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FOR POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC REALISM

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SATURDAY, MARCH 24, 1951.

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"It Doth Not Yet Appear . . ."

By BEATRICE C. BEST.

In a book by Mr. Lawrence Hyde entitled "The Nameless Faith," the author, touching on the problem of the mind, refers to G. K. Chesterton's complaint that "people today . . . are always occupying themselves with a nebulous entity called 'the modern mind.'" Mr. Hyde comments on this, and says: "The answer can only be that the 'mind' as such is an abstraction. The only reality is the mind in so far as it is quickened and polarized by the spiritual forces operative in any particular cycle. Only within the limits of this Necessity can we be free." And he continues: "To adopt an attitude which is not, in this sense, valid for the period in which one is living is to become an irrelevant, trivial or positively mischievous element in the contemporary social economy. It is better to be even confusedly and imperfectly responsive to the higher inspiration of the *Zeitgeist* than to develop a type of spirituality which is not organic with the inner life of one's age." This somewhat lengthy quotation is given in an attempt to show how well adapted and how useful this conception of the mind must be to those "powers" determined to-day on the complete subjection of mankind. Having minds of their own they could ask for nothing better than this "abstraction," this *non*-entity, ready and open to be polarised by current "spiritual forces" and respond to whatever is represented as the "higher inspiration of the *Zeitgeist*." For such a "mind" is clearly not equipped to investigate the nature of these spiritual forces, this ruling "*Zeitgeist*," neither is it qualified to "try the spirits," to distinguish between intoxication and inspiration, illumination and enlightenment. It can therefore easily be persuaded that to adopt an attitude out of line with "the period in which one is living," independent of the ruling *Zeitgeist*, is to become an irrelevant, trivial, or positively mischievous element in the contemporary social economy. Thus, anything can be put across it.

Accordingly one is justified in suspecting that such a "mind" has been sedulously cultivated and conditioned by "education," and by the various channels of propaganda controlled by the powers that be. So conditioned it is ready to receive and itself assist in advertising all those ideas useful and essential to the advancement of the purpose and plans of these same powers. Furthermore it has been found easy to represent such ideas and the resulting plans as "inevitable trends," and thus deprive this modern, "educated," or abstract mind of any directive power, or independent judgment it might be tempted to assume, and, in consequence, any sense of responsibility.

That the task has not been *too* easy is evidenced by the statement that: "only in war or under threat of war will the British consent to large-scale planning."

The most serious result of thus reducing the mind to a kind of cipher can be seen in its loss of a sense of reality.

Having lost, or been deprived of its own autonomy, facts, for it, cease to have any intelligible meaning, and their bearing on a situation is consequently ignored. This disregard of the significance and relevance of facts is revealed most clearly in the demand for "full employment" in an age in which the application of mechanics and power to industry makes such a demand both ludicrous and unintelligent. And the results, in this case, of disregarding facts are the most far-reaching and disastrous. For the "unemployment problem," being an unreal problem, creates, inevitably, other and multiple unreal problems, all of them insoluble because all unrelated to, and disconnected from facts. Thus an age of increasing complexities is manufactured, from which complexities the "modern" mind is easily persuaded that only planning and controls can extricate it.

If it be allowed that knowledge of the truth shall make us free—a belief to which the Christian is committed—then it follows that this flight from reality bearing us, as it must, ever farther away from the truth and from freedom, must also, in consequence, bear us ever nearer to a state of bondage and enslavement. If it be also allowed that time is the measure of our failure fully to experience reality, then this flight is seen to be immeasurable,* for the deviations and ramifications of non-truth, of a lie, are without end. The difference lies between the "many inventions," both inexhaustible and exhausting, "sought out" in attempts to circumvent the difficulties to which a lie gives rise, and the discovery of truth in which one may come to rest. (As someone has said: "Truth, of course, dislikes travelling: the selection, the sorting, the discarding and the packing are irksome to her.") Needless to say this "rest" is not a state of inactivity or passivity, but is the necessary condition and dynamic for right and original action. And it is within the limits of this necessity alone that we can be free, and not, as Mr. Hyde would have it, by obedience or response to "spiritual forces" and "*Zeitgeists*" represented as "valid" for a particular period, but which may be the effective camouflage for powers determined to deprive us of freedom.

Major Douglas has said, ". . . that the end of man, while unknown, is something towards which most rapid progress is made by the free expansion of individuality . . ." and it is because Social Credit has exposed the lie that binds us, and revealed the truth that would set us free, that all the forces determined on the destruction of man's freedom—and hence, on his rapid retrogression and deterioration—have been, and are, arrayed against it. Nevertheless freedom is the subject for endless treatises and academic discussions. Lip service is paid to it from all quarters irrespective of creed, or the colour of political parties; from wireless, press and pulpit,

* It is significant that the greatest torments from which De Quincey suffered in his opium dreams were caused by a sense of the infinite extension of time, the weight of æons from which there was no escape.

and loudest of all from those who have most cause to fear its power to defeat their plans.

But the free expression of individuality is manifested in the *act*, only in the power of independent choice and action can freedom be realised. Hence the power to realise and actualise freedom must be won and exercised on the material plane, the one on which action takes place, and from which we start. Economic freedom therefore is the first requisite for "the free expression of individuality," and money is the means by which this freedom can be actualised and become a fact of experience. Therefore a free income is necessary to secure to man freedom of choice and independence of action, and since facts warrant its distribution to all today without fear or favour—although innumerable methods are contrived to obscure these facts—the withholding of it on whatever grounds constitutes a denial of freedom itself, and a crime against humanity.

It is therefore a mystery why the champions of freedom, who consider themselves sincere, disregard this simple and obvious fact, and are seemingly content to relegate and confine freedom to the realm of endless discussion, of idealisation, of pious aspiration. It is subjected to searching analyses, *but—intentionally or not—the possibility of its realisation appears to be ignored or disregarded.*

What, then, has happened to the minds of our Leaders of thought, our Intelligentsia? Have they become so bewitched by "spiritual forces," so fearful of being "imperfectly responsive to the higher inspiration of the *Zeitgeist*" that they have lost the power to experience "the rapture of the intellect at the approach of the fact," have even lost the faculty to recognise the fact when disclosed, so that today they have become mere blind leaders of the blind? Is it perhaps to their interest to remain so? Do the stresses and strains, the conflicts and discordances of life under the present lying dispensation provide them with such rich material for discourse and discussion, argument and exhortation, that they would be loth to see them resolved? Do they enjoy the "travelling," the "selection," the "sorting," the "discarding," so "irksome" to the truth?

But perhaps it is unfair to question their sincerity and integrity. Perhaps they are ignorant, or perhaps merely stupid.

Here it may be asked: Why the diatribe? Our Leaders of thought, our Intelligentsia, have always been purveyors of ideas and ideals (the more the merrier), never discerners and observers of facts, never humble followers of the truth. Why expect them to change?

The answer is: "the times of this ignorance God winked at." But those times are over. For at the end of the first World War a fact was discovered, and a truth revealed, which, had it been implemented, would have delivered man from thralldom, and averted the second World War, and saved him from the haunting fear of a third. So ignorance can no longer save from guilt those who ignored the hour of enlightenment; and all concern for freedom expressed by them today is seen to be in the nature of an act of blasphemy, a taking of the name of the Lord in vain.

On Planning The Earth

By GEOFFREY DOBBS.

K.R.P. Publications, Ltd.

6/- (Postage extra).

PARLIAMENT

House of Commons: March 5, 1951.

Rail and Steamer Services (Cuts)

Sir Walter Smiles asked the Minister of Transport if he is aware of the inequitable distribution of the emergency cuts in rail and steamer traffic due to the coal shortage; and if he will make a statement on the directions he will issue to the British Transport Commission to ensure that cuts in services are equally distributed on all the routes affected.

Mr. Barnes: The Railway Executive have sought to cause the least inconvenience to travellers by cutting their most lightly-loaded services. Cuts have been made where the most effective savings in coal could be obtained without undue interference with essential services. In the circumstances, the question of direction does not arise.

Sir W. Smiles: Is the Minister aware that one cross-Channel steamer between Belfast and Heysham has been cut since the coal shortage, whereas the other cross-Channel services belonging to British Railways have not been cut? Has the right hon. Gentleman now abandoned the policy of fair shares for all?

Mr. Barnes: No, Sir. I do not think that that issue arises. Some of the ships are oil burning. In the case to which the hon. Member referred the cut represented a direct saving in coal consumption. It was not a very heavily loaded service, and it was temporarily suspended.

Mr. Driberg: Is my right hon. Friend aware that great inconvenience is caused on some of the rural branch lines on which the Sunday services have been entirely suspended—for example, on the Southminster branch—and where there is no alternative transport, no Sunday buses?

Mr. Barnes: Yes, I am quite aware of that. Inconvenience has been caused by these cuts, but they are unavoidable.

Mr. Geoffrey Lloyd: Is it not a fact that, as in the case of the shipping industry, railways have been much embarrassed by the suddenness of the Government's demands about coal; and, as all these plans had to be put into effect so quickly by the railways, ought not the matter to be reconsidered in order to even out these cuts?

Mr. Barnes: As I said some time ago, the railways have had to bear more or less the same proportion of cuts as industry in general, but on passenger services the effects are experienced more directly.

Mr. Thomas Reid: Is my right hon. Friend aware of the great inconvenience caused by practically abolishing the railway service between Swindon and Trowbridge?

Professor Savory: Does the right hon. Gentleman not realise that cutting down the Heysham service from six days in the week to three seriously affects the export of raw materials to Northern Ireland for the shipbuilding yards and also for the aircraft factory, which produce what is so necessary at present for our defence?

Mr. Barnes: No; I do not think that the cargo services will be inconvenienced to the same extent as the passenger services. . . .

MOTION: RAW MATERIALS (DIVISION RESULT)

Mr. Eden: Before I put my more controversial question, may I say how glad we all are to see the Foreign Secretary back with us?

May I ask the Leader of the House what are the Government's intentions in respect of the Motion carried by the House on Friday last?

The Lord President of the Council (Mr. Herbert Morrison): I join with the Deputy-Leader of the Opposition in the welcome he has given to the Foreign Secretary, whom we are all glad to see back.

With regard to the proceedings on Friday, naturally, the Government will take into account the expression of the opinion of the House on a Private Members' day, but I am bound to say that I think it is a new doctrine that on a Private Members' day the Government can be instructed to do certain things, or that a Motion on a Private Members' initiative should be regarded as a Vote of Censure. I am surprised that the right hon. Gentleman the Member for Warwick and Leamington (Mr. Eden) should try to elevate a Private Members' day into that degree of importance. We take note of what the House resolved, but we cannot accept a decision on a Private Members' day either as an instruction to the Government or as a Vote of Censure; and that must be the sense of proportion in which the matter is taken.

Mr. Eden: Had the right hon. Gentleman or somebody else on the Treasury Bench been capable of making an explanation on Friday there would not have been any of this misunderstanding at all. [HON. MEMBERS: "Oh."] Certainly. My first question on that day was to ask what action the Government proposed to take. Of course, the right hon. Gentleman himself will have noticed that the Motion itself expressed regret for the past failure of the Government to take certain action. Nothing could be more natural in a helpful Opposition than to wish to know what steps the Government proposed to take in the future so that the House will not have to complain of them again.

Mr. Morrison: I noticed that when the right hon. Gentleman referred to the decision of the House and its implied binding effects he could not help smiling, and I join with him in that facial expression. On the other point, his observations are really irrelevant. This was an expression of opinion of the House on a Private Members' Motion, and we take note of it. I only want to say that if the Opposition want to use Fridays for Motions of censure I think they are wrong. [HON. MEMBERS: "Why?"] If they want to go in for Votes of Censure they had better go into them in a respectable and proper manner.

Mr. Eden: Let me put this to the right hon. Gentleman. It is true that a Private Members' Motion can vary in its emphasis and significance. The emphasis of this one was added to by the fact that the President of the Board of Trade, a member of the Cabinet, was the Government's spokesman, who asked the House to resist the Motion. There is nothing in the constitution which places a Private Members' Motion on a different footing from any other Motion of Censure.

Mr. Morrison: But suppose that the President of the Board of Trade had not answered: the House would have had a grievance that the appropriate Minister had not made his

comment. I am surprised that an experienced Parliamentarian like the right hon. Gentleman should dare even to entertain the idea that a Private Members' Motion should be elevated either into an instruction to the Government or into a Vote of Censure. If the Opposition want to go in for Votes of Censure, let them go in for them, and not shield themselves behind Private Members' Motions.

Mr. Michael Foot: On a point of order. In view of the statement of the right hon. Gentleman the Member for Warwick and Leamington (Mr. Eden), that the main difficulty—the only difficulty—on Friday arose from the fact that the question he asked was not immediately answered by the Government, could you tell us, Mr. Speaker, what will be the procedure in future? Is it really in order, at 4 o'clock on a Friday afternoon, when the House should proceed to the Adjournment, for the right hon. Gentleman the Member for Warwick and Leamington to initiate a debate on the consequences of a vote which has been taken by the House? Could you tell us on what Motion the discussion which the right hon. Gentleman the Member for Warwick and Leamington initiated on Friday took place?

Mr. Speaker: There was no Motion, but it is always customary, when an unexpected Division goes against the Government side, for the Leader of the Opposition, or the Deputy-Leader of the Opposition, to ask what the Government are going to do about it. I have known that in my experience. Once I happened to be on the side which beat the Government at the time I supported it, when, I am afraid, the then speaker put his foot into it at that time and gave the wrong answer. Actually, the questions on Friday did not interfere with the Adjournment, because we had to go through quite a long list of business in any case. It is really quite customary on such an occasion to ask the Government what they are going to do. That may not be on a Motion, but it is part of the Business of the House.

Mr. Foot: Further to that point of order. Are we to understand that if, unhappily, any such occasion should arise in the future, Members of the House are entitled to engage in some form of debate following such a vote?

Mr. Speaker: There is no form of debate about it. The Leader of the Opposition or the Acting Leader of the Opposition asks the Government what they are going to do about it. The Government are entitled to say that they are doing nothing about it. It is quite in order.

Mr. Foot: Are we therefore to understand, Sir, that the Acting Leader of the Opposition, in such a case, has rights which are not available to the other Members of the House?

Mr. Speaker: The Prime Minister has rights which are not available, I imagine, to every back bench Member of the House, and out of courtesy we always have given the Leader of the Opposition a certain amount of liberty. We do not want this to become the kind of place where everybody is equal and everybody can talk on everything. We must have rules; we must have customs; otherwise, we become a Tower of Babel and not a Parliament.

Mr. Henry Strauss: In order that we may follow the doctrine of the Leader of the House, would he tell us whether it is his opinion that a Motion carried by the House represents the opinion of the House less accurately if the Whips are not on?

(Continued on page 6).

THE SOCIAL CREDITER

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

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Vol. 26. No. 4.

Saturday, March 24, 1951.

"What is Social Credit?"

We republish on the page facing this the Chart, which we trust is becoming familiar in detail to readers, drawn up by Major Douglas as a convenient instrument to discourage distortion of the perspective of Social Credit sociology. The Chart makes this early reappearance because of an obvious defect of presentation last week. It will appear again at intervals. The term "chart" is our own: it seems applicable to describe a unique document, which is, in fact, a guide to the navigation of the mind from any chosen point of Social Credit to any other, with respect to all the "bearings."

The trouble about Social Credit is and always has been that above all other propositions Social Credit is outstandingly unimpressive. All theatricality, all appeal is from its nature ruled out. The present world, the world which by-passes Social Credit (whither no one knows) is run on nerves. Social Credit puts nerves in the background.

As soon as they can be prepared, a series of articles will be published here, dealing one by one with all the substantive matters nominated in the "Chart." After all, only a navigator can read a chart. We are not all navigators, however true it may be that navigation conducted with high seamanship, taking its course openly and honestly and reliant upon a realistic and faithful account of the human scene to bear towards its goal, is the *sine qua non* of our future terrestrial existence—or so it seems to us. Few navigators can see a chart through a narrative; but it is at least arguable that the number of navigators available bears some relation to the preparation of lesser brethren. T.J.

Without Comment

(1)

From *The Times*, February 12, 1951:—

Personal

"Ye shall hear of wars and rumours of wars: see that ye be not troubled: for all these things must come to pass."
 —Matthew xxiv, 6.

(2)

The Editor,
The Times.

Sir,

Surely it was a freemasonic hand which corrupted the quotation from the Gospel according to St. Matthew in to-

day's *Times*? May I restore the accepted translation of the words which close the sentence—"for the end is not yet"?

Yours faithfully,

February 12, 1951.

(signed) Tudor Jones.

(3)

Tudor Jones, Esq.,
 The University,
 Liverpool, 3.

Dear Sir,

The Editor has passed to me your letter dated February 12 regarding the Biblical text which appeared in our issue of that date. We have written to the author of the quotation, and he advises us "there was no thought of freemasonry in mind, and had it been foreseen that the quotation would have been so interpreted the last phrase of that verse would not have been omitted."

In the circumstances I trust you will consider the explanation satisfactory.

Yours faithfully,

(signed) L. R. Cannar.

Classified Advertisement Manager.

The Times.

February 16, 1951.

(4)

The Editor,
The Times.

Dear Sir,

Thank you for your letter dated February 16 with the information that you have written to 'the author' of the text from St. Matthew.

Doubtless you will have noticed, as I have that your advertiser has misread my implied criticism, which was that a freemason's hand had corrupted the text, whether deliberately or not is a matter of fact not opinion—but I do not know which.

Yours very truly,

February 20, 1951.

(signed) Tudor Jones.

(5)

From *The Times*, February 22, 1951.

Personal

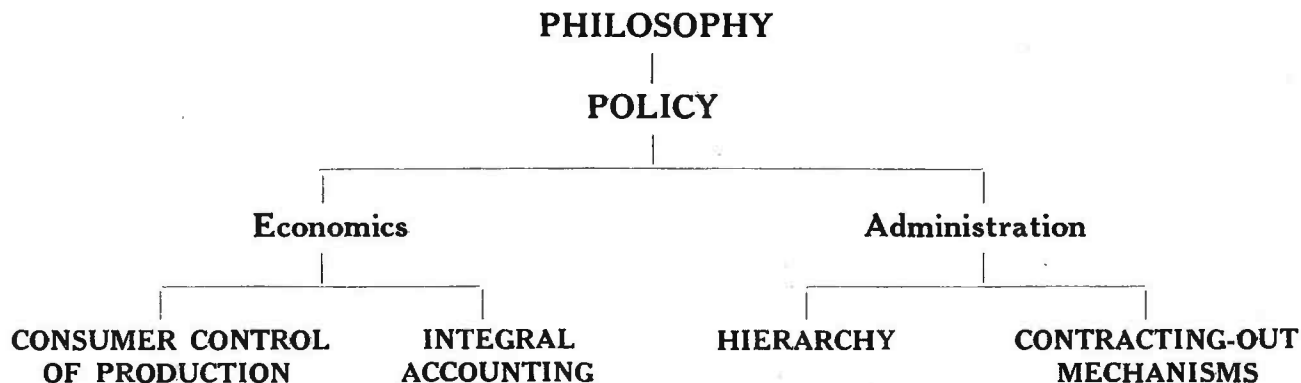
"This gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come."—Matthew xxiv, 14.

EDWIN J. PANKHURST

We deeply regret to announce the death, suddenly in the night of Monday-Tuesday last, of "E. J. P.," secretary of the Social Credit Secretariat, and a most loyal supporter of Major C. H. Douglas since the earliest days of our movement. Further reference will appear in these pages. The sad news reaches us as we go to press. Mr. Pankhurst retired from the management of the Victoria Street office for reasons of ill health last Autumn, but has been active in our service to the last.

WHAT IS SOCIAL CREDIT?

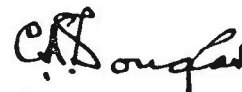
Social Credit assumes that Society is primarily metaphysical, and must have regard to the organic relationships of its prototype.



OBJECTIVE: Social Stability by the integration of means and ends.

INCOMPATIBLES: Collectivism, Dialectic Materialism, Totalitarianism, Judæo-Masonic Philosophy and Policy.

Ballot-box democracy embodies all of these.



February, 1951.

America Speaks *

By W. R. TITTERTON.

"I guess we'll never understand you British. What the hell does it matter if an American admiral with a perfectly good middle European name hoists his flag in your waters? It's plumb plain business. You've an old English proverb—in Shakespeare, I guess, or *Robinson Crusoe*—that those who pay the piper call the tune. Well, you've had your Marshall aid, haven't you? And spent it regardless. You'd think us darned poor business men, or you had ought to, if we didn't ask you to foot the bill.

"Money talks, brother, and we hold the dollars. In plain English, the dough. If we felt that way, we've got you where it hurts, but we're kind-hearted. All we ask is a token, a mere token, of our supremacy.

"All this talk of tradition and the Battle of Trafalgar don't cut no ice. What about Paul Jones? And let me tell you, mister, we've sailed the Seven Seas as much as you have, and quite as often on our lawful occasions. Pan Brit-whats-name be . . . excuse me marm, but I get hot under the collar. You were ocean traders, and you wanted your charter parties to hold good. Oh, yes, I'll admit that as Empires go (and yours is going) you've done less harm than some. But that's neither here nor there in this year 1951.

* We are indebted to Mr. W. R. Titterton and to the Editor of *Truth* for permission to republish this article from its issue of March 9.

"When a man forecloses on a mortgage. . . . But, say, that sounds brutal. And we mean well by you. This is how we look at it. As a going concern you're gone. When the free and independent electorate come to depend on a Welfare State you can stake your last dinner that they haven't the nous to rise up and get going. And you're all like that.

"But you're decorative. Oh, yes, I grant you that. Old-world and what not. Some of our Southern families and even two-three folk in Boston boast of their escutcheons. That you are—an escutcheon, and that's about all. Sort of Cheshire Cheese and Ann Hathaway's Cottage on a large scale. And a few ancestral mansions, largely inhabited by Americans.

"We aim to keep you as you are—as a museum. Even such giant pastimes as cricket at Lords and the Harringay Arena will be strictly preserved. Buckingham Palace will function as usual. To be honest, our dames are tickled to death to be presented. Like Mark Twain at the Court of King Arthur.

"No, Sir. We do not aim to make you the Forty-ninth State of the United States of America. You'd interfere with the Gallup polls, being unaccountable creatures; and your ideas of politics don't match with ours.

"Stay as you are, and where you are, nice and pretty. We'll look after you, and save you from the nasty Bolsheviks. So long."

PARLIAMENT.

(Continued from page 3.)

Mr. H. Morrison: Obviously, it makes a difference whether the Whips are on or off. I assume that they were off on the Opposition side. There have been occasions when, on a Friday afternoon, the Opposition have been defeated on a Motion. Are my hon. Friends thereby entitled to demand that the whole Opposition Front Bench should resign and give place to hon. Members behind them?

Mr. Paget: Does my right hon. Friend recollect occasions before the war when Motions were carried against the Government in favour of equal pay for equal work and of the abolition of the death penalty? What action did the then Government take?

Mr. Morrison: I recollect one during the war, when the House, within 48 hours, reversed its decision—which, as a member of the then Government, I thoroughly welcomed. I do not blame the Deputy-Leader of the Opposition for having his bit of fun, but he knows it is a bit of fun, I know it is a bit of fun, and we all know it is a bit of fun.

Sir Herbert Williams: Is the Leader of the House not aware that on Friday the President of the Board of Trade specifically asked the House to reject the Motion, and, therefore, assumed responsibility for opposition to it, which rather changed the position? Would the right hon. Gentleman also inquire who moved the reduction of a Vote on cordite in 1895, which destroyed a Government?

Mr. Morrison: I was not here in 1895; I was only seven years old. The President of the Board of Trade was entitled—indeed, I think it was his responsibility—to give advice to the House on Friday.

Sir. H. Williams: It was not advice.

Mr. Morrison: Oh, yes, it was. Nothing else could be done. He gave advice and, as it happened, by a majority of four that advice was not taken; but the world does not come to an end because of that.

Several Hon. Members rose—

Mr. Speaker: I think we had better get on now.

ISRAEL (PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATION)

Mr. Irvine asked the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs whether, in view of the visit to this country in July, 1950, by a Parliamentary delegation from Israel, he will arrange for a return visit to be paid to Israel by a Parliamentary delegation from this country.

Mr. Younger: An invitation has been received from the Chairman of the Israel Knesset for a similar delegation from this country to visit Israel towards the end of March. This invitation has been accepted with pleasure, and a delegation will leave on 25th March, spend eight days in Israel and return on 3rd April.

The composition of the delegation will be as follows:—my right hon. Friend the Member for Colne Valley (Mr. Glenvil Hall), (Leader); my hon. and gallant Friend the Member for Stockton-on-Tees (Mr. Chetwynd); my hon. Friend the Member for Leith (Mr. Hoy); my hon. Friend the Member for Stalybridge and Hyde (Mr. Lang); the hon. Member for Derbyshire, West (Mr. Wakefield); the hon.

Member for Runcorn (Mr. Vosper); the hon. Member for Cathcart (Mr. John Henderson); the noble Lord, the Viscount Samuel.

House of Commons: March 6, 1951.

MINERAL RESOURCES (DEVELOPMENT)

Mr. Ellis Smith asked the Lord President of the Council if he can give a report on the new mineral deposits and fuel recently found; the prospects of supplies of potash, salt and coal; and what action it is intended to take.

Mr. H. Morrison: The known mineral resources in this country other than coal, oil and iron were fully considered by the Mineral Development Committee which reported in July, 1945 (Cmd. 7732).

The potash deposits in north-east Yorkshire referred to in that Report are being explored and the most appropriate methods of extraction are under consideration. Salt is fully dealt with in the Report referred to which states that

“ample workable reserves exist for all reasonable and foreseeable needs.”

Recent work confirms the preliminary indications in the Report that large reserves of salt exist in north-east Yorkshire. Coal is a matter for the National Coal Board, who have announced proposals for a big development programme, described in Plan for Coal—October, 1950, and have completed a number of borings. Further borings are in progress and contemplated.

Colonel Gomme-Duncan: In view of the importance of the matter which the right hon. Gentleman has given to the House, will he assure us that the Government, or whichever body is concerned with producing these metals, will keep in mind the everlasting destruction of farm land, which is getting smaller and smaller in this island, which will never get any bigger.

Mr. Snow: Will my right hon. Friend satisfy himself that there is proper co-ordination between the scientific advisers to, and the scientists working for, the National Coal Board?

Mr. Morrison: We do everything we can in that way.

Mr. Drayson: The Lord President mentioned deposits of potash in north-east Yorkshire which were reported on in 1945. Does he not think that six years is rather a long time to consider the best methods of developing this potash?

Mr. Morrison: It may be some comfort to the hon. Member for Skipton (Mr. Drayson) to know that this is not a matter of State enterprise, but of private enterprise. Perhaps the hon. Member will communicate with the company concerned.

CROPPING TRIALS, GAMBIA

Mr. Hurd asked the Lord President of the Council when the Medical Research Council first informed the Colonial Development Corporation about the results of its cropping trials in the Gambia; and if he can give an assurance that there has been regular consultation on the spot between the technical staffs of the two bodies.

Mr. H. Morrison: As soon as provisional conclusions could be drawn from the Medical Research Councils' work on soil fertility in the Gambia, they were brought formerly to the notice of the manager of the Colonial Development Corpora-

tion Poultry Farm. This was in a memorandum forwarded by air on 9th February, 1951. There had previously been personal contact of an informal kind on the spot between the technical staffs of the two bodies.

Mr. Hurd: Does not the Lord President of the Council think it extraordinary that for two years the Medical Research Council have been carrying out these cropping trials in Gambia which cost £52,000, while at the same time the other Corporation, the Colonial Development Corporation, spent £825,000 in proving that what human beings in Gambia suffer from, hens suffer from, too, and would it not have been better if these two bodies had consulted together from the very start?

Mr. Morrison: The hon. Member has uttered a whole series of propaganda allegations. [*Interruption.*] Half the supplementary questions from the other side are propaganda. Perhaps the hon. Gentleman would be good enough to put a Question on the Order Paper, and I will have enquiries made.

Mr. Eden: On a point of order. Is the Lord President of the Council entitled to make imputations about questions of this kind which, if they were correct, would be a reflection upon the Chair?

Mr. Speaker: I do not think it was a reflection upon the Chair, because one cannot stop supplementary questions and they vary a great deal. I suppose the Leader of the House is entitled to his own opinion, which might not be the opinion of the party opposite.

Sir Richard Acland: Is it not a fact that though the researches by the Medical Research Council were extremely interesting and promising, they have not reached the stage of being practically useful on any large scale until very recent weeks.

Mr. Morrison: I think there is something in what my hon. Friend says.

Colonel Gomme-Duncan: In view of the increasing and understandable touchiness of the Lord President of the Council, may I ask him whether it is not a fact that this Medical Research Council already had valuable information on this subject which would have proved most useful to the Food Corporation had they found out earlier, as they might have done, that they could not grow the crops on which the hens were meant to grow?

Mr. Joynson-Hicks: Is the Lord President of the Council aware of the undue delay which took place in the receipt of this report, and the action taken upon it by the Corporation, and can the right hon. Gentleman say what was the cause of it?

Mr. Nabarro: Did the advice received by the Lord President of the Council in this matter lead him to believe that every egg arriving from Gambia would cost £21? . . .

NATIONAL FINANCE "Report to Women"

Mr. Nigel Davies asked the Chancellor of the Exchequer (1) whether he is aware that in the January issue of "Report to Women," issued by the Information Division of his Department, more space is given to information concerning the increase of the bacon and cheese ration than to the reduction in the meat ration and that specific figures are given for increases but not for decreases; and whether he will instruct that a more balanced account of our food situation should be given in this report in future;

(2) whether he is aware that "Report to Women" issued by the Information Division of his Department is a Socialist propaganda leaflet; and whether he will give instructions that public money should no longer be used for printing it.

Mr. Gaitskell: I cannot agree that this factual document is in any way biased politically. The January issue contained notes on five foodstuffs. The first and longest was meat; the reduced ration was mentioned in the first line. In four instances rations had increased, and in only one was the actual amount stated. Copies of this Report are in the Library, and I invite hon. Members to look at it and judge for themselves.

Bull (Sale)

Miss Ward asked the Secretary of State for Scotland under what circumstances a licensing inspector recently turned down at Perth an Aberdeen Angus bull which had subsequently won the supreme championship and was sold at the record price of 8,500 guineas; what the qualifications of the inspector were; and how long he had been so employed.

Mr. McNeil: The bull was examined by one of my livestock inspectors who, applying standing instructions, recommended that a licence should not be granted because of a mouth deformity. The required licence was, however, granted before the bull was sold because in the opinion of the appeal referee (the owner having exercised his right to appeal) the deformity of the mouth was unlikely to be transmitted to the progeny of the bull. I am satisfied that the inspector is fully qualified to carry out his livestock duties. He was appointed to my permanent staff for these duties in 1948 and had many years previous experience of livestock.

I should add that the Department of Agriculture for Scotland have arranged to discuss, during the next few weeks, the present licensing standards in Scotland in respect of mouth deformities and other defects in bulls with members of the veterinary profession, the breed societies and other agricultural interests.

"Binding"

"Oxford Studies in the Price Mechanism" reviewed in *The Times Literary Supplement* on March 2 (and mentioned in *From Week to Week* in this review on March 10) is "binding"—but plenty of copies of Harrod on Keynes are still available, which as the polite salesman says . . . "Patience, John, patience! The salesman *might* be wrong."

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"What Voice Will Give Command?"

A frank and lively correspondence has been appearing in *The Scotsman*, of a kind not common in English newspapers, under the above heading. The following from Lady Glen-Coats, dated February 27, is an example:—

"Sir,—Perplexed. On a point of order.

"... In view of the transference of the British Navy from control of H. M. Government to that of the United States, is it still in order to fly the Union Jack, or in the case of Scotland the St. Andrew's Cross?

"Should we not fly the Stars and Stripes with, of course, the added star, although a somewhat dimmed and diminished one?

"The 'Stripe' follows as a matter of course.

"But what is all this talk and timidity about offending America? Surely the boot is on the other foot. Can America afford in the long run to offend us?—I am, *etc.*,

"LOUISE GLEN-COATS."

"Self-Employed"

A Halstead doctor, Dr. Geoffrey Brooks, was fined a total of £15, with £5 5s. costs at Bromley Magistrates' Court on March 2. He claimed that although he had "lost the day" he had scored a moral victory because the Ministry would "see the injustice they are doing to general practitioners."

Dr. Brooks had been summoned for failing to pay his National Insurance contribution for the week beginning March 20, 1950, he being a self-employed person. There were four similar summonses for four other weeks, and one indicated that up to March 13 the total sum owing for contributions was £27 8s. 10d. He said in evidence that he was not self-employed but no longer held the goodwill of his practice and was State-employed. The magistrates dissented.

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(*Peterborough in The Daily Telegraph of March 10*).

The item is headed "Lags of Beef."

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