EMU - The Crucial Issue

Election year in the UK sees Economic and Monetary Union (EMU) set to dominate British politics, eclipsing all other media-prompted topics. It has provoked long-standing divisions within the two main contending parties and has caused the emergence of the Referendum Party and the UK Independence Party.

Yet the hidden menace of EMU to the future of the UK and the British people is rarely, if ever, spelt out in clear and simple terms. There are always some important but secondary, transient problems such as BSE and the beef ban or fishing quota-hopping to claim attention and obscure the crucial issue.

Economic and Monetary Union is now the foremost stated objective of the European Union. It is designed to be achieved in stages, the third and final stage at present being set for 1999. The objective of EMU is epitomised in the phrase “Single Currency”. But behind that phrase lies the carefully-contrived pyramid of financial government by remote control detailed in the Articles and Protocols of the Maastricht Treaty. These provide for the establishment of a European System of Central Banks (ESCB) and a European Central Bank (ECB). Their respective constitutions, objectives, duties and tasks are clearly defined in the Treaty. In particular, their totally independent status is guaranteed by Article 107 which reads:

“When exercising the powers and carrying out the tasks and duties conferred upon them by this Treaty and the Statute of the ESCB, neither the ECB, nor a national central bank, nor any member of their decision-making bodies shall seek or take instructions from Community institutions or bodies, from any government of a Member State or from any other body. The Community institutions and bodies and the governments of the Member States undertake to respect this principle and not to seek to influence the members of the decision-making bodies of the ECB or of the national central banks in the performance of their tasks.”

(emphasis added)

Article 109a defines the composition of the Governing Council of the ECB as the Governors of the national central banks together with the President, Vice-President and four other members of the Council of the European Union. Their term of office is fixed at eight years, not renewable. A similar provision to that quoted above ensures the independence of the European Monetary Institute (EMI), the forerunner of the ECB, already established to monitor the finances of member states during the transitional period before the final stage of integration begins.

It is startlingly clear from the foregoing that entering the single currency would entail far more than just saving transaction costs on foreign exchange dealings. What is at stake is nothing less than surrender of control by national governments over their own economic and monetary policies, and abdication of their responsibilities in favour of unelected and accountable monetary functionaries. This is precisely in line with the “one world” policy of the international bankers, described in some detail in our last issue, of removing all control over the creation and manipulation of money and credit from democratically elected governments. It would establish a legally-entrenched financial dictatorship over all the nations in the European Union.

Clear indications of what that will entail are given by the prevailing public discontents in Germany and France with the effects of government cut-backs on public spending, imposed to meet the Maastricht straitjacket for joining the single currency. The Treaty provides that, to be eligible, nations must demonstrate that for two years before the 1999 deadline, their budgetary deficit does not exceed 3 per cent of GDP, and their total indebtedness is not more than 60 per cent of GDP.

In desperate attempts to meet these criteria by 1997, the two leading protagonists of EMU have so trimmed their budgets as to provoke demonstrations and riots by workers in the streets. In Germany, there have been widespread strikes, mainly led by IG Metall, the powerful engineers union with 3.5 million members. The immediate issue is threatened cuts in sick-pay benefits, but other issues loom. One is government reluctance to meet demands for tax cuts because of its difficulties in fulfilling the Maastricht criteria, to which it is nevertheless committed.

In France, similar demonstrations have occurred as unemployment rises to 12.5 per cent of the working population. In an article in The Times of 19 October 1996, Richard Binns notes that “The air of depression in La belle France is overwhelming... The hotel and restaurant industry (the country’s largest in terms of income and employees and its largest foreign currency earner) is in crisis.” His analysis leads him finally back to the UK and to ask “In view of all the earlier
invalidating evidence, why does Mr Clarke persist in his delusion that our best interests are linked to a single currency and a European Union?"

By contrast, in the UK, the Chancellor of the Exchequer has twice rejected the recommendations of the Governor of the Bank of England to raise interest rates - a good example (irrespective of any electoral considerations) of the accountable politician exercising his political responsibility over the financial functionary, the functionary being on tap, but not on top. But the same Chancellor knows that the Maastricht Treaty requires that the Bank of England must soon be given its independence as a prelude to the inauguration of a similarly independent European Central Bank, and that thereafter the power of decision making is to be wholly vested in the ECB, without regard to any political influence from any quarter, including national governments. Yet Mr Clarke reputedly remains staunchly pro-Europe and in favour of a single currency.

Short of military defeat, it is barely possible to envisage any more complete surrender of national independence and democratic government and this is the real issue behind the phrase "single currency".

The critical question electorates must ask themselves is this - is the economy to be run by unelected, unaccountable, irreplaceable, financial functionaries in Europe? Or is control to be retained at Westminster (or Paris, or Berlin, etc) by politicians subject to democratic pressures and to removal from office for policy failures?

Describing this as "the most important economic issue for fifty years or more", John Major reiterated recently that "We do have an absolute right to say "No" to a single currency and if it is not in our national interest to join, we will say "No"". But it is far more a constitutional issue than an economic one.

The Labour Party is hedging its bets till after the election. Decision time will arrive soon after. As matters stand at present, that decision will be irrevocable. Then we are faced with a major step towards world government by remote control and the further consolidation of a malign financial system which holds the entire world in its debt.

What do the British people have to say about this betrayal of their historic independence? And how are they going to say it?

Donald Neale

What It Would Cost The UK

Entrance Fee
Approximately £24 billion of the UK’s official reserves to be paid over to the ECB in Frankfurt. This is taxpayers’ money, nearly £400 for every man, woman and child. Joining EMU is irrevocable, so it would be gone for good.

Capital Subscriptions
The UK has already subscribed over £70 million to the capital of the European Monetary Institute. Additional capital subscriptions to the ECB may be required.

Watching Your Words

David Mills on saying what you think

One ought to recognise that the present political chaos is connected with the decay of language, George Orwell claimed in his famous essay, “Politics and the English Language” (published fifty years ago and still, alas, accurate).

Orwell gave his rules for writing well, as guides in opposing the chaos by starting at the verbal end:

1) Never use a metaphor, simile or other figure of speech which you are used to seeing in print.
2) Never use a long word when a short one will do.
3) If it is possible to cut a word out, always cut it out.
4) Never use a passive where you can use the active.
5) Never use a foreign phrase, a scientific word or a jargon word if you can think of an everyday English equivalent.

You should never use a metaphor or figure of speech you are used to seeing in print or hearing on the television or in a sermon because they almost always confuse your thinking and lead you astray. I think this is the reason for his fifth rule also. Orwell means such words as inclusivity, dialogue, and journey, which you are used to seeing in print because so many people find them so useful in confusing themselves and others.

If you follow Orwell’s rules, you will write better, in the sense of more clearly and enjoyably. And you will also be protected - but not completely protected - from slipping into that vague and abstract and ideological language by which the realities of right and wrong are hidden from sight. And hidden in a way, and usually for a reason, that favours wrong.

Mr. Mills is the director of publishing at Trinity Episcopal School for Ministry, and editor of the Episcopal Synod’s theological journal, The Evangelical Catholic. This item is extracted from MANDATE: July/August 1996, published by The Prayer Book Society of the Episcopal Church in the USA.
Excerpts from a feature in the June-July, 1994 issue of NEXUS (P.O. Box 30, Mapleton, Queensland 4560, Australia). Dr. Carl W. Sanders is an electronic engineer, inventor, author and consultant to various government organisations as well as to IBM, General Electric, Honeywell and Teledyne.

"Thirty-two years of my life was spent in design engineering and electronics - designing microchips in the Bio-Med field.

"In 1968 I became involved, almost by accident, in a research and development project in regard to a spinal bypass for a young lady who had severed her spine. They were looking at possibly being able to connect motor nerves, etc.

"It was a project we were all excited about. There were 100 people involved and I was senior engineer in charge of the project. The project culminated in the microchip that we talk about now - a microchip that I believe is going to be the positive identification and 'the Mark of the Beast'.

This microchip is recharged by body temperature changes. Obviously you can't go in and have your battery changed every so often, so the microchip has a recharging circuit that charges based upon body temperature changes. Over one-and-a-half million dollars was spent finding out that the two places in the body that the temperature changes the most rapidly are in the forehead (primary position), right below the hairline, and the back of the hand (alternative position).

"Working on the microchip, we had no idea about it ever being an identification chip. We looked at it as being a very humanitarian thing to do... Our team was made up of people out of San Jose, people out of Motorola, General Electric and Boston Medical Center...

"As the chip began to evolve, there came a time in the project when they said that the financial return on bypassing severed spines is not a very lucrative thing for us to be into, so we really need to look at some other areas. We noticed that the frequency of the chip had a great effect upon behaviour and so we began to branch off and look possibly at behaviour modification.

"The project almost turned into electronic acupuncture because what they ended up with was embedding a microchip to put out a signal which affected certain areas. They were able to determine that you could cause a behavioural change.

"One of the projects was called the Phoenix Project which had to do with Vietnam veterans. We had a chip that we called the Rambo chip. This chip would actually cause extra adrenaline flow. (...)"

"There are 250,000 components in the microchip, including a tiny lithium battery. I fought them over using lithium as a battery source but NASA were doing a lot with lithium at that time and it was the going thing. I had talked to a doctor at Boston Medical Center about what that concentration of lithium in the body could do if the chip broke down. He said that you would get a boil or grievous sore.

"As the development moved along, I left the project and came back as a consultant several times. I was used in many meetings as an expert witness in regard to the uses of the microchip.

"I was in one meeting where it was discussed, 'How can you control a people if you cannot identify them?' People like Henry Kissinger and CIA folk attended these meetings. (...)"

"As we developed this microchip, as the identification chip became the focal point, there were several things that were wanted. They wanted a name and an image (picture of your face), Social Security number with the international digits on it, finger print identification, physical description, family history, address, occupation, income tax information and criminal record.

"I've been in seventeen 'One World' meetings where this has been discussed, meetings in Brussels, Luxembourg, tying together the finances of the world.

"...There are bills before Congress right now that will allow them to inject a microchip in your child at the time of birth for identification purposes. The President of the United States of America, under the 'Immigration Control Act of 1986', Section 100, has the authority to deem whatever type of identification is necessary - whether it be an invisible tattoo or electronic media under the skin. So I think you have to look at the facts, folks: this is not coming as some big shock. The paving has been done ahead of time!"

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Douglas and Eliot

In a recent edition of The Times Literary Supplement, slighting reference was made in a long article to the influence of C.H. Douglas upon T.S. Eliot and others. The response of the Social Credit Secretariat was not printed. It said in part:

“Our credo affirms that in this real world of potential plenty, there is no need for widespread poverty and debt. The technology is available to feed, house and clothe all people on earth without depriving the environment. Whatever is physically possible and socially desirable can be made possible financially, provided finance reflects economic reality instead of distorting it as now.

Literary figures like T.S. Eliot and the others mentioned could grasp the commonsense and humanity of that, so could well comment that adversaries of Douglas were in a weak position when supporting “a system which simply does not work”, as it evidently does not still...

But the doctrine of Douglas was not merely monetary reform. Social Credit was conceived and propagated as practical Christianity. T.S. Eliot must have understood the compassion and freewill in it when he was sceptical of its success without revival of a religious dimension in society. This religious dimension had to exclude Judaism as the latter majors on salvation by works whereas Christianity founds on unearned, unmerited grace - the incremental benefaction of progress down the ages. By definition, Judaism is partial, Christianity universal.

That leading writers should be attracted to Social Credit is no surprise. They are concerned with a sharing, caring humanity and wish that to be sustained with least cost to individuality and vision.

That Social Credit remains relevant today is attested by the National Library of Scotland offering public access to over 700 volumes on the subject and related matters. We also publish bi-monthly The Social Crediter and occasional other literature which updates and applies life-affirming, liberating realism.

Donald Neale, Chairman

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The Social Credit Secretariat

In accordance with the Constitution of the Secretariat, the following appointments have been made, or have been confirmed, with effect from January 1997.

Deputy General Chairman: Alan Armstrong, Dunoon.
Treasurer: Murray McGrath, Edinburgh.
Consultant: Jack Hornsby, Berwick-on-Tweed.
Librarian: Peter Lambie, Glasgow.
Director, Lectures and Studies: Vic Bridger, Draper, Queensland.
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Correspondent on Vatican Affairs: Anthony Cooney, Liverpool.
Bankers: Bank of Scotland, Shandwick Place, Edinburgh.
Auditors: Brown, Campbell & Co, 16 Great Stuart St., Edinburgh EH3 7TN.

Mr John P.C. Dunlop, CA, and Mr E. Lloyd Wood have demitted their respective offices as Treasurer and Deputy Chairman, Australasia, and both are sincerely thanked for their past services over a number of years.

Donald Neale, OBE, Chairman