There have been universities continuously in Europe since the foundations of Salerno, Paris and Oxford, the three universities which appear on Rashdall’s map* with no date beside their names. Before the close of the fifteenth century, Reggio, Vicenza, Palencia, Vercelli, Arezzo, Treviso, and Genoa had been and gone, and others have gone in later times. The conception of a university is not an ancient conception. There was no university for Archimedes. It is important that the circumstances in which the idea originated, took root and grew should be disclosed. Yet it is all but impossible to get at them. They seem to be locked in an inaccessible casket, although they are what historians exist specially to reveal and make plain; to disclose, yet never to disclose. There is nothing more confusing and, perhaps, dangerous and destructive of any hope of grasping the immense forces which are involved, than the notion that an ecclesiastical motive—even a Christian motive—led to the development. The concept of a university is Jewish rather than Christian, and the very word ‘university,’ applied to the school of arts and theology at Paris in 1215, long after she had completed the circle of her studies, first gained general currency in Germany where universitas was the word for a corporate town among jurisconsults. “The thirteenth century embraces within its limits an eminently eventful era in European history. It was an age of turbulence and confusion, of revolution and contention, wherein, amid the strife of elements, it is often difficult to discern the tendencies for good that were undoubtedly at work . . . .” To this century the University of Cambridge traces back its first recorded recognition as a legally constituted body, [my italics] and refers the foundation of its most ancient college.”† Rashdall is similarly definite-elusive concerning Oxford.** “. . . the学校 must have originated—probably at the time of some ecclesiastical confusion—in a migration from one of the great archetypal universities . . . .” In ascribing the origin of Oxford to an academic migration I am at least ascribing it to a verum causa, which is known to have produced the universities of Reggio, Vicenza, Vercelli, Padua, Leipzig, and other permanent universities . . . .” Rashdall is criticised by his editors for associating “certain ominous events which have gone far to fulfill an astrological prediction” mentioned by John of Salisbury in 1167 with an expulsion of foreign scholars from France. It was an issue between Becket and Henry II whether or not such migrations (to or from France) should be restricted. This is the period in which Innocent III, the institutor of the Inquisition, was pitted as his successors after him, against his ward, Frederick II, ‘the world’s wonder’ (stupor mundi), the first of the modern’s, who acquired in his own court of Sicily “a Moslem view of Christianity as well as a Christian view of Islam, and the unhappy result of this double system of instruction was a view, exceptional in that age of faith, that all religions were impostures.” It was at Salerno that Frederick employed a staff of Jewish scholars to translate into Latin Arab works in Greek on mathematics and medicine. The knowledge of the time was oriental (Arabic and Hindu), and the Jews were the chief disseminators and centralisers of it. The Medical School at Bologna was founded by Jews from Spain. “The founding of the University of Bagdad (circa 800 A.D.) was signalled by the translation of Ptolemy’s Almagest, the works of Euclid, Hippocrates and others into Arabic by Jewish scholars.”† It has been the fashion to particularise this time as a “turning point of history.” History truly has no turning points. Truth and a straight line have certain properties in common. You cannot bend a straight line. It has been the fashion of the Liberals to represent the antagonism of some Popes as antagonism to particular ideas, and the foundations of the same and other Popes to favouritism of other particular ideas. What the historians do not uncover, in their treatment of the universities at least, is the nature of the absurd conflict which is even now receiving perhaps its last contribution, futile and inane, from—the Association of University Teachers, which aspires, it seems, to emulate the British Medical Association, as the salesmen of the universities, in the same ignominious and unenviable sense as their medical trade-unionist confreres have been salesmen.

(Continued on page 2.)

** Rashdall: Mediaeval Universities.
†† Hogben.
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.

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

Offices—Business and Editorial: 11, GARFIELD STREET, BELFAST.
Telephone: Belfast 27810.

"The Masses"

(1) "The wrecks of ill-judged innovations are as much a peril to social navigation as are the rocks of vested interests."

(2) "The idealism of the masses is in fact a greater obstacle to peace than their Chauvinism, for while the latter is latent and sporadic, the former is constant and more flattering to self esteem."

(3) "In its approach to the problems of world policy modern rationalism inevitably puts police ahead of politics. It tends towards legalism, ideologies, and formulas, and however logical these may seem from its own standpoint, in application they are bound to be reactionary and productive of further conflict."

(4) "The idea of peace by force is a dangerous and costly illusion. The integrative organs of a world economy cannot be designed in advance. They will grow out of experience, and assume forms and methods different from anything we have now."

—Professor W. A. Orton, The Liberal Tradition.

"The people of God operate with atheists; the most skilful accumulators of property ally themselves with communists; the peculiar and chosen race touch the hand of all the scum and low castes of Europe. And all this because they wish to destroy that Christianity that owes them even its name, whose tyranny they can no longer endure."

—Life of Lord George Bentinck, Benjamin D'Israeli.

"Then again there is the baneful effect of Hollywood in lowering the tastes of the masses, and in fact, in lowering the whole standard of thought throughout the world. Crowds flock to the picture theatres, and producers revel in producing the kind of film that tickles the taste of the masses. And all this because they wish to destroy that Christianity that owes them even its name, whose tyranny they can no longer endure."


At a time when the ideas fathered on the cahmon man, by the Common Enemy, seem likely to involve us in a common ruin, it would be difficult to over-rate the importance of this "stand for righteousness." In an immediately preceding paragraph, we have reiterated, by quotation from Miss Dorothy L. Sayers, what we feel to be a very fundamental contributory to our ills—the lack of "a just relationship between the mind and—idees. Bacon was no doubt thinking of what we should now call the scientific outlook. But we have to face something far more insidious, since language as a bridge has been broken down. We are confronted with a schizophrenia which, it would appear, can only be resolved by an "atonement" between ideation and understanding—an atonement in which words have been enlisted in the service of the Father of Lies.

MODERN SCIENCE—(continued from page 1.)

of the profession of medicine. Just as you cannot bend a straight line, so too you cannot hold it straight. All you can do is to be the silent witness of its rectitude and obedient to its direction. As the determination to bend the pursuit of knowledge to a hidden, secret, over-riding purpose is ultimately destructive of knowledge, so over-great solicitude is in vain.

(To be continued.)

Seasonable Greetings

To

All Our Readers
The Development of World Dominion

During the period of the Socialist Administration in Great Britain following the end of World War II, The Social Crediter analysed the activities of that administration in our progress to disaster; and emphasised over and over that a change of administration would not mean a change of policy. The Constitutional issue, philosophy, politics, economics and strategy were examined in the notes under the heading "From Week to Week." Written or inspired by the late C. H. Douglas, these notes are a permanent and invaluable addition to our understanding of the policies of opposed philosophies, and we propose to re-publish a considerable selection of them, both for their relevance to a situation which has developed but not otherwise altered under a 'new' Administration, and for the benefit of new readers of this journal to whom otherwise they are not readily available.

The date of original publication is given in brackets after each item.

The simple test to be applied to all legislation at this time, from the point of view of those whose policy we endeavour to express, is "Does it centralise power, or does it free the individual?"

We entirely agree with the contributor to Truth who complains of the overplaying of "Your freedom is in danger," by the Conservatives, because in itself, that statement is becoming nearly meaningless. It was, if our memory serves us, Commander Geoffrey Bowles, R.N., who wrote some little time back, that no-one born less than fifty years ago was able to give a personal opinion on freedom from experience of it, and again we agree.

And the explanation is in essence both simple and incontrovertible—instead of being self-contained units we are, more and more, becoming components of a function, masquerading as 'economics,' but accurately described as "full employment." Five minutes' consideration will convince anyone not mentally infirm that a policy of full employment (full employment in war is a necessity, not a policy) means, and can only mean, direction of labour. Combine that with egalitarianism, and you have the slave state—you cannot possibly have anything else. As frequently, The Tablet puts its finger (if tablets have fingers) on the fatal error of current Conservatism. "They are much too fond of running with the hare and hunting with the hounds, of claiming a main share in creating the present mould in which an Englishman's life is cast, and then representing themselves as the people naturally best qualified to break that mould and set the people free." Unfortunately, and also as usual, The Tablet shies off the obvious and inescapable deduction, refusing to go further back than "Mr. Lloyd George and his political entourage ... and German inspiration." True; but not true enough to have practical value.

No, Clarence, not a moment is being lost. The Sunday Express says the Prime Minister says he is well aware that unemployment was caused last time by taking reparations; "everyone" agrees that there must be no dumping (on you) of valuable war surplus which you have already paid for:

it must be dumped in the sea first: we mustn't allow prisoners of war to do work which would provide our war heroes with work at their own expense: for a long, long time, Dr. Hugh Dalton insists, charity begins abroad; and generally speaking, and in a few short, well-chosen words, the same old London School of Economics Socialist economists with the same old policy will repeat the same old racket with the same old results, ably supported by the "Socialist-Monopolist" Parties. And, having between them, after better men had defeated Germany in 1918, sponsored deflation, fraternised with German bankers and Socialists, disarmed this country to a greater extent than Germany was disarmed, convinced at the evasion of every item of the Treaty of Versailles, opposed the fortification of Singapore while supporting the abrogation of the Anglo-Japanese Treaty, organised a General Strike, and opposed re-armament when war was certain, and screamed for war when it would have been suicide, they are now claiming to have demonstrated their outstanding qualifications to reconstruct "Britain" on the Socialist principles which we have been fighting for six years to destroy.

(May 26, 1945).

It must be obvious that our system of education, whether by intention or not, blinding the intelligence of the average sufferer from it so that events do not produce a normal reaction. In no plane of activity is this more startling than in that which is supposed to be the primary interest of the population—goods and services.

So far as we are aware, there has been no general reaction to the virtual disappearance of immense war surpluses far exceeding those which were available to the domestic consumer for at least ten years after the First Armistice. We have made reference to this matter on at least five occasions; no one is interested.

A correspondence has been proceeding in The Scotsman from actual eye-witnesses who report that, e.g., at Lisbon and at East African ports hundreds of new and unused British cars are lying in the open to rust and rot. Presumably these are "paid for" by Export Credits, since they are clearly not paid for by the countries on which they are dumped. Nobody cares, and almost nobody takes the trouble to understand the results.

The fact that wages are generally more than eighty per cent. of the cost of production and are rising, and that profits are generally less than five per cent. of the cost of production and are falling, does not prevent the T.U.C. from pretending that the "worker" is being defrauded of higher wages by such profits as are distributed, and that lower prices can be combined with higher wages without higher unit production.

We have never agreed that the "democratic" parliamentary system was even a sane method of selecting individuals to control business; but even we never believed that it could be so startlingly disastrous.

(March 13, 1948).

Whether our rulers are really becoming more contemptuous of the ruled, or whether events are taking the finish off their style, we do not know. But the character of...
President Truman's speech to the Congress and Senate, at almost the same hour that the Masonic United States of Europe was tied up and handed over the counter with rather less ceremony than accompanies the fixing of a County Rate suggests that either "in war, or under threat of war," a fresh batch of insults is to be added to our present injuries.

It must be painfully obvious that Mark Twain's story of the country doctor whose practice was to give all his patients a dose which would produce blind staggers, because he knew a remedy for blind staggers although it left a broken leg, is a faithful presentation of our State Political Hospital, and you can't go to an alternative practitioner.

Perhaps the only grain of consolation to be derived from the situation is that, for the moment, we are fairly certain that "threat of war" is more in the minds of the political quacks than its reality. But there is little doubt that, to use the American expression, we are living on borrowed time, and that a situation is being constructed which will leave us mentally, morally and physically bankrupt. It would be no compliment to our readers to elaborate the fact that the fundamental nature of "Russian" and "American" High Policy, monotheistic centralisation, is identical, and that if they are not dictated from the same source, it is only because they do not need to be. But it may not be superfluous to point out that there is one alternative, and one practical alternative only, while Time remains, and that is the British Empire, of which the fundamental link is cultural. And if that is realised, it will also be realised that the Empire of the Spirit and the Dominion of the Atom Bomb cannot co-exist.

(March 27, 1948).

We have previously drawn attention to the special relation of "Dutch" Finance and politics to the history of Great Britain during the past three hundred years, and it is therefore a matter for close attention that the Masonic United States of Europe should crystallise round the "Benelux" countries.

While all these world policies derive support from half-baked dupes to whom they are commended as the salvation of mankind, as for instance the League of Nations which ensured the Second World War, only ordinary powers of observation are required to see that, always and without exception, they are devices to ensure the enslavement of those they pretend to save.

Why anyone should suppose that the steady drain of initiative and power from the individual to the institution should be for the benefit of humanity made up of individuals, we have never been able to understand. Every atom of evidence goes to prove the opposite; we have more institutionalism, less safety, less satisfaction and less future than at any time in recorded history.

Social Crediters at least ought to know the answer. The slogan of "All Power to the Soviets" in whatever guise it may be propounded, and whatever name may be given to the Parliament, Cabinet, or State being propagated is, and always has been, a trick, a trap, and a delusion. The whole objective of civilisation is that a man shall be able to choose or refuse one thing at a time. Until he can do that, he is a determinist, and ought to resign himself to the idea that he cannot have atomic energy to free him from "full-employment" without having atomic bombs to render his further employment necessary.

There are dozens of instances in which the fundamental principles which ought to limit organisation have been embodied, such as the cricket or golf club. In every case, their essential character depends on the freedom to contract out. The 'Trades' Unions, which began by being a tyranny on the craftsman, has now become a tyranny on the general population, because they have made it nearly impossible to contract-out of their monopoly, Labour.

We don't know what our trade competitors think about our economists but they terrify us. When we read in a review of the standing and integrity of Blackfriars that "it was in order to sell more abroad and pay for essential imports that the pound was devalued," we are driven to speculate on the reasons which can have induced the writer of the article in which the sentence appears to adopt a subject for which he is so obviously unfitted.

Whether the information will do him any good we do not know; but we can assure him that the pound was devalued for the purpose of maintaining, at any cost, "full employment," which is a political, not an economic objective; that there is no possible sane objective in selling at a loss; that if we were not selling and at a colossal profit to the dollar with the pound at $4.02 we must be selling at a heavy loss with the pound at $2.80. But only Lewis Carroll could do justice to the subject.

Practically the whole of the so-called economic problem is involved in the disregard of the Hindu saying "The best way to chop down a tree is to chop it down."

Even yet—even yet, but perhaps for not much longer—the British Empire is much more than self supporting. If instead of making motor cars to export to the American market, which makes more motor cars than any other area of the world's surface, in order to obtain a diminishing return in dollars with the aid of which we can buy the raw materials to make more motor cars for still less dollars, we grew two or three times as much food in the Empire as we do now (or have we agreed with Pine Street not to do it?), we should have the economy of ourselves and American cars at give-away prices for our food growers. We strongly suspect that the ground-nuts scandal is being staged to frighten the British public off the development of controlled territories, by demonstrating the incompetence of their Controllers.

Whether or no this is so, it is clear enough that we have not the faintest chance of retaining even the remnants of our economic or political independence under our present guidance.

(January 7, 1950.)