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From Week to Week

In the Provincial Elections in New Brunswick, which have just been decided, the C.C.F. which *The Times* has now decided to call Labour, contested 41 seats, and sustained 41 defeats. No flowers, but condolences sent to the London School of Economics would no doubt be appreciated. The next-of-kin in New Zealand, (Mr. Walter Nash) and in Australia, (Dr. Evatt) have been notified.

The Times published a leader dealing with the Alberta Elections, without mentioning Social Credit. Fifty-one out of fifty-seven Members elected are Social Credit, and forty-six out of forty-seven of what *The Times* calls "Labour" (C.C.F. International Socialist) were defeated.

General Eisenhower's Triumphal Presidential Election March down the Boulevard des Champs Elysées doesn't seem to have made a great hit in Europe; but we have no doubt that the American public will take it seriously. Probably not a small fraction of one per cent of the electorate realise the significance of landing the American troops at Isigny, protected from every wind west of N. by E., and impossible of heavy garrisoning by the German Command under threat of landing further east, while the British and Canadians were landed on the open beaches to protect them. The Battle of France was the Battle of Caen; and we have not much doubt that the Americans will hear about it from the Canadians later on.

We are accustomed to injury by the powers that be, but it is little short of amazing that we accept insult so meekly. It is only twenty-six years since the last "peace" broke out, yet the same old clichés are being handed out to us. More production, more exports: we are a poor, poor nation, and only much harder work will save us. More controls for the British, but less controls for the alien. If our house isn't big enough to accommodate our alien friends, encourage or force the native-born to emigrate to make room for them; otherwise charity doesn't begin at home, as Dr. Hugh Dalton of the Fabian Society points out. Sell a minimum of war-produced wealth to the people who paid for it, and use the money to pay the bankers who created it out of nothing. Whiskey making is to be resumed, but only for export, so that we may get used to paying thirty shillings for a bottle of diluted spirit which was sold, undiluted, for 3/6 within living memory.

After all, Clarence, people get the Government they deserve. If we really want more electric power, which is quite

undemonstrated, what interests are blocking the Severn Barrage Scheme, which seems to offer the maximum return for the minimum loss?

The Meeting of the so-called Labour Parties, of Great Britain and the Dominions Overseas, should be watched carefully. A fair conception of the relationship to what used to be called Labour, may be gained from a contemplation of the "Canadian" delegates, M. J. Coldwell, M.P., C.C.F., Mr. David Lewis, C.C.F., Professor Frank Scott, C.C.F., Mr. C. Gillis, M.P., C.C.F., Mr. Percy Ellis Wright, M.P., C.C.F.

The claim of the C.C.F. to represent Canadian Labour is as valid as that of the Seven Tailors of Tooley St. to introduce their programme with the preamble "We, the people of England." There is not a single member of the delegation who could earn a decent living at any craftsmans job. Without exception, they belong to that well-paid and swelling group, the Mond-Turnerists, the chosen instrument of the international cartels. Some of them may be careful to assure themselves that it is their noble sentiments which gain for them the fullest publicity in the international press of the world's capitals; some of them are probably under no delusions. For the general public, the important fact to note is that this pseudo-Labour Socialist Cartel, with its international agreements and its immense financial backing, is just as dangerous as any other cartel, not least to its own dupes.

The whole of the Communications Service between S.H.A.E.F. and the Continent is supervised by David Sarnoff, the American Jew financier.

Religions may be more than philosophies—the love of wisdom—but they are either philosophy or they are nothing. And as every philosophy has a policy, it is legitimate to judge its validity by its fruits. It was, and in some quarters still is, the fashion to deride the various divisions of the titular Christian Church as being ridiculous and petty, and to the layman, with whom, of course we are numbered, these differences in doctrine might appear anachronistic as well as trivial.

But when we notice the sociological outlook which seems to accompany certain "schisms" the question is removed from the domain of specialist theology, and becomes one for the consideration of the man in the street. It may be accidental but probably is not, that Canterbury, which stands in relation to the Church of England as Rome does to the institution from which it seceded, gives title to two ecclesiastics whose pronouncements, whether they are aware

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Sabotage of Executive Ability

The following is the text of a speech by Mr. Eric Kempson, formerly headmaster of the Royal Naval College, Dartmouth, at a meeting of the College of Preceptors in October, 1943, when a report by Sir Cyril Norwood was under discussion:—

... The ninth recommendation of the Norwood Report is that the School Certificate Examination shall be conducted by the teachers at the schools on syllabuses and papers framed by themselves. Hitherto the universities through the school certificate have controlled the school curriculum. Now the school curriculum, up to 16, is to be taken out of the hands of the universities and put into the hands—not of the local education authorities, nor even of the governing bodies but into the hands of the headmasters and staffs of the schools. Within reasonable limits the staffs will be free to teach what and how they think best.

Parents and pupils who had no contact with or influence upon the universities which up to now control the secondary school curriculum have close contact with the staffs which may control the curriculum of the future and, if they have the courage, they can make their views felt.

The schools are to serve seven more years for the promised freedom. Still—soon or late—there is to be freedom and this with experience, faith, courage and common sense means freedom for revolution—or so it seems.

The Norwood Committee realising perhaps what might result; having made a show of giving freedom with one hand have taken it away with the other and by their recommendation they provide a School Leaving Examination at 18 to be conducted by the university. This is for the secondary grammar school—the successor to the secondary school of to-day.

The school, up to now gripped round the body and expecting shortly to be free to move finds itself clamped by the neck and unable to do more than wriggle its stern.

The Norwood Committee proposes three types of secondary school:

The Secondary Grammar School.

The Secondary Technical School.

The Secondary Modern School.

Of these three, in the opinion of the Committee—whatever they may say to camouflage their beliefs (and it isn't much)—the secondary grammar school ranks first. This, the secondary school of to-day under a new name, is to have a normal school life to 18 years as against 16 years for the technical and modern schools.

We are told that the three types of school are to have parity of conditions (whatever that may mean) but that parity of esteem must be won by the schools themselves.

The direction of pupils to the different types of secondary schools should depend (according to the Norwood Committee) upon the judgment of the teachers in the primary schools. Well the primary school teacher, himself an ex-grammar school pupil with a strictly academic education, will judge from the academic point of view. He will regard the secondary grammar school as superior to the other two. He will have in mind the university scholarship as the blue ribbon of achievement in the secondary grammar school. And so the best brains will go to the secondary grammar school

and the best teachers will go there too, so as to teach the best brains, and parity of esteem will not be achieved.

It is repeated again and again in the Norwood Report that there is a special type of pupil who at 11 to 13 years of age values knowledge for its own sake; that the grammar school is specially suited to this type and it is implied that the primary school teachers will select this type and direct them to the grammar schools. That's the theory.

In practice the universities are to retain their stranglehold on the grammar school through the School Leaving Examination. This examination now becomes the gateway to the learned professions, to the higher administrative and business posts and to the Civil Service. Whatever branch-roads may be allowed to turn off from it, the main road leads straight through this gate.

It will be for this reason, not because they desire learning for its own sake, that parents and pupils and primary school teachers will esteem the grammar schools first.

The Norwood Committee—all of them academic, intend that the best brains of the country shall be kept to a strictly academic course. Some benefits they do provide to the second and third rate brains in the secondary, technical and modern schools—enough perhaps to keep them quiet, but their chief care is that the ablest shall do just as they themselves did.

The secondary grammar schools of the future will be as rigidly academic as the secondary schools of to-day. And the growth of the secondary grammar school type of education over the past century has been contemporary with the decline of pretty well every known art and craft, (engineering and some branches of science excepted).

Formerly higher education was for a privileged class. If some of the best brains of this class did receive a purely bookish education and settled down to a life of cultured leisure in the Civil Service; there were yet plenty of best brains in the unprivileged classes who had to enter the ranks of the practical workers, but they were starved in their education.

But now the civil servants are not going to be men of leisure; they are going to direct and administer every branch of active practical life and for this their strictly academic education will have made them quite unfit.

Fewer and fewer of the best brains will work by hand or with machines. The quality of the work done will go down and down for the workers won't have enough brains and those who direct won't know good work from bad.

In the opinion of the Norwood Committee the elements of education are three:—

- (i) training of the body—games, sports and physical training.
 - (ii) training of character.
 - (iii) training in the habit of clear thought and experience.
- Arts and crafts?—No. These are of small account to the academical.

So it has been, and so it is to be, man's skill among the intellectual products of the grammar schools and universities is confined to acrobatics in sports and games.

The Committee do not realise the poverty of the so-called intellectual mind whose education is derived solely from books and mainly from text-books.

Their attitude towards Art, Craft and Music is often quite polite and in a condescending way is sometimes even

complimentary—like that of an afternoon visitor who is unwillingly introduced to his hostess's unwelcome children.

If you want to know what they really think, read what they say in the section of the Report which deals with these subjects:—

"There has been perhaps in the past a tendency now happily less marked to regard as necessary in the pupil some degree of executive ability."

In another section they say:—

"We are anxious that all children and not least the older should have the opportunity of seeing the place of Art in the spiritual and social and economic life of the present and past."

What does this mean? Unless it means vastly more in the way of art and craft work than what we have in the secondary schools to-day and seem likely to have in the grammar schools of to-morrow, then it is just eye-wash, and poor of its kind. And that from the whole tenor of the report is just what it is.

Now listen to this passage, which I quote from a document quite as authoritative as the Norwood Report:—

"From sure grasp of material and the practical use of tools upon it there results—sound learning—the power to distinguish what is known and half-known, ease of movement within a limited area, the application of a fact or a method learnt in one circumstance to the needs of another, a belief that small things matter, detection of relevance, accuracy and precision, satisfaction with a small task well done, dislike of pretentiousness, honesty of thought and sincerity of expression. These may sound ambitious terms to apply to the work of a child of eleven or fourteen years of age; they stand none the less for something which at humble levels the master can detect, in which he rejoices, and in which he finds his reward."

This remarkable passage is stamped all over with the marks of literal truth. Indeed it does just sum up the values that modern education has almost lost sight of. There is something else remarkable about it, namely, that it is quoted almost verbatim from page 63 of the Norwood Report itself.

In the light of other quotations incredible!

Well the key to the mystery is that this academic committee were blind to the literal truth of their own words. They used these words in a metaphorical sense only, applying them only to the study of books.

Unless the grammar school pupils are to be turned out half-baked, then a half share in the curriculum must go to what is not books—Art—Crafts—Music—Physical Training.

"A broad education might be based upon very few subjects handled by a teacher with breadth of outlook."

"We ask for less learning and more soundness."

Quotations again from the Norwood Report!

A friend of mine who is inclined to scoff at my ideas wrote to me:—

"Has anyone yet thought of an easier way of wasting time in a school than through the medium of practical work?"

To this I answered:

"I don't know about easier but certainly more effective—it is to spend eight hours a week for five years studying Latin at the end of which you cannot speak or write it and can barely read it!"

Your academical sets great store by the study of the Classics; he forgets that some of the greatest achievements of Ancient Greece were in art and architecture; that the

Greeks did not spend their time studying dead languages.

To set the secondary grammar school quite free from university control is essential if the schools are to get dignity. To put the practical arts and crafts in a position of dignity is essential if our best brains are to grow to full strength.

But even these two together are not enough.

We must make the rise to positions of responsibility in the administration of Industry, in municipal and Government service and in teaching possible only for those who have worked successfully with their hands or with machines. For this I urge a compulsory period of national service with pay of not less than three years of labour by hand or with machine in workshops, farms, mines, on the railways, at sea—where you will. Provided it is the real thing—this service to come between school and university and to be joined with part-time study.

The Norwood Committee has a notion which seems akin to this and proposes a six months' gap for some kind of National Service between leaving school at the end of March and entering the university in the beginning of October. The Committee are not concerned with the content of this national service, but they regard the gap (which, by the way, would soon dwindle into four months) as a healthy relief between two academic courses, and so it is. As far as it might be concerned with an attempt to get real knowledge of an art or craft or some other practical side of life, six months is worth almost nothing.

Naturally the universities will control their own entrance examinations, but at a distance of three years these examinations would lose much of their influence on the school curriculum.

For some reason, which I have not fathomed, your university graduate who lacks practical knowledge is esteemed by some as a cut above a blacksmith who lacks higher education. In fact the blacksmith may be superior in this that he is at least conscious of his own defect. The right answer is to make good both defects.

Finally—if you have any love for an art or craft, don't let the academicals get a grip on it; they will cut the heart out of it, stuff the cavity with text-books on appreciation, and smother the already dead body with diplomas.

"NOT THE TUMULT BUT THE DESIGN"

Commenting on the premature announcement of the liberation of Paris, and the fact that the news of the victory of Trafalgar was true even if it took weeks to reach England, *Truth* observes:—

"The B.B.C., as usual on big occasions, went to pieces; it rushed out a programme intended to portray the spirit of Paris. The least said about this painful performance the better. In the Press, the barricade-by-proxy merchants had a grand time, and filled columns with hysterical, if inaccurate, comparisons of to-day's events with those of 1789 and 1871. These rhapsodical writers made it quite plain that for them the defeat of Germany and Japan is not the end of the war. They will not be happy until barricades are manned—by others—not only on the mainland of Europe but in Britain."

It's the little occasions on which the "B."B.C. doesn't go to pieces that worry us. Write them down: they are evidence. There might then be some chance of fitting the headaches to the right heads.

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Place-seekers

As the last fruits ripen and the winds change from warm to blustering, man turns to his winter of work and woman also, not so much to hers as to his—the 'helping hand.' A society which steadfastly declines to be acquisitive turns the more feverishly competitive as its competency diminishes; troubles multiply.

One must not mistake the particular for the general, and it is probably untrue that the townswomen who still loiter in lanes far from the metropolis when their husbands have gone reluctantly to "get on with the war" are all hunting for an academic person still also loitering in order to find a place for their daughters in the alien-infested universities to which entry would normally be easy. It seems like that, and that the young women who struggle for seats on our new change-at-every-other-station "system" of rail transport are mostly engaged in a game of musical chairs round the university towns of the country to find a vacant place. London is full and Birmingham is full, and Manchester is full, and Liverpool is full, and Aberdeen is a long way off, and anyhow is Scots; and if they don't get in somewhere they're afraid they'll have to do something else or be called up, which would be a pity after running all the way and getting eight "credits" a year ahead of time.

This is another aspect of what good Mr. Eric Kempson has to say, whose typescript, printed on another page, reached us after these lines were written. Mr. Kempson has lately broadcast an opportunity which, possibly, his demand for a compulsory period of national service for youngsters has gained for him. He said nothing else to deserve the favour of the B.B.C., and that is the next highest praise we know (of Mr. Kempson, of course) to saying that everything he said would be anathema to them. Most of it undoubtedly was (if, indeed, the B.B.C. understood it). And, after all, if Mr. Kempson's advice were taken, and if the so-called 'education' of the young were interrupted by a salutary dip into realities before we made rulers of them (either by office-holding or by vote-casting) the 'system' might receive more radical adjustment than seems now possible. Mr. Kempson's vision is at least directed to a fact; and that is the fact that, to borrow Douglas's fine description, "a bad workman does bad work with any tools, and in addition spoils good tools." Mr. Kempson doesn't like bad workmanship, and he doesn't like to see good tools spoilt. Why he wants (if he does want it) a world fantastically over-supplied with good workmen and unspoilt but wholly superfluous tools is another matter. Whether we like it or not there is something that goes to

the root of human happiness in Mr. Kempson's story of an education committee chairman who had spent his boyhood "month after month rubbing down lithographic stones."

"Perhaps you could not imagine," he said, "a more soul-killing job, but it wasn't. Even now, I could rub my thumb across a lithographic stone and tell you just what it was worth."

There may be something in the idea that if, after getting 'educated,' our voters could rub their thumbs over the blue-prints of the planners 'and tell you just what they're worth,' education would not have done them nearly the harm it does.

Probably these matters are relatively clear to a large number of people who have somehow escaped from the net of 'education.' The problem is partly political but preponderantly strategical. And so back to our scheming mothers, outwitted by the doctors and the deans. There is a Jewish Board of Guardians; but there is no such thing, and in the same sense there never has been such a thing, as an *English* Board of Guardians. We must bear in mind that the English—to a degree exceeding even the Scots, the Irish and the Welsh—are, by nature, predisposition and design, totally unguarded. (The charitable reader will bear in mind that these are holiday-lines, written in the erstwhile Principality of Wales). From these fastnesses, we can safely assure Mr. Kempson that it is quite useless to arm, against a Dean of Faculty, an Englishwoman with a seventeen year-old daughter who wants to "do" medicine, with weapons constructed from the philosophy of education. Even if she understood them (which she doesn't) or could use them (which she can't) they would splinter like lath, or crumple like paper, before the dense armour of ignorance of a modern university dean. The aliens know better; the clever aliens just learning to lisp our tongue, the pigmy, ill-nourished, crafty aliens whose fathers never learnt to lisp our tongue, but made their "memorable contributions to science and civilisation" in an altogether different tongue. These all alike were fortified by minute instruction in the meaning and intention of the Regulations and the Art of getting 'em changed when the intention was (obviously) a wrong intention. They found out how to do what they wanted to do—and to hell with "education." In consequence the Regulations suit them reasonably well, and don't suit Englishwomen with seventeen-year-old daughters at all.

The "Government" has accepted the current confusion between the organic and the mechanical (in public at all events) and wants more and "better" doctors. So "it" keeps the entrants back a year at the start, turns them into (unpaid) assistant practitioners for six months at the end, occupies half their effective study time with military training, stretcher-bearing, fire-watching, "emergency" services of various kinds, curtails the availability of teachers and text books, finds them semi-profitable employment in vocations, subjects them to a barrage of public criticism on the score of their 'privileges,' threatens them with a perpetuity of 'direction to employment' (on terms to be accepted and not argued about) and snubs them by its marked preference for the "victims of [another] tyranny." The financial (and of course the material) "cost" of all these attentions, scarcely calculated to ingratiate, is discharged by the suffering public, present and to come. The authority, if any, for the

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PLANNING THE EARTH (III)

By GEOFFREY DOBBS

The strong resemblance between the American New Dealers and the British Planners was pointed out in the U.S.A. Congress by Congressman McFadden (May 3, 1934) who reported Mr. Sieff, of P.E.P., as having said, "let us go slowly for a while until we can see how our plan works out in America." The New Deal, as a whole, was not a success, but the Tennessee Valley Authority seems to have been selected for publicity as the most successful part of it. In this country, the suggestion of Mr. Ellis Smith in Parliament that we should set up a number of regional "T.V.A.s" in depressed areas, was, no doubt, a trial shot on behalf of P.E.P., which did not come off very well, but was intended to air the subject.

The reception accorded by the ordinary British citizen to the attempt at regional control of the 'special' areas before the war, and to the war-time Regional Commissioners, even during the acute emergency of 1940, has given a sufficient indication that the idea of industrial and social planning by local dictatorships will not readily be accepted here. However, as the late Lord Stamp told the British Association in 1937, the development of social control must be 'experimental' at first, and must be carried out with the appropriate educational and psychological adjustments.

The Tennessee Valley Authority started straight away with the control of a river system, and of electric power, from which followed town planning, land planning, social and domestic planning by the Authority. In the British Isles, owing, probably, to a greater instinctive opposition from the people, the course of Planning has been slower and more devious, but nevertheless has included the same features, piecemeal, and in a different order, water control coming comparatively late in the day. With the aid of two German wars and a Bankers' Slump the plans of the Fabian-P.E.P. Group have now made such headway that they are beginning to go beyond the purely legalistic stage, in which the chief weapons are psychological—monetary, or bureaucratic, restrictions, and control of propaganda and education—and to seize hold of the material sanctions implicit in the control of soil, water and sources of energy.

Towards this end we have evidence of great effort: the long-term land taxation programme aiming at the destruction of security in land tenure, and leading up to the more recent Land Planning Acts and proposals; the pre-war restrictive Marketing Boards, and the war-time agricultural controls; the growing grip on food of the Chain Stores and Co-operatives, reaching its climax in Lord Woolton's Ministry of Food; the recent White Paper on water, the Scottish Hydro-electric Scheme, the Electricity Grid, the Nationalisation of Coal, and the Petroleum Pool.

Since an emergency is the invariable excuse for a dictatorship, the creation of an emergency is a necessary preliminary to the establishment of a dictatorship in any form. In Tennessee the normal manipulation of the Debt System seems to have been sufficient to bring about, not merely poverty and confusion, but even the destruction of the soil. In our climatically more fortunate country the physical effects have so far been less obviously disastrous; but if we go on the reasonable assumption that a few, at least, of the Planners

know what they are doing, it is true enough to say that no effort in the way of dictated chemical-plus-tractor farming, infuriating restrictions, time-wasting forms and regulations, and the deliberate penalising of improvements by taxation, has been spared to bring about a like result.

As an example of deliberately chaotic planning so fantastic as to be barely credible, the Town and Country Planning Act of 1932 takes a lot of beating. This Act, which initiated Land Planning by laying down 'zones' to be determined by the Planning Committees of the local authorities, according to the use to which the land was to be put, provided no category at all for agricultural use! This presumably intentional 'accident' was clumsily made up for in 1938 by an amendment which permitted the allocation of land to agriculture as a kind of industry. The position is now so confusing that it has naturally stimulated a 'demand' for a more comprehensible and unified plan.

This 'demand' has been further nurtured by the Town and Country Planning Bill of 1944, which deals with the rebuilding of the conveniently devastated towns of Great Britain, and is alleged to be equally confusing. The outcry about the inadequacy of this has already been considerable, and may be expected to prepare the ground for the comprehensive Land Planning Proposals of the Government with which Dr. Dudley Stamp (Adviser to the Ministry of Agriculture and brother of the late Lord Stamp) seems to be closely associated.

A brief resumé of some of the proposals, as given by Dr. Stamp himself to a meeting of the Geographical Society of a London College, may here be useful. The lecture was, amusingly enough, advertised under the title "Soil Fertility." The only reference to this subject matter which the lecturer made was the statement that the intrinsic fertility of soil did not matter, as it could always be 'put in'; what mattered was the physical 'workability' of the soil.

The lecturer was entirely devoted to an account of the Land Classification Scheme of the Ministry of Town and Country Planning, illustrated by large printed wall-maps of England and Wales divided up in accordance with the scheme. There are three major and ten minor categories, as follows:—

I Good Agricultural Land

- (1) First Class—all factors favourable.
- (2) Good General Purpose.
- (3) First Class but high water table.
- (4) Good heavy land.

II Medium Agricultural Land

- (5) Light.
- (6) Medium General Purpose.

III Poor Land

- (7) Poor Heavy.
- (8) Poor Mountain.
- (9) Poor Light.
- (10) Useless for Agriculture.

These classes were said to be based upon established geographical principles, and—as Dr. Stamp pointed out in a significant 'aside'—there is to be no escape from them.

As illustrations of their proposed practical application: Class 1 land, comprising about 40 per cent of the surface of the country, is to be reserved for agriculture, and the

public, other than agricultural workers, are to be kept completely off it. Class II (6) land, Medium General Purpose, somewhat hilly or rolling, poorish land, provides scope and interesting problems for the Town Planner, and *therefore* is ideal for housing. Good land is not to be wasted on gardens, but you might be allowed an allotment on it. You may live on grade 6 land, grow roses, if you want to, on grade 7 and picnic on grades 8, 9 or 10— and there is to be no wriggling out of the regulations!

It seems probable that if the distinguished lecturer, who is nothing if not astute, had been addressing an audience more mature and less favourably inclined towards the idea of rule by 'geographical principles' than a group of Geography students, he would have been more cautious about explaining its results in everyday terms.

It also seems fairly clear that we are not yet ready for this sort of thing, and it is believed that a police system less lenient and amenable to public feeling than the Gestapo will be necessary before the natives of these Islands will submit to any such basic interference with their lives. Meanwhile, however, under cover of the War, which leaves little energy to spare outside Government and Planning circles, the Bills pour through Parliament with little opposition, and the trouble to come when their application is attempted accumulates.

The Scottish Hydro-electric Scheme passed in 1943 bears, on the face of it, the greatest resemblance to that of the Tennessee Valley Authority. It contains provision for the characteristic ingredients—amongst others, the destruction of a number of valleys, the compulsory dispossession and movement of the people who have farmed them for generations, the artificial accumulation, in several places, of a large bulk of water behind a dam, with destructive powers recently well demonstrated in Germany as a result of the efforts of our 'dam-busting' airmen. In one respect, indeed, it goes further even than the Tennessee Valley Authority, in so far as the power which is to be generated is not, apparently, even alleged to be intended for the benefit of the rural population, which is here so sparse as not to be considered worth the bribing. If any of this huge new power output which is to be linked to the Grid is intended to reach the individual consumer it can only be in the large towns. The devastating effects of a minor breakdown in a centralised electricity service upon life in a modern city are now familiar to most of us. 'The trend' of propaganda and advertisement is all in favour of electricity rather than gas, which is not capable of such extreme centralisation. The 'modern' house, and especially the pre-fabricated Government hutch, is essentially 'all-electric,' which thus places the maximum sanction in the hands of an electric power monopoly.

Electricity, however, as a means of control over the individual, can touch only the amenities and appurtenances of life. Water, being a necessity of life itself, its control is correspondingly more serious. The effect on the underground water level of the development, during the last half-century, of the progressively growing water monopolies of the great urban areas is already sufficiently serious, as pointed out by the Earl of Portsmouth in the Debate on Rural Water Supply, (House of Lords, April 26, 1944). The drainage subsidy of the Ministry of Agriculture is also hastening the progressive drying up of surface springs, ponds and wells, (as pointed out by C. H. Gardner in *The Times*,

January 4, 1944) thus helping to create the state of emergency essential to the next step in the control of water.

We are now definitely threatened with the establishment of a system of regional water monopolies covering the whole country which will have the power to divert surface or underground water 'where the need is greatest' in the estimation of the controllers, and will enable them to achieve the Soviet aim of 'disciplining' those 'who will not toe the line.' This is one of the ultimate physical sanctions against that security and independence of the individual which the reviving knowledge of the nature of soil fertility is extremely likely to restore, if allowed to operate freely; (the other being the centralised control of food).

It is not that a material sanction is necessarily the most deadly, but inertia being a property of matter, if we allow our physical environment to be moulded on a massive scale so as to serve the ends of central control, we are likely to find that the chains so forged will take, not generations, but ages, to break. We shall be back where civilisation started with Egypt and Babylon and Imperial Rome. Nothing but the destruction of our environment will set us free.

It is not, even, that such massive material machinery as dams, aqueducts, power houses, *etc.*, are indestructible. On the contrary, they have always been more easily destroyed than built, and are now vulnerable to instant attack by aircraft, which necessitates a permanent system of defence, which in turn, by itself imposes upon the people, and upon industry, a considerable measure of permanent 'war emergency' control. The fact seems to be that such mechanisms impose habits upon the people, which are far more indestructible than stone or steel or concrete; and they are all habits of dependence—upon an irrigation system, upon aqueducts, upon a piped water supply or sanitation system, upon electric current for heat, light and cooking. Until recently these material amenities have been under relatively local control, although things like radio, newspapers, cinemas, have been more and more remotely centralised. Now the process has spread from the psychological to the material. The incarnation of a mental attitude is taking place, but though the matter reinforces and petrifies the mind, it is the mind which is lasting, the matter which is temporary. It is a safe conjecture that the dams which our airmen destroyed in Germany with such appalling effects upon the people in the neighbourhood, will be built up again at the earliest opportunity.

The need for the defence of these large power plants has been mentioned, but they have also a closer and more essential link with war. The enormous power output of the modern industrial state can serve no other purpose if it is to be fully employed.

Correspondence in the Scottish Press recently (August, 1944) has raised the important question of what can be the purpose of the vast increase in electric power planned under the Scottish Hydro-electric Scheme. Seeing that British Industry is already provided with more than eight times what it needed for the 1914-18 War, and four times what it contrived to use in 1930, the suggestion that we have not enough power, even for the most extravagant peacetime consumption, will not bear examination.

In this connection, a further quotation from the last paragraph of the P.E.P. Broadsheet on the Tennessee Valley

Authority is extremely relevant:

"Many other points would call for comment if space permitted—for example, the part played by army engineers in pioneering with survey work and the fact that the War Department actually drew up the plans for the Norris dam and directed the work at Wheeler Lock and elsewhere. Nearly two hundred years ago military engineers were road-building in the Scottish Highlands—why should they not be used now in Great Britain?"

Once more we have the same pattern, the preparing of the emergency as a preliminary to the further extension of control. The emergency which suits our Planners best, as we have good reason to realise at the present time, is War. War is implicit in centralised power. It is not clear how many more wars, slumps, and other emergencies are to be arranged for us in the course of further centralisation, but one thing is reasonably certain; the establishment of a World Empire, upon a foundation of vast spiritual and material forces, is the manifest end towards which 'Planning' developments in America, Russia and Great Britain, as well as the Axis countries, are all converging.

(To be concluded)

Publicity in Australia

(Continued)

(The following is the conclusion of a Referendum broadcast from H.O. Hobart, Tasmania, a part of which appeared in the last issue of THE SOCIAL CREDITER:—)

The Party System has destroyed Democratic Government, and this is being slowly recognised as the taxpayer finds that each new Government takes a fiendish delight in giving another turn to that modern instrument of torture—the tax-collecting machine.

The whole legal—or illegal—system on which a Government bases its right to penalise minorities must be dragged out into the light of day, and examined in the light of political realities. We shall have to rid ourselves of the modern jargon and high-sounding phrase designed to trap well-meaning, but immature young men and women.

The majority have the right to decide the general policy of their district; they have the right to elect representatives to govern that district. This democratic control of policy works very well under certain definite conditions. These essential conditions are:

1. That the district be small;
2. That the people have a free choice of candidates;
3. That the people know what they are voting for.

In Federal elections none of these essential conditions has applied, and nowhere is there in existence to-day a large State which can call itself Democratic, or has any possibility of calling itself such.

No Government has any right to do just what it likes, but our modern intellectuals, backed by much finance and generous publicity, have captured our youth and held up the Germanic model of Scientific State Management as the quintessence of "Good Government."

The tragic experience of the Dictator countries does

not deter our pseudo-intellectuals from still worshipping the tattered and blood-stained God of Socialistic Germany—the all-powerful State ruling by divine right. And strangely enough, those who have shouted loudest in condemnation of Fascism are the very people who are working day and night to introduce it into this country.

No Government has a right to do just what it likes, and this has been recognised for centuries,—until our new education got under way. The Bill of Rights, Habeas Corpus and Magna Charta have been the monuments erected by the British people in their long struggle against irresponsible rule.

The right of each State to look after its own affairs is enshrined in the Australian Constitution; many attempts have been made to destroy the Constitution, but the people of Australia have had, up to date, sufficient political instinct to stand firm and held on to what they had until they found something better.

No Government has any right to do just what it likes, and the time is ripe for the preparation of a new Declaration of Rights to protect the ordinary man and woman from Government officials drunk with power.

This last week the State Caucus and its regimented—"Yes" men passed a Bill for £1,000 to pay the legal expenses of Mr. Dalton, ex-minister of the State Cabinet, who was successfully sued in Court for damages by a private individual.

Here is a case where an official used the tremendous powers of coercion associated with modern governments to victimise a private individual. This man had the temerity to take the Minister to Court and he won his case. But the minister doesn't pay—the taxpayer has to pay. Isn't that nice! The taxpayer, if he loses, pays; if the taxpayer wins, he still has to pay.

And what taxpayer can risk a thousand pounds expenses fighting a Government official? Can any working man afford that?

This case represents one action of a minister which the public by accident is allowed to see, but what about all those cases of victimisation the public doesn't see?

The public do not yet recognise that presently all the Common Law, from Magna Charta onwards, erected painfully and slowly by many generations for the protection of the ordinary man and woman against their Governments have been swept aside, by regulations.

I am not referring here merely to War Regulations, but to regulations promulgated by the vast Government Departments since the last war.

The Federal Taxation Department... * can enter your house without a warrant, and examine your bank account and purloin what it finds. It can even have judgement entered against you without even the formality of taking you to Court.

This is the Brave New World to which the young voter is being led by the time-honoured process of the donkey and the carrot; the same process which Hitler worked on the German people. The carrot was "Security, employment for all," and the Donkey was the "Nationalist Socialist Party."

Since then, the German people have been employed

*The excision is not ours—Editor T.S.C.

day and night, every man and woman has had a job, whether it is the job to their liking, is another story.

If a government official directed from Canberra can break practically every common law, and if it costs £1,000 to sue that official for justice, how can the common man afford to pay for justice? And if the Government official does not pay for his misdeeds as was shown in the Dalton Case, how can we say that Government officials have any responsibility if they accept none?

No man can be responsible if he is not prepared to shoulder the cost of his misdeeds. How are we to get protection against an all-powerful "State" in the hands of such men?

This shows the terrible menace of the great modern monopolies where men hide behind the protection of Non-Liability Companies, Commissions and Parties. They can hit you; they can ruin you; they can tax you out of existence, but you cannot get redress; you cannot hit back. Look how helpless the dairy farmers have been with Professor Copland.

Power is being transferred deliberately from individuals to institutions and the men who pull the string are completely protected against retribution for their crimes. In other words, under the names of such abstractions as "The State, the Party, International Police Force, the Gold Standard, etc.," we are being persuaded by the agents of International Monopolies to surrender all powers and all rights to protect ourselves; we are being slowly crushed into a political machine which if not immediately challenged will destroy all chance of durable and endurable peace.

FROM WEEK TO WEEK (continued from page 1)

of it or not, are a challenge to the institution of private property, and so give aid and comfort to those, for the most part anti-Christian, who know that private property is the barrier to the totalitarian state, and are determined to tear that barrier down.

The Broadcast of the Pope on September 1, can only be described as a flat disclaimer of connivance. The statement, not made for the first time, but now made at perhaps the most significant juncture, that, "the Christian conscience cannot admit of social orders which deny the natural right to property" and that, "given an economic and social order, the right to private property must be laid down as the basic foundation," is an affirmation, which anyone who is not blinded by prejudice must accept, that the essence of Christianity is the superiority of the individual to his material surroundings, and the consequent right to dominate them. The highly proper reservations directed against the misuse of property and the condition of propertyless proletarianism which is the outcome of financial chicanery, do not weaken, but greatly strengthen, a most important and courageous pronouncement.

It is significant that the "B."B.C., while remarking that the broadcast would take place, made no mention of it or its contents in subsequent bulletins, so far as we are aware.

It is increasingly clear that this doctrinal issue will have to be faced, not as what is commonly called a religious question but as a matter of practical and vital politics.

The Hollywood Cromwellianism, which began by calling

the Home Guard "Ironsides," cheap mass produced clothing, "austerity" and our latest tank after our first Dictator (and what a warning!) may be only Jewish salesmanship for a local variety of totalitarianism. But it is clear enough that there is a Right and Left to organised Christianity, and that the Left leads straight to National Socialism, Communism, "Full employment," test tube gestation, and the Brave New World of Huxley. We have indisputable evidence of the hostility of the Protestant faith to Social Credit, and, disregarding the most notorious instance, quite a formidable exhibit of what can only be described as treachery at the hands of official representatives of the Established Church of England.

Where the Right leads we do not know positively, but negatively it is demonstrable that it leads neither to Hitler, Stalin, Beveridge or Wall Street, and that is something to go on with.

The "B."B.C. achieved the considerable feat of describing at some length the heroic resistance of Verdun in the 1914-18 War, without mentioning the name of Petain—an interesting indication of the conception held by that institution of its instructional function.

On and after September 11, the Jewish Board of Guardians will do all the home-guarding they may need.

PLACE-SEEKERS

(Continued from page 4)

actions taken may have been duly placed before Parliament. Nobody knows. But if the energetic mothers of the charming and doubtless well-endowed little Marys who find themselves unable to sit in their expected places because the seats are in possession of as many Ikey-mos should bombard their Members of Parliament for assurances (with proof) on all the points involved, it is fairly certain that, rule or no rule, the determination of policy will soon pass to hands other than those who now both formulate and administer it. When that happens saner judgments will prevail even in "controversial" matters of some difficulty. The longest way round may be the shortest way home.

T. J.

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