To a Member of the American Middle Class*

How does it feel to be on the way out?

Or didn't you realize that you were? In that case, let us, regretfully, destroy an illusion.

For in a comparatively few more years, at the present speed of some very sinister developments, your species is going to be as extinct as the dodo bird. The wheels to "extinct" you are already turning, and they are picking up momentum with every revolution. (The pun is an accident.)

If you are skeptical about our prognosis, then we ask you to take a longer look at the changes being wrought in your environment. Also, to think very seriously and honestly about how long you and your fellow dodos can survive the continuation and completion of those changes. And, to make sure that we are talking to the right person, please first examine with us the question: Who and what is a member of the American middle class?

Mr. John Q., Suburb, Jr. will serve as a prototype. His grandfather was a farmer—as whose grandfather wasn't? His father was an automobile mechanic who moved to the city.

John Q., Senior, having grown up with a belief in the blessings and opportunities offered by the American free-enterprise system, was determined that his son should be the beneficiary of both. So he and his wife not only put Johnny through high school, and sent him to a famous college, but he did something else that was tremendously more important. He took the trouble and paid the necessary attention to raise Johnny with a deep-rooted confidence in the advantages of the American way of life which his forefathers had created for him.

By now you have probably recognized yourself. For it is actually you—John Q., Jr.—to whom we are addressing this message. You are now about forty or forty-five years old. On graduating from college you went to work for the XYZ Corporation, which manufactured shoelaces. ("The business that was built on a shoestring," according to its trade journal advertising.) And you have "made good," as your father wanted and expected.

Some of your classmates became doctors, some became doctors, many went to work for larger companies, many founded smaller businesses for themselves. For all of those who were ambitious, practical, and willing to work, the results on the whole have been reasonably near the same. Also, while a few of your classmates, coming from families that had been members of the middle class longer, now have more money and move in higher social circles than you do, the basic differences between their present positions and your own are of little significance in the context of this letter.

Today you are in the top executive group of your company. Your remuneration (including some profit-sharing arrangements) is somewhere between twenty and fifty thousand dollars per year. You have one wife, one son—John Q., III, who is almost grown—and two teenage daughters. You own a comfortable home in the suburbs, with a manageable mortgage; a lawn that you mow yourself, some stock in two or three mutual funds, two automobiles, and a gnawing awareness that you have to buy another car soon to keep pace in the family.

**But let's look deeper...**

Because now we come to the matters that really count. Also, to a realm of considerations where the differences between your domestic establishment and the households of some ten or twenty million other members of your class are quite inconsequential. For the point is that you and your family—and those other families—have been favored by fate far beyond your ability even to recognize your blessings. The fair and happy land in which you have flourished has not been subjected to the horror of foreign invasion, nor even the devastation of war on its own soil, for more than a hundred years. The haunting fear of plague or famine or revolution has been no part of your experience. And your blessings only begin with so many such glorious circumstances that apply to all of our people.

For you many special blessings—special in degree if not in kind—have overflowed your lives. You and your family have had more comforts, more privileges, and more freedom of choice about every aspect of your lives; more opportunities for the pursuit of pleasure in whatever way appealed to you most; more security from crime and abuse, and a more peaceful and stable prospect for your future; more services provided by civilization and always available for your routine needs; more benefits ready at hand from the labor and knowledge and investments of other men; more caterers, by the unhesitating and automatic response of an incredibly elaborate system, to all of your myriad desires and demands for hourly miracles, than any of the kings or than most of the nobility or millionaires of all earlier times. You have been indeed so fortunate an heir of all the ages—as to time and place and possessions—that the very greatest blessing of all, namely freedom, has simply been taken for granted and seldom even appreciated.

At least that was the usual or basic situation of yourself, your family, and your class, until the last very few years. Then the whole climate of your environment began visibly to change. Yet you have hardly raised a hand to preserve all that your ancestors and a kind Providence have created for you, and bequeathed to you as a tenant for life. Now there are evil forces busily at work—there have been for a long

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THE SOCIAL CREDITER

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From Week to Week

It is evident that several months of office have failed to disabuse the Heath Administration of the idea that better management will cure Britain's mounting ills. These ills result from the manipulations of Britain's enemies, manifest mainly in the operation of the financial system, but powerfully supported by sedition and treason. The remedy is, and can only be, rectification of the financial system, combined with exposure of those opposed to such rectification. Anything else is like trying to avert the approach of a cyclone by manipulating the barometer. Inflation has been a remarkably steady process throughout this century, regardless of what Administration has been in office, a fact which in itself should be sufficient to demonstrate that better management does not touch the problem. But the financial system, unlike the weather, is entirely man-made, and consequently can be altered by man. Nevertheless, Mr. Heath and his colleagues seem determined to go the way of the lemmings, taking their fellow citizens with them to perdition. Barring a near-miracle in the U.S.A.—the overthrow of the INSIDERS in the U.S. Government—the end is now clearly in view.

The South African Scene

Mr. Harold McCrone, of Laxton, Northants, has written an important letter to The Tablet (Nov. 14, 1970) in which he contests the view that any idea of apartheid is abhorrent to the Christian conscience. All his life, writes Mr. McCrone, "I have always had a keen interest in and solicitude for the black African races and tribes". Apart from Christian missionaries and a small contribution from European ideas in medicine, law and civil engineering, "I have always detested, on their behalf, the infiltration of a debased Western culture instead of the nurturing and ennobling of their own. A sensible and just system of apartheid has always seemed to me the proper process". Nor is Mr. McCrone deceived as to the motives of equating apartheid with injustice: the first, he says, is to divert attention "from the relentless encirclement of Christendom by imperialistic atheism", and the second "to vilify and if possible repudiate the one remaining bastion of defence against it". I hope the various archbishops are capable of understanding his words.

According to Robert Copping in No Punches Pulled, the Chief Minister of Transkei, Kaiser Matanzima, made the following comment on U.N.O. "This organisation stinks." He asked why he, "a black man and a Xhosa nationalist", should endorse apartheid, and explained that a number of markedly different black nations inhabit South Africa, and that they are "proud of their heritage and do not wish to exchange their national and cultural possessions for those of a European society". General Smuts, says Mr. Copping, "had never envisaged such a measure of independence for the African".

General Smuts in fact believed in trusteeship, as he told the Institute of Race Relations at Cape Town in 1942 (Botha, Smuts and South Africa by A. F. B. Williams). He served with Hertzog from 1933-39 and agreed on "some means effective of securing the representation of native views and interests" than the franchise, setting up the Natives' Representative Council and passing the Native Trust and Land Bill to secure more land for the natives. Botha was responsible for repatriating the Chinese mine workers on the ground that the introduction of another race with entirely alien habits into the already heterogeneous elements in South Africa was a cardinal error". The 1970 census shows that the total population of over 21 million consists of 14.9 million Bantus, of which the largest nations are the Zulus (3.97 million) and the Xhosas (3.9 million); whites number 3.78 million, coloured 2.0 million, Asians 0.6 million (R.S.A. World, No. 6, 1970).

The lesson for the Sunday Next Before Advent tells of the men of old who were "stoned, sawn asunder", and Human Events (Oct. 3, 1970) says that a favourite pastime of the 'liberators' in Angola is "having been killed their captives by running them alive through saw mills". The article deals with the WCC's funds for these terrorists and comments, "What gentle brothers in Christ? I really do not know what the Archbishop of Canterbury had in mind when he made 1971 a year of 'repudiation of racial discrimination'" (Daily Telegraph, Nov. 23, 1970), but hope he may remember some of those suffering in East Africa. The Rev. John Peace complained (Evening Standard, Nov. 4, 1970) that "one now expects him to take a stand at the wrong time, and only to espouse the most muddled-headed causes".

H.S.

To a Member of the American Middle Class

(continued from page 1)

time, but their machinations and intentions were not quite so obvious—to snatch all of these blessings away from you and from all other millions like you. And "those who have the most to lose do the least about it." Your only response seems to be to go blindly on about your business and pleasures as usual, with no real regard for the imminent catastrophe until it is too late.

II.

In case you do not know what we are talking about, let us try to tell you as concisely as we can. There is a self-perpetuating International Master Conspiracy which, for
several generations, has been working by almost every conceivable means to establish its brutal rule over the total population of the earth. The Communist movement is one giant arm of this Conspiracy, and it is intended for the ultimate tyranny to take the form of a worldwide Communist police state.

But there is no place for a middle class in any Communist economy. The whole concept is anathematized in socialist thinking. So both the present potential resistance of the American middle class, and its very existence in the future, must be eliminated in the course of converting the American political and economic system into something similar to what the Soviets now operate. The plans and measures already in process for this purpose—although with other purposes also fully involved—include the following.

1. You will find the money that you have, and also that you earn, steadily worth less and less in providing the luxuries, or even the necessities, to which you and your family have become accustomed. Nor will you be able to have your income—from whatever source—raised rapidly enough to offset this depreciation in your buying power. The contrary effect, the increasing squeeze, has been deliberately planned.

2. This squeeze will be made steadily more biting, and more impossible to survive, by a gradual increase in taxes. These additional taxes will be of every kind, imposed from every source. The present Administration in Washington appears to be spending one-third of all its time and energy in discovering welfare schemes in which it can spend ten billion dollars here, and twenty billion dollars there—all of which, of course, will serve as requirements, or at least as excuses, for additional taxes. It is the plan of the Insiders who control this Conspiracy to have the total of all taxes exceed the total of all income for all individuals—except possibly themselves. They have various tax-exempt foundations and other devices which have been designed to enable their exalted personages to circumvent these tax processes—but woe to any anti-Communist who tries to use the same “foundation” arrangements for the same purpose.

Thus the government will take from every man the total of all that he earns or produces, and give back to each one whatever the Communist-controlled bureaucracy decides he should have. And this return in goods and services will not be adjusted to any consideration of former income or former scale of living, but will be at some basically uniform level for all laborers and all other “citizens in good standing.” In the beginning, anyway, these supplies will be reasonably adequate at a subsistence level. So all that you “middle class plutocrats” will have to do, to be fed and clothed and sheltered, is to sink quietly down to the mass level, without any noticeable resistance to this “new order” of “civilization.”

If you think that you will be able to find some way to “arrive at an accommodation” with the Communists, or to outsmart them and maintain some of your perquisites and privileges, we suggest that you check with any of the refugees in this country who formerly belonged to the middle class in Cuba. Or with any bona fide refugee from any Communist country, for that matter. The only alternative to the course we have indicated will be for you to climb, with all of the cunning and ruthlessness and subservience you can muster, into the inner circle of the Conspiratorial ruling class. And there are very few indeed, with your background, for whom this will be either a possible or a happy solution.

There is nothing new under the red flag...

And there will be no improvisation about the Communist procedures in the United States. The blueprint for every step has long since been drawn, with plenty of past experience in other countries on which to base each line.

3. The mechanics of this transition from the present muddled system into a completely socialist economy will include ration cards, price controls, wage controls, and the allocation of materials. The government will begin determining where each person shall work; where, and in how many rooms, each married man and his family shall live; and which foods, in what quantities, are to be supplied to various geographical areas. Some petty little tyrant, among a vast army of frightened and fumbling bureaucrats, will decide what clothes you can buy; whether or not you can have a car; how much gasoline you will be allowed for any car you are permitted to use; whether, where, and when you may have any vacation; what books you are allowed to read, movies to see, games to play, and the extent and nature of other “recreations” provided for you by an omnipotent and supposedly omniscient Big Brother government.

4. Some particular parts of the coming transition should be of especial interest to you “successful middle class businessmen.” If you happen to be a sales manager, for instance (or an advertising manager), you will presently find that your job and your whole department have simply disappeared. For the American free-enterprise economy is based on a philosophy of abundance, where production runs ahead of demand, and a million salesmen are always trying to find additional markets for the “too much” that has been produced. But this concept will have been replaced by the socialist economic philosophy of scarcity, with a million ration clerks always trying to divide the “too little”.

Going out the same window with the sales departments will be all the efficiency and forethought and knowledge of consumer needs that are brought into play by the profit motive and competition. The profit motive itself will have been gradually and easily eliminated by the simple effect of taxes and bureaucratic controls. Every incentive to the production of quality in any plant, or to the maintenance of quality in any service, will have been replaced by a resigned acceptance of the spirit of shoddiness on every hand. All of this was foreseen and well described by George Orwell, of course, when he wrote 1984 many years ago.

5. You will soon find that a similar spirit of shoddiness, and the prevalence of scarcity, will have permeated every activity of our national life. Physicians and surgeons on the government payroll will give you mechanical treatment of your physical ills, not when you need it, but when some bureaucrat decides months later that you are now in line for this magnanimous “free” medical service offered you by a benevolent government. Whether you want an automobile repaired, a broken tooth drilled, a leaking water pipe replaced, or a road to your place of work made passable, you will wait your turn as decreed by the bureaucracy. And your wife will spend hours in line every day in order to be able to redeem your ration cards with some food of some kind with which to reduce your constant hunger.

6. Your government will decide what television programs you can see—mostly over public sets as the supply of
private sets becomes less and less. Your son will go to college only if the government so decides, and provides the means for him to do so. There he will be taught only what the government wants him to learn. Either with or without the slim formality of marriage, your daughters will have exactly the number of children they are told to have by the government. Your whole family will have become a part of the proletariat (which means "child bearers," you know). And when, in due course, you find yourself suffering from the incurable diseases of old age and non-productivity, you may find that a "merciful" government has decreed euthanasia as a reward for all of your labors of the past. Then both you find your species will truly be extinct.

In comparison with the dodo bird, however, the observations and conclusions are all quite favourable to the dodo. For that poor creature had no possible chance of altering or affecting in any way the environmental circumstances which were driving it out of existence. You, on the other hand, are in a very solid position to control and reverse those developments which will otherwise make you obsolete. And that is what this letter is really all about.

III.

You do not think that any of this can happen here? Then remember the farmer who, while the circus was playing in a nearby town, found an escaped giraffe calmly munching leaves from one of the trees in his back yard. "I still say," was the farmer's comment, "that there ain't no such animal!"

You may discredit the evidence of your own senses. But the fact remains that what we are talking about, and far worse, has already happened to over one-third of the population of the earth. And now it is insidiously but most emphatically starting to happen here, with the pressures and movements we have indicated above already under way.

The rationing and controls were well rehearsed at the end of World War II. Despite any temporary leveling in the climbing curves of taxes and inflation—a respite contrived purely for political reasons—the two together are already creating their inescapable squeeze. Not only do the silk-hat-and-striped-trousers boys at the top, who are running this show, expect to carry out in a steady sequence all of the procedures we have outlined. But they and their associates within the Inner Circle of the Conspiracy thoroughly intend, within the next few years, to begin using brutal police-state measures, and the unbelievable cruelties of Communist terror at work, to suppress any and all resistance to their totalitarian rule.

Yet this whole horror does not have to take place at all! The American middle class alone, even today, still has the substance, the ability, and the opportunity to prevent it, if you will fight back in time against your own destruction. And you do not have to carry out this task alone. For the great masses of the American working people—it may surprise you to know—are already firmly and instinctively on the anti-Communist side. In fact, it would be smart business on the part of a great many country clubs in America to invite some highly regarded truck driver of the community to come tell their whole assembled membership a few things about patriotism and about our Communist enemies.

But the full participation of the entire middle class in this struggle is sorely needed. If you will fight back now, before the hour is too late, you can supply the additional strength and the ammunition that are needed to blow up the whole Conspiracy. For the medium through which your strength and determination can be exercised is even now functioning with enough effectiveness to keep the Communists seeing Birchers under every bed. And concerning this subject, too, we need to use some plain language.

For there is no doubt that most of you have been brainwashed even more drastically about The John Birch Society than about the Communist Conspiracy itself. But the basic facts are fairly simple, and can be fully proved. There are many patriotic groups opposing the Communist advance. Some are doing so with considerable skill and devout dedication. But The John Birch Society is not only larger and stronger by far than any of the others. It is the only group organized as a nationwide educational army; with thousands of active chapters and more thousands of ad hoc committees spread out over all fifty states; and with a paid professional field staff to guide all of this army's activities.

The relative impact of the Society's program, in comparison with the efforts of other patriotic organizations, may be measured in two ways. First, by considerations on the negative side: Through projects inspired, directed, and sustained by America's Communist enemies, The John Birch Society has been more viciously smeared, more cunningly undermined, and more extensively attacked, than all the anti-Communist groups in our country put together. The Communists themselves are reliably reported to have said that the "stamping out" of The John Birch Society was "a matter of life and death for the Party."

But there is a test on the positive side which we suggest that you carry out for yourself. Go to ten different rank-and-file policemen in your city or town, or in any of your nearby towns. Ask each of these police officers what he personally considers the strongest and most effective anti-Communist organization in the United States. The odds are that at least seven out of ten will name The John Birch Society. When you consider that there are approximately four thousand (!) such groups altogether which claim to be in this category, such almost incredible emphasis on one particular organization should be quite revealing and instructive. Especially when it comes from the working police, who are more familiar with Communist crimes and skullduggery all around us than any other large segment of our population.

[Then follow three final paragraphs addressed to Americans on membership of The John Birch Society—Ed. T.S.C.]