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FOR POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC REALISM

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FROM WEEK TO WEEK

"Oh, those bureaucrats! That paralysing bureaucracy! It was guilty of so many evils in Poland. Servile to its superiors, ruthless and haughty to the small man, pandering to the average taste, never ahead of events, wanting in initiative: it is the same in Poland, in Russia, in Honolulu, in Whitehall."

—*I saw the Siege of Warsaw*: ALEXANDER POLONIUS.

There is a movement on foot in the United States to make General McArthur "America's National Hero."

If the U.S. Army should unhappily become involved in a battle, it looks as though the deaths from high blood-pressure would exceed those from enemy action.

Following a touching prayer by President Roosevelt for carefully defined Freedom, which would be exactly met by the conditions existing at the Whipsnade Zoo, the "B".B.C. read out a list of a fresh lot of Controllers, headed by Lord Hyndley, Director of the Bank of "England."

There are at least three pieces of evidence which put it beyond doubt that Socialist-New-Order-Planning is Satanic in origin ("Ye are of your father, the Devil. He was a Liar from the beginning."):

The first is the conscious and subtle propaganda to present "The Breakdown of the Employment System" as "The failure of the Capitalist System to provide Full Employment" (not full occupation, notice).

The second is the misrepresentation of the "efficiency" (always undefined) of a system whose very essence is the imposition of hindrances to action.

The third is the steady stream of "moralistic" matter issued by the Press, the Radio, and certain ecclesiastics, intended to convey as axiomatic, the idea that "common ownership" is the same thing as "distributed ownership," and therefore that everything ought to be "nationalised," because the nation is the "People."

There is an unconfirmed rumour that Mr. Winston Churchill, the Prime Minister of once-Great Britain, will visit London as soon as his duties in Washington and New York will permit.

Practically every advance which has been made from the Stone Age (if there has been any advance) is due to

laissez-faire: Practically every evil which has afflicted mankind can be traced to compulsory collectivism (Socialism) of one kind or another. The first step to collectivism is registration, and the revolt against "the numbering of the people" which puzzles so many adorers of the so-called Old Testament is a striking piece of evidence in support of the theory that our political sense is (possibly as the result of consciously designed mis-education) far inferior to that of our ancestors.

The Jewish Chronicle complains that Mr. Collin Brooks has been weakening "the national unity"; but does not say which national unity has its support on this occasion, Jewish national unity or pro-Jewish national unity.

So as not to show undue favour to one nation rather than to another, the newspaper singles out Spain for special mention in the matter of Jewish expulsions. The expulsion of the Jews from England was in 1295, after which England became merry.

The Jews are the only people with a whole department of 'the national' literature devoted to imprecation. They display two reactions to opposition, falsification and, in extremity, fury. "Don't say He was King of the Jews. Say He said he was!" "Let their eyes be darkened, that they see not; and make their loins continually to shake. Pour out thine indignation upon them, and let thy wrathful anger take hold of them. Let their habitation be desolate; and let none dwell in their tents. . . . Add iniquity unto their iniquity; and let them not come into thy righteousness. Let them be blotted out of the book of the living."

The United States Political Information and Intelligence Department, which is headed by Colonel Donovan, is now represented in this country by Mr. Irving Pflaum, who recently succeeded Major William Dwight Whitney. Mr. Pflaum was formerly a journalist.

The U. S. Political Information and Intelligence Department is said to be equivalent to our own political warfare executive—the one whose motto is "I'm telling you—"

The Free Man of June 13 writes:—

"We learn in a press report, from Reuter, that the United States Army is training a corps of officers who are to restore and operate civil government in the countries of Europe as they are reconquered. The authority for this statement is one Clarence Pickett, the executive secretary of the American Friends Service Committee. This person also assures us that, 'The destruction of whole civil govern-

ments in these countries will be so complete that it will be necessary for the American Army to carry along with it a staff trained to operate them."

"How seemingly thoughtful, but how truly sinister, when we remember that the United States is now the head and front of the debt system. Her post-war position is likely to see her as the chief, if not the only creditor nation in the world."

Mr. Emmanuel Shinwell in a recent speech said (according to *The Times*) that the war would be prolonged and that he saw no justification for the recent wave of confidence. "We had not yet touched the fringe of austerity. We must be prepared to tighten our belts still more. A short war could only end in our defeat... The speedy and phenomenal flow of material and men from the United States for which we were waiting would take time. In those circumstances we must be prepared for austerity, for changes in the social structure, and the economic and industrial structure, changes that we disliked and abhorred, but which would be forced upon us by a critical war situation."

Can it be that Mr. Shinwell doesn't approve of the idea that we might win the war before we have nobly sacrificed (or should it be 'austerilised'?) all that we are fighting for?

In the authentic Whig-Puritan tradition of removing power as far as possible from the people who are its source as well as its medium, the New South Wales branch of the Labour Party has decided to support the Australian Federal Government's new laws regulating income tax. *The Times* remarks that the Government of New South Wales, which recently announced its intention of joining with Victoria, South Australia, Queensland and West Australia in making an appeal to the High Court against these laws, is now likely to abandon its intention.

The Canadian paper *Vers Demain* reports that according to the Canadian *Hansard*, the Canada Permanent Mortgage Company was subsidised to the extent of \$63,186 by Canadian taxpayers (through the Federal Government) for leaving fallow, in 1941, lands which might have been cultivated.

Social creditors the world over will miss the welcome of 12, Broad Street, Aberdeen. They will not need to be assured that Mr. W. J. Sim's newly occupied premises at 18, Adelphi has 'lashin's of guid daylight' in order to accept, when they can, his warm invitation to them to 'call on S. C. business.' The passing of 12, Broad Street marks the close of a period of Social Credit history. May the shadow of it never grow less!

THE RUSSIAN SCENE

The effect of war conditions on the Russian system of collectivised farming recently so much propagandised in this country is reported in a note in *The Economist* of June 13:—

"The most striking wartime feature of the collective farm seems to be the wide-spread replacement of the tractor by the horse. The war has to a large extent immobilised

the machine, on which the whole structure of collective farming was based. Tractor drivers are short; the staff of the repair workshops has been depleted, and fuel shortages have also affected the position. Collective farms have been urged to get their tractors repaired by the workers of neighbouring factories; the managers of those factories, in their turn, are short of workers, and show a natural reluctance to send them out to the countryside.

"*Izvestia* summed up the position, stating that 'a great part of this year's agricultural work has to be carried out with draught animals.' But this—the paper says—entails a return to the use of horse-drawn ploughs and sowing machines; and the peasants have been urged to take out of the *Kolkhoz* (collective) stores old and primitive agricultural implements.

"It is difficult to judge the scale of this switch-over from tractor to horses. But the attention given to it in the press, and in various speeches, seems to indicate that it has been large enough to create an important economic and political problem. The economic question is how the use of a more primitive technique will affect this year's harvest. The political implication bears on the 'individualist' tendency of the farmers. The tractor has provided the technical basis for collective farming, whereas the horse is the classical traction force of private farming. The switch-over from tractor to horse—if it takes place on a large scale, as it seems to be doing—is likely to loosen the collectivist coherence of Soviet agriculture, and to strengthen those 'individualist' tendencies which have by no means disappeared during recent years. *Izvestia* says that horses and agricultural implements have been allotted to individual farmers, and that the individual *Kolkhoznik* has to take care of the animals allotted to him. This changes to a large extent the accepted division of labour within the collective farm. The collective stable is being at least partly redistributed among the peasants. To gauge the significance of this fact it should be remembered that it was precisely the collectivisation of cattle which caused the great slaughter of horses by peasants more than a decade ago."

JEWIS IN RUSSIA

The fact that anti-Semitism is a punishable offence in Russia seems to have been one of the minor points of interest of an address by Dr. N. Barou reported by the *Jewish Chronicle*. He spoke to the Anglo-Palestinian Club in London; but the date is not given. Nearly half of the Jewish population of Soviet Russia lived in six towns. In 1939, 3 per cent. of the total population, but 16 per cent. of the Jewish population, were artisans. The percentage of Jews in agriculture had increased from 2 per cent. to 7 per cent. Before the revolution, 11 per cent. of the Jews were engaged in light industries as workers. The figure had fallen to 2½ per cent. in 1930. The 4 per cent. engaged in heavy industries before the revolution had increased to 16 per cent. in 1930, and the present figure might be 20 per cent. Only 10 per cent. of the Jewish population were employees before 1917. Nearly 35 per cent. were employees now. Sixteen per cent. of the Jewish population were in the liberal professions. A much higher proportion of the Jews in Russia were students than were Russians, Ukrainians or others. The 'switch over' to the professions, *via* the universities, was maintained and 'the process had developed much more than in Germany and even the United States.'

WHO IS THE PROMOTER?

By E. COX

John Smith was a traveller, and after a spell of unemployment succeeded in getting employment with a firm of soap manufacturers, who were marketing a new brand of soap. His sales manager told him: "We have to compete with some well-known brands, but your job should be easy. Our 'Easy-wash' soap is good stuff, and does all we claim for it. It is every whit as good as such a well-known soap as 'Sunray,' and it is cheaper. Our terms to the retailer are better than those for 'Sunray,' and better even than that new soap somebody is trying to put on the market, 'No-boil.' We offer you a very liberal commission, that is five per cent. Of course you will have to bear your own expenses, but the turnover should reach three hundred pounds a week on the thickly populated ground we are giving you—and it will remain steady."

John Smith set to work. The results were not so good as he had been led to believe, but he did succeed, with hard slogging, in just more than paying his way. If he complained, the sales manager emphasised that hard work was only distasteful to unsuccessful men.

George Crow was also a traveller. He represented the manufacturers of 'Sunray.' For years he had made a fair income after a lot of hard initial work. Lately, his life had been easier, 'Sunray' was well advertised and held the market. His commission was small, but he received a salary and his expenses were paid by the firm.

Now, however, his sales were falling. There was competition. Before long he was informed his salary would be cut, and he would have to cover more ground.

Meantime, the sales managers of the rival firms were doing their best to outwit each other. They employed propaganda specialists, advertising agents, who puffed the merits of the soap.

After a few months, the directors of 'Easy-wash' soap were called upon to report to a director of their "holding" company. They had to supply figures of turnover, gross profit, selling expenses in relation to turnover, etc. The director of the holding company gave some advice. Among other things he said: "You haven't done so badly, but your object has not yet been achieved. For instance, your commission on sales is just as high a percentage of turnover as the expenses of our other Company, with their 'Sunray.' You will have to cut the commission. If the travellers kick, they have done their work in introducing it to the retailers, and it will be easy for you to get new men at a lower rate now that you can hand over an existing connection. Don't forget we must fight the 'No-boil' people, and may have to reduce prices."

Shortly afterwards, the directors of 'Sunray' had their interview with the same director of the holding company. "Gentlemen," said he, "I am far from satisfied with the figures. 'Sunray' has become a household word, and despite competition we must get a greater margin of profit. As we do not intend to adopt a price-cutting policy, you must preserve the goodwill of your team of salesmen. You can, however, get them to point out to their customers that as they are stocking rival soaps we cannot maintain the present retail margin. We propose to advertise more intensively

than ever before. The public will therefore demand 'Sunray.' The trade price must be increased to cover the extra cost of this advertising. The retail price must remain at its present level."

This is the sort of thing which was practised widely before the war. The public little dreamed there was no ultimate difference of ownership of the respective brands (either of soap or other commodities). Even the travellers were not aware of it. The sales managers suspected it, but they were well paid to carry out the policy laid down by the directors. The directors were in the secret, but it was to their interest.

To the public, as to neutrals in war, it was an interesting spectacle to watch the rival companies fighting; it even brought temporary pecuniary benefit.

What of the travellers? With his income reduced, could George Crow regard John Smith as other than an invader—an aggressor? Had Smith's terms been the same as Crow's, it would have been bad enough, but on a "commission only" basis, "sweated labour" was being pitted against Crow. How often have we not been told our own economic circumstances have been undermined by sweated labour in foreign countries?

The analogy with international affairs is so clear, that we can glimpse the national governments with their subservience to international finance. We can also glimpse the fomentation of international war. Crow and Smith are compelled to fight each other; though, in the end, the holding company pocket the gains, and the position of even the one who wins is worse than it was before the fight.

This analogy gives us a picture: there is much evidence that the analogy is a true one. The sacking of Ramsay MacDonald was an instance. The sacking of King Edward VIII and his immediate journey to Baron Rothschild was another. The financing of the Russian revolutions by American financiers was yet another. Is this merely coincidence: "Red" Russia, Rothschild (translated "Red" shield) and Roosevelt (translated "Red" field)?

Is it not strange that when a war is on, we find we have a Coalition or National Government, and even the politicians themselves openly refer to "the fundamental unity of all Parties"?

Yes, "the fundamental unity of all Parties" is the identity of the real—as distinct from ostensible—rulers of the Parties. It is possible even to reveal the identity of some of these rulers, but it is advisable to carry the dehypnotising process several stages further before attempting this. We can, however, give a general answer: the international financiers.

Consider what happened in the Alberta elections of 1941. A Social Credit Government had been in office. Every effort at legislation affecting finance was disallowed by the Canadian Federal Government. Even so, Alberta was, in the words of King George VI, "the most prosperous State in Canada." When the election was called, not a single Conservative, Labour or Communist candidate could be found to contest a seat. Instead, an "Independent" candidate appeared in opposition to the Social Credit candidate.

According to Jesus "Ye cannot serve two masters: GOD and MAMMON."

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THE HOTTER PACE

Intelligent forecast of the shadows of the next few weeks, though not impossible, is unlikely to be serviceable.

Momentum, as Douglas has reminded us on more than one occasion, is compounded of mass as well as velocity. The Social Credit movement has proved its power to develop velocity. The social equivalent of mass is, however, complex. Quantity of matter is the accepted definition of mass. Rather unfortunately for the imagery, the counterpart of quality in matter is represented by the invidious term 'density.' If a large quantity of matter is crowded into a small space, it is said to be, relatively, 'dense.' We are certainly not nearly so dense as other entities which have to be moved before there is any noticeable improvement in our situation. It is clear that sheer momentum is on the side of opposing forces for the time being, and we must wait for the production of whatever is about to be produced before discovering the best point of application for our special skills. One thing is certain, and that is that we shall be very far from being the most dismayed among the community, either in its lower ranks, where the brunt falls, or in its upper ranks where the fall was calculated, but not, we believe, so nicely calculated as to make the calculation worth while.

When Mr. Churchill next faces the House of Commons (and his speedy return for that and other purposes is hopefully expected, particularly by the House of Commons) many of the little matters, and some of the grave matters which have been severely trying its intelligence if not its patience, will have assumed a different complexion. The newspapers assume that prominent among these are the Second Front (or the Next Five Columns) and The Destiny of the World After The War. Libya is said to be anything but the occasion for discussion between the Prime Minister and the President, because Mr. Churchill (if not Mr. Roosevelt) was 'absolutely confident of victory' and received the despatch conveying the news that Rommel was attacking with a lusty and Churchillian "That's what we want." It seems we didn't; but, in any case, the second Atlantic crossing had been arranged before that.

We trust that there is something unnecessarily spectacular about the arrangements to secure the safety and privacy of the two trans-Atlantic negotiators—if there are two of them: Mr. Don Iddon telegraphed to his newspaper the cynical (American) suggestion that Churchill did not arrive in America. The Prime Minister has been 'swallowed up' by the secret rendezvous. Nevertheless its secrecy did not prevent it from being adequately protected by "soldiers, squads of Secret Service men, G-men, local police, and every other law enforcement officer available in the district.

Overhead patrol 'planes droned, machine guns covered the hideout. Hitler in Berchtesgaden was never more thoroughly protected than the President and Britain's Prime Minister."

The correspondent referred to agreements with Russia. How many were there?

ARABIC OPINION

The Arab newspaper *Falastin* is quoted by the *Jewish Chronicle* for the following:—"The fact that Lord Wedgwood's broadcast to New York aroused a storm not in Bagdad, Jerusalem, Damascus, or Amman, but in London, shows clearly that London is aware of the Arab question, and there is no doubt that this indicates an important change in London's attitude to the Arab movement, which is most gratifying."

HOMELY

After Miss Rathbone had said that *Die Zeitung* brought our point of view to Germans in this country, Mr. Brendan Bracken told the House of Commons that the real reason for the provision of the newspaper was 'to give Germans in England an opportunity of reading the various points of view expressed here and also information from their own country.' The newspaper is in German, has a circulation of 16,000 a week and uses 10 tons of paper a quarter. English readers might be better informed about Germany (among other things).

"MOST PEOPLE ARE EASILY GULLED"

A correspondent writes:

"I think if you belong to any organisation you must make a careful study of its Memorandum, Articles of Association or Bye-laws to see whether the Governing Body and/or its Committees, who by their actions or lack of them you instinctively suspect, are legal. If I had done this I could have squashed resolutions which were forced on an unprepared and trusting meeting.

"Of course these dubious committees were dominated by 'big business.' Finding out their illegality is, I think, another illustration that to get a desired end you must use the correct means. This illegality being exposed, few of the small firms will now believe in the protestations of 'big business.'

"I find many expressing views more and more in accordance with Social Credit philosophy. The leaven is working, undoubtedly."

—Extract from a letter dated May 23, 1942.

Social Credit Secretariat

LECTURES AND STUDIES SECTION

An examination for Certificate A will be held in September this year, by correspondence. Completed papers must be returned not later than October 1. Entry is open to all. Fee 10s. 6d.

Special arrangements are being made for Overseas candidates.

Application forms, obtainable from The Social Credit Secretariat, 49, Prince Alfred Road, Liverpool, 15, are returnable not later than September 1, 1942.

B. M. PALMER,

Director: Lectures and Studies Section.

TRUE? WHY OF COURSE...

By B. M. PALMER

While letters to *The Times* from men who *know* give news of the disastrous sabotage of the clothing industry, the second largest industry in the country, following rapidly after coal mining to the scrap-heap, we recall that a few days ago Mr. J. M. Keynes's name appeared in the Honours List, and his photograph in *The Times*. We also recall with pleasure a statement concerning him in the leading article on June 11—

"No man in his time has more fruitfully influenced professional and lay thinking on economic issues.

"It has been his task in the years between the wars to convert economic paradox into accepted commonplace."

Admirable; we agree with every word. With a slight change of tense the above tribute would become an excellent epitaph, and we shall do our best to see that it is never forgotten. As it is our duty to be happy in spite of the frightful disparity between the letters and leading articles in *The Times* (and if those letters published are any indication of the nature of those unpublished, the situation is grave indeed) we turn for a little light relief to the leading article of June 16. Its title is *A Common Faith*. It is far too long to reproduce in full, and we give only the main points, correctly quoted and in their correct order.

"One great problem underlies all the others. It is not primarily the problem of production which rightly and inevitably obsessed earlier ages. The way to a solution is already open. Before the war the world was in a position if it used all its resources of labour and equipment to produce adequate quantities of everything needed by mankind. . . ."

"This war, like the last, has in some way enormously increased the tools and facilities of production. . . ."

"There will be no practical difficulty in producing everything within reason which the world needs and decides to have. . . ."

"Twelve years ago in the Romanes lecture of 1930 Mr. Churchill set out the new situation and the new difficulties. . . ."

"He referred to the strange discordance between consuming and producing power and refused to believe that no better adjustment could be made between supply and demand. . . ."

"Mr. Churchill's advice was not taken. Authoritative opinion at the time refused to believe that any remedy was needed or could be found outside the body of classical economic doctrine. . . ."

"The prospect of material betterment on the scale required may affront some of the more dismal moralists of our day. But the plain truth is that nothing less will allow the machinery to work."

It is nice to find *The Times* an advocate of the plain truth. We have often longed for this day, and believed its advent to be impossible. There are, according to William James, three stages of heresy:—

1. Outrageous, blasphemous nonsense.
2. Of course, something might be said for the idea.

3. True? Why, of course, we have always said so.

Now we find, to our delight, that *Mr. Churchill* has always said so, though, possibly, in a whisper, for fear of being heard during the economic depression, or when he was Chancellor of the Exchequer.

We are quite aware that our attitude in this matter will be considered both disrespectful, flippant and "unhelpful" in certain quarters. But we are wary. We remember the discrepancy between the letters and the articles, and ask ourselves, "How is it, if Mr. Keynes and Mr. Churchill have always thought and said these admirable things, exactly the contrary *results* may be perceived in every department of industry *now*, when both these gentlemen are in positions from which they could broadcast their thoughts to the world?"

But what is this in Mr. Butler's speech in the House on June 17?

"They were fortunate in securing Mr. Maynard Keynes as Lord Macmillan's successor."

CORRESPONDENCE

'LIBERAL' EDUCATION

Sir,

It is hardly surprising that a 'total' war should totally alter some people's views on this and that, and that certain prominent persons who would very much dislike to be considered anything other than liberal, enlightened and progressive should now come out as ardent advocates of measures which a few years back could only have emanated from the select circle of Totalitarian Dictators and 'Democratic' Labour Leaders.

There is, as always, an official explanation ready to hand: in order to fight Totalitarianism you must go Totalitarian yourself. This is at best only a half-truth for we know that, even for *ad hoc* purposes (administration), there is an optimum degree beyond which adherence to the *Fuehrerprinzip* becomes sheer folly; and it is rarely pointed out by our Leaders of Opinion that Herr Hitler, in order to survive, has had to go 'Democratic' or 'British' to the extent of substantially modifying the rigid centralisation of command, both on his military, and on his home front.

The further we get away from activities and institutions directly connected with the conduct of the war, the more obvious becomes the absurdity of the 'pay-him-back in-his-own-coin' argument. Take education.

To remodel the British Educational System on 'Continental' lines would with mathematical certainty result in a generation of mental 'goosesteppers' ready to hail any Superior Person out to destroy the last remnant of their right to choose or refuse, and it is therefore very heartening that the propaganda for Unified Control of Youth is meeting with a very cool reception. Several letter-writers to that excellent paper *The Dundee Courier* have been quick to detect the family likeness between the German State Youth Movements, which started life with a flourish by digging for ore in the Nation's dust bins, and the various British National Youth movements which have appeared of late, a large part of whose activities also appears to centre in the subject of scrap.

But neither the plea for special educational training for 12 year-old boys to make them fit for 'citizenship' made by Mr. Westwood M.P., which coincided with the appearance of a *Primer of Citizenship* to be used in Scottish schools, and the chief aim of which seems to be to make the men and women of to-morrow accept as inevitable 'obligations to the state' the payments of rates and taxes, nor former P.E.P. secretary Lindsay's proposal for a Ministry for Children, nor Miss Cazalet's recent suggestion of compulsory attendance of all children at the same type of school, are likely to fare better than the curious, now all but forgotten proposition broadcast during the first, or 'phoney,' part of the present war, to the effect that English and French education should be merged and directed by some kind of Anglo-French Educational Board.

This idea did not survive after the collapse of France, and the inevitable postponement of the introduction of the Mr. Churchill's Everlasting Indissoluble Anglo-French Union, and this brings me to two extracts from French Masonic documents, whose interest are only enhanced by the fact that, officially, there has been no connection between English and French Masonry for the last 50 years or more:

"Sporting clubs, Boy Scout companies, convivial organisations, choral societies, all types of associations that attract youth . . . these are a fruitful soil on which to exercise Masonic propaganda with the greatest profit."

— CONVENT GRAND ORIENT, 1923, p. 301.

"The Congress of the Grand Lodge of France declares by the almost unanimous vote of the lodges that— (I) It is in favour of a single type of school, with free education . . . (II) It wishes to impose upon all, even those of lesser capacity, the obligation of attending continuation schools . . . (IV) It favours the monopoly of education (*viz.* by the State) and the immovability of the teachers."

— CONVENT GRAND LODGE DE FRANCE, 1923, p. 48.

Yours etc.,

B. J.

June 8, 1942.

BUREAUCRACY IN IRELAND

Reports from the Irish papers show that considerable apprehension is being felt about the present trend of Departmental policy in relation to local government, which must inevitably lead in a reactionary direction. Mr. Sean Milroy proposed a motion at a recent meeting of the Dublin Corporation expressing the opinion that as an Act by which members of the Council were recently disqualified and other Acts had been passed into law without the Council having had an opportunity of submitting its views on the matter, the General Purposes Committee should consider as soon as possible all bills dealing with local government.

"Some day," Mr. Milroy said, "we may suddenly find ourselves confronted with the accomplished fact of bureaucratic totalitarianism established in the State, the only function left to elected representatives being that of providing a fraudulent façade of sham democratic make-believe, behind which the file-ridden disciples of departmental procrastination will continue their work of nullifying the principles of real democracy." He knew of nothing more likely to advance the present encroachments of "these invisible, unget-at-able potentates" in Government offices than

that the elected representatives of the people should be uninformed and unaware of the provisions and effects of new statutes in regard to the powers under which public boards operated.

The motion was adopted.

The Minister of Local Government recently dissolved the Dublin Board of Health, a body which had control of £500,000 a year and administered schemes to help the poor and the unemployed. The first intimation that the Lord Mayor had of the dissolution was the announcement in the press. The Lord Mayor stated that the findings of the inspector who held the inquiry into the Board had not been published, and neither the Board nor the public knew why the Minister dissolved the Board, members of which acted voluntarily and were not paid, and imposed on the rate-payers an additional burden of £2,500 a year.

Points from Parliament

JUNE 4.

Oral Answers to Questions

GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS (PERSONNEL)

Mr. Stokes asked the Prime Minister in what Department the services of Sir Charles Hambro, Lord Bearsted, Captain Lionel Montague, Mr. Brien Clarke, and Mr. H. Sporborg are now employed; and what is their correct military rank?

Mr. Attlee: It would not be in the public interest to give the information asked for by my hon. Friend.

Mr. Stokes: But why—

Mr. Speaker: The right hon. Gentleman has said that it would not be in the public interest to give the information.

Mr. Shinwell: On a point of Order. If a Minister says that it is not in the public interest, cannot that be questioned?

Mr. Speaker: It is as well sometimes to give a Minister credit for knowing what is in the public interest.

FOOD SUPPLIES

COMMUNAL JAM MAKING

Mr. Thorne asked the Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry of Food whether he can give any information in connection with the Osgodby pioneer village in Lincolnshire communal jam making drive refusing to make any more jam this season; whether he is aware that the women's institute state that they have a large quantity of last year's jam on their hands; and what action he intends taking about the matter?

Major Lloyd George: My Department has not been informed of the Osgodby Centre's refusal to take part in this year's preservation scheme nor of the fact that jam still remains unsold at the centre. On confirmation that jam is still outstanding from last season, arrangements will be made forthwith by my Department for its collection. It is for the National Federation of Women's Institutes to consider the refusal of Osgodby Centre to make jam this season.

JUNE 15.

Oral Answers to Questions

"REVIEW OF WORLD AFFAIRS"

(ARTICLE ON RUSSIA)

Sir H. Morris-Jones asked the Home Secretary whether he intends taking any action against those responsible for a publication called *Review of World Affairs* which, in its 1st June issue, has an article calculated to cast doubt upon the loyalty and effectiveness of Russia as an Ally?

Mr. Peake: I have seen the publication referred to, and I share the view of my hon. Friend as to the objectionable nature of some of the references made in it to the significance of the Russian war effort in relation to the Allied Cause and to internal conditions in Russia. On the other hand, it is the considered policy of His Majesty's Government—and I think of this House—that the special powers conferred on the Executive in war-time should not be used to interfere with expressions of opinion in insignificant publications of limited circulation however objectionable and deplorable provided they are not likely to have any appreciable effect on the war effort.

Sir H. Morris-Jones: Is not the whole of this article in its effect if not in its purpose, calculated to endanger the Alliance in many directions and also jeopardise victory? May I further ask whether the Minister's attention has been drawn to another aspect of this publication, namely, that owing to the auspices under which it is published it is regarded by many as an official or semi-official publication? From that point of view will he not take some action?

Sir T. Moore: Does the Minister think it wise to give publicity to this publication, which otherwise would continue in its present obscurity?

Mr. Peake: In reply to the first part of the Question put by the hon. Member for Denbigh (*Sir H. Morris-Jones*), I think we ought to remember that the appeal of this publication is neither universal nor obvious, and that it requires persons gifted with wholly exceptional powers of application and concentration to peruse it.

Mr. Shinwell: Was not the *Daily Worker* banned for much less?

Commander Locker-Lampson: Is this review subsidised by the enemy?

Mr. Neil Maclean: Is it not the case that a very large number of passages in this particular article were put forward not as expressions of opinion but as statements of fact regarding incidents and conditions in Russia, and does he not think it fit either to warn or stop this publication in the same manner as he did in the case of the *Daily Worker* and the *Daily Mirror*?

Mr. Peake: I am sure the producers of this publication will take heed of the feelings of the House and will have regard to the answer I have given on behalf of the Home Secretary.

Mr. Maclean: Is the Minister aware that this has been going on for more than a year?

Mr. Bossom: Is the Minister aware that this publication is sent abroad, and can he say whether it was examined and passed by censor before it was sent abroad?

Mr. Peake: Yes, Sir. I believe that was, in fact, done, and the censor took exactly the same view of this

publication as does the Home Secretary.

Mr. Maclean: If the censor is passing material of this character to go abroad into countries favourable to us, what other sort of stuff is allowed to go out of this country?

SUPPLY: COMMITTEE—EDUCATION

Mr. Kenneth Lindsay (Kilmarnock): . . . When the right hon. Gentleman has set up all his committees, when he has the result of the Luxmore Committee set up under the Ministry of Agriculture and the Forster Committee, I beg of him to create out of the present Board of Education a new Ministry. The phrase "Ministry of Youth and Childhood" is merely a name. It must in fact cover the whole life of the child from the age of two up to 18. In his opening remarks he seemed to suggest that that was firmly in his mind. If he means business, I think it is going to be one of the major changes since 1902, possibly since 1870. . . . I am getting a little tired of the books relating to post-war education. Senior and junior schools have been amalgamated in London. I appreciate the difficulties. I had a letter from Mr. Henriques of the juvenile court to-day. He said that the main problems that he is faced with in his court are caused by the coming backwards and forwards of children to and from London, the complete breakdown of the home and the deterioration of the children who are coming out of the schools because of their lack of security. . . .

If we mean equality of access to an agreed standard of physical provision it means building, it means doctors, it means dentists, it means milk, it means the whole physical basis of education; but after that I hope every school will be utterly different from every other.

I hope that there will be no longer any question of a uniform standard but that the schools will be utterly different and each school will be a little experiment on its own. But to do this you must have a Ministry which is not just the old Board of Education created out of bits and pieces of the nineteenth century. It must be a new Ministry created out of four or five present Departments. . . .

Sir Percy Harris (Bethnal Green, South West): . . . Inevitably education suffers during war. There has been an inevitable reaction to the scheme of evacuation, which has not worked out as was expected. Children who went into the country have gained untold benefits through making contact with country life, benefits both to their health and knowledge, but those who remained behind in evacuation areas have suffered immensely. . . . for many months many children in London had no education at all. Then there came the unfortunate system of double sessions, children going to school for half a day, and teachers having different classes in the afternoon from those in the morning.

Now, in 1942, we have a so-called full session of education, but there is a shortage of school places, a shortage of staff, and the whole machinery built up during the last 30 years is in bits and pieces. . . .

Thousands of children throughout the country have, for one reason or another, made no attendance at school and are growing up practically illiterate and uneducated. At a school to which I went yesterday I found boys of 13, quite normal children, who could not even read. They had

been in and out of school and have been evacuated, some half-a-dozen times and others even ten times. Such cases create a very serious problem. . . .

Another serious aspect of the matter, again a reaction of the war, is the extension of the number of hours during which children are employed in our basic industries. The right hon. Gentleman was hurt when I challenged his new policy about child labour in agriculture. I still think that that policy was reactionary. If it had not been for the action of some of my friends in another place nothing would have been done to stop the employment of children in the worst industry for this purpose, the pottery trade, which is by no means a healthy occupation. The same applies to the cotton trade. The original idea was that no children were to be employed in industry for longer than 44 hours. A few years ago that was decided by Act of Parliament. Owing to stress of circumstances in the cotton trade the time was extended from 44 hours to 48. Now it has been extended, I understand without protest from the Board of Education to 53 hours. . . .

I do not intend to follow my hon. Friend opposite on the question of public schools. I think that the public schools have quite got out of focus in our Debates. They affect only some 70,000 boys and there are only 160 schools altogether, about half of which are receiving grants from local authorities and are conforming to the regulations applied to secondary schools as a whole. I hope that our attention will not be focused too sharply upon the public schools. It is not that they do not do good work, but some of them are happy hunting grounds for parents who are well off, and their advantages are limited to people who can afford to pay fees of £150 or over. By all means let us spread the advantages of boarding schools so that all those who would benefit by them should have the opportunity to do so. There is machinery created for the purpose in the Act which we passed enabling the purchase of school camps to be undertaken.

I think that what is far more important at the moment is the question of private schools. During the period when our educational system was paralysed and schools were closed, they were springing up in many parts of the London outskirts like mushrooms, giving a very unsatisfactory system of education for a considerable fee. They are not open to inspection, there is no control over them and they can be staffed by any person, however unqualified. The children suffer in consequence. . . .

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Board of Trade (Mr. Ede): . . . My right hon. Friend has invited the religious denominations to let him have their views with regard to what the appropriate solution of this difficulty is. We have to bear in mind that a new Archbishop has just been appointed. He has come in at a time when the whole problems of the Church must be very great indeed, but we have already had an opportunity of interviews with him, and I know that he is not unmindful of the important part that an appropriate solution of this difficulty would play in enabling us to make a real advance in education. The fact that he has been for 16 years the President of the Workers' Educational Association is some evidence that he has a genuine desire that there should be a sound and democratic system of education in this country. I hope, therefore, that these negotiations may be allowed to continue in the belief

that we are all seeking a way through a difficulty that has frustrated too many well-intentioned efforts in the past. I am sure that we cannot be unmindful of the fact that the country would regard with very great disfavour any wrecking of real education hopes for purely denominational or sectarian purposes.

Mr. Logan (Liverpool, Scotland Division): Does that mean that supposing there were any objections you would really go ahead, whether there were objections or not?

Mr. Ede: I must not be asked to answer hypothetical questions. It would all depend upon the strength of the objection and its relationship to the problem as a whole.

Mr. Logan: We can get to the point straight away. The objection would be if it were decided that a national system of education had to be brought in under which the dual system would have to go. Would you persist in that?

Mr. Ede: My right hon. Friend the other day said he believed in diversity. I have got into serious trouble for saying much the same thing in this House, and I hope that that is a sufficient answer to my hon. Friend. We do not imagine that in a country where tolerance is practised, where it has been practised now ever since the glorious revolution of 1688.

Mr. James Griffiths (Llanelly): With intervals?

Mr. Ede: No serious intervals since 1688—

Dr. Haden Guest (Islington, North): Is this one of the intervals?

Mr. Ede: Certainly not—you cannot expect that you are going to get every parent to agree that a State monopoly of education will meet his particular demand.

Mr. Cove: I hope the Archbishop of Canterbury will respond to those sentiments.

Mr. Ede: So do I. . . .

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- BRADFORD United Democrats:** R. J. Northin, 11 Centre Street, Bradford.
- DERBY:** C. Bosworth, 25 Allestree Road, Crewton, Derby.
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