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FOR POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC REALISM

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From Week to Week

It is becoming more clear, if possible, every day, that the fate of the world is bound up with the elevation of the Finance-dominated industrial system into a religion closely connected with Communism. Any race which was gifted with even elementary intelligence would appreciate the fact that, outside the agricultural population and a small and decreasing portion of the building, engineering, and textile trades, the activities of mankind are diverted from the benefit of the individual and directed to his destruction—not merely in time of war, but daily and always. And this is not accidental; at the centre of direction, it is conscious. It is proved to be conscious by the lying and deceptive propaganda which sweeps the world, directing the pattern it shall take.

Anyone who will examine the situation dispassionately in the light of facts which are available to the interested, will inevitably reach certain other conclusions, of which the primary is that the factory, mass-production system is a part of, and indissolubly connected with, war, and war which has only one logical end—the annihilation of all but vestigial traces of the human races, or perhaps of the world itself.

It is not really very difficult to understand the root cause of our doom—all history demonstrates it, and empirical psychology adds emphasis to history. There is implanted in man a creative urge to embody ideas—an appetite just as definite as hunger and thirst. This urge is the mainspring of the progress which is possible, but not inevitable, to the individual. If there is any truth in the pseudo-science of Freud, Jung, and Adler, it lies in the emphasis on the dangers of frustration. The life of the factory worker is one long, unconscious or conscious frustration and war is incipient in the factory. Anyone who is practically familiar with modern industry knows quite well that there is no solution for strikes. The fomenting of strikes is an outlet for frustrated will-to-power and the settlement of one strike merely leads to another. Creative instinct involves policy; and the modern individual has no policy. His individual policy-attribute has been stolen from him.

Centralisation of policy is merely another way of indicating power without responsibility. That power has been stolen from the individual, and his actions disclaim responsibility. The whole drama is symbolised in the conflict between Christianity and Judaism—e.g., the murder of Count Bernadotte by Jews who were financed by other Jews disclaiming responsibility for the deeds they continue to finance.

The open responsible vote, obtained on the same terms as the open responsible income (economic vote) is the only path visible along which to decentralise policy. And no decentralised policy could compass mass war. It is the Trades' Union which differentiates a strike from contracting-out. So far from such a policy leading to indiscipline, it is the only path to the restoration of a discipline which has

almost gone. The façade of discipline in the collective State is rotten to the core, and a mere cloak for intrigue, laziness, and dishonesty.

Even on the lowest, mercantile, plane, mass repetition production has been fatal to this country, except for the purpose of waging wars which have been her ruin. We have, or had, craftsmen unique in quality, and our proper policy was that of a well known motor car builder. We should have decentralised in producing articles of the highest quality and individuality for the enrichment of the life of man, not its degradation and destruction. Quality is what the world needs, not equality; quality was once our boast, in men, animals, food and things. The sentiments of our politicians are now the cries of the cheap-jack and the ghetto; and our glory has departed.

The following letter from an Arab lady to the Edmonton (Alberta) *Bulletin* of September 24 conveys to us an impression of integrity which is lamentably lacking in much of the comment on the Zionist issue.

The *Bulletin*, the control of which changed hands about the time of Mrs. Stella Isaacs's (Lady Reading's) visit to Edmonton, has in the same issue an editorial advocating the recognition of the "State" of Israel as required "in all justice and consistency." Consistency in recognising the success of the tactics indicated by Mrs. Saddy?—

"MURDER OF BERNADOTTE

"Editor, *Bulletin*—Re the editorial in *The Bulletin* and the assassination of Count Folke Bernadotte. Come now, let us not be deluded into thinking that this deplorable crime will not benefit the State of Israel and world Zionism. On the contrary, the consequence of this crime will be instrumental in bringing about the very thing that Zionism has been aiming at since the U.N. voted for partition. This dastardly act will be the excuse required to send a military force into Palestine to maintain 'peace and order' (and partition). The results justify the means.

"The 'special duty force' of world Zionism (extremists to us) have been rounded up and arrested by the very people for which they act so many times that it is about time we caught on to the joke.

"May I enlighten you with a 'few' of the accomplishments of this extremely versatile group—lest we forget. Murder of Lord Moyne, the bombing of the King David hotel, the hanging of three British soldiers, the bomb letter to Captain Farran, not to mention the countless acts of terrorism suffered by the Arabs at their hands. And now, the cold-blooded murder of a world peace emissary!

"But, we are told, the people who have carried out these atrocities are not Zionists, they do not belong to the state of Israel, they, and I quote from the local press, 'cannot possibly fit the description of Jews.' They are extremists. Now that is interesting—what is an extremist? What are they work-

ing for? Who are they working for? It would, of course, be very foolish to say that they are members of the most vicious threat to world peace today—the world Zionist organisation. The oft-used word ‘anti-Semite’ cannot be applied in this instance—I am a Semite.

“E. A. SADDY, Edmonton.”

The poor will do anything for the rich, except get off their backs.

No one appears to have noticed that the A + B Theorem, by which there is never enough purchasing-power to buy the goods for sale, has merely been transferred to dollars. By taking most of the goods out of the country, and regulating the purely inflationary wage-bill which is distributed in respect of goods which are *not* for sale, we obtain distribution of a fraction of the goods produced, and maintain “employment” by “selling” the major portion of our production at the cost of its raw materials.

Charles Lamb’s story of the islanders who burnt down the house whenever they wanted roast pork, was supposed to be funny. It would appear, however, that he was one of our greatest economists.

The over-all effect of the process is to rob consciously and continuously the owners of savings which the public is urged to accumulate, the loot going to the mortgagees and bill-discounters of exports. Hence their enthusiasm for “nationalisation” and bulk trading.

Without entering into the merits of the sentence imposed by Mr. Justice Croom Johnson, at the Wilts. assizes on a woman who altered the date of her daughter’s birth certificate, (since it should be remembered that Judges are appointed to administer the law, not to make it), we think that there is at bottom a sound and neglected principle involved in the vigorous protest of a Methodist minister at Salisbury on the circumstances surrounding the case. It appears clear that the offence was largely technical, and the sentence of six months’ imprisonment repugnant to Christian ethics and even to natural law; and it appears to us that it is exactly in this sphere that the Churches have failed to make their position clear. An Anglican clergyman for whose opinions we have great respect recently remarked in public that within a few years at most, a head-on collision between the Church and the State was almost inevitable, and we agree. Anyone who will pause to consider the prostitution of human values to, e.g. “the export drive,”; the completely immoral nature of currency and taxation practices by that “Christian”, Sir Stafford Cripps: in fact the traversing of every decency of civilisation by Government Departments almost openly worshipping the methods of that hell-upon-earth, Russia, must agree that Christianity and State Socialism cannot live on the planet together—one must go.

As we have often indicated, we attach great importance both to physiognomy and architecture as indications of culture; and there is visible testimony, spreading with dreadful rapidity, that the energising Spirit of much (not all) of the current world, is bad in every sense of the word.

DECEMBER 2, 1832.

How strikingly alike are the respective situations of France and England at the present day. Each country torn by faction and party spirit, each making the same experi-

ments for liberty or democracy, and each failing in their object; the one collapsing towards despotism, the other towards confusion. These evils arise from confounding personal with political liberty. I call personal freedom the right to dispose without molestation of one’s person and estate, and be secure that neither the one nor the other will be disquieted without your consent. That liberty may be carried to the utmost extent that society can permit. The other species of liberty, called political liberty, consists in the right of taking a part in the government of the state. This kind of liberty should be restrained within narrow limits, for experience proves it cannot be widely extended without destroying the other.—*A Portion of the Journal kept by Thomas Raikes, Esq.* (London. Longman, Brown, Green, Longmans and Roberts.) 1856.

The Ministry of Civil Aviation has invited screwmakers to tender for the supply of eight dozen screws—total value, 10d.

It sent each screw-making firm a seven-page dossier of 2,000 words.

The schedule directed that 25 per cent. of the consignment (2½d. worth) be sent to the Ministry’s address in Scotland, and 75 per cent. (7½d. worth) to the Ministry’s address in Somerset.

It warned tenderers that the contract would be terminated if the contractor went bankrupt!—*The New Era*, July 30.

“Eleven persons drove up to my farm the other day to tell me how to run it. Four checked a particular field, three went to the cowhouse, another looked at the dairy, another at the tractor, and so on. All of them were in the employ of the Ministry of Agriculture.”—Mr. B. White, in *The Farmer and Stockbreeder*.

“The fact is that reduction of the Koch sentence is but one of a group of similar commutations of sentences of various Germans. We learn from reliable sources that these official acts were not inspired by any decision to correct justice, or to bestow lenience on criminals. On the contrary, it is said, the decision is actually an attempt by American authorities to head-off a first-class scandal involving the American Prosecution staff which brought these and other Germans before Allied tribunals. Germans, with the assistance of American legal counsel, have unearthed a mass of surprising evidence. Dozens of affidavits have been secured showing that the American Prosecution in Germany obtained evidence by third-degree, intimidation, pressure, torture and beatings. Without this kind of tainted evidence, it is claimed, the American Prosecution staff would have been unable successfully to press many cases against Nazis and other Germans. These affidavits, plus much material concerning the unfairness of Prosecution methods, had been accumulating for some time and were about to break into print. Hence, the commutations.”—(*Human Events*, September 29, 1948.)

For “American Prosecution Staff” read “Jewish Prosecution Staff.”

How to popularise a ridiculous petrol ration: Threaten to take it away, and then graciously assure its continuance for six months.

PARLIAMENT*

House of Commons: July 27, 1948.

National Insurance (Contributions)

Mr. Symonds asked the Minister of National Insurance what check he is making to verify that all those persons who became liable to pay national insurance contributions for the first time on July 5 have, in fact, begun to do so.

Mr. J. Griffiths: I am confident that insured persons generally and employers will fulfil their obligations under the National Insurance scheme. All necessary steps will, of course, be taken to ensure compliance with the statutory contribution requirements of the scheme.

Mr. Symonds: Does my right hon. Friend think that those who have so far failed to enter the scheme have done so from negligence, or has he any evidence to show that in any quarter there is any attempt to boycott the scheme?

Mr. Griffiths: No, I do not think there is any attempt to boycott the scheme. I would point out that all those to whom the scheme applies in all three classes are liable to pay contributions as from July 5, and that the longer they leave it before they begin to pay, the larger becomes the amount of arrears which they will owe to the fund.

Part-time Workers

Mr. Symonds asked the Minister of Labour if he has any evidence to show to what extent employers are dismissing part-time workers since becoming liable to pay the full increased insurance contribution in respect of them.

Mr. Isaacs: No, Sir.

Mr. Symonds: As there is a certain fear among crippled part-time workers, will my right hon. Friend watch the situation, and, if necessary, consult with the Minister of National Insurance with a view to a reduction in the contributions of such people?

Mr. Isaacs: It is no use taking up these questions on pure hypothesis. We have no information of this kind, but if anybody has such information, and will let me have it, I will deal with the matter promptly.

Canadair Aircraft (Purchase)

Mr. Nigel Birch asked the Chancellor of the Exchequer whether he has any statement to make on the agreement come to with the Canadian Government for the payments of sums due for Canadair aircraft.

Mr. Jay: The dollars required for the purchase of the Canadair aircraft will be obtained by the sale of Canadian dollar securities owned by residents in the United Kingdom, which would otherwise have had to be used for repayment of the non-interest bearing loan made by Canada to this country in 1942. The Canadian Government have agreed that for the purpose of purchasing the Canadairs the repayment of the loan shall be postponed up to the amount in question. Before January 1, 1951, the two Governments will discuss how they are to treat the service and repayment of any balance of the loan then outstanding. Therefore, the equiva-

* During the Adjournment we are collecting from the proceedings of the last two sessions of Parliament some points of interest omitted at the time only because of pressure on our space.—
Editor, *The Social Crediter*.

lent of the dollars paid for the aircraft will form part of the outstanding balance of the loan on January 1, 1951, for discussion at that date.

Mr. Birch: Is not the hon. Gentleman alarmed at the way we are continually piling up dollar debts and not paying our own way?

Mr. Jay: We are not in this case piling up a dollar debt. We are postponing repayment of a debt which would otherwise have been met.

Air-Commodore Harvey: Would it not be a good thing if this discussion took place before the present Government go out of power?

Death Duties (Transferred Properties)

Mr. Symonds asked the Chancellor of the Exchequer what methods he adopts to bring to the notice of executors that properties can now be made over to the State in lieu of Death Duties; and if he will publish a list of the properties so far made over.

Mr. Glenvil Hall: In all cases where land worth £5,000 or more passes on a death, the executors or trustees accountable for Death Duties are given by the Inland Revenue a full explanation of the nature and purposes of the National Land Fund scheme and are invited to offer any property which appears to come within it. As regards the second part of the Question I will circulate the list in the OFFICIAL REPORT.

Following is the list of properties so far accepted and transferred in satisfaction of Death Duties under Section 49 of the Finance Act, 1946:

- (1) Hartsop Hall Farm, Ratterdale, Westmorland, and Brotherswater, together with grazing over commons adjoining Deepdale and Rydale.
- (2) "Tregonnan," Treyarnon Bay, St. Merryn, Cornwall.
- (3) Cotehele Estate in St. Dominick and Galstock, Cornwall.
- (4) Town End House and Town End Farm, Troutbeck, Westmorland.
- (5) Glanlyn and Trawsfynydd Estates (including Bala Lake) and part of Aberhironnant Estate, Merioneth, Wales.

Offers of several other properties are under consideration.

Trade and Commerce

Log Wood, Newfoundland (Purchase)

Mr. Collins asked the President of the Board of Trade if he will facilitate the purchase of 60,000 cords of log wood for newsprint, which are now available in Newfoundland.

Mr. Belcher: No. The shortage of dollars makes this impossible.

House of Commons: July 28, 1948.

Oil Supplies

Major Beamish asked the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs what is the estimated loss of oil to the United Kingdom as a result of the situation in Palestine; and what arrangements he has made or contemplates making with the authorities in Haifa regarding the handling and processing of oil.

Mr. Bevin: The interruption of work at the Haifa refinery has reduced world production of refined petroleum products by an annual rate of four million tons. Very little

(Continued on page 6.)

THE SOCIAL CREDITER

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Communists in the N.U.T.

What is described as "violent reaction throughout the National Union of Teachers" has followed the distribution "among N.U.T. members only" of a document headed "Young Communist Action Group." This document invites correspondence and "4d. in stamps" to T. Mercer and H. Selby, 424, St. George's Road, Glasgow, C.3. The 4d. is to pay for "the current issue of *The Voice of Labour*."

A short letter to *The Tablet* of October 23, records a repudiation of the document by Mr. Harry Pollitt as "an illiterate circular." This is said to have appeared in *The Daily Worker* for October 18. The letter is followed by a note by the editor of *The Tablet* recording that the Executive of the N.U.T. had met to discuss the document, about the authenticity of which there was some doubt, discounted by the President of the N.U.T., and had stigmatised it as a threat to the standing and prestige of the N.U.T., and a "blatant attempt to introduce political ideas into our organisation." We have seen no published text of the document which runs as follows:—

(For circulation among N.U.T. members only).

"YOUNG COMMUNIST ACTION GROUP"

"Comrades,

"In the struggle against the class-collaborationist leadership of the N.U.T. and L.T.A., the Young Communist Action Group have resolved to ally themselves with the movement for Workers' Control.

"Our aim is increased support for our fighters on the National Executive and L.T.A. Committees, working through them for a Workers' Control of the N.U.T.

"But in the fight of our comrades for control of the committees, we must not overlook the supreme importance of Conference.

"The Bourgeois-reactionary majority of the Executive, hand-in-glove with the Churchill-Attlee conspiracy against democracy, has thought to stifle the worker-teachers' voice on the floor of Conference, by reducing the number of elected delegates.

"We appeal to all N.U.T. members to counter this move. We demand a vigilant scrutiny of all individuals offering themselves as delegates to Conference. Let every candidate declare whether he stands for the N.U.T. lickspittles of the capitalist-royalist-clericalist conspiracy of Churchill-Attlee, or for control by worker-teachers.

"Elect a Conference that will smash the toadies of social-democracy, and bring the Union into line with the world-

movement for Workers' Control.

"Everybody out! Everybody vote!

"DRAFT PROGRAMME FOR WORKERS' CONTROL, AS AFFECTING THE N.U.T.

- "1. The N.U.T. (in line with all other organisations) to be brought under the control of elected representatives of the working class immediately, sitting as a Workers' Control. All those elected to be at all times subject to recall.
- "2. The overall distribution of manpower to be under the Workers' Control.
- "3. Committees of the Workers' Control and N.U.T. to allocate available manpower within the profession.
- "4. The Workers' Control and N.U.T. to fix salaries, conditions, etc.
- "5. Workers' Defence Guards, organised within the N.U.T. and each other constituent body, to suppress capitalist sabotage. Defence Guards to have powers to arrest capitalist agents guilty of sabotage.
- "6. Special courts to be set up composed of judges elected from the Workers' Control and N.U.T., to deal with all cases brought by the Defence Guards. The judges to be subject to recall.
- "7. The N.U.T. to work for the general national policy of the Workers' Control, including control of distribution of supplies and overseas trade, abandonment of imperialist policies, and unconditional defence of the Workers' State in Russia.

"Comrades wishing to participate in the movement are invited to send 4d. in stamps to T. Mercer and H. Selby, 424, St. George's Road, Glasgow, C.3., for a copy of the current issue of *The Voice of Labour*."

We think the document should be 'on the table,' if only that there should be no doubt about what it is that the President of the N.U.T. considers to be "a blatant attempt to introduce political ideas" into the organisation he guides. We understand that it is contended that the N.U.T. is at present destitute of political ideas, and that its President and Executive fear the vacuum might be filled. This contention we deem to be basically unsound. People who do not know where they are going get there just as quickly however vociferously they may object to the assertions of fellow travellers who do.

The Defenders

With headquarters at 40, Palace Gardens Terrace, London, W.8., a society has been started called "The Defenders of Human Rights." The founder is N. St. John Stevas, the President Evelyn Lady Chetwynd, and the Patrons, Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt, The Duchess of Atholl, and Messrs. Raymond Blackburn, Hugh Delargy, Richard Law, Christopher Hollis and William Teeling.

P.E.P. Programme

"The three [new major enquiries] that have been chosen [for the immediate future] are: housing policy, the future of British universities, and the relations between government and industry in the new context of central economic planning."—*Planning*, October 18.

The Manning Government

The following is the text of a letter addressed to Mr. Solon Low, M.P., by Mr. L. D. Byrne, following the letter, which we have published, which Mr. Low addressed to Mr. Barclay-Smith last April:—

Dear Solon,

In order to keep the record straight I feel impelled to comment on your letter of April 24 addressed to Barclay-Smith and published in *The New Era* of May 28. In this you give an entirely misleading view of the acute issues which have arisen within the Canadian Social Credit Movement.

It is fantastic, in the light of the actual facts, to suggest that these differences are confined to criticisms of Premier Manning, his government and *The Canadian Social Crediter* by the Social Credit Secretariat.

First permit me to correct some of the definite statements in your letter:

(1) The "fundamental divergence" as between the adherents of genuine Social Credit (contemptuously referred to by Premier Manning as "Douglasites") and the party politicians endeavouring to exploit Social Credit, is NOT just a question on conflicting "views about how best to achieve Social Credit."

The issue is the progressive abandonment, since the death of William Aberhart, of Social Credit principles and policy by the Manning Government, and latterly by the National Association.

(2) The Secretariat has not, to my knowledge, published any criticism of the Alberta Government, of *The Canadian Social Crediter* or of any individual's actions in connection therewith unless and until they were obliged to do so in the interests of the Movement.

For example, no such criticism appeared in *The Social Crediter* until after the so-called Bill of Rights had been enacted, until after the Health Bill cited by you had been enacted, until after *The Canadian Social Crediter*, in effect, repudiated Douglas—and so forth.

In every instance the criticism of the Secretariat followed action taken contrary to Social Credit principles and without consulting the Secretariat, and after being presented to the public as being in accordance with Social Credit tenets.

(3) I did not on any occasion "protest to the Secretariat against their unfairness." On one occasion only did I question the wisdom of the particular manner in which a criticism of the so-called "Bill of Rights" was presented. But in the light of subsequent events it is apparent that I was wrong.

(4) Contrary to your view I consider the Secretariat to be extremely well informed on the situation in Canada. In contrast the "example" you cite is quite inaccurate, for at no time has *The Social Crediter* stated that Mr. Manning had been "converted" to Zionism by Lady Reading.

His partiality for, or his fear of, Zionism has been evident for some time; and, long before Lady Reading's visit to Alberta, *The Social Crediter* had occasion to comment on a press report of Mr. Manning's appearance on a public platform, as Premier, in support of the Zionist cause.

The effect which Lady Reading appears to have had on a situation already responsive to Zionist influence can be judged only by the growing hostility since exhibited towards

those Social Crediters who have had the courage to expose the sinister machinations of international Zionism.

Your view of the action advocated by the Social Credit Secretariat is not entirely accurate but I do not propose to go into that matter. The implication of your letter is that, with Mr. Manning, you are opposed to non-party action along the lines of the union of electors. May I remind you that:

(1) At the last national convention of the Social Credit Association of Canada, held in Regina on April 4-6, 1946, when you were re-elected national president, the policy of action laid down was:

"RESOLVED that this convention go on record as FULLY endorsing THE PRINCIPLES AND TENETS OF SOCIAL CREDIT AS ENUNCIATED BY MAJOR C. H. DOUGLAS.

"RESOLVED (1) that the main efforts of the Movement be directed henceforth to THE ESTABLISHMENT OF NON-PARTY ELECTORS' ACTION GROUPS in as many polling divisions as possible."

You were honour bound to carry out that policy or resign.

(2) Prior to the convention of the Alberta Social Credit League held in Calgary last December, you gave several public addresses in Alberta in which you urged that only action along non-party union of electors' lines could be effective.

(3) During the Calgary convention you gave a trans-Canada broadcast over the C.B.C. national network in which you denounced party politics (quoting the late Premier Aberhart) and urged non-party union of electors' action.

(4) Following the Calgary convention you were present at a meeting of the national council which (a) for all practical purposes repudiated Douglas, (b) repudiated Norman Jaques, (c) condemned the policy of *The Canadian Social Crediter* and (d) in effect transferred control of that national organ to the Alberta League with an Alberta M.L.A. as editor. No protest was voiced by you, according to my information.

(5) A matter of a few weeks ago you went into Quebec in your official capacity to assist in the organisation of, apparently, a Social Credit "party" to oppose the established Social Credit organization in that Province—which is not only the most powerful section of the Canadian movement, but has been pursuing a genuine Social Credit action policy along union of electors' lines.

I dislike writing this letter, but in the desperately critical world situation which confronts us, the Social Credit Movement holds out the highest hope for the future, and it would be criminal folly to imagine either that we can compromise on principles or that we can clarify an ugly situation by attempting to smooth over the facts. Accordingly, I am sending a copy of this letter to *The New Era*, and to those mainly concerned with the publication of your letter in that periodical.

Yours, etc.,

L. D. BYRNE.

So Now They All Know?

"The question of Communist influence and leadership in the British trade union movement has now become an issue of first-class importance. What has happened in France could happen here . . ."—*The Economist*.

The Book Shortage

Remarking dismally that the shortage of paper for books "is a matter of high policy and must be left to our masters," the Dean of Balliol College, Oxford, writing to the *Sunday Times* about the shortage of books for undergraduates, mentions some instances of what he deems to be "lack of coordination." "Why," he asks, "are fresh brief histories of the United States appearing every six months, when none are as good as that of Nevins and Commager, not now easily procurable? Why is Locke's *Treatise* being reissued by Blackwell's, by Everyman, by the Clarendon Press, and also in an excellent and cheap American paper-backed edition, when one issue would suffice? Why, when there are several excellent editions of the "Federalist" available in America, is a fresh one issued here? And why are all these things done when new copies of a basic historical work like the Oxford History of England come out in dribbles, and only the fortunate few can find them; or when four of the six volumes of the English edition of Halevy's "History of England" are still out of print?"

He says: "That we should be told what should and what should not be published by some Whitehall bureaucrat, whether by a direct censorship or by the indirect method of varying allowances of paper—would be far worse than the disease."

PARLIAMENT (continued from page 3.)

of this oil is normally imported into the United Kingdom, but the United Kingdom will naturally be affected by the reduction in world supply. It would be premature for me to make any further statement until more is known of the results of the efforts of the Mediator.

Major Beamish: Can the right hon. Gentleman confirm that the cutting off of the oil supplies from Kirkuk to Haifa has already had the effect of retarding the recovery of Europe, and that unless strenuous efforts are made to re-open this pipeline the effect will be even worse?

Mr. Bevin: We shall have to take alternative means if we cannot re-open the pipeline. We cannot let Europe suffer.

Dr. Segal: Can the right hon. Gentleman confirm that British technical experts have stated that these refineries are now being worked efficiently, and could be made to produce the maximum yield if only His Majesty's Government would grant *de facto* recognition to the State of Israel?

Mr. Bevin: The granting of *de facto* recognition to Israel would not bring oil from Iraq which is in the hands of the Arabs.

Mr. Erroll: Will the British Government take adequate steps to secure the proper independent working of this important refinery before final evacuation takes place?

Mr. Bevin: There are only 20,000 tons of stock there; that is all that is being worked.

Education

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry of Education (Mr. Hardman): The total estimate of expenditure for the Ministry of Education from the Exchequer and rates combined for 1948-49 is £245,664,000, an increase of £31,198,000 over the figure for the previous year. This

figure is the highest ever for my Department. The main reasons for the increase are summarised in the Memorandum on the Estimates. This expenditure reflects the steady progress made throughout the year in implementing and carrying through the plans of the previous year, and I suggest that a survey of these schemes will be the best way of justifying the Vote. . . .

. . . we have a five-year plan, the object of which is to raise the total number of teachers from 196,000 to 237,000 by 1953. To secure these teachers it is necessary to extend the permanent training organisation of the country and this we are doing. . . .

. . . Because of various shortages of labour and material, particularly steel, it has not been possible to keep those [building] programmes entirely up to schedule. Nevertheless, since January, 1946, we have approved a total of £42 million of which an amount equivalent to £16½ million is under construction or has been completed. . . .

. . . Last year my right hon. Friend spoke of the Horsa scheme which we inaugurated to provide accommodation for the extra age group. This programme is now 54 per cent. complete. Work is actually in progress on another 34 per cent. The immediate aim is to complete some 5,857 rooms—out of a total applied for to date of 6,538—by the end of 1948. The present rate of completion is 240 to 250 rooms per month. . . .

. . . When it comes to a consideration in the Vote of the field of school health, we can again afford a certain amount of optimism and satisfaction. Despite the restrictions on building, 73 new clinics or enlargements of clinics have been completed, and a further 150 proposals are at present under consideration. . . . In 1947, 19 new [special schools for handicapped children] were opened. Fourteen were boarding schools and five were day schools. They accommodate 711 children in all. . . .

. . . It might interest some Members on both sides of the House to hear how some of these country mansions which have been used in the past for the pleasures of the few are now being used. There is an Elizabethan mansion like Condover Hall, near Shrewsbury, scheduled as an ancient monument, which is now open for retarded blind children. There is Park Place, Henley, well known for lavish entertainment in the time of the Regency, which has been bought by Middlesex for educationally subnormal children. The Bishop's Palace at Ely is now being used for seriously crippled girls. Little Paddocks, Sunninghill, which used to belong to Horlicks, is now a school for partially sighted girls. I propose to go through the list for the benefit of hon. Members opposite to show that a change has taken place in our outlook to this problem. There is Ovingdean Hall, a beautiful Georgian building which is being adapted at present

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as a school for the partially deaf. Rangemore Hall, which at one time belonged to Baroness Burton, has been bought by Burton-on-Trent to be adapted for the partially deaf. . . .

Mounton House, near Chepstow, a delightful modern house which some of us know, which was built by the editor of *Country Life*, has been bought by the voluntary managers of Swansea School for the Deaf. One is glad to say that Warwickshire have acquired as a school for educationally subnormal pupils the premises of the preparatory school which the right hon. Gentleman the Member for Warwick and Leamington (Mr. Eden) used to attend. . . .

The results of the combined efforts of the Ministry of Works and of local education authorities is that in the year June, 1947, to June, 1948, over 1,200 new canteens came into operation serving nearly 1,000 additional schools or departments. . . .

. . . The result of all this is that more children are receiving meals at school than ever before. The total number now receiving meals is over 2,600,000, an increase of 400,000 over February, 1947. To put it in another way, there are now 21,451 school canteens serving 25,818 schools out of a total of about 28,570 schools in England and Wales.

. . . My final point is to say something very briefly on the subject of U.N.E.S.C.O., a sum for which appears in this Vote. I can only list a few of the notable happenings in this connection. There is the Ashridge Seminar where over 40 delegates from some 20 countries are attending a U.N.E.S.C.O. course on the education and training of teachers. There is an international summer school for public librarians to be held from September 2 to September 28 in Manchester and London. Participants will debate and hear lectures on public library problems and will visit libraries in and around Manchester to see the actual working of the British public library system. The school will finish with a week-end in London. The students will include national, public and branch librarians from at least 16 States. There has been such a demand to come to this summer school in this country that U.N.E.S.C.O. has reduced the number of vacancies for each member State from five to four.

If I may, I should like very quickly to give details of some of the new appointments that have been made to the U.N.E.S.C.O. Secretariat. Dr. C. E. Beeby, who was director of education in New Zealand, is now the Assistant Director-General in charge of education. Mr. Lin Yutang, the well-known Chinese writer and philosopher, is the new head of the Arts and Letters section. Dr. Gimpera, who was rector of the University of Barcelona and then Minister of Justice in the Catalan Government before the Spanish Civil War, is now head of the Philosophy and Humanistic Studies Section. Of interest to our own country is the recent appointment of Mr. W. E. Williams, director of the Bureau of Current Affairs, Editor of Penguin Books, and Radio Critic of *The Observer* who has now become head of the Ideas Bureau in addition. If we are to have specialised agencies—and there are 11 of them—as part of the United Nations organisation for promoting world peace, agencies concerned with such things as banking, trade, postal services, conditions of labour, and so on, surely, we must have an equally powerful organisation promoting one world through things of the mind, the imagination and the spirit.

Does man live only by bread and by the economic organising of his daily life? U.N.E.S.C.O. is not a political

stunt. Its preparatory work has now been done and the decks are cleared for action. Its programme is to affect every aspect of intellectual life, even the intellectual life of the senior Burgess for Cambridge University (Mr. Pickthorn). It has accepted the challenge that education, science and culture are indivisible. Its Secretariat in Paris has become the centre of movements, institutions, and individuals, national in character, yet anxious to share and exchange knowledge in every field with other nations. We can understand the interest which U.N.E.S.C.O. has raised in our own country when we look through this British pattern of National Commissions, or, as we call them, National Co-operating Bodies. On them, 250 key people, covering every aspect of education from the care of the young child in the classroom to the most distinguished scholars, artists and scientists, are represented here. . . .

Mr. Hopkin Morris (Carmarthen): . . . The hon. Lady the Member for North-East Leeds (Miss Bacon) made a very strong and timely objection to the permanent classification of children at the age of 10½—dividing them into three channels by which their life is permanently affected thereafter. That is a great mistake. What is the warranty for it? Is there any greater warranty for that conclusion being final than that put forward by an hon. Member—not as his own—that the mental efficiency of this generation has greatly diminished? That is the doctrine of decadence, which is a very old doctrine.

I would like to ask how this is assessed. How do the psychologists find out, because they themselves belong to the age which is decadent. Of course, they safeguard themselves by saying that the signs have only appeared in the last ten years—after they have found it out. That is not a very sound warranty for the basis of this plan. It is important, because the result, when it goes too far, is that the experts seek to impose a standard view upon the schools and upon the thought of the times, and that is one of the problems of modern European education. The relationship of the State to the school is a very important thing in the freedom of Europe.

. . . I am reminded that Xenophon, observing the States of his own period, said that all States allow parents to teach their children according to their personal views and the old to live as they like; and—then comes the caustic observation—then they make the laws. If Xenophon came to modern Europe and spoke of this period instead of his own time, he would not make that complaint. He would not make it over Spain, Germany, Italy before the war, Russia. He would not make it of hardly any country in Europe, because these

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countries take very great care to condition the mind of the child.

As the hon. Lady the Member for Rushcliffe said, "Give me the child at seven years of age." It has become the important thing. The counterpart of Xenophon in the 20th century, Bertrand Russell, made a very profound observation and a very true one about the danger of modern education.

Mr. Cove: But he is erratic.

Mr. Hopkin Morris: He may be erratic, but even if a person is erratic he is sometimes right. A person who is afraid to be erratic does not do very much at all. Bertrand Russell said the danger of modern education is that modern schools are in peril of becoming an obstacle to thinking and to the freedom of thought. The danger of the modern Government, the danger of the modern State, is that every Government runs the risk that it wants to condition and pattern the children to be useful citizens. But who determines that? Is it in the Communist countries or the Fascist countries where that should be determined? They take their schools and mould their schools accordingly.

Mrs. Manning: This is a democracy.

Mr. Hopkin Morris: I think the difference about democracy is that the object of education is to search for the truth wherever it leads.

Mr. Gallacher (Fife, West): In a Communist country they are educated to be good citizens and in most of the schools of the so-called democracies they get their heads filled with preparation not for this world but for the next world.

Mr. Hopkin Morris: If the hon. Member for West Fife (Mr. Gallacher) will allow me, there is sense in that phrase "the next world"—a phrase I am not using in a theological sense at all. Unless education does provide for that in any man's character, it provides for nothing but the slave.

Mr. Gallacher: The hon. Member is getting dramatic.

Mr. Hopkin Morris: The doctrine the hon. Member is putting forward is precisely the old doctrine of Plato's Republic. It is the doctrine that there is a body of wise men who know how the citizen shall be patterned. Democratic education lives in the same way as the English language has lived, because it is spoken by all, and expresses their views from the angle from which they see life. There is a point at which every man, however humble, has greater knowledge than the most distinguished scholar. It is the object of education and of the Ministry of Education to allow the free chance of development. The key position in education is that of the teacher in the schools and he should be allowed to be as free as possible. He should be fit for his task, but then should be allowed freedom and should have as his objective the pursuit of truth wherever it goes, and not in the establishment of a given order.

Mr. Cove (Aberavon): I am not going to follow the hon. and learned Gentleman the Member for Carmarthen (Mr. Hopkin Morris) in the philosophic discourse we have heard except to say that fundamentally it is untrue to say that within the British system of education there is no freedom of experiment. There is plenty of freedom of experiment both in methods and in objects. It is a wrong conception entirely of our British educational system to think that it is cast-iron, that it is dictatorial. . . .

Quite frankly, we have no need to fear . . . what we want

now is more State education. The other day, elsewhere, my hon. Friend the Member for Rushcliffe (Mrs. Paton) mentioned the growth of private schools. That is a natural reaction after the 1944 Act. Since that Act children who want to go to State secondary and primary schools have had to pass a competitive examination. It has been found by middle-class people that when their children could not pass into the secondary grammar school by competitive examination they have had to find education for them in private schools. The real answer to the menacing growth—and I believe it is menacing to the nation—of the cancer of private schools is an extension of real secondary education for all.

It is a virtue of the artisan type—the lower middle class, and even the middle middle class—that they want their children to be at school until they are 16, 17 or 18 years of age. I do not blame them for saying, "If my child cannot pass a competitive examination because of the restricted provision we shall send him to an independent private school." The answer to the demand from the middle classes is not the erection of private schools; it is the greater extension of State secondary schools. . . .

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