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Power and Authority

"The objective is establishment of effective distinction between Power and Authority; Power, which cannot be destroyed but may be distributed; and Authority, which can be neither destroyed nor distributed. Law, in nature and human society, is the discoverable expression of Authority; '*laws*' are enactments of Power. Only when *laws* truly reflect Law, is the 'State' of society healthy. We can proceed towards making the necessary distinction effective only by stages." (Social Credit Secretariat directive.)

The Electoral Campaign was an attempt to harness power behind policy in accordance with correct principles of association. It failed because an adequate sense of sovereignty was lacking in the electorate.

The Local Objectives Campaign, culminating in the Rates Campaign, had primarily the objective of harnessing 'steam' to a local objective on Electoral Campaign lines, to demonstrate by successful action that if the electorate really exercised their will they would achieve the policy they wanted. It came near to success. It was interrupted by World War II.

It is quite clear, or should be clear to everyone who is anxious to establish a Christian social order (we are not writing for the benefit of those who do not want this), that no progress can be made in this direction unless an effective sanction can be found in the community, which if correctly used, will be adequate to subordinate Power to Authority (Law in the Universe). That this involves distribution of power is axiomatic.

It is an indication of our peril today that Power and Authority have become confused, and everything is done by those exercising Power to foster the impression that the two are synonymous. They are not.

It is clear, to most of us anyway, that if there had existed at the time of the Electoral Campaign and the Rates Campaign an effective separation of Power from Authority, that there had been an effective recognition of Authority such as existed in the Medieval Church, the sanctions behind those campaigns would have had sufficient substance to force a favourable issue.

It is open to the defeatists to say, of course, that the corruption of the conception of Authority has gone so far in the community, that nothing can be done about it; it is too late. Many a battle has been lost through a failure of faith. Many a battle has been won when conditions had reached such a state that faith was the only justification for continuing the struggle.

We believe that a sanction does exist in society which can be used to force this issue to a successful conclusion. It would be hard to define it. In the absence of certainty we may say that it appears to us as a spiritual essence present in a large number of people in varying intensity scattered throughout society. We seek to uncover it and help it to express itself. We believe that it may be dis(un)covered, and that it forms a part of that Reality which we have glimpsed.

The Christian Campaign For Freedom is an attempt to drive a wedge between those who abuse Power and those who, recognising Authority, are nevertheless subject to this abuse. We have been asked: "What is the real objective of the suggested campaign other than the ostensible one of making a party politician sign an undertaking? In other words what would be considered as successful action?"

Bearing in mind that we only expect to proceed by stages, the answer is that to the extent to which it succeeds in inducing people to recognise Authority in the world and to obey it it is succeeding. And we would add that it is our belief that the sanction with which individuals invest such action is of much harder metal, much higher potency, than anything which is involved in mere pressure politics, i.e., it has quality. Furthermore we do not preclude the possibility that even some politicians may find an inner sanction, and that if it is borne in mind that the objectives set out in the Pledge which is now being distributed are certainly the real policy of the great majority (even if many of them are prepared to compromise) and that some three hundred constituencies are held by small majorities, the prospects of producing at least a balance of power on the side of Authority are not far fetched if Social Crediters will give the Campaign wholehearted support.

The same questioner says: —"What we are trying to establish would be the general principle of contracting-out, and unless we can be sure that this is a doctrine which the voter is ripe to receive (as in the case of lower rates), I feel that such a campaign might do more to divide than to unite. You will get the Trade Unionist who will object to applying contracting-out of Trade Unionism. You will get the educationalist who will object to applying it to education and so on—all anxious to put the other fellow right but parting company from you on their own hobby horse. You have indicated that the list to which contracting-out could be applied could be extended almost indefinitely. . . ."

The answer is that we are trying to separate the Heathen (and those who want liberty for themselves and deny it to others are certainly Heathen) from those who respect Law. We are trying to classify a vital issue. In that sense we are certainly dividing the community into those who are for God and those who are against. The present divisions in society are *real*, seflishness is exploited so that a section is played off against another, *e.g.*, the townsman against the farmers. J.M.

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THE SOCIAL CREDITER FOR POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC REALISM

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

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From Week to Week

It is now several years since the Social Credit movement has been advised by the Secretariat to undertake any *concerted* action. There have been occasions when such action has been proposed and considered. They were such, in the opinion of our advisor of the time, as gave little opportunity for action likely to succeed, and were open to objection on the ground that to go on throwing troops into action without reasonable expectation or results breed despondency and is bad for morale. The wheel had to turn.

Briefly, the Campaign advertised at the foot of the next column is not open to this objection. The wheel has turned, though it has not yet come to rest.

Those who have shouldered the burden of launching the Campaign are men and women of integrity in the sense which most concerns us, namely, that not only are they single-minded but their singlemindedness is centred upon our common objective, as they have conclusively shown by unspectacular but continuous and unremitting devotion to its attainment.

Speaking with some knowledge of the matter, such are prone to undertake greater burdens than they can conveniently or even safely bear, though we do not know of anyone who has yet succumbed to them. However that may be, there is, we are assured, opportunity now for the volunteering of assistance in every town and village where there are Social Crediters, and we trust that the call addressed to them, however inconspicuously, will not pass unheeded.

There is abroad in the world a process of mind-changing which should not pass unnoticed. Concerning some of its features, we shall have more to say later. They may be diabolically threatening to the attainment of our most modest hopes. They may offer the last opportunity we may have to convert a desperate situation to something better.

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"It was Philip Mairet, for many years editor of *The New English Weekly*, who first opened to me this vista, in an article in that journal" "This vista" may be variously summarised, but may be taken to be a "vista" in which (to cite Archbishop Temple) money has "become functional to man in his economic activity, and the grounds of any suspicion that economic activity has become functional to money" have been removed; or the "vista" of The Christendom Association. It is re-advanced in a shilling 40 reprint of an address by Dr. W. G. Peck in April, 1952 just published by the S.P.C.K.

In these discussions one cannot help feeling led towards those battle-grounds of lost causes where principles too abstract for practical application contend with techniques too complex for general understanding. We know quite well what line of separation exists between ourselves and Dr. Peck. Eclecticism works all right when the 'choosiness' it evidences concerns such things as 'sugar and spice and all things nice '-matters of taste. Applied to a scientific theory it is conducive to woolliness and destructive of accuracy. You may say that some of the data upon which a theory rests are correctly stated (i.e., 'right') and others incorrectly stated (i.e., 'wrong'); but you cannot say that some parts of a theory are 'right' and you accept them while other parts are 'wrong' and you do not accept them. A theory has not parts. The grammatical statement of it may have parts; but that only shows up the insufficiency of language to state a theory. But we are loth to raise that issue at the moment, discerning as we do, significance in the fact that it is deemed to be an appropriate moment to publish through a well-known and influential society such a passage as the following: -

"... it is the American monetary control that prevents the U.S.A. from becoming a virtually self-contained leisure State, which it potentially is, and keeps both American and British people hard at work; the Americans maintaining a rising standard of living, and the British maintaining a falling one."

History, "crystallised policy," deals with events in Time. Only the specially prepared may be theologians; but anyone in Time may, we suppose be an historian. To the extent that we are historians, then, Apocalypses belong to an important literary and theological movement in Judaism which occupied the first two centuries B.C. and the first century A.D. It has now been remarked that for the first time in history the fantastic imagery of "The Dominion of Antichrist" is being replaced in popular consciousness by objective demonstrations. What was dismissed as primitive fantasy is actual experience—experience of something recognisable, however produced. We are not blind to it.

CHRISTIAN CAMPAIGN FOR FREEDOM

Chairman: Dr. BASIL L. STEELE, Penrhyn Lodge, Gloucester Gate, London, N.W.1.

Honorary Secretary: Mr. C. R. PRESTON.

Honorary Treasurer: Mrs. J. HYATT.

Funds for the Campaign are urgently needed.

World Population and Resources

Viscount Samuel has been telling the House of Lords (Official Report for April 28) that a hundred years ago, in 1850, the population of the world was rather over 1,000 million. In 1900, it was 1,500 million. To-day, it is 2,500 million, and if present trends are continued—and that is a big "if "—there will be added about 100,000 more mouths to feed every day, and by the earlier part of the next century the total population will be doubled and will amount to 5,000 million. A hundred years ago, 1,000 million; 50 years ago, 1,500 million; now, 2,500 million; next century, 5,000 million. "These figures" he said, "have given rise to great anxiety among all students of human affairs and the question is asked whether the human race is not headed towards sheer disaster."

"It is said " he went on, " that Malthus raised the same issue in the earlier years of the nineteenth century and his pessimistic prognostications were falsified by the Industrial Revolution and by the opening up of vast new territories to colonisation and productivity. And it is asked whether anything of that kind can possibly happen again. The Neo-Malthusians—for a school of Neo-Malthusians has grown up—tell us that the fertility of the human race is out-stripping the fertility of the plant; and instead of harbouring rosy dreams of universal prosperity we have to look forward to a world-wide poverty even worse than that of today. The individual may expect longer life, but in a world of widespread misery.

"The proposition I should like to put before your Lordships' House to-day is that this not need be so; that science, which has brought about the danger, brings also the means for preventing it. If there are millions more mouths to feed—100,000 more every day—every mouth brings also two hands to work, and if there is a stomach, there is also a brain. . . . Undoubtedly there are enormous opportunities for extending the area of soil under cultivation, and even greater opportunities of vastly increasing its yield."

Other paragraphs were as follows: ----

"The noble Earl who is to reply to-day gave an answer in your Lordships' House on behalf of the Ministry of Agriculture on March 18 in which he gave a comparison for the agricultural output of the United Kingdom, in the year 1953-54 with that in the period before the outbreak of the last war in 1939. The total output of our farms had increased in that short period, fifteen years, by 56 per cent. -and that with no comparable increase in manpower. Owing to the greater use of machinery (the noble Earl did not give this answer, but a paper provided to me by the Minister of Agriculture gives me these supplementary figures) the output per man has risen in that period by 30 per cent. Since the men are working shorter hours, it means that the output per man-hour has risen by 40 per That is, as I say, mainly the result of machinery. cent.

"It is therefore a fallacy to suppose that a mere increase of population must be a sheer liability, and in itself a debit charge. If we take one of the greatest examples of rapid increase of population, that of the United States of America, in 1850 the United States had a population of 23 million; in 1950 of 150 million, and now 160 million; and, of course, the increased productivity is far greater than that enormous increase of population. If all the world had increased productivity to the same extent as the United States have done, in proportion to population, there would be no question for us to debate here to-day. If in Europe, with these comparatively high standards of production already at the earlier date, these great increases have been effected in so short a time, surely it ought to be possible for countries which start at a much lower level of output to increase their production greatly.

"There are two lines of possible advance: one is the increase of area, and the other the increase of vield. Irrigation works marvels, and it can be combined with the production of hydro-electric power. It is being so combined in many parts of the world, and has been for years past in the famous Tennessee Valley administration. Now, in Russia, in India, in China, in Egypt, and in other countries, these vast schemes have brought millions and millions of acres into fertility. Only this week Her Majesty The Queen is to inaugurate a dam at the outlet where the Nile flows from the Victoria Nyanza, a great enterprise which will convert the whole of the Victoria Nyanza, which is about the size of Ireland, into a reservoir for the production of hydro-electric power and the provision of water for irrigation for the Sudan and Egypt. Immense possibilities lie before Africa, because Africa, which has 20 per cent. of the land surface of the earth produces only 5 per cent. of its food. The projects that are now in hand will add tens of millions of acres to the fertile productivity of the world.

"In addition, there is the attack on the jungle, which covers vast areas in several continents. That has sometimes proved to be a danger, because deforestation exposes the soil in the tropics to the torrential rains which erode the soil and reduce the fertility, rather than increase it. But that can be prevented without difficulty. A book has been published in the last few weeks giving the results of a mission sent by the United Nations and all its Agencies in co-operation to South-Eastern Asia. The mission was headed by Mr. Ritchie Calder, who wrote a book called Men Against the Desert and has now written a fascinating book with the title Men Abainst the Jungle. His subject is really much wider than the title would indicate. His mission began in Samoa, and passed through many countries, ending in Afghanistan. Relating to what is being done in Siam, or Thailand, as it should be called, a scheme for fighting the jungle has there been adopted which does not lead to the indiscriminate destruction of the ancient teak forests but establishes the principle of planned forestry, leaving large areas of forest still standing, with cultivation in between, with the result that there is no erosion, there is more food and there is as much timber as before.

"With regard to the yield from the soil, this is largely a question of equipment, as we all know. The machine is taking the place of human or animal labour—and, incidently, that very conversion releases great quantities of food, because the farmers of the world have no longer to provide enormous quantities of food as fodder for their draught animals, oxen or horses. By replacing that labour with oil or hydroelectricity, immense quantities of food are automatically released from animal consumption for human consumption. The most important equipment on the farm is its human labour, and there in the tropics, where the poverty is greatest, the vast proportion of the people are incapacitated by chronic disease. They are killed or debilitated by malaria. The

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word 'yaws' is almost unknown here, but in some countries that disease dominates the whole of the population. Mr. Calder tells us that in Java which he visited, out of seventy million population, twelve million are believed to be suffering from this disease, which cripples hands, feet and legs, and entirely incapacitates the victim from useful work. It can be cured now by penicillin. . . ."

"I would . . add a reference only to two long-range possibilities which may eventuate to some extent within the present century. One is the development of nuclear energy. In countries which have no coal or oil, and insufficient water power, nuclear energy may result in economic salvation. . . .

"The second possibility is that, while we are concentrating our attention upon the soil, there is an enormous wealth of food material in the sea. All our fisheries put together have touched only a fraction of the potentialities of the ocean. The word "plankton" is little known as yet, but in the next generation and the generation after it may be familiar as one of the main sources of human food supply...

"I come lastly to the question of what is the special concern of your Lordships' House in these matters and what can be done about it. The most populous regions which are concerned here are economically the weakest, and they are overwhelmed by the colossal vastness of the task that faces them. The question is how we can best help them . . .

"The first kind of help that we can give to those countries that we are now considering is no doubt to send them chemists, technicians, educationists and doctors. That is being done in large numbers, and soon, one may hope, these peoples themselves will provide their own technicians and scientists. Finance, however, is an even graver and more difficult problem. Vast sums are needed before a programme such as that which has been sketched out by the experts can be carried into effect. There is no reason that I can see why the populations of this country and other countries, already very heavily taxed, should be taxed further in order to give a grant for carrying out these projects. After all, the stability and prosperity of our own country, and, similarly, of the United States and of Western Europe, are themselves necessary and of service to the world.

"In the nineteenth century, the development of the whole of America, North and South, was made possible by the loan of capital. . . ." etc.

The standard argument for "credit worthiness" follows. At the end of a long debate, insufficiency of data was alleged.

Alberta, etc.

Current events in Alberta, British Columbia and New Zealand might appear inexplicable to people ignoring the crooked ability of Finance and its subsidiaries. Also, Douglas described the origins of these events in *The Alberta Experiment* and developments in a speech he gave in Belfast towards the end of 1937, called Your War in Alberta.

Mr. Reid of the United Farmers' Party appointed Major Douglas Chief Reconstruction Adviser to the Government of Alberta shortly before the election of Mr. Aberhart to office, in 1935. And Major Douglas's proposed visit to Alberta was regarded "as a threat to the Social Credit Party and

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to Mr. Aberhart." Douglas replied that his invitation had come from the *Government of Alberta* (his italics), and the book illustrates his indifference to party labels. In fact, the "orthodox and Conservative Press" gave him a cordial reception on his arrival in May.

Aberhart won the election in August, and after appointing Mr. Manning and others to his Cabinet, travelled to Ottawa. "Finally, through the good offices of Mr. Graham Towers of the Bank of Canada, Mr. R. B. Bennett, Prime Minister, enabled Mr. Hugill, the Alberta Attorney-General, to recommend to Mr. Aberhart the disinterested services of Mr. Robert J. Magor." Magor had previously advised depriving Newfoundland of its sovereign rights, and his intrusion detached Aberhart from his Chief Reconstruction Adviser. Magor's suggestions were deservedly unpopular, but the Premier rejected the proposed Loan Council.

Aberhart asked for a plan, but Douglas pointed out that the Province first needed to gain control of its credit, and that he had submitted methods for gaining this control to Mr. Reid. Douglas added that Aberhart would not win the war without fighting a battle. Aberhart introduced legislation, masses of it, but the affairs of the Province did not improve. "During the first year of the Social Credit Government its enemies were successful all along the line."

Turning to the Belfast speech, we read that "after two years of rather pathetic experimentation a very definite line of action was taken. By methods . . . based on what is called the Electoral Campaign, the Albertan electorate set about demanding the results it was not getting . . . the Ministers had to yield and take steps to implement their election promises. Powell and Byrne were invited into the arena. Legislation was at last introduced that enraged the bankers, and they reacted through Mackenzie King, who disallowed the acts.

Further repercussions may be recalled, but a third phase followed Aberhart's death and the accession of Mr. Manning in 1943. This phase has been examined in this journal, and the relations of Douglas Social Credit and Magor "Social Credit" (under international patronage) made clear. But the rumours and denials of recession, readjustment or whatever name is given to depression (depressed areas in Britain were known as special areas) suggest that a fourth round might be opening. H.S.

The Fig Tree

The Fig Tree, A Douglas Social Credit Quarterly Review, New Series, No. 1, June, 1954, 20/- yearly, single copies 5/- post free, will be on sale on June 8. Subscribers to The Social Crediter will each receive one copy with the issue of The Social Crediter for June 12, when those who have not already subscribed may elect to receive further issues on the terms above stated.

Dr. and Mrs. C. G. Dobbs would welcome as expense-sharing guests, people interested in combining a holiday in North Wales with a study of Social Credit, between July 18th and August 3rd.

Enquiries should be made to Mrs. C. G. Dobbs, Bodifyr, Bangor, Caernarvonshire.

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