WHOSE SERVICE IS PERFECT FREEDOM (XXI)

By C. H. DOUGLAS

We have now, perhaps, examined the main features of the contemporary situation sufficiently to obtain an intelligible picture of it.

In essence, it is not difficult to envisage. Out of the fog of the kind of history which Henry Ford described as “bunk”, and of propaganda designed to encourage the faith which consists in believing what ain’t so, there emerges the outline of a titanic Struggle; a tri-partite struggle in which, from its very nature, one side, that of the common man, has been, and indeed is, not merely unorganised in its own interests but largely unconscious of them; while another consists of highly intelligent and completely unscrupulous men, carrying on an internecine warfare throughout the ages for ultimate power. The present crisis is quite probably a culminating peak of this long struggle and we may see the emergence of a third party which perhaps has been overlooked.

To one group, the common man, with whom we may include all but a tiny fraction of the population of every country at every time, is simply “cannon fodder.” His place in the scheme of things is to be forced into functional associations—Armies, “Labour,” Civil Services, etc., which can be swung like a club, and, on the whole, with as little comprehension as a club possesses as to the real objective for which it is swung. I do not believe that national boundaries have, for many centuries at least, been in any sense coterminous with any of these groups, or that to one of them the general well-being of the population has at any time been more than an unavoidable bribe to obtain the necessary acquiescence from national, as distinct from international “leaders.”

Now it may be reiterated, that this forced functionalising process, which alone makes the common man the collective tool of the Enemy, arises out of the necessity for bed, board and clothes in security. Man wants much more than that. But afterwards, and the things he wants afterwards, are most dangerous to the Enemy. So that the obvious policy is to keep him busy with bed, board and clothes in perpetuity.

Perhaps the first essential in considering this situation is to bear steadily in mind the idea of continuity. To repeat Clausewitz (and to emphasise the permanently “military” nature of the problem) “war is the pursuit of policy by other means.” Not necessarily the policy of those who fight the war. But certainly the policy of those who promote war, either actively, or passively by opposing the rectification of those factors which force aggression; all of which, I think, can be traced to those who are in control of the international financial system, and other international forces.

That is to say, it is an elementary error to regard the course of events as being normally peaceful, but, regrettably, punctuated by wars.

It is, of course, nothing of the kind. In the present war, the blockade of Germany merely differs in method, but not at all in kind, from “peaceful” trade competition. And the desperate penalties which Germany would exact from Great Britain and France, if the victory in the military phase of the war were to go to her, would merely be an intensified form of the treatment meted out to the vanquished by financial gangsters (of whom I am confident that Hitler is merely a tool)—obliteration or absorption, whichever served best for instance the march of the Vanderbilts, Morgans, or Schiffs, towards “control.”

To say that all this merely illustrates the universal depravity of man, is to take refuge in one of those cheap generalisations which have been used to obscure the facts. So far from this being the explanation, on the contrary, it is the almost universal desire of mankind to be left to cultivate his garden, which has made him the tool of the clever intriguer. Many years ago, I asked a cultured and highly competent American why he didn’t go into politics. He replied that he was not squeamish but he had to draw the line somewhere. Which largely accounts for American politics.

The principles of organisation are so unfamiliar to those whose business does not involve a study of them, that I must ask to be excused if I appear to labour the point:

THAT MODERN WAR IS IMPOSSIBLE WITHOUT CENTRALISATION, AND THAT THE OBJECT OF MODERN WAR IS CENTRALISATION.

It is failure to grasp this fundamental truth which gives rise to such false antitheses as, e.g., “monarchy or money-

On Other Pages

Our Job and the War ............... by J. Mitchell
Hypnotic Words ...................... by T. J.
Alberta Goes Forward ............ by Norman Webb
The Old Law and the New ............... by A. Duncan Hayward
power," "socialism or capitalism."

Monopoly of Power is the Enemy, and all Power maniacs are His Servants. "All power [over men] corrupts, and Absolute Power corrupts absolutely." If Finance governs the State, the Banker is the Satanic incarnation. If the State is supreme, Socialism is the Devil. It is quite possible, as has been the case both in France and the United States for some time, to have two almost balanced Forces, in France, the "Comité des Forges" and "la Haute Banque" and in America, Morgans and the Harriman-Kuhn, Loeb Group, alternately using the State mechanisms to carry on a private war and, in the process, fostering the Right and Left, Fascist or Communist, "popular" movements whose leaders are invariably power maniacs—a statement which can easily be checked by a consideration of the individuals who represent such movements in Great Britain. In every case the result is much the same to the duped citizen, just as a "Liberal" or "Conservative" government in England or Canada usually means only a re-shuffle of Ministers.

The remedy is exactly what you would expect it to be, once it is admitted that the disease is monopolistic. It is de-centralisation.

There must be a very rapidly growing minority, if not already a majority, who, while not perhaps phrasing the matter in exact terminology, would agree with the essential contention. But, they would say, nothing can be done about it. The whole trend is towards larger units, towards the suppression of individuality. You can't alter the trend of events.

That is exactly what it is hoped you will believe, so that your initiative will be paralysed. The use of the word "trend" to suggest a natural force against which it is useless to struggle, is of Wall Street origin.

Now, if you were told that the trend of events was for motor-cars to get smaller and smaller, and you had devoted any attention to the subject, you would probably reply "Up to a point, in England, yes, in America, no." And you would go on to explain that the artificially restricted British motor-car was the result of taxation which had practically ruined the British export trade in motor cars, and resulted in the Englishman having to pay as much for something a little smaller than a perambulator, driven by a toy four cylinder engine, as the American pays for an eight cylinder limousine with a 120 H.P. engine. You would assert, in fact, that the "trend" was not natural, it was consciously produced. And you would possibly have something to say about the reputation for philanthropy built up on the money obtained by selling you a toy motor-car at the price of one of reasonable size, and then arranging that by taxation and high petrol profits, it costs you rather more to run than would a Rolls-Royce in America.

And in 1940 the Daily Telegraph relates:

As thousands of listeners were tuned in to station KYW they suddenly heard the announcer read this telegram, addressed to Jack Benny, a well-known radio performer: "Your worst fears that the world is to end are confirmed by astronomers at the Franklin Institute in Philadelphia. These scientists predict that the world will end at 3 p.m. (Eastern standard time) on Monday, April 1."

This is no April fool statement. Confirmation can be obtained from Mr. Wagner Schlesinger, director of the Fels Planetarium in this city.—Signed by the director of the Franklin Institute."

Thousands of frantic residents of Philadelphia flooded the newspaper offices with telephone calls seeking confirmation of the report. They were reassured to hear that the announcer had omitted to mention that the telegram was part of a publicity "stunt" for a new exhibit, "How the world will end," at the Franklin Institute.—B.U.P.

Credulous Americans

In 1938 citizens of the United States, who must be presumed (between them) to possess at least an average amount of common-sense in a standardised world, rushed to protect their country against an invasion by troops from Mars. There were no troops from Mars. It was a hoax. It was another of Mr. H. G. Wells's little romances being broadcast.
"The semi-official Daily Telegraph."
—News Review, April 11, 1940.
We came to the conclusion that it was half-baked some time ago.

Masonic—Messianic? Jacobin: One who works to secure by war and revolution, the fulfilment of Genesis XL. ix. 8.

Have you noticed that when a foreign visitor is photographed being cordially received in this country, his handshake is always prominently displayed?

There has been black treachery in Norway. If you don't want to be sold as Norway was sold, just pay a little attention, not only to the invited (?) guests we have received during the last few years, but to those who facilitate their reception.

Dr. Schacht is said to be in New York, auctioning Europe to the highest bidder. Delivery will be made in eligible plots, with or without inhabitants, to suit purchasers.

It is not known whether Dr. Schacht's able assistants in previous deals, Earl Baldwin of Bewdley and Mr. Montagu Norman, will be of the party.

Doesn't it show how completely Hitler has eliminated the Financier?

By a curious co-incidence, Mr. Mackenzie King, who is a great deal more pro-United States than he is pro-British, has gone to New York and Washington, too.

Ain't our Winston too cunning? Waal, waal, waal.

Railway fares are to go up. Wouldn't it be odd if they were 200 per cent. of 1914 fares, and the postage went up to 2d., and the cost of living index to 200?

These inexorable economic laws, you know, just as the Economists of Repute tell you.

THE RAILWAYS WIN AGAIN

Since the beginning of the war, all private aircraft concerns have been operating under licence and complete control of the Air Ministry. However, this measure does not seem to be considered sufficient, for they have now been closed down completely, a most blatant example of the crushing of private enterprise and the centralization of control of communications. Not many firms are involved, but they had no political pull. The only services remaining are the British Overseas Airways, and the railway flying services.

The Aeroplane of March 22, 1940, has the following comment to make:

"The non-railway group of air transport companies has now placed their case before the Secretary of State for Air and have received sympathy but no promise of redress. They could hardly have expected a reversal of the decision to blot them out, for some of them had already begun to deliver their aeroplanes to the R.A.F. at prescribed stations. The one thing they have no doubt about is that there will be no more work for them while the War lasts.

"If they do not die of starvation while they wait for the end of the War, they will all have to make fresh beginnings at the end of it. Not only will they have to obtain new machines but they will again have to justify their claims to the Licensing Authority. And if the Licensing Authority at that time finds a company of the railway group offering to provide some of these services, it may have to conclude that in the public interest it must give the licence to the company which can open the service at once without having to wait for the delivery of suitable aircraft.

"No guarantee of restoration has been given by the Air Ministry. No promise of compensation has been made. None of the decent things, which are usually done by the State in encouraging the rationalisation of an industry, has been done in relation to these firms. The superfluous road transport firms were eliminated by the Licensing Authority. These air transport firms cannot be superfluous because they have already satisfied the Licensing Authority. If their services were useful to the public before the War, they will presumably be useful to the public after the War. The Air Ministry is taking care that they shall not be in a position to resume them after the War.

"We have already acknowledged their chief crime. They would not amalgamate. The threat of action such as has now been taken by the Air Ministry would probably have compelled amalgamation. Pressure of the kind has been exerted before now. It would have been distasteful to the companies but it would have been preferable to extinction. The process of extinction has now begun and nothing can make it look like anything but playing the game of the railways. The railway group unamalgamated remains; the non-railway group is being wiped off the earth. The Air Ministry has yet to explain how it was forced to discriminate in that way. And then it should explain why it chose to obliterate the companies rather than buy them out."

PLANNING FOR ELECTRICITY INDUSTRIES?

Sir Robert Renwick, Chairman of the Richmond Electricity Company, referred in his speech at the Annual General meeting to accusations of profiteering levelled by the daily and evening newspapers at electricity companies. The Electrical Times points out that there seems to be a sort of vendetta under way: the private company is being attacked and the municipal and national undertakings ignored, although the rise in prices for both electricity and gas is general throughout the country.

Sir Robert suggests that the anti-company campaign is intended to speed the process of bringing the companies under municipal or national control.

The electricity industry in towns has been severely affected by the war—particularly through evacuation and the black-out. In the area served by London Associated Electricity Undertaking over 11,000 firms asked to be disconnected, on evacuating; about 3,000 of these have since returned. The demand for current by shops, stores and markets dropped by 30 per cent.; up to the end of December, 1939, 86,400 kilowatts of consumers' apparatus were disconnected and fifty-four million units were lost to that company.

"It is only in war or under the threat of war that planning will be adopted," said P.E.P.

LORD WOOLTON AND LEWIS'S

Lieutenant-Colonel S. S. G. Cohen, T.D., has been appointed chairman of the board of Lewis's Investment Trust Limited, Lewis's Limited and other associated and subsidiary companies in succession to Lord Woolton. Lord Woolton has resigned his seat on the board of Martins' Bank.
"SUBCONSCIOUS" COMMON-SENSE

By B. M. PALMER

I sometimes feel I owe an apology to all those citizens who share the happy distinction of being called "ordinary" by Bank Chairmen. I hope I am one of them. During that terrible period between September, 1938, and September, 1939, I almost forgot that whatever laws might be passed, and no matter how many pious speeches might be broadcast, and in spite, even, of what well-meaning citizens might say to one another, there was one thing that would remain untouched, and as firm as a rock: and that is the fundamental character of the English people. If this were not so, our efforts would be vain. It is upon this substratum of common-sense, honesty, steadfastness, one might also say "love" if there were no fear of being mistaken, that we must defend. Spread over the top, here and there, is a thin layer of Hollywood culture. But as yet the corrosion is negligible.

"We are the people of England,
We have not spoken yet,"
said Chesterton. I do not know that the people will even speak in the sense in which he used the word, but they can feel and act. It is this emotion and action which form the social credit of the nation. It is there all the time, and is bound to manifest itself sooner or later, as a blade of grass find its way between paving stones. The instinct of the people is sound.

Of course we shall continue to feel discouragement if we judge our progress only by the conversations we have with people we meet. Take the billeting scheme, for instance.

A fancy picture had been presented of the country-folk giving sanctuary to a terrified populace fleeing from indiscriminate bombing, and how impossible it seemed to explain that succour of this kind, which no human being could deny another, was very different from a deliberate plan to compel housewives to run State boarding-houses at a loss, and to pitchfork different classes together for two or three years, to the complete irritation and even demoralisation of both. But when billetters and billeted were, in the main, uncomfortable they simply put a stop to the scheme by adopting an attitude of non-cooperation. No argument was necessary.

The Times of April 9 says: "The situation in the reception areas is causing much anxiety at County Hall. Billets are increasingly difficult to find, and recently a secondary school master was obliged to enlist the help of two policemen in finding billets for his boys. Householders have been making liberal use of doctors' certificates to avoid giving billets . . . Already there have been a number of children sleeping in London and travelling every day to and from their schools in reception areas near London."

To solve one problem by creating a host of larger ones might have cost us very dear if the war had developed in the way some people expected. As it is the people have simply shown the Government that they will not have this scheme. It is extremely doubtful whether any government could now resort to all the widespread powers of compulsory billeting given them under the Emergency Act.

We are appealing to what might be called the "subconscious common-sense" of our fellow citizens, and how to get at it is our problem. It is there. To doubt it is not only an insult to them; it is to put ourselves on a superior plane than which nothing could be more supercilious.

But how encouraging it is when sound common-sense becomes articulate, and appeals to the reason as well as to the democratic instinct. This often happens when people are working together, and one of them makes a discovery as a result of the common experience they have had. The following cutting from the Huddersfield Weekly Examiner should be given wide publicity. It is reproduced here because it has a special interest for those who intend to form Local Tax-bonds Associations.

"He would be a brave man who could get up to-day and claim that local authorities have really much more power beyond that of distrainting for rates for someone else to spend," said Councillor Hinchcliffe, chairman of Druby Dale Urban District Council (West Riding).

"I do not know whether it is a result of subtle planning or merely the result of that illogical method of development which we call 'muddling through'", he went on, "but we have reached a period in Local Government when the very existence of democracy is practically non-existent over four-fifths of the expenditure . . .

"How serious is this breach in democratic principles, only those in daily touch with the detailed instructions and orders emanating from some bureaucratic or other official machine can realise."

These words are a challenge to every Social Crediter who reads them.

Mr. Hinchcliffe has seen the paralysis creeping everywhere from the working together of the debt system with bureaucratic centralization. He is asking a question. There is not the least doubt that many men and women up and down the country are looking for the information put forward in John Mitchell's book Tax-bonds or Bondage. It is for Social Crediters to see to it that their search is quickly rewarded.

No, the people are not so mutton-minded as some would like to believe they are. A friend of mine buys her milk from an independent dairyman who, in spite of combines, milk marketing boards and petrol restrictions still carries on a one-man business: No holiday for four years, and up every morning before five o'clock.

My friend had noted the x-mark:-

"Internationalism', that's what that is," said he with a shout of laughter as he went off down the garden path, adding confidentially, "I break the law whenever I can."

In The Social Crediter for January (continued on page 5)
Centralisation of Reading

The Editor,
The Social Crediter.

Sir, In the article "American Civilisation" the writer states that Andrew Carnegie has

"Participated in the centralisation of control of reading. The replacement of the nineteenth century artisan's well-filled book-cases (his own books) by borrowed works published to meet a standard demand at least coincides with the institution of the 'Carnegie Library'."

As a humble student of social affairs, I find the picture of the prosperous and cultured artisan of the nineteenth century somewhat hard to believe; nor do I understand how any person (except perhaps a millionaire) who reads and studies deeply can possibly do without an adequate library service. That is precisely why the subscribers to the London Library, though presumably they are financially better placed than artisans, have created that great library.

As a public librarian I am equally puzzled by the suggestion that books bought by libraries create a standard demand, whereas those bought by individuals do not. The writer apparently has not seen the results of the Gallup Survey of reading habits, which lend no support to this view. It is my privilege to control a service containing some 300,000 books covering the knowledge, experience and imagination of mankind, a service whose most important aim is the creation of individuality in thought in an age of acceptance, and I am horrified to think that, in some way as yet unknown to me, I am acting in a totalitarian way. Among the 300,000 are 26 copies of Streit's book, and also 45 copies of works by Major Douglas, which, I am glad to say, are well used. Apparently not all Social Crediters share "T.J.'s" strange views on libraries and the great service to real education which Carnegie's benefactions have rendered through their agency.

Is it too much to hope that Social Crediters will spend more time in a rational examination of the tremendous international and social implications of their theories, than in the less exhausting pastime of smoking imaginary niggers out of non-existent woodpiles?

Yours, etc.,
J. P. LAMB,
City Librarian.

Administration Dept.,
Central Library,
Sheffield; April 2, 1940.

(1) While being completely irrelevant to the point at issue, the suggestion that the reading public has been as much encouraged to become familiar with Major Douglas as with Mr. Streit is simply fantastic. Is it Mr. Lamb's contention that the weighting at Sheffield Central Library favours Major Douglas books to the extent of 45:26?

(2) Why should I read the Gallup Survey? Mr. Lamb's own description of it is that it was an enquiry into reading habits. What we want is an enquiry into the means of inculcating reading habits which are practiced by the accessibility of ideas, not for the weighting of material from which to make the best axes.

(3) I am horrified by the suggestion that the Sheffield Library Service is aiming at "the creation of individuality." Individuality belongs to the individual. It is grossly improper that the ratepayers' money should be spent on "creating" what is theirs to start with. If the ratepayers of Sheffield get someone else's individuality in substitution for their own the practice is even more improper.

(4) The question is not whether I or anyone else "can possibly do without an adequate library service." The question is what is an adequate library service and what are the limiting conditions which tend to convert it into a dis-service.

(5) I did not draw a picture of either a prosperous or a cultured artisan. I drew attention to a fact of my experience, namely that among the artisans born between 1840 and 1860 were many whose discrimination in the choice of a few books to master made them a source of potential danger to centralisers. The superfluity of variegated (but controlled) literature upon which the reading public now exercises its "created" individuality now makes that public a source of actual danger to itself. To raise a practical issue, can the Sheffield Central Library produce a copy of Dean Swift's book, on the expulsion of the Jews from England, and if not why not?

(6) The discomfort of the woodpile which Mr. Lamb and I both inhabit is something I did not attribute to the presence of a nigger in it. With Mr. Lamb's confession of the aims of the Sheffield Service before me I should say that at least some of the discomfort is attributable to them. A library is primarily an instrument for increasing the accessibility of ideas, not for controlling access to ideas by the "creation of individuality" or otherwise.

(7) I know 'there is nothing like leather'; what is pathetic is the conviction on the part of all who deal in leather that because there is nothing like it, it is the best thing to eat and is suitable material from which to make the best axes. Neither leather nor libraries are good in themselves. There is no such thing as a good axe, nor is there such a thing as a good library. There are axes which, heavy enough, sharp enough, shaped correctly and properly balanced on a secure handle, are good for felling trees. I hope there may some day be libraries which by their very existence do not rob the individual of his right to make those marginal notes which stamp a book as an extension of the personality of a free individual. There are other things I should like a library to be and to avoid, but possibly I have made my point clear.
HYPNOTIC WORDS

Just as all modern wars begin in the village where two grocers are competing for money held in short supply, so the hypnotism of words begins with the little words, not by any means with the resounding phrases. "The Rule of Law," "The Brotherhood of Man," "Sound Finance," "Liberty, Equality and Fraternity" are concatenations of sounds which never hypnotised anybody. It is the little ordinary words that hypnotise, words like "better," "worse," "improve- ment," "ought," "education," and phrases like "and so," "then," and "you couldn't."

Behind such words is always lurking an opinion which, in the last analysis, is the opinion that 'I am right.' If individuals were ridden by the prejudice that they were all wrong, the world would, if only for a time, be almost uninhabitable. Instead they are ridden by a prejudice in favour of their mental operations' being all right, "and so" the world is almost uninhabitable but for a different reason. If folk heavily dis- counted the validity of their logic (and other folk's logic) most of them would fall into a state of suspended animation until starvation drove them, it is to be hoped, to the discovery of the inductive method.

If that happened they would begin to eat again, walk about again, talk again and even record some quite useful observations gained from their new, altogether surprising and not wholly enviable experiences. It seems much simpler to render the world uninhabitable just by thinking your mental processes are usually right when in fact they're usually wrong. Simpler and more hypnotic.

Mr. C. A. McCurdy for some time chairman of United Newspapers and the London Express Newspapers, a barrister of the Midland Circuit and a founder of the League of Nations Union, has been writing to The Times explaining that "the rules of international law—sometimes called the rules of war—which are supposed to define the limits which warr- makers will observe in the use of force, have no sanction behind them and are of little effect."

Mr. McCurdy argues that since fresh rules can be imposed by force there is no reason why any nation in the world should think, that to declare a strict adherence to the principles of international law is something to be proud of. The fundamental principle of international law remains the lawfulness of war.

The logically-minded reader must not suppose that Mr. McCurdy is con- tenting that war without rules is impossible and that to rid the world of war all we have to do is to rid it of the rules.

It is unthinkable that a lawyer would urge a policy of less law. As a lawyer he must be advocating more law, and as a founder of the League of Nations Union he must be advocating the reduction to as near zero as possible of all power of resistance to it. Nevertheless the doctrine that there is nothing virtuous in adherence to the principles of laws you don't like or laws imposed by force will not necessarily be a very useful one to refer to if in place of the several conflicting sanctions which now knock our heads together one consolidated sanction knocks us all on the head together.

But what is he doing? He is hypnotising us with the suggestion that we don't understand "those apparently simple words—neutralitv and international law." And so, what? The influence required to be drawn is apparently already in the minds of most of the readers of The Times, and so need not be mentioned. Perhaps the really up-to-date hypnotic word is a word so small and inconspicuous that it can be left out altogether.

How wonderful is the mind of Man!

But, within his limits, Mr. McCurdy is really rather helpful. International law even if a poor sort of law (because not backed by force) is law; and it is interesting to hear a lawyer speaking so candidly of it as to say: "the Germans... created for them- selves under international law two classes of lawful rights, first, . . . the right to kill and despoil without being regarded as murderers or robbers, and, secondly, . . . the right not to be hindered in the conduct of their war."

Surely this would be a neat way of describing what is intended not merely against the Poles and the 'rest' of the world, Germany excepted, but against the Poles, the British, and the rest of the world, Germany included, by our federationists?—to create for 'themselves' two classes of lawful rights, to despoil everyone and not to be hindered in despoiling everyone, 'themselves' alone excepted? Isn't this an improvement? 

T. J.

So Comforting

"It is comforting" to Lord Beaver- brook writing in The Sunday Express, April 4, "to reflect that 57 per cent. of our expenditure for the year ending March 31, 1940, was discharged by tax revenue, whereas in the last war only 28 per cent. of expenditure was raised by taxes."

Lord Beaverbrook is also "convinced, along with other men of experience, that we can sustain an immense increase in the National Debt of Britain," which he refers to as "not unnecessarily burden- some."

If by 'we' he means himself and his experienced friends, no one will object, but it seems more probable that he means 'you.'

Wasn't it Lord Beaverbrook who not so long ago authorised the publication in the Daily Express of an official statement of policy of that journal, which included support for increased purchasing power for the people?
It has been said that the Social Crediter's job in relation to the war is to turn it into a war against the real enemy; the real enemy being, of course, International Finance. This does not imply that Social Crediters advocate a cessation of the war against Hitler and his associates, for the simple reason that the Nazi Government is evidently being used as the conscious, or more probably, an unconscious tool of the real enemy. What it does mean is that the real enemy has got to be defeated as well as its tool.

During the past year the political strategy of International Finance has been reviewed and discussed in numerous articles in this journal, notably from "Warning Europe" onwards, and the readers of these articles have been enabled thus to acquire a background of knowledge which has made it possible for them to appraise current events with a sense of the underlying realities that has been invaluable to them in preserving balanced views and in appreciating the fine points of political strategy which Major Douglas advises them to pursue.

This political strategy (Major Douglas's strategy) is based upon what can be inferred from the available evidence to be the objectives of International Finance and the methods adopted to achieve them.

We are witnessing an advanced phase of the concentration of economic and financial power in the hands of a few people; and we know that what is required to achieve freedom in security for the individual is diffusion of this power.

It is futile to criticise existing institutions unless you decide what results could be obtained from them which are not being enjoyed at present, and it is equally futile to decide what results you want unless you take action in the political field to obtain them; and, as whatever action Social Crediters take to achieve specific objectives will be ineffective unless supported adequately by the public, careful regard must be had to the psychological factors which restrain or encourage the public to act in any direction.

From a strategical point of view any objective chosen for political action must in its achievement gain a hold on the credit system, upon a monopoly of which the maintenance of the International Financiers' power depends.

Proper regard for these considerations has been given in choosing tax-bonds as the objective of the present electoral campaign.

The case for the issue of tax-bonds has been set out elsewhere, and included in this issue of the paper will be found a leaflet employing new tactics in the approach to the problem of putting the case so that it can be readily assimilated by the public.

The strategy has been laid down by Major Douglas. The task of the active ones who act on Major Douglas's advice is to develop tactics for carrying out his strategy.

The objective of our strategy is to get a purchase on the Monopoly of credit; the objective of tactics being to get the public into political action for this strategical objective. This involves linking the thought and will of the public to specific action. The first essential is to find those points of people's emotion and thought which have a relation to the objective of our campaign. These points will be found to vary with different groups of people, so that our approach is to be successful must vary; but when we discover them it should be our purpose to link them by factual explanation as closely as possible to the objective.

Two matters at the present time are exercising the minds and emotion of large numbers of people: Firstly, there is widespread apprehension of economic collapse at the conclusion of war, and secondly, memory of the bitter experience of the aftermath of the last war which lies close to the surface of millions of people's minds—the failure to realise those conditions of security and prosperity which had been held out to them as the prize of victory.

The short leaflet, "Protect the Homes of our Fighting Men", has been written in an endeavour to co-ordinate these widely held emotions and thoughts to the tax-bonds objective. The many who are concerned about rising taxes will find in it also that their interests lie in supporting the demand for tax-bonds.

It is not difficult to see that the issue of even a small personal guarantee against economic insecurity after the war to every individual would immensely enhance the morale of the nation. It would be concrete assurance to us that there would be no repetition of the conditions we suffered after the last war. There is no reason why interest-bearing bonds should not be issued to every citizen whether they are income-tax payer or not. But Social Crediters are powerless to help those who will not help themselves, and until the poorer part of the population show some determination to have better conditions we are compelled by sheer inability to do otherwise to use our limited energies, for the time being only, in assisting those taxpayers who will insist on getting the results they want. Everyone is an indirect taxpayer*, however, and pending the abolition of indirect taxation every non-income-taxpayer can combine with those who do pay income-tax to demand that bonds should be distributed to every elector in equal amounts to each in respect to the whole of indirect taxation collected by the Government. This would mean a bond of £40 every year to the average family. It should be evident therefore that everyone has a vital interest in the campaign for tax-bonds. The achievement of permanent peace depends upon the distribution of financial power to every citizen, and ex-service men, peace societies and many other organisations will have a special interest in one or more aspects of the campaign for tax-bonds. Can we have a special effort from every reader of this paper in forwarding this campaign?

* 1939-40—Direct Taxation £565.8 millions; Indirect Taxation £451.2 millions.

"Protect the Homes of Our Fighting Men"

The leaflet enclosed in this issue of The Social Crediter may be obtained at the following prices:

1,000 for 10/-; 500 for 6/-; 100 for 1/6.

from—

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ALBERTA GOES FORWARD
By NORMAN WEBB

Like that other not easily defined thing we call Christianity, Social Credit can be approached from any angle or point of the compass: the analytical, the technical, the political, the philosophical, the commonsensical. But once you do approach it, you find that there is only one way of actually getting at it, making it yours, and that is by assuming personal responsibility.

Doubters regarding Social Credit may and do ask: If it is so desirable why hasn't it been adopted long ago? The answer is that civilization, in its concrete sense of the individuals comprising society, won't take the responsibility. In regard to what is behind us, the buck has been passed, it can always be said that what happened was the other man's fault. And equally, the future is nobody's, and everybody's business. Just here and now is the present, however, and who is going to take responsibility? No offers.

That is why one feels so warmly towards our fellow men and women in Alberta, and towards their leaders, because they have accepted the challenge on what is without doubt, the biggest issue in the world to-day. They have called the biggest bluff of all time.

One knows that all over the world there are hundreds of thousands of Social Crediters individually ready to take this responsibility. But the big problem—the first problem—as Douglas has said, is that of the relation of the individual to his political group, and members of the Social Credit Movement generally are not in a direct position even to begin to tackle that problem.

In Alberta, however, they have tackled it. The first step was taken when the electorate put in Mr. Aberhart and his Government in 1935. It doesn't matter whether or not they realized they were taking it; the fact is they did take it. They acted, in advance, on the advice contained in the rather naive little verse with which King George ended his broadcast last Christmas. They assumed the responsibility of taking the step outwards and forwards.

What we see now is simply events justifying the faith shown by the Alberta electorate of 1935 in the men who threw up their jobs to come and tell them in their poverty that they might have the plenty they could see all about them, if only they had the guts to ask for it.

That was more than four and a half years ago and they haven't got it yet! By all the present rules of the game they should have thrown the Social Credit Government out neck and crop. Why didn't they? One reason is that they have had a foretaste of what it is to have a Government and People working towards the same object. And in the background there are other factors, not so easily defined. Perhaps the biggest is this: that the people of Alberta know who, and where, the Opposition is. In Great Britain, in all other parts of the world the individual is fooled—self-deluded and/or deliberately misled by the Press—into identifying the enemy as some other party or class. Left Wing thinks it is the Right Wing, the People think it is the Government, the Collectivist thinks it is the Democrat, the Allies think it is Germany, and Germany thinks it is the Allies.

Only in Alberta has a people, as a whole, the advantage—one had almost said happiness—of knowing who the actual enemy is, and how, and what weapons he operates.

It is the unknown that makes for fear and unhappiness. In Alberta they have learned something which no other people, as a people, has learned: that in the present Financial System, and through it, operate the Anti-Social Forces of the Universe. Individual men everywhere vaguely sense this, but they fear to challenge it, and so put the thought from them. Only the people of Alberta have taken up the challenge, and so become knowledgeable. That single piece of collective knowledge constitutes one of those visible steps forward which civilization takes from time to time; and it is a reward, and if we can see it truly, a really great reward for a single act of faith made four and a half years ago by a community united in common misery.

All sorts of things have flowed, and are destined to flow from that act. For one, Mr. Aberhart is returned again in 1940—an unheard of event in these "democratic" days when elected governments are content to be just no more than Debt Collectors for the Banking System, and destined, unless Finance confers upon them the title of National, to be booted out at the end of their term to make way for another set of collectors with a different label on their collars.

But we must guard against making the mistake of thinking that the victory is won in Alberta, and the Millenium is already appearing in a landscape bathed in perpetual political sunshine. There are hard tests and times ahead for Alberta, as for all of us. But equally, don't let us make the mistake of failing to appreciate the fact that a great victory has been gained, because it has, and the recent elections only make this more sure. Its very size makes it hard to see, and one wonders, almost with apprehension, whether Alberta recognises the greatness of her responsibility, or of the step she has taken. Perhaps if she did she would get cold feet, so don't let us worry about that.

The present world turmoil undoubtedly heralds great social upheavals. After a long cycle of ever-increasing centralization, a cosmic change-over has already begun, a de-centralizing movement has set in. Douglas in 1936, in his Westminster speech, gave us two alternative outcomes from the World War he knew was inevitable. In all the darkness and obscurity he saw one thing clearly: the complete collapse, or else the radical alteration, of the present Monetary System. Either social breakup, disintegration—a forced and devastating retreat to the primitive state represented by barter; or else a conscious advance towards completer social integration by means of the mechanism of Social Credit, that is financial de-centralization.

In the days to come, it will require the weight of every sane influence in the world to prevent this collapse and subsequent retreat. Yet one feels instinctively that it will be prevented; the human spirit is scheduled for an advance. The return of Mr. Aberhart and his Government in face of an opposition, the extent of which it is almost impossible for us to realize, is a sign of the times. Civilization will step forward, and Alberta is showing it the way.

BUSINESS

Les affaires? C'est bien simple, c'est l'argent des autres.

—Alexandre Dumas fils, in "La Question d'Argent."
A great writer has remarked that "in order to inscribe themselves upon the heart of humanity with everlasting claim all great things have first to wander about the earth as enormous and awe-inspiring caricatures."

The philosophic doubts of the primal philosopher were probably immediately settled to his entire satisfaction by his own intuitive self-assurance. Nevertheless, the doubts having once arisen, persisted in the race as the philosophic mind developed. With the development, self-assurance receded in proportion as the increasing difficulties of the problems examined were perceived. In the nature of the case this was unavoidable, but it is to be questioned whether the results have been desirable. The awe-inspiring caricatures posed by the later philosophies are thus perhaps borne of a primal lapse. One cannot think, much less act straightforwardly, under these conditions. The early indiscretion of our first philosopher was only natural, but while as a conscious being he himself was mainly concerned with living, he no doubt dismissed the matter as trivial and unimportant by comparison with his self-assured existence, the dry bones of the adventure, diurnally, so to speak, put on the flesh of philosophic systems. Thus have morals and ethical systems been inscribed upon our hearts.

It may not be amiss to examine these matters further. Not so much as to their enormous and awe-inspiring natures, but more particularly as to the usefulness of these systems to the individual and his continued material and spiritual development.

In an article of this character and within reasonable limits of space it must be sufficient to deal with the subject on broad ground, and to take for granted a certain familiarity with the larger aspects of the matter, if not a detailed knowledge of the history of philosophy and the moral and ethical systems which have arisen as a result of long thought directed to this end.

It does not follow that the results of long and intensive thought will be translated into such action as can be correctly stated as fulfilling a given objective. Still less does it follow that the objective itself is a detailed one.

Philosophy may be described as a search for Truth. Mr. C. M. Joad, for example, believes in "the ability of philosophy to discover truth" and that the process of looking is valuable to the individual even if it leads nowhere. Whilst science is concerned with facts, philosophy is concerned with the interpretation of facts. Our philosopher notes that the conclusions of one branch of science are often at variance with the conclusions of another branch (physics and psychology) and his task is unification by interpretation. By this means, we are to assume that we can walk into the light of Truth. These twofold influences form the dual relationship, the ascertainable impersonal fact and the valuation and interpretation placed upon the facts.

Attention should be drawn here to a noteworthy point (too often overlooked) that both the ascertaining of the facts and the conclusions and interpretations placed upon the facts are entirely of human origin. They are the work of individuals implemented and developed by association of individuals, or, to render the statement more complete, they originate from a relationship between the valuing, creating and assessing Human Being and the external world surrounding him. This is a simple but fundamental fact to be borne in mind if we are to obtain correct perspective. During the ages of development of human faculties and the increasing complexities of the immediate problems demanding understanding and solution, this simple fact has been so taken for granted as to now render it a vital and urgent necessity that its significance be re-established. Without desiring to overstrain the matter an example might conceivably be found in the mass mental reaction to what is sometimes called the "popularisation of science"—when the term "law" takes on a connotation entirely unscientific as a result of being lifted by personal predilection, to a transcendent plain divorced from experience and observation. A parallel and perhaps more convincing example is the Pure Spirit, the Good in itself, the fixed changeless world of Being predicated by Plato. Mankind has so long a look at these things that self-assurance has nearly been lost by the length of the gaze.

It may be that whilst self-assurance was desirably shaken by the lapse of our primal philosopher it requires, in these later days, and in the manner of a portent, some re-assertion. The codes of morals and ethics borne of the older philosophic and religious systems are tragically and—if we measure them by what I believe to be Christ values—blasphemously insufficient. Two thousand years ago Jesus centred the most bitter pronouncements of his tongue on those codes and institutions of Israel which subordinated the individual, body and spirit, to a code of values which, though human in origin, had been raised to a plane so transcending the individual as to render him proportionately more materially and spiritually impotent. The law, nevertheless, persists. It is not sufficient to teach peace, fellowship, love and service in a world where millions starve while bankers plan restriction of production in order to preserve an "ineluctable economic law." When Christ taught of the blessedness of peacemakers he saw to it that the multitude was fed. Before all, in those immortal eyes, came the individual. The sacred nature of the individual apparently transcended the finite claims of moral and religious systems, even when the use and purpose of those systems was most evidently a safeguard against excess and a surety for the protection of others. The sharp significance of this message has been lost by the blending into one book of the Abstractionism—Humanitarianism of the Hebrew philosophy with that noble and sublime humanism which is the essence of Christ doctrine. It must not be overlooked that there is a deep, if subtle, difference between the Humanitarian message of the Hebrew Prophets and that of Jesus. The former could and did teach the need for love, sympathy and brotherhood and the universality of man. But they held fast to that oppressive thing—the Law. Jesus on the other hand, placed man as worthy of prior claim before the Law. For was it not from this same temple that those values emanated?

We have not, I proclaim, a right to talk so easily of the Old Law until we live the new. In the main, our modern way of thought is steeped in the Law of old. The old moral and ethic of the tribe taints our philosophies and religion;
we talk of brotherhood, of trust, and love for humanity, but in our hearts we are afraid to lift the chains of tyrannous Law which binds the individual in conformity to a common ethic. The most conspicuous example of this is to be found in our acceptance of a financial system which, rooted as it is in the ancient law of Reward and Punishment, is failing to serve the needs of man, and is bringing the civilized world nigh to collapse. A second, and not less worthy example, intimately connected with the foregoing is our fondness for organizations of Fellowship and Personal Service which do nothing towards freeing the individual from the need for those organisations.

PROFESSOR PSHAW on

THE IMPORTANCE OF EDUCATION

The importance of Education in these days of increasing complexity cannot be exaggerated. Without it the citizen can never hope to understand the main principles of government, which in recent times have guided the Ship of State triumphantly through one catastrophe to another.

From this point of view Education can be divided into three main stages: PRIMARY, the object of which is to enable the recipient to absorb the principles of government via the Daily Mirror and the News of the World; SECONDARY, which is adapted to the News Chronicle and the Daily Telegraph, and TERTIARY, or University Education, which aims at the level attained by The Times. This last, of course, alone enables the student to acquire the intellectual profundity which is necessary for a full understanding of the Situation.

Who else, for instance, but a University Graduate would assent readily to the following propositions, all of which are essential to any understanding of Governmental Affairs?

(1) That centralised control confers Liberty upon those subjected to it.
(2) That Gluts of produce constitute a Menace to the standard of living of the people.
(3) That labour-saving machinery increases employment.
(4) That Exports are more important than Imports.
(5) That the National Debt does not matter because we all owe it to ourselves and each other.
(6) That Bankers can on no account exercise any control over the creation of credit, which takes place automatically according to economic laws.

The one common factor about these and the other similar propositions upon which our System of Government is based is that, when put clearly to a vulgar uneducated man or woman they are rejected immediately on grounds of "common sense", by which is usually meant untutored experience devoid of rational support.

It cannot be too strongly emphasised that such people have no right to live in a Democracy or to exercise any influence over the conduct of affairs, until they have received at least a grounding in the general principles of logical discussion.

It will help to make my point clearer if I take the case of a proposition somewhat simpler than those enumerated above and consider in some detail the reaction to it of a man who has not, and of a man who has, had such an education.

Let us take therefore the common presupposition with regard to a horse and cart, namely, that the horse pulls the cart.

Put this to an uneducated man, such as a carter, and you will find difficulty in getting him to consider it seriously. If you persevere, however, you may be able to extract some such thoughtless assent to it as: "O' course it does, don't be daft!" or "Garn, everybody knows that!". The converse proposition, namely that, on the contrary, the cart pushes the horse, will be rejected out of hand, probably with a rude guffaw.

Kindly note that there is here not the slightest attempt to make a reasonable case for the proposition. No careful weighing of the pros and cons. No estimation of the complex factors involved. Nothing, in fact, but pure blind prejudice.

How different is the reaction of a man who has, had such an education. For him, the cart is pushing the horse, and you persevere, however, you may be able to get him to consider it seriously. If you persevere, however, you may be able to extract some such thoughtless assent to it as: "O' course it does, don't be daft!" or "Garn, everybody knows that!". The converse proposition, namely that, on the contrary, the cart pushes the horse, will be accepted quite calmly.

Kindly note that there is here not the slightest attempt to make a reasonable case for the proposition. No careful weighing of the pros and cons. No estimation of the complex factors involved. Nothing, in fact, but pure blind prejudice.

Now consider all aspects of the matter for yourselves moving freely at speeds up to 20 m.p.h. for a short period, but usually far less.
Evacuation Failure

Extract from "The Economist," April 13, 1940:

Evacuation has been given a bad name; and the Government's new scheme for sending children away is a complete failure so far as its initial stage of registering the children is concerned. Out of 456,250 school children in the County of London and the 26 neighbouring vulnerable areas, 52,451 have been registered for evacuation. Less than 10 per cent. of the parents have expressed their willingness to let their children go, and the parents of about 75 per cent. of the children have simply not bothered to reply. Nor is the result any better in the other big cities. In Manchester and Salford, between 11,000 and 12,000 replies were received; and out of about 75,000 children, 4,700 will be evacuated. In Liverpool, 160,000 forms were issued; only 5,212 were returned, and only 3,600 children will be sent away. Even allowing for the general disbelief in air-raids, such apathy is surprising for under the new scheme the children would not leave until severe bombing had actually started. It can only mean that the known evils of evacuation are thought to be far worse than the known evils of air-raids—though it is possible that this week's events would have made evacuation more fashionable, as they have made the carrying of the gas mask—and in itself it provides an adequate commentary on the half-heartedness of the Government's whole evacuation policy. There are now signs that the virtues of camps and hostels, urged many months before war broke out, are at last penetrating the official mind. The A.R.P. Co-ordination Committee (an unofficial body, but of sufficient standing to be asked by the authorities for its advice) has produced a scheme for camp schools to take the majority of the evacuated children. It would cost about £104 millions, and would also require large amounts of scarce materials; but the committee points out that the capital cost, if repayment were spread over only two years; would add less than 6d. to each point at present being spent on the war; and that a valuable legacy would be bequeathed to peacetime England. And the Board of Education has sent a circular to school inspectors stating that plans for providing hostels for evacuated secondary, junior technical and selective central schools will be considered.

U.S. Arms Exports

The following export figures [of the United States arms industry] are calculated from licenses issued by the Department of State under Secretary Cordell Hull, and recorded in an official report issued by the Department, January, 1940.

France $122,120,267.62
Great Britain $20,991,067.72
Australia $11,469,934.84
Germany $14,994.55
Italy $32,710.00
Finland $4,487,000.26
Russia $1,178,062.23
China $5,062,617.55
Japan $761,684.60
Canada $6,001,398.50
Mexico $3,409,738.36
Sweden $5,895,406.56
Netherlands $5,737,852.97
Netherland Indies $2,410,955.68

The value of United States exports, boosted up by the war, for the period September to February inclusive, was 33 per cent. more than for the corresponding six months of 1938-39, according to figures issued by the Department of Commerce.

The type and destination of the exports, however, has been notably affected. Despite war-time restrictions, Europe took 44 per cent. out of a total of $1,949,000,000 ($487,500,000) worth of exports.

Of these the United Kingdom took $79,000,000 worth, 14 per cent. over the figures for the same period last year, but 13 per cent. less than two years ago. Exports to France were valued at $149,000,000, double those of last year.

Trade to Germany and German-occupied areas amounted to $700,000, compared with $72,000,000 in the 1938-39 period.

Canada and Latin America each increased their purchases by about 47 per cent., Europe by 27 per cent. and Asia by 33 per cent.

They have no excuse for clinging to their preconceived ideas except the lack of a properly directed education; but if they are incapable of following even such a simple argument as this, how can we expect them to grasp the complex propositions upon which modern politics and economics are based!

It is clear that, until education has filled the gap, they must be persuaded to abandon reliance upon their own faulty judgment, and to have faith in the logical reasoning of their intellectual superiors, which has always managed the World with such striking success up to the present.
Books to Read

By C. H. Douglas:—
Economic Democracy .......... (edition exhausted) 3/6
Social Credit .......... (edition exhausted) 3/6
Credit Power and Democracy ... 3/6
The Monopoly of Credit .......... 3/6
Warning Democracy .......... (edition exhausted) 3/6

The Tragedy of Human Effort ... 6d.
The Use of Money .......... 6d.
Approach to Reality .......... 3d.
Money and the Price System ..... 3d.
Nature of Democracy .......... 2d.
Social Credit Principles .......... 1d.
Tyranny .......... 3d.

By L. D. Byrne:—
Alternative to Disaster .......... 4d.
The Nature of Social Credit ... 4d.
Debt and Taxation .......... 2d.

Also
The Douglas Manual .......... 5/-
The Economic Crisis:
Southampton Chamber of Commerce Report .......... 6d.
The Bankers of London
by Percy Arnold .......... 4/6
Economics for Everybody
by Elles Dee .......... 3d.

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BELFAST D.S.C. Group: Monthly Group Meeting on First Tuesday in each month. Special Open Meeting on Third Tuesday in each month, to which the public is invited. All meetings in the Lombard Cafe, Lombard Street, at 8 p.m. Correspondence to the Hon. Sec., 17, Cregagh Road, Belfast.

BIRMINGHAM and District Social Crediters will find friends over tea and light refreshments at Prince's Cafe, Temple Street, on Friday evenings, from 6 p.m., in the King's Room.

BLACKBURN Social Credit Association: Enquiries to Hon. Sec., 168, Shear Brow, Blackburn.

BRADFORD United Democrats: Enquiries to R. J. Northin, 11, Centre Street, Bradford.

CARDIFF Social Credit Association: Next meeting on Saturday, April 23, at 10, Park Place, at 7-30 p.m. Subject: Tax-bonds Campaign. Enquiries to Hon. Sec., at 73, Romilly Crescent, Cardiff.

DERBY and District—THE SOCIAL CREDITER will be obtainable outside the Central Bus Station on Saturday mornings from 7-15 a.m. to 8-45 a.m., until further notice. It is also obtainable from Morley's, Newsagents and Tobacconists, Market Hall.

LIVERPOOL Social Credit Association: Weekly meetings of social crediters and enquirers will continue, but at varying addresses. Get in touch with the Hon. Secretary, at "Greengates", Hillside Drive, Woolton, Liverpool.

LONDON Liaison Group: Next meeting on Friday, May 3, at 7 p.m., at 4, Mecklenburgh Street, W.C.1. Enquiries to B. M. Palmer, 35, Birchwood Avenue, Sidcup, Kent.

LONDON Social Crediters: Lunch-time rendezvous. Social crediters will meet friends at The Cocoa Tree Tea Rooms, 21, Palace Street, Westminster (5 minutes Victoria) on Wednesdays from 1-30 to 3 p.m. Basement dining room.

NEWCASTLE and GATESHEAD Social Credit Association are compiling a register of Social Crediters on the Tyneside. Register now and keep informed of local activities. What are YOU doing? Let us know, we shall be glad of suggestions. Write W. Dunsmore, Hon. Secretary, 27, Lawton Street, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

PORTSMOUTH D.S.C. Group: Enquiries to 115, Essex Road, Milton; 16, St. Ursula Grove, Southsea; or 50 Ripley Grove, Copnor.

SOUTHAMPTON Group: Secretary C. Daish, 19, Merridale Road, Bitterne, Southampton.

WOLVERHAMPTON: Will all social crediters, old and new, keep in contact by writing E. EVANS, 7, Oxburn Avenue, Bradmore, Wolverhampton.

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To the Treasurer,
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