

# THE SOCIAL CREDITER

## FOR POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC REALISM

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### Correction

A significant line, the eleventh of the quotation below, was omitted from the foot of column 1, page one, of last week's issue. The paragraph in its immediate context should thus read:—

"It is our unshakeable opinion that the human individual is infinitely various, and that it is in the nature of things, of reality, that his external circumstance should reflect his internal realities. A rigid State organisation is of all conceivable forms of society that which is furthest from the reality of Creation. That is not a matter of terminology; it applies just as much, and perhaps more to the Empire of Business, whether Chemical Cartel, "B".B.C., or Coal Board, as to the Ministry of Agriculture.

"The steps to health are now many and various. Some of them are Constitutional, many of them are educational, and perhaps even yet, *when they are practicable*, some of the more important are financial.

"We are taking none of them."

### From Week to Week

It may now be told that "Britain" has made a mahvellous recovery, thanks to the wahnderful self-denial and steadfastness of the peepul. A suit of clothes which in 1939 cost £4 now costs thirty, coal is four pounds a ton and is mostly stones, food is much scarcer, worse in quality, and more troublesome to obtain than in the invaded countries, a cottage which cost £300 to build in 1938 now costs £1,500, and you can't have it, juvenile delinquency has reached an all-time high, the railways are worse than they were a hundred years ago, and our representative great man is Mr. Sydney Stanley. The Party can go to the country, gents, with a proud record of progress achieved.

Any competent engineer knows that the more excellently a machine, a structure or a building is designed to serve a specific purpose, the more difficult it is to adapt it to other uses. The essence of planning is stagnation of objective. It is proper and logical to "plan" water-pipes, because water-pipes are meant always to carry water; it is one more instance of quackery to plan civilisations, because we have not even begun to learn the object of civilisation, and it most certainly has not attained a final form. And the people whose opinion on civilisation is least worth attention are the Planners.

The result of the S. Hammersmith by-election ought to surprise no-one. "Do men gather figs of thistles or grapes of thorns?" The present electoral machinery is most cleverly planned to produce an evil result, and it will go on producing evil results until it is designed to produce good ones. The inclusion in the mechanism of Messrs. Churchill

and Eden as protagonists of the "Opposition"(!) make it almost perfect for its evil objective.

In a review of Dr. Chaim Weizmann's book which appeared in *The Zionist Record* of Johannesburg, it is made clear that the adulation of Mr. Churchill by Dr. Weizmann is unrestrained. "Roosevelt and I can do anything," Churchill assured him. They have.

Curiously enough, a good deal of animus against the Labour Party in England, and of course especially against Mr. Ernest Bevin, appears in the book. We have always felt that there is an unexplored vein of soundness which is obscured by the Crippses, Daltons and Stracheys.

In our issue of February 26 we reprinted a review of one of the most significant books of the past twenty years—*The Failure of Technology* by Friedrich Georg Juenger.

This book, with the contentions of which we agree subject to the qualification which follows, is one more instance of the failure of the deductive method in the absence of a significant premise. In this case, the premise which is absent is that finance controls the exploitation of technology.

We have many times insisted that the whole idea of central banking, *i.e.*, the monopoly of credit, is vicious, and at bottom, evil. Technology has become its servant; it is the swollen cancerous growths of over-financing, over-manufacture, factory and mass-production which, although they *appear* to proceed from technology, in fact derive from the centralisation of initiative, *i.e.*, "Planning" with its financial, legal and police controls, which is responsible for the results which Herr Juenger accurately exposes.

Our whole economic system is tobogganing to disaster because of this monopoly of credit. We have been engaged in saying so for thirty years; what many people still do not realise is that the problem of decentralisation, of disintegration of monopoly is not even contemplated by those who howled loudest for State ownership.

The Fabian-Bloomsbury intellectuals have achieved power without responsibility, their services are at the disposal of those whose contempt of them is unalloyed by the fear in which even a stupid aristocracy was held.

In the closing years of the last century an American writer, Elbert Hubbard, published a little cameo which he entitled "A Message to Garcia." Perhaps somewhat screaming-eagle in tone, it was nevertheless a jarring note to Bloomsbury and Greenwich Village, and was resented accordingly by the Fabians. The keynote of Mr. Hubbard's thesis is contained in these words:

"We have recently been hearing much maudlin sympathy expressed for 'the downtrodden denizen of the sweat shop' and 'the homeless wanderer searching for honest employment' . . . Nothing is said about the employer who grows old

before his time in a vain attempt to induce frowzy ne'er-do-wells to do intelligent work; and his long patient striving with 'help' that does nothing but loaf when his back is turned."

We have travelled a long way since those days. The assembly-belt eliminates loafing, and a swollen bureaucracy has absorbed the homeless wanderer dodging honest employment.

But the necessity for the jarring note is more necessary to-day than it was fifty years ago. We are readier than most to concede that there is a very large body of decent people in the world, and particularly in these islands. But there is also a large body—we should not like to compare its size with that of its betters—which actively resents decent conduct. At the least, it exceeds in size, and lacks in any ascertainable recommendation or attractiveness, the body of mythical 'parasites on the backs of the workers' who form the stock-in-trade of Mr. Gallacher.

This kind of vicious nonsense has had too much tolerance and too long a run. The idea that success is a crime in itself is quite sufficient, if widespread, to wreck any community.

## PARLIAMENT

*House of Commons: February 15, 1949.*

### Social Survey (Investigators)

*Mr. Amory* asked the Financial Secretary to the Treasury what is the present number employed by the Social Survey Division of the Central Office of Information; and what is the estimated annual cost of this Department.

*Mr. Glencil Hall:* Ninety-five, not including part-time investigators who are employed as necessary and paid on an hourly basis. The estimated annual cost, including fees to investigators, is £105,000.

## NATIONAL INSURANCE

### Earnings

*Miss Bacon* asked the Minister of National Insurance if he is aware of the dissatisfaction among single women pensioners, aged 60 to 65 years, in that they are allowed to earn only £1 per week, while childless widows in similar circumstances can earn £1 10s.; and, since there have been cases where employers have dismissed single women in favour of widows who are allowed to work longer hours, if he will take steps to rectify this anomaly by increasing the single woman's earnings to £1 10s.

*Mr. J. Griffiths:* The National Insurance Acts impose no restrictions on the earnings of pensioners, though the amount of pension payable may be reduced where the weekly earnings exceed a prescribed amount. This amount is the same, namely £1, for both childless widows and single women aged 60 to 65. A higher amount of weekly earnings is disregarded in the case of widows below age 60, but I am not aware that this has led to the discrimination suggested against single women pensioners over that age. Any change in the present position would require legislation.

### Population Statistics

*Mr. Bossom* asked the Minister of Health what is the approximate population now living in England, Scotland

and Wales, separately.

*Mr. Bevan:* The civilian populations, including merchant seamen, at 31st December, 1948, are estimated by the Registrar General for England and Wales and the Registrar General for Scotland respectively as—England, 40,386,800; Wales, 2,552,200; Scotland, 5,120,200.

*House of Commons: February 22, 1949.*

### Old Age Pensioners

*Mr. S. O. Davies* asked the Minister of National Insurance if he has now considered the results of the inquiry conducted by the National Federation of Old Age Pensioners into the average cost of living among pensioners, particulars of which inquiry have been supplied him; and, as the facts reveal the existence of serious hardship among pensioners, what steps he is taking immediately to improve their lot by a substantial increase in their pension rates.

*Mr. Steele:* I am aware of these inquiries, but old people who find their pensions insufficient for their needs can apply to the National Assistance Board for supplementation in accordance with rules approved by this House as recently as July last. As regards any general increase in pension rates, I would refer my hon. Friend to the letter which my right hon. Friend recently sent to the hon. Member for East Ham, North (Mr. Daines), of which he was sent a copy.

*Mr. Davies:* Can my hon. Friend inform me of the nature of the instructions which have been issued to assistance boards in cases of serious hardship; and if the instructions mean that old age pensioners might have a substantial increase in income, will he be good enough to publicise that and draw the attention of old age pensioners to the fact?

*Mr. Steele:* My hon. Friend referred specifically in his Question to pension rates, which I think was covered very adequately in the letter to the hon. Member for East Ham North. So far as discretion is concerned, each local officer of the assistance board is allowed a certain discretion, which we know he does use in particular instances.

*Mr. Sturmer:* Is my hon. Friend aware that the assistance board officers are not carrying out the instructions? Is he further aware that I have a letter stating that a man receiving 34s. a week should be prepared to provide himself with boots? Old age pensioners cannot provide themselves with boots on these rates and assistance ought to be given.

*Major Guy Lloyd:* Is the Parliamentary Secretary aware that by a large majority the members of this Federation consider the Government have betrayed them? [HON. MEMBERS. "No."] They do, and I have had letters to that effect. Is he further aware that the best service he can render is to reduce the cost of living rather than to increase the pensions?

*Mr. Tom Brown:* Will not the Parliamentary Secretary consider, with the Chairman of the National Assistance Board, a cost of living bonus for the old people, in view of the hardship they are experiencing due to the increased cost of living?

*Mr. Steele:* The specific Question put to me is in connection with the pension rates under the National Insurance Scheme. As far as the scales for National Assistance are concerned, I would draw attention to the fact that this matter was discussed in July last and was warmly approved by the House.

**Roofing Slates (Import)**

Mr. Price-White asked the President of the Board of Trade what is the tonnage of French, Italian and Portuguese roofing slates, respectively, that have been imported through South Coast ports during the past three years or nearest convenient accounting period under trade agreements or otherwise.

Mr. J. Edwards: I regret that imports of roofing slates through South Coast ports are not recorded separately in the trade returns. I circulate below figures giving the total imports into the United Kingdom from France, Italy and Portugal during the past three years.

Following are the figures:

	1946	1947	1948
	Tons	Tons	Tons
From France ... ..	672	696	2,720
„ Italy ... ..	50	2,135	3,421
„ Portugal ... ..	2,859	5,677	2,674

**Welsh Slate (Exports)**

Mr. Price-White asked the President of the Board of Trade what is the tonnage of Welsh slate exported or authorised for export to Eire and Bermuda respectively during the past three months; and what limitations as to size or otherwise were imposed in respect of any such exports.

Mr. J. Edwards: I regret that the information required is not readily available, but I will write to the hon. Member as soon as possible.

**Local Authorities' Powers**

Mr. Piratin asked the Minister of Health if he will publish in the OFFICIAL REPORT the powers which have been added to and taken from county councils, county boroughs, municipal boroughs, Metropolitan boroughs and district councils, respectively, by legislation passed in the present Parliament.

Mr. Bevan: The following is the statement desired.

Statement of powers which have been added to, and taken from, county councils, county boroughs, municipal boroughs, Metropolitan boroughs and district councils, respectively, by legislation passed in the present Parliament.

**Powers added to county councils**

- Town and country planning.
- Fire Services.
- Miscellaneous powers for prevention and treatment of illness.
- Provision of entertainments.
- Power to supply information and publicity with regard to local government services.
- Provision for financial loss of members, and enlarged power to provide for their expenses.
- In some areas, police.
- In some areas, child life protection, maternity and child welfare, and midwifery services.

**Powers taken from county councils**

- Provision of hospitals and maternity homes.
- Relief of the poor except for provision of residential accommodation.

**Powers added to county boroughs**

- Fire Services.
- Provision of entertainments.
- Power to supply information and publicity with regard to local government services.
- Provision of civic restaurants—wartime powers replaced by permanent legislation.
- Powers in connection with rent control of furnished dwellings

where Tribunals have been established—keeping registers of rents fixed, referring cases to tribunals, instituting proceedings for offences.

Provision for financial loss of members.

**Powers taken from county boroughs**

- Provision of hospitals and maternity homes.
- Relief of the poor, except for provision of residential accommodation.

In some areas, supply of electricity.

In some areas, supply of gas.

**Powers added to municipal boroughs**

With the exception of fire services, these are the same as the powers added to county boroughs.

**Powers taken from municipal boroughs**

- Town and country planning.
- Miscellaneous powers for prevention and treatment of illness.
- In some areas, child life protection, provision of maternity homes, maternity and child welfare and midwifery services.
- Provision of ambulance services.
- In some areas, police.
- In some areas, supply of electricity and supply of gas.

**Powers added to Metropolitan boroughs**

With the exception of fire services and civic restaurants, these are the same as those added to county boroughs.

**Powers taken away from Metropolitan boroughs**

Miscellaneous powers for prevention and treatment of illness.

**Powers added to district councils**

These are the same as those added to county boroughs, with the exception of fire services; and with the addition of power to pay an allowance to the chairman, and in rural districts of provision for travelling and subsistence expenses of members.

**Powers taken from district councils**

- Town and country planning.
- Miscellaneous powers for prevention and treatment of illness.
- Provision of ambulance services.
- In some areas (mainly urban districts) child life protection, provision of maternity homes, maternity and child welfare, and midwifery services.
- In some areas (mainly urban districts) supply of electricity and supply of gas.

House of Commons: February 24, 1949.

**House of Commons**

The Financial Secretary to the Treasury (Mr. Glentworth Hall): I beg to move,

“That a Supplementary sum, not exceeding £41,955, be granted to His Majesty, to defray the charge which will come in course of payment during the year ending on the 31st day of March, 1949, for the salaries and expenses of the House of Commons, including a grant in aid of the Kitchen Committee.”

... I think that the main item to which attention should be directed is the provision of £28,250 as a grant to the Kitchen Committee. As the Committee may be aware, this is in respect of two years and not only in respect of the year 1948-49. . . . It is, I think, within the recollection of all Members of the Committee that there has been a deficit not only in the year just closed, from January to December, 1948, but also in the previous year. There are in the Palace of Westminster a number of different places where Members, the staff, and strangers who visit us, can obtain refreshment. We have to take into account the fact that the servicing of those various centres for refreshment is an expensive and uneconomical thing. It means extra staff to carry and to wait, and additional kitchen space. . . .

... It is, I think, within the recollection of all Members of the Committee that the House does not meet for the whole of the 12 months in any year. Last year, I think the House did not meet for 17½ weeks. When it did meet,

(continued on page 7.)

## THE SOCIAL CREDITER

This journal expresses and supports the policy of the Social Credit Secretariat, which is a non-party, non-class organisation neither connected with nor supporting any political party, Social Credit or otherwise.

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### From an Emersonian Essay

"Fear is an instructor of great sagacity and the herald of all revolutions. One thing he always teaches, that there is rottenness where he appears. He is a carrion crow, and though you see not well what he hovers for, there is death somewhere. Our property is timid, our laws are timid, our cultivated classes are timid. Fear for ages has boded and mowed and gibbered over government and property. That obscene bird is not there for nothing. He indicates great wrongs which must be revised.

"Of the like nature is that expectation of change which instantly follows the suspension of our voluntary activity. The terror of cloudless noon, the emerald of Polycrates, the awe of prosperity, the instinct which leads every generous soul to impose on itself tasks of a noble asceticism and vicarious virtue, are the tremblings of the balance of justice through the heart and mind of man. . . .

" . . . the real price of labour is knowledge and virtue, whereof wealth and credit are signs. These signs, like paper money, may be counterfeited or stolen, but that which they represent, namely, knowledge and virtue, cannot be counterfeited or stolen. These ends of labour cannot be answered but by real exertions of the mind, and in obedience to pure motives. The cheat, the defaulter, the gambler, cannot extort the benefit, cannot extort the knowledge of material and moral nature which his honest care and pains yield to the operative. The law of nature is, Do the thing, and you shall have the power; but they who do not the thing have not the power. . . .

"The league between virtue and nature engages all things to assume a hostile front to vice. The beautiful laws and substances of the world persecute and whip the traitor. He finds that things are arranged for truth and benefit, but there is no den in the wide world to hide a rogue. Commit a crime, and the earth is made of glass. There is no such thing as concealment. The laws and substances of nature, water, snow, wind, gravitation, become penalties to the thief.

"On the other hand the law holds with equal sureness for all right action. Love, and you shall be loved. The good man has absolute good which like fire turns everything to its own nature, so that you cannot do him any harm . . . The good are befriended even by weakness and defect. . . .

"Our strength grows out of our weakness. Not until we are pricked and stung and sorely shot at, awakens the indignation which arms itself with secret forces. A great man is always willing to be little. Whilst he sits on the cushion of advantages, he goes to sleep. When he is pushed, tormented, defeated, he has a chance to learn something; he has been put on his wits, on his manhood; he has gained facts; learns his ignorance; is cured of the insanity of conceit;

has got moderation and real skill. The wise man always throws himself on the side of his assailants. It is more his interest than it is theirs to find his weak point. The wound cicatrizes and falls off him like a dead skin, and when they would triumph, lo! he has passed on invulnerable. Blame is safer than praise. I hate to be defended in a newspaper. as long as all that is said is said against me, I feel a certain assurance of success. But as soon as honeyed words of praise are spoken for me I feel as one that lies unprotected before his enemies. In general, every evil to which we do not succumb is a benefactor. . . .

"The history of persecution is a history of endeavours to cheat nature, to make water run uphill, to twist a rope of sand. It makes no difference whether the actors may be many or one, a tyrant or a mob. A mob is a society of bodies voluntarily bereaving themselves of reason and traversing its work. The mob is man voluntarily descending to the nature of the beast. Its fit hour of activity is night. Its actions are insane, like its whole constitution. It persecutes a principle; it would whip a right; it would tar and feather justice, by inflicting fire and outrage upon the houses and persons of those who have these. It resembles the prank of boys, who run with fire engines to put out the ruddy aurora streaming to the stars. The inviolate spirit turns their spite against the wrongdoers. The martyr cannot be dishonoured.

"Every lash inflicted is a tongue of fame; every prison a more illustrious abode; every burned book or house enlightens the world; every suppressed or expunged word reverberates through the earth from side to side. The minds of men are at last aroused; reason looks out and justifies her own and malice finds all her work in vain. It is the whipper who is whipped and the tyrant who is undone.

"Thus do all things preach the indifference of circumstances. The man is all. Everything has two sides, a good and an evil. Every advantage has its tax. I learn to be content. But the doctrine of compensation is not the doctrine of indifference. The thoughtless say, on hearing these representations,—What boots it to do well? there is one event to good and evil; if I gain any good I must pay for it; if I lose any good I gain some other; all actions are indifferent.

"There is a deeper fact in the soul than compensation, to wit its own nature. The soul is not a compensation, but a life. The soul is . . .

"We feel defrauded if the retribution due to evil acts, because the criminal adheres to his vice and contumacy and does not come to a crisis or judgment anywhere in visible nature. There is no stunning confutation of his nonsense before men and angels. Has he therefore outwitted the law? Inasmuch as he carries the malignity and the law with him he so far deceases from nature. In some manner there will be a demonstration of the wrong to the understanding also; but, should we not see it, this deadly deduction makes square the eternal account.

"Neither can it be said, on the other hand, that the gain of rectitude must be bought by any loss. There is no penalty to virtue; no penalty to wisdom; they are proper additions of being. In a virtuous action I properly *am*; in a virtuous act I add to the world; I plant into deserts conquered from Chaos and Nothing and see the darkness receding on the limits of the horizon. There can be no excess to love, none to knowledge, none to beauty, when these attributes are considered in the purest sense. The soul

refuses all limits. It affirms in man always an Optimism never a Pessimism.

"... The changes which break up at short intervals the prosperity of men are advertisements of a nature whose law is growth. Evermore it is the order of nature to grow ... " (*Compensation*).

### "Education for A World Society"

The Association of University Teachers is a body founded in 1919 on familiar lines by the then head of the Department of Zoology at University College, Aberystwyth, whose early professional years had been spent with the Bank of Liverpool (1891-99). He, now Emeritus Professor Laurie, was the Association's first President, and the latest record available describes him as still its Hon. General Secretary. During the War, in common with the British Association for the Advancement of Science, the Association of Scientific Workers and other agencies, reports were prepared on its behalf dealing with various aspects of "University Development." Professor S. Brodetsky (Leeds) was, at the end of the war and had been for many years, a member of the Executive Committee and took a prominent part in its affairs. We do not know whether he still does.

A certain mild resistance has developed of late to the attempts of such bodies as the Association to "build" themselves up into a position in which they appear to 'the public' and may be represented to 'the public' as capable of expressing a 'representative' opinion on matters of policy, politics, ways and means. The success with which any other function, in line with the Association's presumed objective, has been, or is being, performed is obviously a matter of individual opinion and policy.

The following document, upon which we reserve comment, has reached us by a circuitous route, together with three Appendices, beautifully printed on blue air-mail paper, embodying proposals to be discussed at IAUPL (International Association of University Professors and Lecturers) at Basle from the 16th to the 23rd of April next. The proposals are for the establishment of a United Nations Institute of the Human Sciences, an International Social Science Institute and International Study Centres. While both documents cover the same field of (political) interest, there is no direct evidence of a connection between them, and, for the moment, we deal only with the document bearing the name of the A.U.T. Enquiries have not shown this to be widely distributed in British Universities, though it is probable that this is so. Sir Alfred Zimmern submitted a report on "Education for A World Society" to UNESCO in 1946:—

#### "URGENT"

"The A.U.T. urgently requires the views of the local branches on certain points concerning the General Education of students. To avoid the necessity of one or more General Meetings in the near future, all members of staff are requested to forward comments and suggestions to — — — on the following points:—

"(1) Should the University provide, in addition to specialised courses, an introduction to matters of social and cultural importance to the student as a member of society and as an individual?

"(2) Are we at present providing this liberal background?

"(3) Should this general education take the form of either or both of the following: (a) considering his special studies in relation to other fields and to the needs of society? (b) providing some instruction and encouraging interest in other human activities, for their social significance, the value of the philosophy and discipline they can offer, or for the opportunities they give for aesthetic and cultural development?

"(4) Should the importance attached and the time allotted to General Education be sufficient to ensure that it can become an integral part of University education and not merely an additional burden? How much time to be given to it and what cuts to be made in existing courses to provide this time?

"(5) Should the inclusion of General Education in the curriculum lead to a reduction in the time now given to the special studies, perhaps by revision of their content, or to an increase in the length of a student's stay at the University, or both?

"(6) Should General Education be undertaken at all stages of a student's career, the time given to it depending upon a greater concentration on his special studies in the later stages and the parallel development of a more mature outlook and wider interests?

"(7) At the elementary stage should General Education take the form of mainly factual instruction on a limited range of subjects aimed at the provision of a basis of knowledge from which, at a more advanced level, subjects more in accordance with individual interests could be offered?

"(8) What subjects should form the basis of any preliminary scheme? Do you agree that the most necessary are: (a) personal and social philosophy; (b) introduction to modern social systems; (c) self-expression, e.g., through a study of literature; (d) for non-scientists an introduction to the methods and philosophy of the natural sciences?

"(9) If General Education is felt to be necessary, as well as desirable, should it, in the earlier stages at least, be made compulsory? Even it, at a later stage, regard is had to individual interests and opportunities for discussion, should there be some element of compulsory participation?

"(10) How far are you, as a University teacher, prepared to take part in any scheme of General Education? Would you consider the possibility of reviewing your own courses to further the general aims of providing a liberal education, e.g., by relating your subject-matter to other fields, pointing out any relevance for modern conditions, and generally 'casting your net' beyond the strict province of your special field (if possible)?

"Replies and comments to — — by February 8 at the latest."

### Social Credit Secretariat

A meeting for subscribers to *The Social Crediter* is being arranged by the Social Credit Secretariat to take place on the morning of Saturday, April 23, at the Cora Hotel, Upper Woburn Place, W.C.1. The chair will be taken at 10-15 a.m., by the Deputy Chairman of the Secretariat, Dr. Tudor Jones. Subscribers who desire to be present are requested to apply for tickets as early as possible to The Social Credit Secretariat, 7, Victoria Street, Liverpool, 2, marking the envelope "London Meeting." It is desired that the number of those attending the meeting who wish to lunch at the hotel afterwards be ascertained.

### Joliot-Curie

The following, concerning Frédéric Joliot-Curie, the Communist son-in-law of Madame Curie, Lev Kovarski and atomic research, is from *The Jewish Chronicle* for February 18:—

"The technical director of the newly-erected French atomic laboratory is Lev Kovarski, a 42-year-old Leningrad-born Jew. He was educated in Vilna and in Ghent, Belgium, where he studied chemistry and physics at the University. The turning point in his career was his meeting with the great French scientist, Frédéric Joliot-Curie. Kovarski started to work under his direction as early as 1934, when the French scientist and his wife began their experiments on atomic energy.

"On the outbreak of war, the French General Staff became interested in the work of the young Polish Jewish scientist, and he was given the responsibility for taking abroad all the apparatus necessary for atomic research, so as to continue his researches in collaboration with British and American scientists. When Joliot-Curie was appointed French High Commissioner for the development of atomic energy, Kovarski returned to France to continue his work there. They hope to become the pioneers of the application of atomic energy for peace purposes, particularly to provide isotopes for various uses in medicine and industry."

### Church and State

*The Guardian* for March 4, reporting the Church Assembly to whose handling of the question of Church and State reference was made in last week's *Social Crediter*, has the following, mainly additional to the summary previously available to us:—

"Mr. Currie said that he was not speaking of disestablishment. In Magna Carta it was envisaged that the Church of England should be free. But it was far from free, and was far from freedom yet. Their present position was that they could not by their own volition either control their canons, safeguard their Sacraments, define their doctrines, regulate their ritual, manage their money, or even appoint their own bishops. They were in all those respects under the thumb of Parliament.

"Canon J. Brierley (Lichfield), in seconding the motion said that he stood there as an all-out disestablisher. He believed that they could not tinker with the present system. Either they must accept something very like the present state of things or go all-out for disestablishment."

For readers' convenience, we repeat the motion proposed by Mr. Currie:—

"That the Assembly regards the existing connection between Church and State as an infringement of the spiritual freedom without which the Church of England is unable to fulfil her obligations and respectfully requests the Archbishops of Canterbury and York to initiate such steps as appear to be most likely to secure the spiritual freedom desired."

### Diamond Jubilee Number

A few copies of the Diamond Jubilee number of the *G.U.M.* (Glasgow University Magazine) are available for sale, price 1/6d., by Messrs. K.R.P. Publications, Ltd.

### Marxian Justice

Attention continues to be paid to the question of drugs in relation to the practice of Marxian theories of Justice, and *East Europe* for February 24 devotes an article to Mescaline, "a drug which deserves particular attention . . . since it is known to produce astounding changes in the personality." The use of this drug by the Hungarian Security Police has been alleged.

"Mescaline," says *East Europe's* correspondent, is one of a group of eight alkaloids obtained from the tops ('Peyote' or 'Mescal buttons') of the cactus *Lophophora williamsi* which grows in the Rio Grande region of the United States and Mexico. 'Mescal buttons' were eaten by several Indian tribes to promote trances and hallucinations at religious ceremonies. The plant was discovered by Lewin in 1888. Its strange effects were known to the Indians there for at least four centuries and were first described by Hernandez, physician to Philip II. of Spain. It was eaten by the Indians to promote trances and hallucinations in religious rites and in view of the obstacles placed in the path of their conversion the practice was banned by the Catholic Church. The psychological effects of mescal buttons were investigated by Weir-Mitchell (*British Medical Journal*, December, 1896), Havelock Ellis (*Lancet*, 1897, p. 1540) and Dixon (*Journal of Physiology*, vol. 25, p. 69, 1899). These writers described astonishing colour hallucinations and exhilaration, and reference was also made to 'an indescribable feeling of dual existence' . . . This substance produces a condition known as 'depersonalisation' or a subjective state in which the individual concerned feels he is no longer himself. The effect is produced with small doses, 0.1 to 0.2 grams, and is identical with the condition found in some morbid mental states. The substance dissolves in water and has a bitter taste. It can be taken orally or by injection, the latter method producing more certain results. The drug does not appear to be used outside the field of psychiatric research and most physicians would, therefore be unfamiliar with its somewhat sinister properties.

"The potency of this compound can be gauged from the following extracts from a scientific paper (G.T.A. Stockings, *Journal of Mental Science*, 1940, 86): 'It is important to realise that unless the dose is very large, that is, above 0.4 grams, the mental changes take place in a state of clear consciousness and without weakness of the intellectual faculties; this clearness of consciousness is all the more remarkable in view of the profound disorders of personality and thinking with which it is co-existent.' Again, 'Mescaline produces no intellectual weakness unlike alcohol and other narcotic drugs. The characteristic change appears to be the peculiar divorcing of the intellectual part of the personality from the rest of the psyche, with disturbance of association, blocking of voluntary intellectual thought and extreme distractibility.'"

By

C. H. DOUGLAS:

### THE REALISTIC POSITION OF THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND

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**PARLIAMENT** (continued from page 3.)

it met for only 3½ days a week so far as the catering arrangements were concerned. The House decided at the beginning of this Parliament—and decided, in my view, very properly—to pay the staff all the year round. Previously, when the House was up, and certainly during the Recesses, the staff were paid off and no one cared what they did or how they lived. The House in its wisdom in 1945, soon after this Parliament assembled, decided that the staff should be put on a permanent basis and that we should also arrange for some pension scheme for them.

I am told by those who know—I do not myself know a great deal about these things—that the prices charged in the various cafés and refreshment rooms of this House are as high as they ought to be. In fact some Members would say, and some visitors would tell us, that they are higher than they ought to be. We have to remember that the Members themselves form only a minority of those for whom we have to cater. . . . There are at the most 640 Members of this House, whereas the numbers who have to be catered for are 1,758. There are the staff here, the officials, the members of the Press gallery and, in addition to the 1,758 who are, if one may so describe them, people who are here constantly, there are the general public who come and go and for whom refreshments of some kind have to be provided. . . .

. . . I would add that, in the weeks when the House is sitting, an actual profit is made by the Kitchen Committee on the food which it supplies. What makes the deficit is the fact that we have at least 17 weeks in the year when the House does not sit, but when the overheads go on. . . .

*Mr. Butcher:* I think the hon. Member for South-West St. Pancras (Mr. Haydn Davies) was a little unfortunate in introducing party bias into this House of Commons matter. If I recollect aright, everybody in the House was in perfect agreement that the staff—to whom we are under a considerable debt and to whom we are much obliged for the way they look after us—should have proper remuneration. I was interested in his break-up of the numbers of people who are entitled to meals, to each of which we are now asking the taxpayer to make some contribution. First, he dealt with the 640 Members of Parliament.

*Mr. Glenvil Hall:* I am sorry to interrupt the hon. Gentleman, but we might as well get this straight. We are not asking the taxpayer to pay a contribution to anyone's meal; we are asking the taxpayer—it is quite plain—to bear a proportion of the salaries of the staff during the weeks when the House is not sitting. I should know, because I dealt with this Estimate in the Treasury. We are not paying the full deficit. We are paying only a subvention in respect of those weeks when the House is not sitting, and it is only the loss during those weeks.

*Mr. Butcher:* I am much obliged to the right hon. Gentleman, but he is not usually given to splitting hairs. What he fails to realise is that there are between 1,700 and

1,800 people entitled to have meals in this place, and if the prices for those meals were higher, he would not be applying for a Supplementary Estimate tonight. Now let us come to the numbers.

*Mr. Benn Levy* (Eton and Slough): *rose*—

*Mr. Butcher:* I cannot give way again. There are 640 Members of Parliament, every one of whom has received an increase in salary from £600 to £1,000 a year during the lifetime of this Parliament. At the time when hon. Members were giving their services entirely free and the accounts of the Kitchen Committee did not balance, there was no real hardship in asking the taxpayer for a subvention.

Now we come to the 200 Press men. Is it really right, on whatever grounds the right hon. Gentleman asks us, that we should be asking the taxpayer to make a contribution so that the expense accounts of the newspaper representative, whom we are glad to see amongst us, should be lighter than they would be if they had to pay their proper share of the upkeep and overhead charges of the Kitchen Committee?

Then we come to the 340 Members' secretaries. Why should any subvention be made towards discharging their expenses in this matter? Then, of course, there is the question of catering for the permanent employees of the House. That is rather a different principle, because the principle which applies in normal works canteens is involved. As I listened to the right hon. Gentleman's explanation I was deeply concerned to think that out of the number of people for whom provision in terms of food is made in this House, 640 Members of Parliament have enjoyed increased salaries, and 200 Press men should not be the particular care of the Financial Secretary when he is presenting Supplementary Estimates, nor indeed should Members' secretaries—their remuneration should be such that there is no obligation to pay towards their meals.

Let us face up to the fact that 1,100—I think my arithmetic is right—of these people ought to be carrying their full share of these overhead expenses. I believe that it can and ought to be arranged. I do not think that it is right to say that the prices charged for food in this place are as high as in comparable places outside. [Interruption.] It is a matter of opinion. Everybody is entitled to his opinion. I believe that at a time when Members of Parliament are receiving an increased salary, when economy in national affairs is of paramount importance, the Kitchen Committee should be urged so to adjust its accounts so that this subvention is not necessary. I hope that the Supplementary Estimate will be taken to a Division.

### National Health Service

*Mr. Sharp* asked the Chancellor of the Exchequer if he will now give revised estimates in terms of pence per £ in Income Tax of the cost to the taxpayer of the National Health Service during the present financial year.

*Mr. Glenvil Hall:* Seventeen and a third pence in the £.

### Government Departments (Women Cleaners)

*Mr. Piratin* asked the Chancellor of the Exchequer how many women cleaners are employed directly by the Government; how many are employed indirectly through contractors; what is the rate per hour to the women employed directly and the rate per hour paid to the contractors in the case of the women employed indirectly; and what information

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he has as to the rate paid by the contractors to the women employed by them on this work.

*Mr. Glenvil Hall:* About 19,000 non-industrial women cleaners are employed directly by the Government. In London they are paid 1s. 7½d. an hour rising to 1s. 8½d. after two years; in the provinces slightly less. In London some cleaning is done by contractors who employ 1,200 women at rates stated by the staff associations to be 2s. an hour or more. The Government pay the contractors 1s. 6½d. to 1s. 9d. per hundred square feet cleaned, which is no more than the cost of cleaning by direct labour.

### Consumers' Councils

*Colonel J. R. H. Hutchison* asked the Minister of Fuel and Power on what date was the Industrial Coal Consumers' Council appointed; on how many occasions have they sat; and approximately how many representations have been submitted to them by consumers and by himself respectively.

*Mr. Robens:* The Industrial Coal Consumers' Council was appointed on 1st July, 1947, and has had nine meetings. Apart from studies initiated by the Council itself, representations have been made to the Council by three consumers or groups of consumers. My right hon. Friend has referred one matter to the Council.

*Colonel J. R. H. Hutchison* asked the Minister of Fuel and Power on how many occasions he has given directions to the National Coal Board in order to remedy defects arising from representations made to the Industrial Coal Consumers' Council and to the Domestic Coal Consumers' Council respectively.

*Mr. Robens:* My right hon. Friend has received no representations from either the Industrial or the Domestic Coal Consumers' Council as to any defect in the general arrangements of the National Coal Board. The hon. Member's Question does not therefore arise.

*Colonel J. R. H. Hutchison* asked the Minister of Fuel and Power on what date was the Domestic Coal Consumers' Council appointed; on how many occasions have they sat; and approximately how many representations have been submitted to them by consumers and by himself respectively.

*Mr. Robens:* The Domestic Coal Consumers' Council was appointed on 1st July, 1947, and has had seven meetings. Representations have been made to the Council by about 70 consumers and my right hon. Friend has referred five matters to the Council.

### Potatoes and Carrots (Trading Losses)

*Mr. Osborne* asked the Minister of Food what is the approximate anticipated total loss on the Consolidated Account for the potato and carrot division for the year 1948-49, including the £9,600,000 required in the Supplementary Estimate; and how much is allowed for subsidies paid direct on home-grown potatoes.

*Mr. Strachey:* The total loss on trading in potatoes and carrots for the year 1948-49 is estimated at £10 million, of which £1½ million relates to imported supplies and £8½ million to home-grown supplies. The latter loss is due largely to the necessity of implementing the guarantee of the growers' market at fixed prices; it does not include the acreage payments made direct to potato growers by the Agricultural Departments. There are no other direct subsidy payments on home-grown potatoes.

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