has nearly always been a matter of master and servant, or principal and agent, but the common law has never yet gone so far as to say that the chairman or a member of a Committee is responsible criminally for what other members of the Committee may do.

Sir J. Mellor: Is my right hon. and gallant Friend aware that in a number of cases traders have been prosecuted

for offences of which they had no knowledge whatever, and for which they were only nominally responsible?

Colonel Llewellyn: I know that. In some cases it is very necessary to have that power in the background, but I hope that it will not be used unless it is obvious that the servant is really dealing in accordance with the instructions of the master.

House of Commons: November 10, 1944.

MINISTRY OF SOCIAL INSURANCE BILL

Sir H. Williams: . . . The real truth of the matter is that the tyranny of Government is becoming too great in this country. The powers of the Executive, to use the old phrase, "have increased, are increasing and ought to be diminished." The sole justification of Parliament in the old days was to control the power of the Monarchy; to-day it is control over the Monarch's advisers. With regard to the last part of my Amendment, I am willing to admit that in the technical sense it is wrong—Bills are brought forward in haste and we have not as much time to study them as we should like, and it is not the case that the Minister would be debarred from sitting—but from the constitutional point of view I am not wrong. The account which the Deputy Prime Minister gave of the Ministers of the Crown Act, 1937, was very incomplete. . . .

. . . The object of Part 1 was not merely to provide that the other place should have its quota of Ministers, but to provide that this House should not be overwhelmed by the number of Ministers, and that is becoming a real danger. The other day the hon. Member for Westhoughton (Mr. Rhys Davies) asked how many Ministers there are now as compared with 1939. The increase is very large. . . .

We all know the immense influence of patronage; how people who disagree with something, nevertheless go into the Lobby to vote for it, because they do not wish to offend the Whips or the Minister, or hope to get a free trip to the United States, or a peerage or baronetage, or something like that. The power of Government is colossal; indeed the benches are so crowded that some of the Ministers have to sit over here. I call them the "straddle-bugs", the Ministers who sit on both sides; and they draw salaries for it. The Deputy Chief Whip nearly always sits here. Occasionally he goes over to the other side to join his colleagues when he is feeling lonely. The one most recently appointed sits on both sides of this House. That conceals the numbers which now exist, because we cannot count them as we do not see them all in the same place at the same time. I think we must impose some check upon the number of Ministers; it is a major constitutional issue. . . .

Many years ago a Bill was introduced to abolish sinecures. We read in the novels of 150 years ago how the great thing was to get Billy a job in the Excise or something, where he got a good salary and did a bit of black market work in addition. I think any Conservative would pay a great tribute to Mr. Gladstone who, more than anyone else perhaps, swept away those abuses. Now they are coming in again in a new form. I hope that at a very early date the Government will introduce a Measure to amend the Ministers of the Crown Act so as to lay it down that not more than a certain number of Ministers shall be permitted to sit in the House of Commons. . . .

The Communist World Campaign

[By kind permission of the Editor, we give below the text of an article under the above heading in THE PATRIOT for November 2.]

Some interesting details of the development of Communism, more especially in Latin America, were given recently in the Mexican publication *Manana*, which has published the contents of an address by a Chilean Communist, originally given at a secret meeting on 18 May last of the Communist Congress in Mexico. It was translated into French for the Canadian paper *Le Devoir* of 2 August, 1944.

This Communist, by name Lafferte, certainly had a wide knowledge of Central and South America. He showed how Communism has not made much headway in Argentina, Paraguay or Bolivia, but sufficient pressure has been exerted to prevail upon Anglo-Saxon diplomats not to recognise the new Governments in the last two countries, and upon the Argentine Government, he asserted, to the amusement of his audience, that "we have acted in such a way that certain elements disguised as nationalists have obtained the expropriation of Anglo-American interests." In Chile the Communists have a place in the Government, and the hope was expressed that the Brazil Government would help any Communist developments in Paraguay and Bolivia. Costa Rica was stated to have established relations with the U.S.S.R., and Mr. Lafferte added:—

"The activities of our cells in all these Southern republics were helped by diplomatic activities of the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Moscow Government, supported by the State Department in Washington and by the Secretary for Foreign Affairs in Mexico. For, when diplomatic relations are established, the cultural missions, as well as the commercial and financial missions now centralised in Oumansky's Embassy and in the financial offices of the Carp Corporation and the Amtorg Agency in Washington and in similar offices, which will perhaps be established in Canada, will be very helpful for the Communist infiltration in Latin Americas. In a strategic manner branches of the two agencies have been established in Canada to create competition between the industrialists and merchants of the U.S.A. and those of the Commonwealth of British Nations. All the English firms in Latin America will endeavour to sell to the U.S.S.R. through the offices of the Carp Corporation and Amtorg Agency of Canada. All the firms of the U.S.A. on that continent will do the same through corresponding offices in Washington. On the other hand, Russian financial technicians, industrialists and merchants will travel all over the American continent escorted by English, Canadian, and American financiers, merchants and industrialists. This will make our work for obtaining control over the countries of this continent very easy."

As regards cultural work, it was pointed out that "the infiltration by our cells of the student groups of all the countries will promote orientation in the direction of the Russian culture, supported by diplomatic chancelleries. Intellectuals, who, for need of money, will accept collaboration with the offices of the Soviet Government on this continent and with publicity agencies of our propaganda organs in all the countries, will also give a cultural character to the Communist infiltrations. We have Societies of Friends of the U.S.S.R. in Brazil, Colombia, Uruguay, Chile, Costa Rica and Salvador, Mexico, U.S.A. and Canada. Intellectual groups who work for the freedom of France, Poland, Germany, Spain, etc., will also be agents for our cause, as are the groups already organised."

Mentioning that the strongest enemies to Communism were military and religious organisations and capitalistic interests, Mr. Lafferte dealt with some of the countries individually. Thus in Argentina and in Brazil military elements are strongly united with the Catholics in power, and penetration is therefore taking place through cultural missions.

In Colombia the religious problem is very strong, but military elements and the Government favour Communism. Religious and capitalistic interests are anti-Communist in Mexico, Cuba and Costa Rica, with the Governments sympathetic. Oil interests all over the Continent are opposed to Communism and ready to meet any infiltration.

The attitude adopted was explained as follows:—

"When we say that the main endeavour of the Latin American working-class is to obtain full economic and political autonomy, it means that it is necessary to liquidate economic oppression, which presses upon each nationality, at the present moment the oppressions which weigh on the Latin American nation are represented by Wall Street and by London, since French and Spanish capital, not being invested in the principal national resources, can never constitute a danger to the Communist movement or to the Labour movement. Therefore, even if we favour the war of the United Nations against Hitler and Japan, our attack and our orders—as far as South America is concerned—must be directed towards liquidating the Anglo-American capitalism and towards obtaining full economic autonomy, and with it full political autonomy. Later, after the State will have had expropriated for us all those natural resources and all the Anglo-American enterprises, we will take possession of the State by means of political moves.

"Secondly, when our declaration of principles speaks of liquidating the semi-feudal vestige which characterises the South American countries, it means the political and spiritual power of the Catholic Apostolic and Roman Church. . . It will not be an easy job to foil the Catholic Church, which always has been hostile to our cause. For strategic reasons we must seem to sympathise with religions, and even in the U.S.S.R. the Soviet Government was forced to provide facilities to ministers of religion."

It was recognised in this speech that the Church is the main bulwark against Communism, and that its power must be dissolved "before we make proselytes for our cause." Mr. Lafferte made it quite plain that the Communists in South America have no half measures in mind. He said:—

"The tactics of our struggle make it urgent that upon the minds of children, upon the minds of the natives, the minds of the workers and the minds of students the worst accusations should be made against the Catholic Church, to drive them away from it and make them join our ranks as fervent sympathisers of the cause of the future of the world, which we must represent as the cause of Communism protecting the cause of mankind. . . Under the pretext of culture, education, civilisation, philosophy and modern trends we must attack religion. . . We already have a large number of freethinkers, atheists who may easily fall into the ranks of our subordinates, because they are no longer protected by religion."

There was no attempt in this address to conceal the fact that the Communists are members of a world party, and Lafferte mentioned that the work was based on the Union of Soviet Trade Unions, the medium now used for keeping in touch with various Red organisations in other countries, including the trades unions in India, Australia, New Zealand and Africa, while special mention was made of the co-operation with the C.I.O. and the Brotherhood of Railroad Workers in U.S.A., two bodies which have consented to take part in the World Trade Union Congress planned to be held in London early next year. It will be remembered that in May, 1943, the disbanding of the Comintern was heralded abroad as a change of heart in Moscow. There was, however, no need for the Comintern if the work would be done by the Soviet Trade Unions, which are controlled by the Soviet Government, and, as mentioned last week, it is on account of their not being independent that the American Federation of Labour has refused to meet the delegation from Russia at the pending World Trade Union Congress.

In *The Patriot* of May 27, 1943, dealing with the dis-

banding of the Comintern, the opinion was expressed that there would result increased trouble for our Socialists in spurning the advances of the Communists for affiliation. The leaders of the Labour Party continue to express their aversion to having relations with the Communists, but when we have the T.U.C. leaders, who are the mainstay of the Socialist Party, ready to associate with the Soviet Trade Union delegates, who are bound to be Communists and officials of their party, it does not appear as if the aversion was anything more than vocal. The instincts of the Socialist Party are right, but the penetration has begun in its main pillar of support, and, though that penetration is disguised, it is there for those who want to see. In his "Great Contemporaries" Mr. Winston Churchill has described the working of Communism, and there, with the following extract, the matter can be left:—

"Communism is not only a creed; it is a plan of campaign. A Communist is not only the holder of certain opinions he is the pledged adept of a well thought-out means of enforcing them. The anatomy of discontent and revolution has been studied in every phase and aspect, and a veritable drill-book prepared in a scientific spirit for subverting all existing institutions. The method of enforcement is as much a part of the Communist faith as the doctrine itself. At first the time-honoured principles of Liberalism and Democracy are invoked to shelter the infant organism. Free speech, the right of public meeting, every form of lawful political agitation and constitutional right are paraded and asserted. Alliance is sought with every popular movement towards the Left.

"The creation of a mild Liberal or Socialist régime in some period of convulsion is the first milestone. But no sooner has this been created than it is to be overthrown. Woes and scarcity resulting from confusion must be exploited. Collisions, if possible attended with bloodshed, are to be arranged between the agents of the new Government and the working people. Martyrs are to be manufactured. An apologetic attitude in the rulers should be turned to profit. Pacific propaganda may be made the mask of hatreds never before manifested among men. No faith need be, indeed may be, kept with non-Communists. Every act of good will, of tolerance, of conciliation, of mercy, of magnanimity on the part of Governments or statesmen is to be utilised for their ruin. Then, when the time is ripe and the movement opportune, every form of lethal violence from mob revolt to private assassination must be used without stint or compunction. The citadel will be stormed under the banners of Liberty and Democracy; and once the apparatus of power is in the hands of the Brotherhood all opposition, all contrary opinions must be extinguished by death. Democracy is but a tool to be used and afterwards broken; Liberty but a sentimental folly unworthy of the logician. The absolute rule of a self-chosen priesthood according to the dogmas it has learned by rote is to be imposed upon mankind without mitigation progressively for ever. All this, set out in prosy text-books, written also in blood in the history of several powerful nations, is the Communist's faith and purpose. To be forewarned should be to be forearmed!"

As an understanding of Communism the above is hard to beat, and, bearing in mind what Mr. Churchill has written, the European countries in process of liberation from German occupation have strong grounds for insisting that they are not to be handed over to the Communists. In our case, too, the implications go beyond the mere involvement of the Socialist Party. Communism is international in its outlook, and its world-wide development, so much aided by this war and under supremely efficient direction, is the danger which must be faced before it has a chance to get control. This control, as is shown in Soviet Russia, is the control by a despotic group, Communist commissars, under which all, including the workers, have equality—the equality of slaves.