

# THE SOCIAL CREDITER

## FOR POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC REALISM

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### The Urge To War Some Further Thoughts on The New Deal

By NORMAN F. WEBB

(concluded)

Contentious individuals, as long as they are content to remain only on the same level of thought as their opponents, and to criticize them and judge their motives from that standpoint alone are inevitably reduced to polemics and the destructive futility of dialectic. It is this truth that lies at the root of the distressing aridity of nine tenths of our parliamentary debate. For it is rapidly becoming clear to intelligent individuals that what is called politics today has little or nothing to do with policy—what should be done—but is no more than a difference between two groups, or interests, as to the methods to be employed to achieve an already agreed end. This blemish, this pot-and-kettle, polemic futility in Mr. Flynn's superficially daring attack on The New Deal has already been referred to; for he is as ignorant of the real nature of the problems facing all modern, technological societies as the verriest New Dealer whom he condemns so abysmally. This is not to say that Mr. Flynn's moral standards of behaviour, or even those of his party as a whole—if, as one assumes, he speaks from the Republican standpoint—are not superior to those of many of his opponents. The same holds good, no doubt, as between Conservatives and Labour in this country. But a stage in world affairs is rapidly approaching when the choice before the individual between being, metaphorically, hung or boiled in oil has become so narrowed down and insistent, that the political colour and social deportment of the self-appointed executioner is in process of becoming an academic matter of little or no concern. While it was still largely a matter of regulation on the Home Front, the exercise of more or less discretion and suavity in the process certainly helped—enough, at least, to take one to the polling-booth on a fine day. But when it comes to the dropping of inescapable bombs containing unimaginable plagues, even the religious beliefs of the individuals at the release-controls in the bombers must of necessity rank a poor second against the fact of their employment. In order to be in a position to take effective steps to stop it all, we must be prepared to force ourselves onto an altogether different and more realistic plane of thought than that covering merely our own and our opponent's good or bad intentions; one which can be stretched to embrace the fact of these unmentionable horrors and the source of the thought that can unloose them. But do Mr. Flynn and the interests he speaks for, beyond certain admitted advantages of experience and possibly education, which they possess, represent a more realistic approach to what we, as Social Crediters, know to be the fundamental social problem?

Listen to Mr. Flynn's analysis of the situation, in the few pages of his whole book not devoted to destructive criticism of his opponents; his summing up of the huge problem created by a productive system that *must* produce, linked to a dis-

tributive system that can't, or *won't* distribute, except on ruinous and fraudulent and universally distasteful terms:—  
“The depression which assailed our un-prepared society in 1929 was by no means a mysterious phenomenon to those who have given any attention to the subject of the the business cycle. It was first of all and essentially one of those cyclical disturbances common to the system of private enterprise.”  
In view of the magnitude of the 1929 collapse in the States, this seems a very curious and damning observation from the lips of a supposed defender of Private Enterprise. And Mr. Flynn continues on that level of economic phraseology common to all brands of Socialism and deriving from the London School of Economics: “That system has in it certain defects that expose it at intervals to certain maladjustments. . . . But this cyclical depression was aggravated by additional irritants. . . .” and he goes on to cite three; the depression in Europe, which was not at that time particularly acute, and then the others containing moral strictures, such as are entirely irrelevant to economics. For to instance the cupidity of bankers and excessive speculation, as excuses for the failure of a system to function, is merely to say that the system is not designed to human nature, and so condemn it out of hand. If we go on, as the Socialists do, to insist that society shall be made to fit it, we introduce immediately that atmosphere of pharisaism and hypocrisy which Mr. Flynn correctly identifies as the fundamental flaw in Socialism—the taking upon ourselves the task of reforming human nature *in our neighbour*, instead of confining our activities to ourselves.

Mr. Flynn casts scorn on all the devices of Roosevelt and the New Dealers, and on the rasping tumult of their axe-grinding. But nevertheless, all the moral rectitude in the world, could not have retrieved an equally unrealistic policy presided over by the Republicans under the infinitely more statesmanlike Herbert Hoover. And exactly the same limitation applies to all the noise and tumult of official opposition in our own House of Commons; it is realism—as distinct from materialism, with which it is often erroneously confused—that will count in the end, and the fact that the members of one party are the more familiar with the disposition of the implements on a dinner table can have no direct bearing on results. We, as Social Crediters, know that what we are witnessing in the world today is the wanton and quite unnecessary break-up of the marvellous organic system of exchange and distribution built up by man's natural ingenuity over the centuries. And that this destruction is taking place because in this particular direction there are interests able to exert artificial pressure to prevent the natural expansion and adaptation of human thought, represented by public opinion, to rapidly changed and changing conditions. Such unnatural repression creates, besides an intense and highly explosive atmosphere, a vast number of glaring abuses; but they are actually only inherent in the repression, and were it relieved would in all probability disappear much more rapidly than any of us suppose. Mr. Flynn's Republicans, however, no more than the Democratic Party in the clutches

of the New Dealers, are permitted to see things in that light. In the realm of finance and credit, the minds of both equally are held in a rigid, academic thought-form—just as the Mediæval Church sought to hold the mind of pre-Renaissance Europe as regards inductive thinking and its application to physics—against the natural and irresistible pressure of expanding knowledge and experience. The analogy between Galileo and Douglas is complete. There is no essential difference between the belief in a Ptolemaic solar system and belief in the inevitability of a system of accountancy that only functions under a record of rapidly mounting book-debt owing to abstract and hypothetical creditors. But there it is; human logic (thought) is only a mechanism, like any other human device, that works on whatever is put in at one end, and turns it out at the other converted, but not fundamentally changed. It is not, in itself, a creative faculty, as this irreligious age is prone to suppose, for the very good reason that there is only One Creative Faculty, *vis-a-vis* the New Deal, Mr. Flynn's Republicans are in exactly the same position as our Conservatives are in respect to Socialism. Both sides belong to the same Ptolemaic School of Thought as regards finance and all that goes with it, and differ only as all men differ who want to do things themselves and in their own way.

### Senators and U.S. Foreign Policy

"Inasmuch as Stalin's 'war crimes' specialists undoubtedly read the Congressional Record, they must have already placed on file a colloquy which occurred in the Senate on June 28 between Senator Flanders, of Vermont, and Senator Scott Lucas, of Illinois, the Democratic floor leader. Here it is in part:

"Mr. Flanders: . . . 'About two hours ago I expressed the conviction that the President was within his rights in intervening in Korea, but that he would not be within his rights in pursuing the Korean forces or attacking Korean positions in any way north of the thirty-eighth parallel, which for some reason or other divides Korea.'

"Mr. Lucas: 'I agree with the senator from Vermont. I wholeheartedly agree with him on that point. I undertake to say that in no circumstances can the United States of America be charged with being the aggressor so long as we stay within the boundaries the senator from Vermont has just defined.'

"A few hours later, President Truman realistically ordered General MacArthur to attack the North Korean forces 'wherever they are.' The next day, both senators explained how they were wrong.

"We do not bring this up to make it easy for Stalin's Nuremberg lawyers to convict President Truman as an aggressor if our side should lose a war, but only to point up the confusion which can arise in the minds of statesmen confronted with the mare's nest which has passed for American foreign policy during and since World War II . . ."—*Saturday Evening Post*, August 12.

### The Arab Dispossessed

Described as "a Washington attorney, writer and lecturer," Alfred M. Lilienthal contributes to *Human Events* (Washington, D.C.) for August 2 an article on the Middle East containing the following:—

"The American people of all faiths have generously assisted the refugees of Israel. . . . A sound policy in the Middle East demands equal consideration for the refugees of the Arab world.

"'For every Jew settled in Palestine, there has been an Arab who has lost a home,' to use Dorothy Thompson's words. The American public has known little and cared less about this problem. A conspiracy of silence has reigned. Tucked away on a back page of a handful of newspapers has been a line or two telling of the Arab plight. To 99.9 per cent of Americans, the word 'refugee' means only Jews.

"A combination of sensitivity to pressure groups and indifference has characterised the Congressional attitude. For instance of prominent Congressman, in the face of protests from Zionist constituents, was forced to resign as Vice-Chairman of HELP (Holyland Emergency Liaison Programme), the group which has been trying to carry the story of the displaced Arabs to the American public.

"Attempts to amend the displaced persons legislation so as to permit the entrance into the United States of even a small number of Arab refugees have been shouted down. Congress did enact a provision for 27,450,000 dollars for Palestine refugees. This, however, was a U.S. responsibility as a member of the United Nations agency and, as such, not an American undertaking.

"Political leaders vying for the Zionist vote have rushed to support the banners of Israel. Alben Barkley, Eleanor Roosevelt, Bob Taft, Henry Ford, Jr., are only a few of the national leaders who have publicly identified themselves with the current drive for funds of the United Jewish Appeal. Will they lend their names to equally imposing advertisements on behalf of the unfortunates of the Arab countries? Is the President willing to send cordial greetings to movements dedicated to assist the Arabs, as he has to those pledged to Zionism? Israel, once a desert, has been transformed into a garden. Will the lands of the Arab countries be similarly built up with the assistance of American philanthropy and capital? Will the press and radio, with malice toward none, tell the story of suffering and hardship?"

### The Politics of Bohemia

"One of the wonders of our time was the success of the Communist Party in swinging to its side so many scientists, sociologists, musicians, artists and poets. There had been always a higher proportion of Communist volunteers from the arts and professions than from among the workers, even in the days of Marx. Doubtless more could be recruited by a deliberate effort. The process began swiftly in the mid-Thirties, with the opening of the Popular Front tactic.

"In the course of that effort the Party not only lavished the energies of its members and friends to establish front organisations in the universities and among professional groups. It also used Party funds to start enterprises such as Barney Josephson's *Cafe Society Uptown*. 'The purpose,' according to Louis F. Budenz, 'was to make that night club a rendezvous for artists and entertainers and people of wealth, with whom Communists could there establish acquaintance.' . . . Today most of the letterhead organisations into which these intellectual sheep were gathered have collapsed; this is the post-mortem era of the 'liberal' Left. Autopsies are now the fashion, and the 'liberals' of yesterday are struggling to liberate themselves. The May-June number of the *Partisan Review* carries, for instance, a fourth instalment of a group investigation into the practicality of religion as a refuge for otherwise homeless intellectuals (answer: it is impractical) . . ."—Asher Byrnes in *Human Events*. (August 9).

## Money Pamphlets by Pound\*

By G. D. GILLING-SMITH

(concluded)

"The usurers act through fraud, falsification, superstitions, habits and, when these methods do not function, they let loose a war. Everything hinges on monopoly, and the particular monopolies hinge round the great illusionistic monetary monopoly."—One is reminded of the lines in the 45th and 51st Cantos, published in 1937—

"With Usura hath no man a house of good stone  
each block cut smooth and well fitting  
that design might cover their face, . . .  
with usura, sin against nature,  
is thy bread ever more of stale rags  
is thy bread dry as paper  
with no mountain wheat, no strong flour  
with usura the line grows thick  
with usura is no clear demarcation  
and no man can find site for his dwelling.  
Stone cutter is kept from his stone  
weaver is kept from his loom . . .  
It rusteth the craft and the craftsman  
It gnaweth the thread in the loom  
None learneth to weave gold in her pattern; . . .  
Usura slayeth the child in the womb  
It stayeth the young man's courting  
It hath brought palsy to bed, lyeth  
between the young bride and her bridegroom

### CONTRA NATURA

Just as those who first read about Social Credit to increase their understanding of the Cantos will learn that they will have to accept our philosophy before they can really appreciate what seems to them from the outside to be something worth having, we would do well to remember that Ezra Pound's most important contribution to Social Credit consciousness lies in his great unfinished epic poem. He has often said that the poets are the antennae of the race and his genius for putting his finger on a person, idea or event that is significant from our point of view, however unimportant or unknown it might be in the eyes of the general or even literary public, is certainly a fulfilment of that function. It was the same genius that led him to his relatively early discovery of Social Credit, his frequent raising from obscurity of young authors who had "got something," his selection of historical events that throw light on present day politics and his translation from Chinese, Provencal, or Latin works that had something to offer the contemporary mind in action. (The last has often called forth violent criticism on account of minor errors in translation but it must be borne in mind that even if these are proved they are not such as to affect the sense of the passages important to us. He translated to make up for certain deficiencies in what was available to the man who wished to start thinking and no doubt knew that there were plenty of 'microscope workers' who could take their time over the type of translation that attempts to reproduce a museum piece).

His selection of what is important among historical incidents goes much further than the incidents themselves. It goes hand in hand with a correct understanding of the right emphasis and the right atmosphere. In his handling

of perhaps the most well-known historical incident we have a definite clear-cut presentation of something often buried under a confused mess of outcrop ideology propagated by over emphasis on such phrases as "Gentle Jesus meek and mild." Ezra takes the ballad form as giving the most vigorous, familiar to our own ears, and calls it the "Goodly Fere," *i.e.* Mate or Companion, a few stanzas from which represent the spirit of the whole:

Oh we drunk his "Hale" in the good red wine  
When we last made company,  
No capon priest was the Goodly Fere  
But a man o' men was he.

I ha' seen him drive a hundred men  
Wi' a bundle o' cords swung free,  
That they took the high and holy house  
For their pawn and treasury.

They'll no' get him a' in a book I think  
Though they write it cunningly;  
No mouse of the scrolls was the Goodly Fere  
But aye loved the open sea. . . .

A master of men was the Goodly Fere,  
A mate of the wind and sea,  
If they think they ha' slain our Goodly Fere  
They are fools eternally. . . .

It is certainly a far cry from the Jerusalem of two thousand years ago to "Roosevelt and the Causes of the Present War" which is the title of No. 6 of the 'Money Pamphlets' announced as soon to be available but Ezra's imaginative insight is not only able to penetrate the minds of both the early Christians and F.D.R. but to treat them in close relation to each other when the occasion requires. He introduced the concept of literary history as an ever-recurring present and to use his own words: "It is dawn at Jerusalem while midnight hovers above the pillars of Hercules. All ages are contemporaneous. It is B.C., let us say, in Morocco. The Middle Ages are in Russia (1910). The future stirs already in the minds of the few. This is especially true of literature, where the real time is independent of the apparent, and where many dead men are our grandchildren's contemporaries, while many of our contemporaries have already been gathered into Abraham's bosom." Roosevelt has already become the past since this pamphlet was written but we are still, unfortunately, dealing with the effects he left behind him. Ezra's comment for the year 1939 in the present pamphlet gives us a foretaste of what is in store—"War is his only way out" phrase pronounced by a Congressman to signify that Roosevelt had made such a mess of things that war was his only way of escape. In other words, the only way to hide his past and to maintain his political power." Ezra's comment was no doubt written considerably before the much more documented *Roosevelt Myth* of John T. Flynn but it is as important in the sense that documentation is only really valuable if the nature of the situation has first been appreciated. The faculty of imaginative perception when directed on events past may not seem as important as that of painstaking observation but it is certainly more important when the object is not to be wise after the event, but to relate those events to, and to understand, the pattern of human behaviour in future situations arising out of the present.

\*Introduction to the *Economic Nature of the United States*. Ezra Pound. (London: Peter Russell, 1950).

(continued on page 7.)

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Saturday, September 2, 1950.

### From Week to Week

Under the not very happy title of "A Great Hoax Ended," *The Recorder* of July 29 features a front page article on the reformation said to be in progress in the London School of Economics. We note the substitution by Professor Lionel Robbins, as Principal, and a number of respectable if not particularly inspiring colleagues, of some of the alien rabble who have poisoned the springs of British political economy for the last forty years, if not longer. While we should be the first to acclaim such a step in the Right direction, we are under no delusion as to the need for something much more fundamental. We await events.

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We congratulate *The Recorder* also on its publication of the only obituary notice, outside our own, of the late William Lyon Mackenzie King, which bears the slightest resemblance to truth and fact.

Mr. King may, for all we know, have had admirable personal qualities. He was one of the worst enemies both of Great Britain, and, in the long view, his own Dominion, that the Commonwealth and Empire has produced in the last hundred years, and it is not too much to say, with the notice to which we refer, that had there been a suitable Prime Minister of Canada in power during the period which Mackenzie King was kept in office, mainly by Wall Street, there would quite probably have been no World War II or III.

•   •   •

This steady perversion of fact and history is one of the most daunting considerations to which the student of affairs must perforce apply himself, and it is quite probably complicated by the influence of political dishonesty on the meaning of words.

When, in the distant days of the last century, the writer of these notes commenced his daily labours in an ancient foundation with that beautiful Collect "Prevent us, O Lord in all our doings," the main idea he absorbed from it was "Run and see what Johnny is doing, and tell him he must'nt." That is a simple, and by no means singular, example, of the manner in which the meaning of a word can be completely reversed. And it must be kept in mind that words are formative agencies. Most of our conceptions reach the mind with a word attached to them, and the perversion of the word may, and generally does, precede the perversion of the thing for which it stands.

We believe that those curious phenomena of a rotting civilisation, well exemplified by Mr. Michael Foot, live in a world of words which, to the extent to which they may be said to have any meaning at all, respond to the requirements of the Red Queen in *Alice*: "Words mean what I want them to mean." As a consequence, any action taken on the basis of words used by these people is irrational—there is no more connection between the words, the action, and the result, than between the political life of Mackenzie King and the obituary notices of him put out by the paid claque of the interests he served.

The immense, basic, importance of this matter may be realised if it is recognised as a direct challenge to the very existence of anything which we conceive as TRUTH.

As in so many cases, the fundamental difference lies at the root of the divergence between the Finance of Social Credit, and the Finance of Socialism (which is the Financiers' Finance). The latter is explicitly based on cooking the accounts in various ways, in order, so it is claimed, that good may result. Practically all current taxation, exchange control, and the various concealed and not-so-concealed forms of the Capital levy are fraudulent.

The *only primary* objective of Social Credit accounting is the production of an honest balance sheet. It is true that we say that great, far-reaching benefit would accrue. But whether it did or not, we still object to a fraudulent balance sheet.

There is no room for compromise in this matter. If we are right, we must win, if we are wrong, we are of all men most miserable, for the Devil must win.

•   •   •

"Nearly one person in twelve employed in Australia is dependent upon a Commonwealth Government activity for income. One worker in every four is employed either by the Commonwealth or a State Government.

"The ommonwealth Government alone costs taxpayers £1,152 19s. 4d. a minute—night and day.

"Federal Government spending, which has doubled since the war ended, is now six times greater than in 1939.

"The Constitutional League (N.S.W.) urges that a Royal Commission be appointed to review the structure and organisation of the Federal public service and statutory bodies created by the Commonwealth Government."—*Canberra Letter*, July 12, 1950.

### To Correspondents

We regret to say that staff sickness may occasion temporary delay in dealing with business communications concerning both The Social Credit Secretariat and K.R.F. Publications, Ltd. Readers will doubtless appreciate that every effort is being made to reduce the inconvenience caused to them and to the organisations mentioned.

## PARLIAMENT

House of Commons: July 25, 1950.

### Electricity Industry (Annual Reports)

*Mr. Emrys Roberts (Merioneth):* . . . I next turn to refer to electricity generation and the proposals for hydro-electric schemes in North Wales. It is strange that these schemes are not dealt with in the reports from the boards, though preliminary schemes were put forward during the period which the reports cover. When I first read of these schemes I felt there was in them an appeal to the imagination in the conception that from the streams and waters of North Wales we should generate sufficient current to light up our villages, towns and farms.

Since then, they have provoked a considerable amount of controversy. Surely the right attitude to adopt towards them is neither unqualified acceptance on the one hand—which some people have shown—nor complete rejection, on the other. Some parts of these schemes are completely unacceptable but other parts are acceptable. The main consideration is this that the voice which matters when we consider these schemes is the voice of the people of Wales themselves. It is our land and our heritage; at present, there are far too many claims of a technical or Departmental character upon that land.

I believe the people of North Wales want to develop all the hydro-electricity possible, and that with sympathy, skill and real comprehensive planning that can be done in a manner that will not spoil the wild grandeur of the Welsh mountains and valleys. The British Electricity Authority have been singularly inept in the way they have presented their proposals. The plans, photographs and designs are woefully inadequate. There has been no systematic effort to discuss these proposals with the local authorities concerned, though some have been consulted; and there has been a lack of understanding of Welsh national feeling.

As an illustration on my criticism, I am told that one of the spokesmen of the British Electricity Authority, referring to Aber waterfalls said that normally the waters would have to be dried up when the scheme was in operation, but, when visitors were around, the waterfalls could be switched on for their benefit. It cannot be pretended that Wales, as a whole, is dependent, at present, on outside resources for current. On 10th May, the Minister of Fuel and Power told me that for the year ended 31st December, 1949, the consumption of electricity in Wales was 2,752 million units, while the generation was 2,823 million units. Therefore, one cannot argue that, at present, Wales needs these schemes because she is not self-sufficient in electrical resources. I know that demands are increasing, but coal stations are being opened or planned and we ought to know what their contributions will be.

My conclusion is that the development of Welsh electrical resources and their distribution will never be satisfactory in the hands of a body so constituted as the Merseyside and North Wales Area Board, because that body covers an area in which there is no real community of outlook. On the Report stage of the Electricity Bill, on 25th June, 1947, I proposed an Amendment designed to constitute one electricity board for all Wales, and for Wales alone. The then Minister rejected that Amendment, but I believe that public opinion is now gathering behind such a proposal.

Such a body would have a real interest and a special stake and responsibility in Wales. It would have an incentive to promote and protect all the resources of Wales in one comprehensive programme without being too much obsessed with technical considerations alone. This, I believe, is the first legislative necessity—not a Private Bill for particular schemes, but a Bill to amend the Electricity Act in order to set up an electricity board for Wales. I believe it is only then that we can start to think aright about the matter.

*Lord Malcolm Douglas-Hamilton (Inverness):* . . . I would like to start by paying a tribute to the North of Scotland Hydro-Electric Board. I think that it has shown remarkable resourcefulness in overcoming many of its problems. During last year it supplied 62 hamlets and villages with electricity for the first time, 12 million units were sold for industry in the Highlands, including agriculture, and the total number of consumers was over 222,000, which is a great achievement. We are, however, feeling a certain amount of uneasiness about the future. As the scheme grows it is inevitable that certain snags will arise. Hitherto, there has been a quite satisfactory distribution in the areas which have been supplied, but lately the Board has shown a certain reluctance to supply rural areas, and for a very good reason.

I have here a case in the Kilmorack area, a township consisting of 80 crofters, and it is pointed out by the Deputy Chairman, Sir Edward MacColl, that to cover this area will cost £18,500, with a running cost of £3,700, whereas the amount that will be received back from the area will be at most only £800. That, of course, is very unprofitable. In consequence, he has asked the consumers in this area to contribute £10 per head in capital charge and to guarantee £10 a year. No one has any objection to paying £10 a year. A crofter will certainly use that amount of electricity, but it is a lot to a crofter to pay 10 capital down, which, after all, will not make very much difference to the loss the Board incurs.

The warning that I want to utter is that this is not an isolated case. It is symptomatic of what is happening in one or two other places. The warning is obviously this: there will be a tendency to put increased charges, or increased capital charges, on local areas. I would like to know if the Secretary of State has any statement to make in connection with that matter. It will obviously handicap development in these local areas. . . . I think that there is need to take stock. We have great confidence in the Board as at present constituted, but Parliament gives its charter to the Board, and if the Board cannot provide for development in the Highlands, then Parliament must take action. At present there is a certain amount of irritation among those who are living near to these hydro-electric schemes because they are not getting the power they require. We must take advantage of these schemes to enable life to be better in the Highlands, to improve the amenities in the homes and to improve the amenities of the whole country by enabling the Highlands to make their full contribution to industry.

*Lady Megan Lloyd George (Anglesey):* The hon. Member for Midlothian and Peebles (Mr. Pryde) has spoken of some of the electricity difficulties in Scotland. I would like to ask the House to turn its attention for a moment to another Celtic country with which I am more familiar and to consider the hydro-electric schemes the British Electricity Authority propose for North Wales.

There is no one in this House who does not recognise

the need for providing electricity in the towns and villages of North Wales for agriculture and industry. The only question in dispute is whether the proposals made by the Authority are the most practical, the most economical, or whether more effective proposals could be made which would be far less destructive of the amenities of the area. Last year this House passed a Bill, the National Parks Bill, to preserve forever the natural beauty of certain areas of this country. Amongst the areas so designated was the National Park of North Wales with Snowden as its central point. That was a year ago and now the British Electricity Authority comes forward with proposals to put 10 power stations in the National Park of North Wales.

*Mrs. White:* I think the noble Lady should make it quite clear, in fairness to the British Electricity Authority, that these proposals were taken over from the North Wales Power Company and were not thought of after the discussion on national parks.

*Lady Megan Lloyd George:* But we are not asked to consider the proposals of the North Wales Power Company. The proposals were taken over, accepted, and not altered by the British Electricity Authority and these are the proposals we have to consider now. These proposals are that there should be 10 power stations in the National Park of North Wales, four of them on Snowden itself. These buildings will be some 100 ft long and 70 ft high and one cannot hide a power station on a hill. There will be miles of leats, 13 miles of tunnels and, I am told, the leats will be protected by wire netting with here and there gates by which people can cross them. That is the new interpretation of free access to mountains which the British Electricity Authority are putting before us.

These schemes cannot be carried out without roads capable of carrying contractors' plant and heavy generating machinery which will have to be driven up the mountainside. These will hardly improve the amenities or the natural beauty of Snowden. These plans have been drawn up by engineers, of course, but it also seems that they have been drawn up by people with an unerring and piratical eye for beauty because it seems that they have hardly missed one of the really famous beauty spots of this part of the world.

This is a matter of concern to people who live in North Wales and also to the tourists who come to North Wales, to the great benefit of the people of North Wales in the coastal towns and rural areas and to the farmers, for whom they provide an extremely lucrative market. And we must remember that tourists do not come to see engineering works, however admirably designed to look as if they were not there. They come to enjoy the peace and beauty of the hills. This is a matter which affects, and may affect very seriously, national parks in other parts of the country because, once we have created this precedent that we can waive all the principles which animated the National Parks Act in rural areas in this way in North Wales there is no reason why we should not do it in Cumberland and Scotland.

There are other objections of a different kind, into which I cannot go in the limited time at my disposal. There is the difficulty of water supplies in North Wales. Water is becoming a scarce and precious commodity. We have provided water supplies for a great many English cities, including the city which the right hon. Member for King's Norton (Mr. Geoffrey Lloyd) represents. These British Electricity

Authority proposals would not only cut across some of the existing water schemes; they take no account of any future needs of the area. Of course, there is the effect upon agriculture and upon the hill farmer also to be considered.

The Minister of Fuel and Power spoke this afternoon of alternative methods of providing electricity. I think it was the hon. Lady the Member for Plymouth, Sutton (Mrs. Middleton), who spoke about the possibility of harnessing tides to generate electricity. As she pointed out, there is already a proposal of that kind to provide electricity for Wales, and I have no doubt also for great parts of England, by means of the Severn Barrage. I do not know whether any scheme of this kind has been considered for North Wales. Perhaps we might have the information.

There is the alternative of coal burning stations. I understand that it is not denied by the British Electricity Authority that one thermal power station can produce as much electricity as could all these hydro-electric schemes put together. There is, as we know, to be a coal-burning station installed at Connah's Quay, which is to provide electricity for a certain part of North Wales and is also to relieve the peak load in a part of England in the area around Chester. Why should we not have the service of that power station to ourselves in Wales? Mr. Cooper, the Merseyside controller, was asked whether Connah's Quay could supply the needs of North Wales. The answer was, "It could." If that is not practicable there is always the possibility of supplementing that station by another in the vicinity of the North Wales coalfield.

The Government have a duty in this matter. There are the schemes which are produced by the British Electricity Authority, and at some time or other the Government will have to inquire into them. They cannot wash their hands of this responsibility. Apart from the Minister of Fuel and Power, the Minister of Town and Country Planning and the Minister of Agriculture have a direct responsibility in this matter. I do not know, nor do I think any of us know, what stage these consultations have reached, or how far the inter-Departmental conversations have gone, but I hope that the Government will take into account the very great objections which are taken to the schemes of the British Electricity Authority.

I hope that the Government will consider these schemes, not in the sort of emotional coma which the hon. Lady Member for Flint, East (Mrs. White), seems to think exists in the minds of some people on this matter. That is not necessary. All they have to do is to consider these proposals in the cold light of reason, with a proper sense of values and a real sense of proportion. If they do that they will reject them as uneconomic, extravagant and as destructive of one of the most glorious parts of this country.

*The Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry of Fuel and Power (Mr. Robens):* . . . I would like to say something about the North Wales hydro scheme which the noble Lady the Member for Anglesey (Lady Megan Lloyd George) raised. When the scheme is prepared it will have to be submitted to the Minister and he will have to give it his approval. In any case a Bill will have to come before the House, so that there will be plenty of opportunity to deal with all these matters that she raised. I obviously cannot reply to them at this stage, but I assure her that there is a great deal of sympathy with maintaining the good and beautiful conditions that abound in Snowdonia. . . .

(continued from page 3.)

One of the most important contributions of Ezra to Social Credit thinking and one which must certainly not be overlooked in any discussion of him at the moment is his most moving and perfect expression of the long awaited answer to the Pauline, perhaps nihilistic dictum "All is vanity," the sort of thing that seems to be at the back of the minds of the "mustn't be anti-anybody" people or the pseudo-oriental attempt to escape from error by "not doing" which Aldous Huxley sometimes falls for. "But to have done instead of not doing; this is not vanity." This comes in the Eighty First Canto, one of those written at Pisa, known as the Pisan Cantos and forming the latest section of the unfinished epic. Peter Russell in his introduction to the first of the Money Pamphlets remarks that unlike the vast majority of his contemporaries Ezra Pound has never compromised with the forces he considers evil. Here in this Canto is perhaps an admission that his hates have at times been too violent or unjustified or prompted by vanity but then, unlike the preacher, he says that there are other things than vanity, all is not vanity:

"What thou lovest well remains,  
the rest is dross  
What thou lovest well shall not be reft from thee  
What thou lovest well is thy true heritage  
Whose world, or mine or theirs  
or is it of none?  
First came the seen, thus the palpable  
Elysium, though it were in the halls of hell,  
What thou lovest well is thy true heritage  
What thou lov'st well shall not be reft from thee  
The ant's a centaur in his dragon world.  
Pull down thy vanity, it is not man  
Made courage, or made order, or made grace,  
Pull down thy vanity, I say pull down.  
Learn of the green world what can be thy place  
In scaled invention or true artistry,  
Pull down thy vanity,  
Paquin pull down!  
The green casque has outdone your elegance.  
'Master thyself, then others shall thee beare'  
Pull down thy vanity  
Thou art a beaten dog beneath the hail,  
A swollen magpie in a fitful sun,  
Half black half white  
Nor knowst'ou wing from tail  
Pull down they vanity  
How mean thy hates  
Fostered in falsity,  
Pull down thy vanity,  
Rathe to destroy, niggard in charity,  
Pull down thy vanity,  
I say pull down.  
But to have done instead of not doing  
this is not vanity  
To have, with decency, knocked  
That a Blunt should open  
To have gathered from the air a live tradition  
or from a fine old eye the unconquered flame  
This is not vanity.  
Here error is all in the not done,  
all in the diffidence that faltered."

## Disraeli's Tancred

by H. SWABEY.

THE PERVERSE DEVIATION OF POLITICAL PARTIES FROM THEIR ORIGINAL SIGNIFICANCE MAY AT FIRST SIGHT SEEM ONLY A SUBJECT OF HISTORICAL CURIOSITY, BUT THEY ASSUME A DIFFERENT CHARACTER WHEN THEY PRACTICALLY RESULT IN THE DEGRADATION OF A PEOPLE.—*Disraeli*. (1870).

"The writer has developed in *Tancred* the views respecting the great House of Israel which he first intimated in *Coningsby*," said Disraeli in 1849. One recalls too what he wrote in *Sybil*: "We are apt to forget that the second Testament is avowedly only a supplement . . . the authority of the Second Testament depends upon its congruity with the First." The arguments of *Tancred* (1847) consequently need watching. Sometimes ethical and sometimes tribal thought predominates, and occasionally one impinges on the other.

The story is of the pilgrimage of a British Nobleman to the East "to penetrate the great Asian mystery." There are few scenes of high life and none of mob violence, as in *Coningsby* and *Sybil*, but *Tancred* has some adventures, military and amorous.

An important instance of tribal interests impinging on ethical is in the matter of usury. Disraeli commends his hero for keeping free of petty usurers and rather quaintly, for not "going to the Jews, which most men do at his time of life." And *Tancred* himself declares, "A loan! I see the poison of modern liberalism has penetrated even the desert. Believe me, national redemption is not an affair of usury." Yet Sidonia, a much greater usurer than the "Walpolian loan mongers" Disraeli had scorned in *Venetia* (1837), is not only venerated but acts as the Oracle and guide of *Tancred*. He is "Sidonia, of the Hebrew race" whose office was "a place that deals with the fortunes of kings and empires, the counting house in the greatest of modern cities of the most celebrated of modern financiers." C. Hollis wrote, in *The Two Nations*, "Disraeli saw it but did not feel it . . . deep down in his soul there was the immemorial teaching of his ancient race against usury—the teaching of Moses and the teaching which takes the traditions of the race back behind Moses to the identification of usury with the serpent's bite of Eden." (Neshek, from the root N-Sh-K means bite and usury in Hebrew; Nahash, from the root N-kH-Sh means serpent, almost a pun). Unfortunately, the tradition of a double morality, towards "brethren" and "strangers," seems to have been in his soul as well. "The usurers of Syria," Disraeli says, "are as adroit and callous as those of all other countries, and possess no doubt all those repulsive qualities which are the consequence of the habitual control over every generous emotion." On the other hand, "The strength of my master (Sidonia) is his superiority to all sentiment. No affections and a great brain." Disraeli could not really have it both ways.

The apparently arrogant claims are pursued in *Tancred's* conversation with his Rose of Sharon, and elsewhere: "Is it what you call civilisation that makes England flourish? Clearly not; it is her inhabitants, it is an affair of race. All is race, there is no other truth."

"'Because it includes all others?'"

"'You have said it. What is an individual character but the personification of a race.'"

But the racial doctrine does not stop at this comparatively mild British Israelitism. "The decay of a race is an inevitable necessity unless it lives in deserts and never mixes its blood . . . The life of a British peer is mainly regulated by Arabian laws and Syrian customs, but while he sabbatically abstains from the debate or the rubber . . . he thinks little of the land and race who, under the immediate superintendence of the Deity, have by their sublime legislation established the principle of periodic rest to man and elevated and softened the lot of every nation except their own."

"Titus destroyed the Temple. The religion of Judaea has in turn subverted the forum; the God of Abraham . . . is now worshipped before every altar in Rome," the Rose claims, "The greatest of legislators, the greatest of administrators, the greatest of reformers . . . what race, extinct or living, can produce three such men as these . . . the Hebrews have never blended with their conquerors."

"It cannot be denied that the miracle exists; the Hebrews alone of the ancient races remain."

"Is it a miracle that Jehovah should guard His people? And can He guard them better than by endowing them with faculties superior to those of the nations? . . . Europe is to Asia what America is to Europe."

She presses home her argument: "I think what is most valued in Europe is money. Which is the greatest city in Europe?"

"Without doubt, London."

"How rich the most honoured man must be there! Is he a Christian?"

"He is one of your race and faith."

"And in Paris?"

"The brother, I believe of the richest man in London."

"I know all about Vienna. Caesar makes my countrymen barons of the Empire . . . I understand thus much: the human race is saved; and without the apparent agency of a Hebrew prince it could not have been saved . . . The holy race supplied the victim and the immolators . . . We agree that half Christendom worships a Jewess and the other half a Jew. Which do you think should be the superior race, the worshipped or the worshippers?"

In return for these benefits, "They will take this city. They want a new market for their cotton. England will never be satisfied until the people of Jerusalem wear calico turbans. . . I do not believe in national regeneration in the shape of a foreign loan." The Egyptian prime minister also, Tancred remarks, "must be added to M. de Sidonia's list of Hebrew statesmen."

"We have our share of the government of the world," the Rose comments.

It was true enough that in the first third of the nineteenth century the Church of England had been rapidly dying. Cobbett, Dickens and Wordsworth all pointed it out. Disraeli said, "The Church of England has fallen of late years into great straits. The Arch-Mediocrity was impressed with the necessity of reconstructing the episcopal bench on principles of personal distinction and ability. His test of priestly celebrity was the decent editorship of a Greek play. Not a voice has been raised by the mitred nullities either to warn or to vindicate; not a phrase has

escaped their lips or their pens that could influence public opinion, touch the heart of a nation or guide the conscience of a perplexed people. If they were ever heard of, it was that they had been pelted in a riot."

(To be continued)

## De Gaulle and Western Defence

William J. Humphreys writing in the European edition of the *New York Herald-Tribune* on August 18 refers to a statement by General Charles de Gaulle saying that the direction of Western defence forces in Europe ought to be entrusted to France.

The General, he says, also expressed the view that the United States would contribute "massive assistance" against the threat of a Russian invasion only if France proved that it was the main force capable of "holding the Atlantic bridgehead." He denounced the recent French memorandum to the White House, offering to put 15 new divisions into the Western defence system with financial assistance from the United States, as an outline of "vague intentions."

"Political observers," says Humphreys, "thought that the General's statement would fall rather flat at home and abroad. In the main his words were largely repetitions of many other criticisms of government and defence which he has made since he organised his Rally of the French People (RPF) in 1947. . . . Only last night France submitted the second memorandum on the preparedness steps the nation is ready to take to buttress continental defence. . . .

"France should direct continental defence, the General said, because she was the main strategic force. Similarly Great Britain should be the king-pin in the East and the United States in the Pacific. . . . (1) a Franco-German Entente ought to be the basis of a new Europe. (2) Field Marshal Lord Montgomery is the Commander-in-Chief of the Brussels Pact armed forces when a Frenchman should have the post; (3) the present form of government by a coalition of moderate parties is dragging the country to ruin; (4) if elections are held now (instead of the appointed time in 1951) they will show that the nation wants General de Gaulle to lead it.

"For the past several days, newspapers owing allegiance to the RPF have been forecasting that the General soon would make a 1950 version of his famous broadcast from London on June 18, 1940 when he called on France to repel defeat and fight on against the Nazis.

"One article even hinted that if the present Parliament prolongs its legal life beyond 1951, 'insurrection' might be the only solution. The General said nothing like that."

## Republican Senator and Dean Acheson

An Associated Press message from Washington dated August 17 said that President Truman had denounced as "contemptible" and "beneath comment" a statement by Republican Senator Kenneth S. Wherry that the blood of American dead in Korea is on the shoulders of Secretary of State Dean Acheson . . . The Senator said Mr. Acheson followed a policy of equipping the South Koreans with only police arms instead of more powerful military weapons intended under the aid programme approved by Congress.