

THE SOCIAL CREDITER

FOR POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC REALISM

Vol. 23. No. 4.

Registered at G.P.O. as a Newspaper.
Postage (home and abroad) 1d.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 1949.

6d. Weekly.

From Week to Week

To those who (as we do) believe that Planning and fulfilled Prophecy, although by no means always recognisable as cause and effect, are nevertheless indissoluble (*Die Welte als Wille und Vorstellung*), Sir Stafford Cripp's "prophecy" that austerity will continue or be intensified for about another two years (only in "Britain", of course) gains additional interest from the fact that it is written in the Pyramids, although he does not say so. In other and more easily understandable words, it is considered by the Freemasonic gang, the B'nai B'rith and their associated New York financial houses that about two years more of the treatment will have put us permanently down and out.

Well, we shouldn't be surprised. We can see no signs of any effective recognition of the future being Planned for us, and such recognition is an essential to salvation.

As we have so often insisted, it is not "cleverness" which is lacking, it is *Wille und Vorstellung* (will and imagination); and to guide these aright we must have wisdom. It was never more true than now that knowledge grows, but wisdom lingers; and the glamour of useless knowledge hides the paramountcy of wisdom more effectively than so-called ignorance. "Except ye become as little children. . . ."

The substitution, as a principle, of quantity for quality as the basis of political power—the century of the cahnon man, d'markrazi or what-have-you—is one of those peculiar exhibitions of pride which goeth before a fall which seem to have come to birth with the French Revolution. It has as much or as little reality as a card vote at a Trades Union Congress. No one of its components has the least idea for what it will be used. Considered in its electoral or ballot-box aspect, which is far from being unique in its vicious effects, we have first to bear in mind that a consistent policy must have a philosophy. It is significant that Christian philosophy, which moulded European policy, however imperfectly, until the Calvin-Luther "Reformation", can be seen to have been an essential pre-requisite to any practical embodiment of the democratic idea. Lacking it, we have had d'markrazi, a nightmare parody, foisted on us.

Under the present dispensation, we claim that all adults are equal (or more so) and each should have a vote. Not one in ten thousand of these voters has any philosophy whatever. Of those who would claim that they have, again not one in one hundred could so formulate it that it would not contain irreconcilable contradictions with the philosophies of their neighbours. So that we are left with an overwhelming majority which has no rational basis for any politics; and a very small residuum whose politics, proceeding from un-correlated philosophies, are, from the very nature of things, bound to cancel out effective action.

At the time that these words are written, conferences are in progress in Washington which, for sheer, naked wickedness (we agree that the word has no meaning in a world

which has no philosophy) surpass anything in recorded history. They cannot be covered in a few words; but consider some of the components.

Mr. Eugene Black says he cannot see how European currencies can avoid devaluation. Sir Stafford Cripps says "we" must export more to the dollar areas. Notice particularly that he does not say "We must get more dollars for what we do export." That means that we send still more goods, requiring us to *buy* still more raw materials from the dollar areas, and we are to be paid with less dollars not merely for our increase in exports but for the level of exports we had previously attained, and our raw materials cost more.

At this point, Mr. Havenga of South Africa says "we" must pay more for gold, and it is tacitly agreed that gold and dollars are the only "real" currencies. While this *leit motif* runs through the whole concert, secondary themes, such as "full employment," "stock-piling of essential raw materials" from the *ci-devant* British Empire in and for the benefit of U.S.A. (?Israel) and, of course, d'markrazi, are never absent. We merely recall, without emphasising, that dollar currency in billions is stated to be rolling off the engraved plates supplied by Roosevelt to Russia. Now, the direct effect of all these measures, so complex in themselves, is simple. It is to raise the cost of living, or to put it more starkly, to rob the consumer. It has been easier to rob the well-to-do for the past fifty years, by the exercise of the majority racket, but as there are no well-to-do now, the turn of the majority has come. All are consumers.

Contemporaneously, the "British" Railways, once the envy of the world, but now a disgrace to a second-rate nation, having raised their rates to twice those prevalent a hundred years ago, have, for the moment, refused to allow the railway employés to fix their own scale of pay. As the "British" Railways now pretend to represent the public, this is the working of the majority principle against the trades-unionists and cannot be tolerated. To which the reply of the Trades Unionists appears to be that of the passenger to the saloon steward who said "You can't be sick here, sir."

The correspondence which is proceeding, desultorily, in *The Scotsman* on the devastation threatened by the North of Scotland Hydro-Electric Board contains a striking lesson for the so-called Conservative Party, by which we may be sure it will not be allowed to profit. The lesson is simple—it is that the proper function of Conservatives is to safeguard effectively long term interests against short-term rackets.

The composers of the Protocols of the Learned Elders of Zion, whoever they may have been, showed that marvellous perspicacity which characterises the whole document when they identify the gentry as the only effective bulwark of the common people against "Zion" and explained in detail and correctly how by exorbitant land taxes they could and must be destroyed.

We require no further evidence of the complete insanity

of our current Administration, (if it is to be absolved of High Treason) than the fact that "India", which is not even India, is drawing on sterling balances she never ought to possess, to double the agreed amount. That is to say, we are giving away—may we repeat, *giving away*—a large portion of the product of "full employment" and buying the raw material to make that product with dollars for which we are trading our political and financial independence.

PARLIAMENT

House of Commons: July 19, 1949.

NATIONAL FINANCE

War Debts (Anglo-Indian Talks)

Mr. Thomas Reid asked the Chancellor of the Exchequer how the debt of Britain to India of about £1,200,000,000 contracted during the war in the defence, *inter alia*, of the Commonwealth and Empire has been liquidated up to date; and if Great Britain alone by unrequited exports or otherwise has borne the cost of liquidation up to date.

The Economic Secretary to the Treasury (Mr. Douglas Jay): Financial talks with the Government of India are at present in progress and we expect to make a statement when they are concluded.

Colonel Crosthwaite-Eyre: Can the Economic Secretary say what is the proportion of this debt now liquidating, and whether it is true that out of the £1,200 million only some £200 million or £300 million now remains to be repaid?

Mr. Jay: No, Sir, that is not true. My right hon. and learned Friend thought it best to give full details when these negotiations were complete.

Mr. Oliver Stanley: When the right hon. Gentleman talks about talks going on, does he mean a permanent settlement of this problem, or another interim release of some of these balances?

Mr. Jay: The talks are mainly devoted to another interim period.

Mr. Alfred Edwards: Are their accounts to be submitted on a contra account for services rendered during the same period? Have all these been taken into consideration?

Mr. Jay: If the hon. Gentleman is speaking of counter claims by the United Kingdom, some of these were settled under the agreement made last year.

Mr. Stakes: Will my hon. Friend ask his right hon. and learned Friend to consider sending to the Indian Government a bill for this amount for saving them from the Japanese?

Mr. Stanley: In view of the hon. Gentleman's reply to the last supplementary question, is it not a fact that we have been told on many occasions that any counter claim we have against the Indian Government in connection with the war effort has been reserved for the final talks, and is it really correct when the hon. Gentleman says that such counter claims have already been settled in last year's talks?

Mr. Jay: A most substantial counter claim on account of defence stores, pensions and other matters was settled in the agreement which was published in the White Paper last year.

Mr. Stanley: Is the Chancellor making no claim against this debt which has been incurred in the defence of India

and for the effort we made in keeping India safe?

Mr. T. Reid: Has any request been made to the Governments of India, Ceylon, Pakistan or any other Government to assist in liquidating this debt, instead of leaving the whole charge to fall upon the unfortunate British taxpayer?

Mr. A. Edwards: I think the second answer by the Economic Secretary to the right hon. Member for West Bristol (Mr. Stanley) was different to the one he gave to me. Are there still counter claims to be considered?

Development Charge

Mr. Pryde asked the Secretary of State for Scotland why the present owner of Venlaw Castle Hotel, Peebles, is being charged £300 per year development charge for his hotel.

Mr. Woodburn: I regret I cannot undertake to answer questions about the basis on which development charges are determined. This is a matter within the day-to-day administration of the Central Land Board. I should, however, explain that in the present case the charge is not £300 a year but a total of £300 for three years.

House of Commons: July 20, 1949.

W.R.N.S. Personnel (Chequers)

Mr. Langford-Holt asked the Parliamentary Secretary to the Admiralty how many Women's Royal Naval Service personnel are employed at Chequers; and on which Vote their cost is borne.

Mr. Dugdale: There are at present 13 W.R.N.S. ratings serving at Chequers. They are paid initially from Navy Votes, a grant towards the cost of their pay and victualling being made from the Chequers Trust Fund, and credited as an appropriation in aid.

Mr. Langford-Holt: Can the right hon. Gentleman tell the House what are the duties of the W.R.N.S. at Chequers? I am not complaining of the fact that there are W.R.N.S. at Chequers, but I wonder if he could tell us what their duties are. Secondly, would he make a point of seeing that no charge for these duties goes on the Navy Vote at a time when this House keeps very strict watch on this Vote?

Mr. Dugdale: The duties are the ordinary household duties of cooks and stewards. So far as the cost is concerned, we receive a refund of £800 a year for victualling, and £600 by way of grant apart from that from the Chequers Trust.

Mr. Anthony Greenwood: Would my right hon. Friend say whether this practice of employing women at Chequers was not started when the right hon. Member for Woodford (Mr. Churchill) was Prime Minister?

Mr. Dugdale: Yes, Sir. That is perfectly correct.

Captain Marsden: Are these W.R.N.S. volunteers, and if not, why not, in view of the fact that they joined the Naval Service and are now employed in the heart of the country?

Mr. Dugdale: No, Sir. They are drafted, and they are drafted in the service of the Prime Minister who is himself the head of our defence. It is perfectly correct that they should be so drafted, in the opinion of the Admiralty.

Colonial Empire (Expenditure)

Mr. T. Reid asked the Secretary of State for the Colonies what is the total sum given or promised since 1st

January, 1944, to Colonies on behalf of the British taxpayer.

Mr. Creech Jones: As the reply contains a list of figures, I am circulating a statement in the OFFICIAL REPORT.

Mr. Reid: Could my right hon. Friend say what is the total?

Mr. Creech Jones: It is rather difficult to give a final figure. I have tried to classify the various items of expenditure, but one item is £160,500,000 and the other is £120 million.

Following is the statement:

The total sum given or promised to colonies on behalf of the British taxpayer since 1st January, 1944, is approximately £160,500,000, comprising the following main items:

- (a) £120,000,000 made available under the Colonial Development and Welfare Act of 1945.
- (b) £15,544,000 grant-in-aid of administration.
- (c) £8,918,000 for defence and reconstruction in the Far East.
- (d) £2,539,000 for subsidies, mainly for food, to Malta and certain West Indian territories.
- (e) £13,500,000 for claims waived by His Majesty's Government chiefly in the Far East.

Items (c) to (e) are made up in detail, as follows:

Item (c)	£
(i) Malaya: Defence Expenditure	6,000,000
(ii) North Borneo:	
Reconstruction	1,600,000
Redemption of Chartered Co.'s Currency ...	502,296
War Compensation	816,666
 Item (d)	
(i) Malta:	
Food Subsidies	1,650,000
(ii) British Guiana:	
Compensation to Sugar Growers	117,669
(iii) Trinidad:	
Subsidies for Sugar Replanting	190,450
(iv) West Indian Colonies:	
(Jamaica, Turks and Caicos Islands and British Guiana): Subsidies to reduce cost of living since the war	580,908
 Item (e)	
Claims waived:	
(i) Military Administration in Malaya, Hong Kong and Borneo	10,000,000
(ii) Purchase price of North Borneo Chartered Company	1,400,000
(iii) Defence Expenditure Fiji	2,000,000
(iv) British Honduras:	
Hurricane Loan (outstanding part of principal converted to grant)	100,418
(a) (a) Colonial Development and Welfare ...	120,000,000
(b) (2) Grant-in-aid (1.1.44 to 31.3.49) ...	11,644,905
Estimate (1.1.49 to 31.3.50)	3,900,000
	160,503,312

In addition, His Majesty's Government have made an offer of a £20 million grant to the Federation of Malaya in respect of war damage, but this offer is conditional on the Federation accepting the projected war damage scheme. The above figures, except for the provision under the Colonial Development and Welfare Act, do not take into account assistance in the form of loans.

Food Supplies: West Indian Sugar

Sir W. Smithers asked the Minister of Food if he will make a statement as to the latest developments in the prices and movements of sugar between Great Britain and the West Indies.

Mr. Strachey: The current agreement with Commonwealth sugar producers provides that the Ministry of Food will find a market in the Commonwealth at prices to be negotiated annually, for all the sugar which the West Indian

Colonies can produce for export up to 1952. The possible extension of the arrangements beyond 1952 is under consideration, and my right hon. Friend the Secretary of State for the Colonies and I will take advantage of the presence in this country of two deputations from the West Indies to discuss the matter with them. The current price is £27 5s. per ton, including preference.

House of Commons: July 25, 1949.

Ministry of Supply: Motor Vehicles (Purchases)

Mr. J. Langford-Holt asked the Minister of Supply how many motor vehicles have been purchased by his Department in the years 1946, 1947 and 1948, respectively.

The Minister of Supply (Mr. G. R. Strauss): A total of 13,138, 6,787 and 5,134 vehicles were bought for all Government Departments by my Ministry in 1946, 1947 and 1948, respectively.

Mr. Langford-Holt: The right hon. Gentleman told me last week that these vehicles cost £27 million. In those circumstances, and in view of the very large sum involved, would he consider issuing a fuller statement of the type of vehicles which are purchased, saying how long they remain in service and what price is paid for each?

Mr. Strauss: If the hon. Gentleman will put down a Question I can break down these figures easily. I am afraid I cannot give the price, but I can give the type. Most of them go to the Services.

Mr. Langford-Holt: Could the right hon. Gentleman say whether that includes the Service Departments?

Mr. Strauss: Yes, Sir.

Mr. Gammans: Are any vehicles bought for Government Departments except through the right hon. Gentleman's Ministry? Are they all bought through his Ministry?

Mr. Strauss: Practically all, with hardly any exception.

Mr. Baldwin: Is the Minister aware that this abnormal demand on the limited supply of vehicles available in this country means that food distributors have to wait for over three years for vans to carry on their business?

Mr. Strauss: No, Sir.

Hydro-Electricity Schemes, North Wales

Mr. Keeling asked the Minister of Fuel and Power what is the estimated annual saving of coal from the hydro-electricity schemes in North Wales proposed by the British Electricity Authority.

Mr. Gaitskell: I understand from the British Electricity Authority that the estimated additional annual output which will be obtained from the extension of the existing catchment area at Dolgarrog and Maentwrog now proposed is 36 million units, which, at the present average consumption of coal in thermal stations, would represent an annual saving of 24,000 tons of coal.

If the six major new schemes which are at present being investigated were developed, it is estimated that a further additional average annual output of 520 million units would be obtained which would be equivalent on the same basis of calculation to about 350,000 tons of coal.

(Table (Food Prices) from Debate of July 21, p. 7)

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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.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES: *Home and abroad, post free:*
 One year 30/-; Six months 15/-; Three months 7s. 6d.

Offices: (Business) 7, VICTORIA STREET, LIVERPOOL, 2, Telephone: CENTRAL 8509; (Editorial) 49, PRINCE ALFRED ROAD, LIVERPOOL, 15, Telephone SEFTon Park 435.

Vol. 23. No. 4.

Saturday, September 24, 1949.

Investigate

It is proverbially easy to demolish a case which the critic himself has constructed for the purpose, although his purpose is presumed to be solely that of demolishing another case, which is not permitted to come prominently into view, it being assumed to be, nevertheless, the case under examination. If it is true that the ultimate basis for reasoning is a "substitution of similars" (Jevons), dishonest (or at least fallacious) reasoning rests upon a substitution of dissimilars. This consideration is relevant to criticisms of our attitude towards Freemasonry among other things. We have never suggested that the only elements of which Freemasonry is composed are evil elements; nor that all Freemasons are conspirators who have dedicated themselves to life-long prosecution of a programme of social subversion and individual demoralisation. We have not even asserted that we are far better informed of the rites, ceremonies and objectives of Freemasonry than are Freemasons themselves. We are told that we might quite easily get a little book disclosing all the rituals of the Craft (and, by others, that it is quite useless for us to do so, because the little *vade mecum* recommended is notoriously and purposely inaccurate). We have paid enough heed to this counsel to neglect to profit from the instruction. On the other hand, when we are told that Freemasonry is secret and that, unless we learn its secrets by approved means we cannot know anything about it, we demur, just as much as a scientist might demur if he were told that, unless he were himself a member of a congregation of molecules of potassium cyanide (or, if the image be preferred, a congregation of molecules of the essential oil of roses), he could know nothing of either poisoning or perfume, as the case may be. Some other claims made on behalf of Freemasonry are as easily disposed of, e.g. that Freemasonry is, does or intends *good* for us, i.e., that what we are presumed to believe to be black magic is really white magic: it isn't the colour but the magic which we resist. To compete with the many false axioms current in our disturbed world, we enter, as something truly axiomatic, that any human agency in society which magnifies its power and renders itself thereby more effective, through the increment of association, should be open to inspection in regard to its policies or its methods or both. We are really quite indifferent if a start were made from another angle altogether to unmask, as in a court of law, what it is that has brought the promising association known as the British Empire to so low an ebb as it is at present, we should raise no objection.

No Price-raising for T.S.C.

For some unexplained reason, several direct subscribers to *The Social Crediter* have recently sent remittances which assume that the rate of subscription has been increased. The publishers thank them for this consideration and wish

it to be known that the subscription rates remain as they have been since early in the late war and as announced at the head of page 4.

The Reality of Evil

The Editor, *The Social Crediter*.

Sir,—In the issue of your paper for August 20 is an article which generously acknowledges the good which has been accomplished by the Christian Science movement, and mentions as one of its outstanding achievements the production of *The Christian Science Monitor*.

The purpose of the article, however, is to denounce the teaching that evil does not in reality exist, and in this connection it makes reference to Christian Science. In order that your readers are not left under any misapprehension as to the teaching of Christian Science on this important point, I should be grateful if you would give me the opportunity of elucidating it further in your columns.

Let it be frankly admitted that to assume evil to be unreal upon no better basis than human philosophy, and to act upon such an assumption, would be dangerous and extremely detrimental to the moral health of mankind. But fallible human reason is not the foundation upon which the teachings of Christian Science rest.

Its authority on this point may be regarded as scriptural. For instance: "God is light, and in Him is no darkness at all" (I John 1:5); "God saw everything that he had made, and behold it was very good" (Gen. 1:31); also "Thou art of purer eyes than to behold evil, and canst not look on iniquity" (Habakkuk 1, 13).

Christian Science teaches that evil is primarily mental, and although to the human mind, it seems to be real and objective, it is, in an absolute or spiritual sense, unreal because God, the only Cause or Principle of existence, has not created it. If evil were real it would be eternal, indestructible, and inescapable. But this is unthinkable, particularly as it has been proved by countless individuals that, as their thought has drawn nearer to the apprehension of divine reality, their belief in evil has correspondingly decreased and their human experience has thereby been blessed.

Christ Jesus, in proof of his divine authority, healed disease, opened the eyes of the blind, and raised the dead. The fact that he considered this elimination of the evidence of evil to be in accordance with spiritual law is proved by his words: "Think not that I am come to destroy the law or the prophets: I am not come to destroy but to fulfil" (Matt. 5:17).

On page 447 of the Christian Science textbook, *Science and Health with Key to the Scriptures*, Mary Baker Eddy has written: "Expose and denounce the claims of evil and disease in all their forms, but realize no reality in them . . . To put down the claim of sin, you must detect it, remove the mask, point out the illusion, and thus get the victory over sin and so prove its unreality. The sick are not healed merely by declaring there is no sickness, but by knowing that there is none." And to emphasize still further the fact that Christian Science in no way condones or ignores evil, let me quote again from Mrs. Eddy's words which follow on the same page: "To assume that there are no claims of evil, and yet to indulge them, is a moral offence."

Yours faithfully,

HERBERT F. BIRTWISTLE.

Christian Science Committee on
 Publication for Lancashire.

September 1, 1949.

Planning the Earth

By C. G. DOBBS

(continued)

A time comes, though it seems a long time in coming, when people shed their illusions and seek for reality, however unwelcome or unfamiliar it may be. The 'reality' only hope of a way out of their predicament. The 'reality' to which most people have been conforming is a 'reality' invented and imposed first of all by the creators and controllers of financial credit (the 'reality' for instance, of the great Depression of the 1930's or the dollar 'crisis') and secondly and increasingly by the Planners and Regulators and Dictators of the modern State. But when this pseudo-reality diverges so widely from the real nature of things as to jeopardise the survival of the race, then a revolution—a turning back to reality—becomes vitally necessary. Indeed, not merely a turning back, but a binding back (re-ligion). In this sense a *revolution* in social affairs corresponds to, and arises from, the *conversion* of the individual—in both cases a *turning round*—not merely 'back' but right round so as to face in the opposite direction, for the pseudo-organism of the modern political world is rapidly assuming the form of an inversion of a real, sane, and Christian Society, in which position alone an illusory equilibrium appears possible.

This inversion permeates the whole of politics, just as politics is now permeating the whole of life, and it is the clue to an understanding of the situation, and of the nature of spiritual forces which are in conflict. The tragedy is that these words, *religion* and *conversion*, are commonly interpreted in so restricted a sense that they are supposed to apply only to the 'private' lives of the people, *i.e.* to that field of free action which is left to us after the politicians have taken the rest away; either that, or they are inverted to mean binding back again to the pseudo-reality of current social thinking. As for the word 'revolution', it is commonly used by Communists, Collectivists, and One-Worlders, to mean the inevitable culmination of social and economic forces, which is about as revolutionary as, after getting onto a train to Manchester and staying on it, to arrive at Manchester. 'Progress,' again, now means drifting with the tide (or the 'trend'); "you cannot stand in the way of progress" nowadays, it is not something which has to be 'made.' 'Reaction' which is a sign of life, is now taken to mean a sign of death; and 'The People' and 'The Common Good' are the antitheses of the people and the common good.

Much of this inversion of meanings is no doubt the unconscious result of the prevailing methods of thought, which are so obviously driving us to destruction, but a good deal of it is the product of deliberate propaganda. The hallmark of it is always the same, a lack of integrity, an inverted relationship between what is said and what is done, between the alleged or implied aims, and the real ones. Nearly always, also, there is the old trick of the Accuser, the attributing of his own evil intentions to his opponents. All this, backed by every resource of cleverness and publicity which money can buy, has been successful in creating a mental atmosphere in which the essential revolution is difficult to accomplish, and in misleading it and causing it to revert to the prevailing fatal direction. Nevertheless, it is *making progress!*

As a key example—a sort of text-book in the art of

misleading the public with centralist propaganda in the guise of decentralisation, the present Chairman of the U.S. Atomic Energy Commission's *T.V.A.—Democracy on the March* (Penguin Books 1944) is worthy of attention. (All quotations which follow are from this book, unless otherwise stated).

If we are to believe only what Mr. Lillenthal writes, and not what he is, and the policy he is and has been carrying out, he out-does the present writer in most of his enthusiasms. He starts by seeking to dispel the fog of words by seeing the reality behind the words. He ardently believes in true democracy, in experts being held accountable for results, in The People's Dividend (heading of Chapter 5) in care for the soil and the water system, in the avoidance of any sort of coercion or tyranny or bureaucracy or 'managerialism' or materialism, and above all he believes in decentralisation to the limit, down to the grass-roots. His book is littered with the word 'policy' (it occurs ten times on page 141); he shows the consistency with the concept of the economic vote ("Custom-familiarity runs, hold a kind of daily plebiscite"—p. 102); he seeks to use the machine to promote the freedom of the individual, and the things of the spirit; he quotes *Quadragesimo Anno* to this effect (p. 188); he denies the inherent wickedness of man, and believes in the redemption of faith through works (p. 190).

Now this is a combination of ideas peculiar to one body of thought, Social Credit, which Mr. Lillenthal of course does not mention, but it is interesting and encouraging to see that he finds it expedient to adopt this disguise, in view of the almost complete lack of publicity which Social Credit has received since 1939. For it is a disguise, though only to those who are unfamiliar with this set of ideas. The suggestion that Mr. Lillenthal is some sort of an unacknowledged social creditor is too obviously the reverse of the truth to be entertained; and even if the facts did not belie it, the book itself carries evidence of its lack of integrity.

In fact, it starts on the cover with the title: *Democracy on the March*—with its suggestion of a brassy fanfare and of *The Masses on the Move*, its superficial appeal and fundamental dishonesty. As if we did not know that before the people—you and I and the others—can 'march' we must surrender our freedom, and 'Democracy' becomes a mere figment! There is much truth in the witticism that a more honest title would be "Democracy on the Run." There is, however, a certain 'integrity' in its literal sense both about the title and the whole book, provided each key word is taken in its perverted, and to most people, occult, sense. Thus *T.V.A.—Democracy on the March* carries very much the same meaning as the 'British' Planners meant when they said that only in war or under threat of war would their plans become acceptable. That is very true; and we have seen that from start to finish, from Muscle Shoals to the 'Atom' Bomb, war and preparation for war have had plenty to do with the T.V.A.

To counteract the militant effect of the title we have, inside the cover, the phrase 'grass-roots democracy'. Despite the natural enquiry which it raises just how 'grass-roots democracy' can 'march', it is a clever phrase, and Mr. Lillenthal repeats the adjective 'grass-roots' with almost

¹"For electric power is the life blood of modern warfare. Take aluminium for example. This valley's power has produced a major part of the aluminium for American aircraft—at one critical stage of the war more than half—and aluminium is mostly the product of electric power: as much electricity goes into one big bomber as the average household could consume in four hundred years." (pp. 26-27).

incredible frequency. It carries a very powerful suggestion, especially to people intelligent enough to know the importance of grass roots to the soil structure, of real, decentralised, honest-to-God, down-to-earth democracy, based upon detailed, local, love and care for the land; and if we are to believe him, there never was anything, anywhere, quite so decentralised, democratic, down to the individual, and grass-rooty, as Tennessee, once the T.V.A. had descended upon it and decentralised and democratised it.

Taking the grass roots literally, one naturally thinks of them when one reads all about the land restoration, conservation, afforestation and so on; one does not so naturally think of them when one reads about the Great Lakes of the South with their 9,000 mile coastline and their blue waters bedecked with steamers, yachts, bathing belles and game fish, rolling where the grass once rooted. But let us get these things in proportion. Up to 1944 the total investment in 'river development' is given (p. 46) as \$700,000,000—that is, largely in drowning grass roots. "During the [same] ten year period the net expense of T.V.A.'s land restoration and all other development work [my italics] has been \$39,800,000; in addition \$8,383,000 has been spent on fertiliser plants . . ." (p. 48). Let us be generous and say 5 per cent. of the sum spent on drowning grass roots has been spent on restoring them. These quotations, by the way, are taken from Chapter 5—*The People's Dividend!*

But of course, his grass-roots are mostly intended in a metaphorical sense, as we see in Chapter 9—*Democracy at the Grass Roots; For the People and By the People*,—which starts with a quotation from Walt Whitman, about the greatness of the individual. Here we learn that ". . . the satisfaction of elementary physical needs is not enough. A man wants to feel important. . . that he is a needed and useful part of something far bigger [my italics] than he is." (p. 71). This 'something', it is clear, is not, as you might think, God, or the Kingdom of Heaven, or even the mere Universe, but the Tennessee Valley Authority itself.

"This hankering to be an *individual* [Mr. Lilienthal's italics] is probably greater to-day than ever before." And so Mr. Lilienthal, with his T.V.A. and his billion dollars does not hesitate to confer *individuality* upon the Southern hill farmer. This, we read, is to be done by using *democratic methods*, by generously allowing, it would seem for the first time, "widespread and intimate participation of the people in the development of their valley," thus giving "a renewed sense that the individual counts." Indeed (p. 73):

The necessities of management make it mandatory. Efficiency, in the barest operational sense, requires it. There is nothing in my experience more heartening than this: that devices of management which give a lift to the human spirit turn out so often to be the most 'efficient' methods. Viewed in any perspective there is no other way . . . It is the people or nothing.

Later on, however, we read: "This job must be done, this task of changing our physical environment through science and the machine" (p. 189) and again (p. 191): "The physical job will be done. If not democratically, it will be done in an anti-democratic way." So it is clear that 'democracy' has nothing to do with deciding *what* shall be done, but only *how* it shall be done. (We seem to have met this before).

On page 182 we are given the alternatives: "remote control and extreme centralisation" or "decentralised administration of central policies." This latter is the New Democracy of the T.V.A. and its imitators.

Mr. Lilienthal rebuts with horror the 'cynical' thesis of Professor Burnham, who singles out the T.V.A. as an obvious example of the Managerial Revolution. One gathers that if such a thing occurs it will be Professor Burnham's fault for suggesting such wickedness. It should be clear that the *methods* of T.V.A. provide the effective antidote (presumably these include the devices which give a lift to the human spirit, and make a man feel important). On the other hand Mr. Lilienthal deeply deplors the growing contempt of "politics" which he attributes to "defeatists about democracy" and reactionary forces generally. He will not have a word against "the role of politics in the fixing of basic policies." ". . . if the institution of politics becomes discredited, the enemies of democracy have won an important victory." (p. 164). Presumably by 'the institution of politics' he can only mean the prevailing system of manipulating the anonymous majority vote, which is thus seen to be essential to what he means by 'democracy.'

(To be continued)

Hydro-Electrics in the News

In view of the protest meeting to take place on the shores of Llyn Idwal on October 1, against the despoliation of Snowdonia by the North Wales hydro-electric power scheme, the *Sunday Times* last Sunday printed half a column from Mr. David Divine, who says "it has become known that another area is endangered—this time the slopes of Cader Idris." The following are extracts from the article:—

"This autumn the National Parks Act will become law, and the first steps towards declaring the mountains of North Wales a sanctuary from the encroachments of commercialism will be taken. But under the hydro-electric scheme a score of new power stations will be studded throughout the mountain area from Conway Bay to Plynlimon.

"Lines of pylons will run through the valleys and over the passes. New lakes will be created, existing lakes will be dammed and altered, great leets—wide enough to take a barge—will wind round the mountain slopes and 60 miles of tunnels will be bored through the mountains. . . .

"With all these things will go the drying up of almost every well-known waterfall of North Wales. The Aberglaslyn Pass will become a gully of almost dry rocks, the lakes involved will develop the grim mud-margin that is typical of power reservoirs.

"Mr. Cooper, the divisional controller for the scheme, says that the reservoir at Trawsfynydd 'can safely be compared for scenic grandeur with Bala Lake.' I passed Trawsfynydd last week and saw desolate wastes of grey mud and slime.

"What does this destruction bring? The official figure given by the Ministry of Fuel and Power is that it will produce 566,000 units of electricity, saving 374,000 tons of coal a year. Therefore, for half the daily output of the Battersea Power Station and a saving of two-thirds of one day's national coal output the whole principle of the National Parks is to be thrown overboard and the value of their tourist attraction is to be risked. The estimate of cost is £20,000,000, but the scheme will take fifteen years to complete and may exceed that figure by then.

"There are grave doubts as to the economic value of

this scheme. There is every possible suspicion in the mind of Wales as to its economic value to Wales. There is no possible shadow of doubt as to its effect on Snowdonia."

True to Type

According to newspaper reports, Mao Tse-tung, China's Red Stalin, was born of poor parents who worked hard to give him an education. In actual fact, Mao's father was a wealthy farmer of Sano-shan, Hunan. He, Mao, was born on April 20, 1893—strikingly enough, the birthday of Adolf Hitler. He was educated at the University of Peking; his subjects being Confucian classics, Western economics and politics. It was here that he met up with the "Lenin of China," Chen Tu-hsiu, also founder of the Chinese Communist Party.

Once a member, Mao's struggle for power inside the Party was a story of ruthless intrigues, cunning scheming and cold-blooded murders. Like Hitler, he was a dynamic speaker and with this gift, he could hold the most diverse of audiences. On winning the opinions of the Party leaders, he was made the Secretary-General, a post he has held ever since.

Four years was enough for Mao to become the master of the Chinese Communist Party, and in 1927, he was strong

enough to oust his best friend, Li Li-san, as chairman. Li, on being warned by another Party member that Mao had signed his death warrant, fled to Moscow.

Mao is not unlike Stalin when it comes to party purges. In the last twenty years, it is estimated that he has liquidated more than 10,000 comrades who did not see eye to eye with him.

In 1927, after establishing his dictatorship, he signed the death warrant of 4,900 "unreliable" comrades. He admitted that he had thus lost many good friends, but explained his actions because of his political mistrusts.

Mao, the consummate actor, is undoubtedly a man of great personal courage, but the stories that show him as a "Champion of the people" or a "man of the people," are falsehoods. He is a fastidious, ambitious intellectual who hates the role of the barefooted simple peasant, stripped to the waist in warm weather, that he has been playing. The idea of him chewing peanuts and melon seeds is sham. The Mao in power will be different from the Mao struggling to gain it.

He has a personal bodyguard of 300 hand-picked soldiers, these are led by his friend, Colonel Tui.

Mao is tall for a Chinese, 5ft. 9ins. He is broad-chested, thick-set, and at 56, gives the impression of great physical strength and power. He looks much younger than

PARLIAMENT (continued from page 3.)

Mr. Keeling: As it would take 10 or 12 years to complete these schemes, does the answer mean that the National Coal Board have no hope of being able to produce enough coal within 10 or 12 years to make this ruination of yet another of the national parks unnecessary?

Mr. Gaitskell: No, Sir. The Question addressed to me simply related to the amount of coal that would be saved. The hon. Member should not assume that the National Coal

Board are in any way concerned with the project.

House of Commons: July 21, 1949.

Food (Retail Prices)

Sir I. Fraser asked the Minister of Labour whether he will list the retail prices of the principal items of food in November, 1922, and July, 1949, respectively.

Mr. Isaacs: The list is as follows:

Item	Price at 1st November, 1922	Item	Price at 14th June,* 1949
Bread 4 lb.	s. d. 9½	Bread 4 lb.	s. d. 10½
Flour (plain) 7 lb.	1 4½	Flour (plain) 7 lb.	1 5½
Sugar (white granulated) lb.	5½	Sugar (white granulated) lb.	5
Milk, fresh† pint	3½	Milk, fresh† pint	5
Butter, fresh lb.	2 2¼	Butter lb.	1 6
Butter, salt lb.	2 1		
Cheese lb.	1 1½	Cheese lb.	1 2
Margarine lb.	6¼	Margarine lb.	10
Eggs (fresh) each	3½	Eggs (fresh) each	2½
Potatoes 7 lb.	5	Potatoes 7 lb.	11½
Bacon (mainly thick streaky) lb.	1 9½	Bacon (mainly thick streaky) lb.	2 0
Beef, Home-killed:—		Beef, Home-killed (first quality):—	
Fore ribs (with bone) lb.	1 6	First 4 ribs of forequarter (with bone) lb.	1 8
Thin flank (with bone) lb.	10½	Thin flank (with bone) lb.	1 0
Beef, Imported:—		Beef, imported:—	
Fore ribs (with bone) lb.	10½	First 4 ribs of forequarter (with bone) lb.	1 4
Thin flank (with bone) lb.	6	Thin flank (with bone) lb.	9
Mutton, Home-killed:—		Mutton, Home-killed (first quality):—	
Leg lb.	1 8	Leg lb.	2 0
Breast lb.	11½	Breast lb.	1 0
Mutton, Imported:—		Mutton, imported:—	
Leg lb.	1 0½	Leg lb.	1 5
Breast lb.	5½	Breast lb.	8

* The latest date for which returns of retail prices have been collected is 14th June, 1949.

† The prices quoted were the ordinary retail prices and include no allowance for milk supplied free or at reduced prices.

his age, his face is round, full and ruddy. His glossy black hair has only just begun to grey at the temples. He has a broad, intelligent forehead, a rather long nose, full lips and keen brown eyes. His bushy eyebrows give his face a half-humorous, quizzical expression. He has a surprisingly high-pitched, rather effeminate voice.—“Politicus” in *China Calling*.

Sir Otto Niemeyer

“Peterborough” in the *Daily Telegraph* for September 14 writes as follows:—

“Sir Otto Niemeyer’s appointment to the board of the International Nickel Company of Canada shows how high the services of this financial expert are valued.

“I noted in July that he was not being allowed a long respite since he exchanged his full-time directorship with the Bank of England for a part-time one.

“He is already a director of the Central Mining and Investment Corporation. His new appointment is also an important one. International Nickel is one of the giants in the mining world. Last year’s profits were nearly £2½m. One of Sir Otto’s colleagues will be Lord McGowan, the chairman of I.C.I.

“Sir Otto is taking the place of the late Lord Melchett, who died in January this year. For the firm to be without a Melchett on the board is a break in a tradition. The first Baron was also a director.

“The family interests in nickel were part of the vast inheritance left to him by his father, Dr. Ludwig Mond, one of the founders of what is now I.C.I.

“Among the achievements of that chemist of genius was the discovery of a method of extracting nickel.”

A Shadow

A cable item from *The Sydney Morning Herald*, June 6, 1949:—

“Dr. Fanny Reading, of Australia, in Paris on Friday was elected one of five vice-presidents of the International Council of Jewish Women.”

This is the Dr. Fanny Reading who was recently “non-suited” in her libel case against *Smith’s Weekly*, when she claimed to have been personally libelled in certain comments made by that paper in reference to the Youth Aliyah Organisation. In giving judgment Judge Herron commented that British law did not permit libel against groups unless it could be shown that the libel was specially directed to some person in that group. He added that it might be necessary to amend the law in this direction.

For many years the Jews have been trying to overcome the sound British legal position that libel cannot be instituted against groups of persons. Case after case has been dismissed on this ground.

No doubt, the new status of Dr. Fanny Reading will enable her to approach one of the International agencies of U.N.O. to make libel apply to groups as in “continental” law, and then to have British Common Law amended to meet the demand.

It is quite understandable that this change would be of supreme value to the Jews who anticipate activities in the

near future of so drastic a nature that all criticism of their activities must be silenced under the fear of libel to one of their race. Developments should be closely scrutinised.

—*The Australian Social Crediter*, June 25.

Honey

This is said to have been a good year for honey:—

Protinus aërii mellis caelestia dona
exsequar.

—Virgil, *Georgics*, Book IV.

(Next will I discourse of Heaven’s gift, the honey from the skies.)

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(Notes for an Address to the Constitutional Research Association at Brown’s Hotel, Mayfair, May 8, 1947)

by C. H. DOUGLAS

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