

THE SOCIAL CREDITER

FOR POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC REALISM

Vol. 27. No. 8.

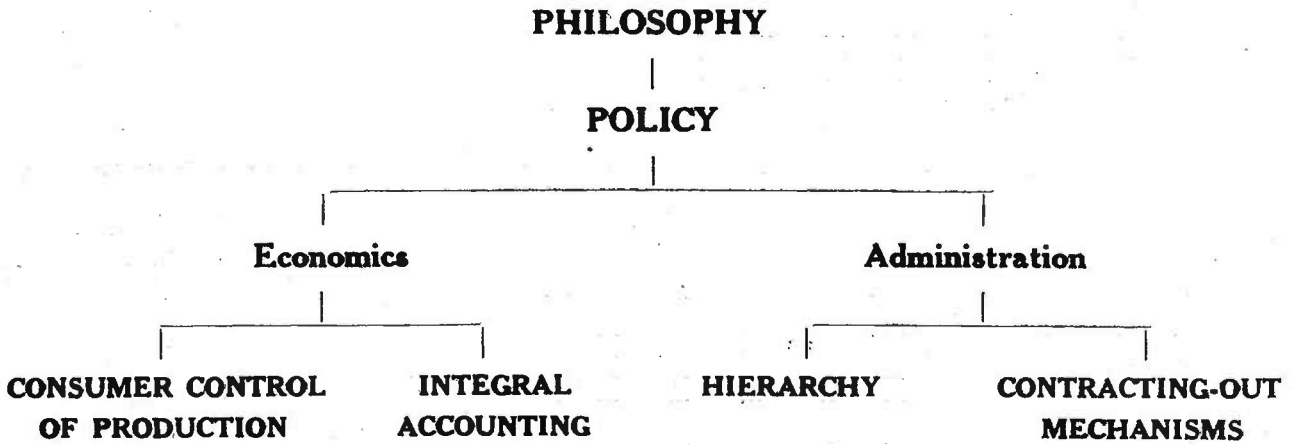
Registered at G.P.O. as a Newspaper.
Postage: home 1½d. and abroad 1d.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 20, 1951.

6d. Weekly.

WHAT IS SOCIAL CREDIT?

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February, 1951.

Church of England and Freemasonry.

"Last week we reported the circumstances attending a Masonic service held in the parish church of St. Giles, Holborn. The public interest demands that the Masonic authorities should now state openly, whether or not in fact they object to the presence of the cross, and the use of the Name of Christ in Masonic services, which are held in a Christian church. We also ask that the bishops should, in any event, issue an unequivocal ruling that, neither at Masonic services nor any other service held in church, should a priest

consent to the deliberate omission of our Lord's name, or the removal of the cross from its accustomed place in the church. The wording for such a ruling is supplied in draft Canon XIII.: 'Sanction shall only be given [by the Ordinary] to a form of service which . . . is neither contrary to, nor indicative of any departure from, the doctrine of the Church of England.' We are confident that the vast majority of Christian Masons would themselves welcome, and indeed require, a ruling which makes this position absolutely clear."

The Church Times, October 12.

PARLIAMENT

House of Commons, August 2, 1951.

Food Supplies: Statistics

Mr. Mulley asked the Minister of Food if he will state

the food supplies per head in the United Kingdom, pre-war and in the last three years, classified into the principal commodity groups; and the nutrient equivalent of supplies per head per day for the same period.

Mr. Webb: The figures are as follow:

FOOD SUPPLIES PER HEAD PER ANNUM MOVING INTO CIVILIAN CONSUMPTION IN THE UNITED KINGDOM

	lb. per head per annum			
	Pre-war	1948	1949	1950
Dairy products (excluding butter) (total as milk solids)	38.3	49.1	52.4	53.9
Meat (including canned meat, bacon and ham) (as edible weight)	109.6	73.8	74.6	95.4
Fish, poultry and game (edible weight)	32.8	37.2	35.2	27.7
Eggs and egg products (shell egg equivalent)	28.6	25.8	28.4	31.7
Oils and fats (visible) (fat content)	45.3	38.1	44.3	44.9
Sugar and syrups (sugar content)	109.9	85.3	91.1	80.8
Potatoes	176.0	237.2	255.5	242.5
Pulses and nuts	9.6	5.6	8.9	11.1
Fruit (including tomatoes) (fresh equivalent)	141.4	137.4	130.6	129.6
Vegetables	107.5	117.2	104.5	102.7
Grain products	210.1	249.4	238.0	221.3
Tea, Coffee and cocoa	14.7	13.2	13.7	13.0

NUTRIENT EQUIVALENT OF SUPPLIES PER HEAD PER DAY MOVING INTO CIVILIAN CONSUMPTION IN THE UNITED KINGDOM.

	Per head per day			
	Pre-war	1948	1949	1950
Protein:				
Animal g.	43.2	41.7	42.9	45.8
Vegetable g.	37.2	46.4	45.8	42.9
Total g.	80.4	88.1	88.7	88.7
Fat from all sources g.	130.7	108.2	119.4	130.8
Carbohydrates g.	377.3	393.1	395.6	367.1
Calcium mg.	695	1,199	1,217	1,209
Iron mg.	12.6	15.8	15.7	15.8
Vitamin A i.u.	4,042	4,145	4,223	4,507
Ascorbic acid mg.	95.5	109	104	99
Vitamin B1 mg.	1.2	1.2	1.8	1.8
Riboflavin mg.	1.6	2.0	2.0	2.1
Nicotinic acid mg.	13.4	14.3	15.4	16.0
Energy value—Calories	3,000	2,900	3,010	3,000

On Planning The Earth

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Mr. Mulley asked the Minister of Food the consumption level per head of principal foods, expressed as a percentage of the pre-war level, in this country and other Organisation for European Economic Co-operation countries.

Mr. Webb: Figures for the Irish Republic are not

available, but for the United Kingdom and the other countries which are members of the Organisation for European Economic Co-operation, the estimated consumption levels per head of the principal foods for the year 1950-51 expressed as a percentage of the pre-war levels are as follows:

	Cereals	Potatoes	Sugar	Meat (carcase weight)	Milk	Oils and Fats
	per cent. of pre-war consumption level					
United Kingdom	107	139	76	81	160	110
Norway	97	98	62	97	135	104
Sweden	89	95	111	96	95	111
Denmark	107	122	61	89	104	81
Netherlands	91	125	112	82	134	130
Belgium-Luxemburg	95	95	111	93	122	111
France	94	91	96	102	107	86
Switzerland	109	105	105	84	99	100
Western Germany	92	109	104	75	91	91
Austria	99	110	92	63	75	78
Italy	96	81	157	95	139	92
Greece	94	243	100	60	74	100

Farmers (Prices)

Mr. Hurd asked the Minister of Food how the prices now being paid to British farmers for the main foods com-

pare with the cost of similar imported supplies.

Mr. Webb: The answer is as follows:

AVERAGE PRICES PAID FOR CERTAIN HOME PRODUCED AND IMPORTED FOODS

Commodity	Home-produced supplies	Imported Supplies	Remarks
Beef	£165 per ton ex slaughterhouse	Frozen fore and hindquarters— £125.8 per ton c.i.f. Boned and boneless— £103.4 per ton c.i.f. £124.8 per ton c.i.f.	Prices paid for 3 months ended 30th June, 1951.
Lamb and Mutton	£192.5 per ton ex slaughterhouse		" "
Bacon	£360 per ton ex factory	£238.67 per ton c.i.f.	" "
Shell Eggs	£6.41 per box of 360 ex packing station	£3.875 per box of 360 c.i.f.	Prices for 12 months ended 21st March, 1951.
Wheat	£28 per ton ex farm	£30.086 per ton c.i.f.	Prices for 12 months ended 30th June, 1951.
Sugar	£35.3 per ton ex factory	£32.8 per ton c.i.f.	Prices for 12 months ended 31st March, 1951. The price of home-produced raw sugar is fixed by reference to the average cost of imports for a full year (less Empire preference, plus plus the difference between the Excise duty on home produced and the Customs duty on imported sugar).

Note: The prices for the above imported supplies are based on the figures published in the Trade and Navigation Accounts, for the relevant period.

(continued on page 6).

The Parties and Persia

Under the heading "False Front," the *Observer's* leading article on October 14 summed up its opinion by asserting that it saw no real division on foreign policy between the parties now fighting a general election. It announced that "On Persia both parties were divided; Lord Salisbury had advised force, but not Mr. Churchill; and it now looks as if the Labour Government was prevented from yielding to Lord Salisbury's demands only by very strong American pressure at the last moment."

Masonic Services

Miss Dorothy E. Foster (Holborn Borough Council) writes to *The Church Times* to say that the newspaper's report on the Masonic Service in St. Giles-in-the-Fields, Holborn, was a profound shock to her, "both as a member of the Church of England and of the Holborn Borough Council. Two questions must now arise. Has this Lodge any right to use the title 'Holborn Borough Council,' and has United Grand Lodge the right to dictate the form of service to be held in churches belonging to the Church of England?"

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.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES: Home and abroad, post free:
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Offices: (Business) 7, VICTORIA STREET, LIVERPOOL, 2, Telephone: CENTRAL 8509; (Editorial) 49, PRINCE ALFRED ROAD, LIVERPOOL, 15, Telephone: SEFTON Park 435.

Vol. 27. No. 8.

Saturday, October 20, 1951.

From Week to Week

After the eight o'clock broadside from the B.B.C. "Home Service" announcing the abrogation by the "Egyptians" of their treaty with us, Garibaldi was quoted: "Those who want freedom strongly enough may attain it." Since the sole unreasonably construction which might be placed upon this reminder concerns our relations with the "British" Broadcasting Corporation, may we ask, genuinely desiring freedom from its poison strongly enough, how we get it?

• • •

Have we mentioned Sir William Wiseman in these pages? Noting that thirty years ago was 1921, we read that Wiseman, who is in London, has been a partner in Kuhn Loeb for thirty years. Before Lord Beaverbrook owned the *Daily Express*, Wiseman was a reporter on its staff but thought there was not enough money in reporting, "so I decided to go into banking." During the 1914-18 war he was in U.S.A. in charge of British intelligence (the *Evening Standard* has a small "i"), and when it ended (if it has ended) he was a British advisor at the Versailles Peace Conference "working closely with that famous Texan, Colonel House." He then returned to America, and in the second phase of the world war was "the representative of our petroleum warfare department" there. How strange it is, in view of the publicity given to the profession, not to mention other inducements, that more young reporters don't "decide to go into banking." Sir William is a tenth baronet.

• • •

It is high time that somebody (possibly somebody in Canada?) lassoed a Light Horse, bridled it, mounted it, saddled or unsaddled, and rode it boldly into the United States. Our reason for thinking so is an article by Frank Chodorov, "In Defense of the Non-Voter" in the issue of *Human Events* (Washington, D.C.) for October 3. We quote the following:—

"On the basis of past experience, one can predict that next fall, after the political conventions shall have completed their chores, the country will again be treated to a steady drone of written and oral sermons on the shortcomings of the non-voter, swelling in intensity of invective as we get nearer the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November. Whoever fails to make a choice of candidates—even for the 'lesser of two evils'—will be denounced as lacking in both patriotism and a proper respect for the Divinity from Whom

the right of suffrage derives. And, if once again the majority of qualified voters are not moved to take part in the election, the suggestion of punitive action will be reiterated.

"This is silly. If it is impossible to indict a whole nation, it is equally fatuous for a minority to condemn a majority. We can well appreciate the concern of the professional politician in the matter, for he is in need of a 'mandate' to justify his career, and the larger his vote the greater his moral security. Even Stalin finds it helpful on occasion to compel a hundred percent sanction of his skulduggery. But, by what democratic principle may the minority condemn the majority? Perhaps the abstention is in itself an intelligent exercise of choice; they have voted—against; and since they are in the majority they are democratically in the right. (It would be more consistent with principle for the candidate elected by a minority to refuse to take office.)

"Possibly, though statistically proof is lacking, the majority of Americans do not vote because they are not interested in the wares offered. To be sure, a great many would not vote under any circumstances, because of inertia, apathy, or sheer inability to comprehend what it is all about; these can be written off as of no consequence, and perhaps the country is better off that they take no part in its public affairs. But, among the non-voters there are undoubtedly a large number whose integrity impels them to reject what the political parties have to offer; they see no point in replacing one set of rascals by another, and will not under any circumstances underwrite rascality. They are not signing blank cheques.

"To cast aspersions on these self-respecting and intelligent citizens is to put a premium on lack of intelligence and lack of self-respect. Certainly, those who abstain from voting on principle display a higher type of citizenship than do those whose votes are cast by their pocketbooks: payrollers and their families, subsidized farmers, government contractors, borrowers from the RFC, or other expectant recipients of favours. Rather than condemn the conscientious non-voter, it would be more appropriate that we disfranchise all who are in any way beholden for their livelihood to the tax fund. Such disfranchisement, by the way, even though it depleted the polling list, would go a long way toward cleaning up American politics; it would abolish government by pressure groups and give solid meaning to our election results."

For anyone who wants it, we have a detailed technique for inducing the responsible vote, here, there or anywhere this voting business lasts. What the import duty levied on it is we don't know, and can only protest, if it is prohibitive, that we didn't impose it.

"The Guardian"

The Guardian, whose suspension we recorded last week, announces that it will continue until the end of November.

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The United States Atomic Energy Commission

Admiral Ellis Zacharias, Deputy Head of the Office of Naval Intelligence, says in his book, "Behind Closed Doors," that "the development of the atomic bomb needed foreign prodding and encouragement. It was left to a group of foreign-born physicists, centering on L. Szilard, and including E. Wigner, E. Teller, V. F. Weisskopf, and to their foreign-born sponsor Dr. Alechsander Sachs to stimulate reluctant American support for its use for military purposes."

Americans were indeed reluctant to use the atomic bomb against civilians, and if there had been any democratic method of ascertaining their opinion, they would have forbidden our Air Force to drop the bomb on Hiroshima and Nagasaki. The bomb was dropped by orders of Jews who controlled the Secretary of War and the atomic programme itself. *Who's Who in America*, 1951, says the following:—

"Dr. Alexander Sachs, born Rossien, Russia, economist, graduated from Harvard Graduate School, worked with Lee Higginson Company, now economic advisor and director of the Lehman Corporation [Senator Herbert Lehman's giant holding company], member of the National Policy Committee, special consultant to the Office of Strategic Services during World War II, originated the atomic project in conference with President Roosevelt, 1939, and served as the President's representative on the organising committee of the Manhattan Project."

As the Presidential representative who selected the men on the Manhattan Project, Dr. Sachs must be held responsible for the long list of Jewish spies, Rosenberg, Greenglass, Sobell, Gold, Weinberg *etc.*, who gave the atomic secrets to Russia. Dr. Sachs was a special consultant to the Office of Strategic Services in 1945 when the Office of Strategic Services compiled a list of German atomic scientists and gave the list to Russian officers, who immediately arrested the German scientists, some of them in the American zone being handed over to the Russians by the Office of Strategic Services, and sent them to Russia to work on their bomb.

The alternate United States Representative to the United Nations Atomic Energy Commission in 1946 was John Hancock, partner of Lehman Brothers, bankers, (Senator Herbert Lehman's firm), Chairman of Lever Brothers, Jewel Tea Co., American Export Airlines, and director of forty-five corporations. The United States Representative was Bernard Baruch, who controls General Electric Corporation. The atomic energy patents, developed by the United States Government at a cost of more than two billion dollars, have been turned over to General Electric.

Henry L. Stimson, Roosevelt's Secretary of War, says in his autobiography, "On Active Duty in Peace and War," p. 612.—"For nearly four years I was directly connected with all major decisions of policy on the development and use of atomic energy, and from May 1, 1943, until my resignation as Secretary of War on September 21, 1945, I was directly responsible to the President for the administration of the entire undertaking. At the same time I was the President's senior adviser on the military employment of atomic energy. The atomic energy undertaking was not solely American. It was another and conspicuous example of co-operation between the United States and the British Commonwealth, in this instance represented by Great Britain and Canada, the latter being a critically important source of

raw materials. In April I set up the Interim Committee which held discussions on the whole field of atomic energy. I was its chairman, but the principal labour fell to George L. Harrison [Governor of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York], who acted as chairman in my absence, James F. Byrnes personal representative of the President, [Byrnes was a Baruch lieutenant since the first World War], Ralph A. Bard, Under Secretary of the Navy, William L. Clayton, Under Secretary of State [former law clerk to Justice Brandeis, President of the Zionist Organisation of America], Dr. Vannevar Bush, Chairman of the Carnegie Institution of Washington [controlled by J. P. Morgan Co.], Dr. Karl T. Compton and Dr. James B. Conant. The Interim Committee recommended on June 1, 1945 that the bomb should be used on Japan without any specific warning. The ultimate responsibility for the recommendation to President Truman rested upon me. The detailed plans were brought to me for approval. I approved four targets including the cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki."

This chapter also appeared in *Harper's Monthly*, for February 1947. Stimson was a law partner in the New York firm of Winthrop and Stimson, lawyers for Kuhn, Loeb Co. His law partner was Bronson Winthrop, director of the International Acceptance Bank and the Bank of Manhattan, both enterprises owned by the Warberg family of Kuhn, Loeb Co.

Only one newspaperman was allowed to know about the atomic project. He was William L. Laurence, whose biography in *Who's Who in America* for 1951 is as follows:—

"William L. Laurence, son of Lipman and Sarah (Preuss) Siew, born in Salantai, Lithuania. Graduate of Harvard Law School. Selected by heads of the atomic bomb project to visit secret war plants and write series of reports following use of bomb against Japanese from April to September, 1945. Only journalist present at first atomic test explosion New Mexico, July 16, 1945. With atomic bomb mission to Marianas Islands, August, 1945, flew with mission to Nagasaki, witnessed both atomic bomb explosions at Bikini, awarded Pulitzer prize for report on Nagasaki."

William (Siew) Laurence was the only journalist to be trusted with the secret of the atomic bomb from April to September of 1945. A Lithuanian Jew, his loyalty was presumably greater than that of native Americans.

The first United States Atomic Energy Commission was appointed by President Truman on October 28, 1946. Its Chairman was David Lilienthal. The other four members were Dr. Robert F. Bacher, head physicist at the Los Alamos Bomb Project, Sumner T. Pike, Wall Street, stockbroker, Lewis L. Strauss of Kuhn, Loeb Co., and William W. Waymack, son of Emma Oberheim, editor of the *Des Moines Register Tribune*, owned by Gardner Cowles of *Look* magazine. Waymack was on the board of directors of many organisations dedicated to the destruction of the American Republic, among them the American Association for the United Nations, and a director (representing the public) of the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago. Of five members three are known to be Jews, one is presumably Jewish, and Pike is the only one supposedly non-Semitic on the Atomic Energy Commission. In 1949, Lilienthal and Bacher resigned, and were replaced by Justice Robert H. Jackson, prosecutor at the Nuremberg trials, and his assistant, Gordon Dean, this being their reward for destroying the reputation of America's respect for legal procedures.

The Commission in 1951 is composed of Gordon Dean, Chairman, Henry D. Smyth, Princeton professor on the Manhattan Project, Thomas E. Murray, receiver for the IRT subway system of New York City, director of Chrysler Motors Cp. and the Bank of New York, T. Keith Glennan, studio manager for Samuel Goldwyn and Paramount Pictures from 1935 to 1942, on the executive committee of the Warburg controlled AnSCO Film Corporation and the General Aniline and Film Corporation, (American branch of I. G. Farben), and Sumner Pike. The wisdom of having an I. G. Farben representative on our Atomic Energy Commission has not yet been questioned. More alarming is the fact that six of the ten members of the Commission up to date have been members of the Council on Foreign Relations, central and co-ordinating international agency in the United States, supported by the Rothschilds, and sister organisation

of the Royal Institute of International Affairs in London, also supported by the Rothschilds. These two organisations were founded jointly at the Paris Peace Conference in 1919, and are the parents of the Institute of Pacific Relations, which has been the main agency of Communism in the Far East.

The simple truth is that Americans have not been allowed to know about or benefit by the atomic energy programme. It has been a Jewish show from its inception, and, like all Jewish affairs, Aryan peoples are excluded. Instead of developing atomic energy for industrial purposes, which would depreciate the huge investments of such families as Schoellkopf and Lehman in electric power, Jews have devoted atomic energy to military purposes. The result seems likely to overshadow all catastrophes which have befallen Western Civilisation. *E. Mullins.*

PARLIAMENT (continued from page 3).

Private Premises (Entry Power)

Mr. Hutchinson asked the Attorney-General to state the

classes of officials for whom statutory authority exists to enter private dwelling-houses without any warrant and the respective statutes under which this authority exists.

Mr. Jay: Pursuant to his reply [OFFICIAL REPORT, 14th June, 1951; Vol. 488, c. 201], supplied the following:

CLASSES OF OFFICIALS FOR WHOM STATUTORY AUTHORITY EXISTS TO ENTER WITHOUT WARRANT PRIVATE DWELLING-HOUSES EXCLUSIVELY USED AS SUCH

Government Department	Statutory Authority	Classes
Ministry of Civil Aviation	Air Navigation (Investigation of Accidents) Regulations, 1922 to 1935 (enforced under the Civil Aviation Act, 1949).	Officials of the Department authorised by the Minister.
	Air Navigation Order, 1949 (under the Civil Aviation Act, 1949).	Officials of the Department and ad hoc persons authorised by the Minister.
Customs and Excise	Customs Consolidation Act, 1876	Officials deputed by the Commissioners.
Ministry of Health	Lunacy Acts, 1890	Members of the Board of Control or persons authorised by the Board of Control.
Home Office	Children's Act, 1948	} Officials of the Department deputed by the Minister.
	Civil Defence Act, 1948	
Inland Revenue	Local Government Act, 1948	The Valuation Officer and any person authorised by him in writing.
Local Government and Planning ...	Acquisition of Land (Authorisation Procedure) Act, 1946, etc.	Officials of the Valuation Department.
	Town and Country Planning Act, 1944 (as applied by New Towns Acts, 1946).	} Persons authorised in writing by the Minister.
	Town and Country Planning Act, 1947. ...	
War Damage Commission and Central Land Board.	National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act, 1949.	} Members of the Commission or any person authorised in writing by the Commission.
	War Damage Act, 1943	
Ministry of Works	Ancient Monuments Consolidation and Amendment Act, 1913.	} Officials of the Department deputed by the Minister.
	Town and Country Planning Act, 1947 ...	
	Lands Clauses Consolidation Act, 1845 ...	
Scottish Home Department	Children's Act, 1948	Officials of the Department deputed by the Secretary of State.

Mr. Mulloy asked the Minister of Food the retail prices in the United Kingdom, France, Denmark, Switzerland, Austria and Western Germany, as disclosed in the Organisation for European Economic Co-operation's figures in June, 1950, and June, 1951, or the latest convenient date, of foods rationed in this country and bread, potatoes and coffee.

Mr. Webb: The following table shows the retail prices

per lb. of these foodstuffs in the United Kingdom in June, 1950, and June, 1951, and the sterling equivalent of the prices ruling in other countries mentioned at the corresponding periods. In the case of France, Switzerland and Western Germany, however, the 1951 prices relate to May, and in the case of Denmark to April, the latest months for which information is available.

—	United Kingdom		France		Denmark		Switzerland		Austria		Western Germany	
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
Sugar:												
1950 ...	5		11½		2½		9		6½		10½	
1951 ...	5		11½		4		10		8½		10½	
Butter:												
1950 ...	2	0	4	11½	2	11	7	2½	2	6½	4	2
1951 ...	2	6	6	2	2	11	7	4½	2	6½	4	6
Margarine:												
1950 ...	10		2	5¼	1	4½	n.a.		1	0½	1	9¼
1951 ...	1	2	3	4½	1	11¼	n.a.		1	0½	1	9
Lard:												
1950 ...	1	0	2	3½	1	10½	2	4½	1	9	2	3½
1951 ...	1	4	3	11¼	2	4¼	2	8½	2	0	3	0
Cheese:												
1950 ...	1	2	4	11	2	2½	3	11	2	8	n.a.	
1951 ...	1	2	5	2½	2	6¼	3	11	2	8	n.a.	
Eggs (a):												
1950 ...	4	6	3	6	2	9	5	3	2	3	4	0
1951 ...	4	0	3	9	2	9	5	0	2	9	4	0
Beef (b)												
(rib roast):												
1950 ...	1	8	1	4½	2	3½	4	5¼	1	7	2	5¼
1951 ...	1	8	2	5½	2	6½	4	7	2	3	2	9
Mutton (b)												
(leg):												
1950 ...	2	0	5	5¼	n.a.		5	3	n.a.		n.a.	
1951 ...	2	0	6	7	n.a.		5	4½	n.a.		n.a.	
Pork (b)												
(chops):												
1950 ...	2	4	3	2	2	6½	5	5¼	2	6	2	11
1951 ...	2	4	5	1½	2	9½	6	0¼	2	6	3	5
Bacon:												
1950 ...	2	7	1	9½	n.a.		5	5½	n.a.		3	7½
1951 ...	2	7	3	0½	n.a.		5	11½	n.a.		3	7½
Tea:												
1950 ...	3	4	n.a.		9	7	11	6½	12	5½	37	1
1951 ...	3	8	n.a.		10	1½	12	0	14	11½	37	1
Bread:												
1950 ...	3½		4		5¼		4½		2½		4½	
1951 ...	4		4½		6		4½		3½		5½	
Potatoes:												
1950 ...	1½		3½		1½		4½		1¼		1½	
1951 ...	2		4½		2¼		3½		1¼		1¼	
Coffee:												
1950 ...	3/4-4/-		5	10	6	0½	4	8½	6	11½	21	11
1951 ...	4/2-4/10		8	1	6	11½	6	1½	7	5½	23	10½

Notes: (a) Home produced eggs equivalent to Category I in United Kingdom.
 (b) Home produced meat, with bone in.

House of Lords: July 17, 1951.

Intimidation of Refugees

Lord Vansittart: My Lords, I beg to ask the Question which stands in my name on the Order Paper.

[The Question was as follows:

To ask His Majesty's Government whether any "diplomatic" missions other than the Soviet have been abusing their privileges by endeavouring, directly or indirectly, to intimidate refugees or to coerce them into illicit activities.]

The Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs (Lord Henderson): My Lords, His Majesty's Government have reason to suspect that certain Missions have from time to time attempted to exert pressure on refugees, particularly those who still have relatives in their countries of origin. A close watch is being kept for such activities, and should any evidence of them come to hand prompt and appropriate action will be taken.

Lord Vansittart: My Lords, I am very glad to hear those epithets "prompt" and "appropriate," because I feel that if it were realised that anybody detected in indulging in these illicit activities would be expelled, the safety of the refugees in this country would be markedly enhanced.

Finance Bill

Lord Rennell: . . . The time between each Finance Bill appears to get shorter and shorter as we all get older. We look back over the last few years to a succession of restrictions which we particularly deplore. I think that this particular Bill is in some ways rather more momentous in this aspect than some of its predecessors. It contains, as I see it, at least four tombstones on the road of liberty, and they are pretty big ones. I am going to submit to your Lordships that several of them are neither necessary nor desirable. I refer in particular to Clauses (under their new description or numbering) 27, 32, 36 and 37. I propose to take them individually.

Clause 27 is entitled:

"Power to obtain information as to interest paid or credited without deduction of tax."

That, broadly speaking, refers to interest paid on bank accounts. This clause, of course, is nothing less than a power given to tax inspectors to require a bank to disclose the affairs of its clients. It is yet another definite and fundamental breach of the relationship which, in this country, has hitherto been sacrosanct between a banker and his clients. And let it be noted that this affects not only the relations of clients with their bankers in the commercial bank world, but also the relationship between the clients and the Post Office Savings Bank, because there is a subsection in Clause 27 under which the consecration of the relationship between a depositor in the Savings Bank and the Savings Bank, which has been untouched, I believe, since the Act of 1861, now is breached.

This is not the first break in this confidential relationship that has existed between a banker and his client: the first major breach occurred under the Exchange Control Act. That gave rise to sufficient comment, criticism and apprehension for the then Chancellor of the Exchequer, at the time of the nationalisation of the Bank of England, to say that Section 4 of that Act, which required the banks to disclose to the Bank of England the affairs of their clients, was not one which need arouse apprehension. One event of that sort may not arouse apprehension, but a succession of them undoubtedly will. I suggest that Clause 27 of this Bill is an unnecessary clause. The total amount of tax evasion that may take place through the crediting of interest on deposit accounts is, I submit, in the aggregate, extremely small. . . .

My next criticism is of Clause 32. This clause is entitled:

"Transactions designed to avoid liability to the profits tax."

I am not going to deal with this at any length; it was the subject of very animated and long-drawn out discussion in another place, which lasted, I think, for about twelve hours. But there is one particularly undesirable feature in the clause which remains, in spite of the Amendment which was introduced on the original draft. The clause starts:

"(1) Where the Commissioners are of opinion that the main purpose or one of the main purposes for which any transaction or transactions was or were affected . . . was the avoidance or reduction of liability to the profits tax, they may, if they think fit, direct that such adjustments shall be made . . ."

That makes the power of adjustment and of investigation depend upon what the Commissioners think fit; it becomes dependent upon what their opinion is. The clause states what the penalties are if their opinion is such and such. It seems to me highly undesirable that the subject should not know what he may or may not do without having to consult some people in the Inland Revenue about what their opinion on the subject is. That is contrary to the principles of taxation on which we have been brought up. . . .

. . . I now come to Clause 36, to which reference has already been made in your Lordships' House by myself and others. This is the clause dealing with the transfer abroad of businesses domiciled in this country or the transfer of assets to subsidiaries abroad. . . . the real trouble is that this clause, in imposing a prohibition on a concern in this country from transferring an asset to a subsidiary in another country or from one subsidiary to another subsidiary without the consent of the Treasury, is not only hampering business

by the inevitable delays which the seeking of that permission must involve, but is also a definite restriction on the power to dispose of the property of persons—I mean persons in the form of companies—in this country as they consider to the best advantage of their share holders. As it was described when this matter was first discussed, and not only in this House, it is equivalent to removing the commercial passport of concerns in this country, and allowing them to have it back only if they will go and ask the Treasury's permission before they do what they want to do. I do not think that this clause was necessary.

We are all aware that companies have sought to transfer, and have indeed transferred, their domiciles abroad to escape from this country. From what are they escaping? First of all, they are escaping or trying to escape—which may be reprehensible—from the burden of taxation which they consider too high—I am coming back to that point in a minute. But more especially they are seeking to escape from the application of the profits tax in the form in which it is now applied. It is only since the introduction of profits tax on undistributed profits that this substantial move to escape from this country and transfer domiciles abroad has been noticed. There is also the desire, probably latent, especially in the case of companies where perhaps the majority of the shareholders are not shareholders in this country but who nevertheless were perfectly happy to have their company domiciled over here—and I have specific cases in mind here—to try to escape from what they consider to be the policy of a Socialist Government in this country. In other words there is a fear of being nationalised.

(To be continued).

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