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For Political and Economic Democracy

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Weekly Twopence

ALBERTA

Progress at Edmonton

MR. JOHN HARGRAVE is reported to have left Edmonton, stating that he refuses to act any longer as Social Credit adviser to the Alberta Government.

"I have lost," he announced, "whatever confidence I had left in the competence, determination and reliability of the Aberhart Government," and described the Cabinet as "a vacillating machine, operating by starts, stops, and reversals."

According to our information, Mr. Hargrave recently gave a press interview in which he stated that "registration for dividends, covenants, stamped scrip, etc., are unnecessary for Social Credit."

He was questioned about this interview, the message says, at a Cabinet meeting which he attended on Friday, January 22. He said he had been kept in official ignorance of the fate of the "eleven-point Social Credit programme" which he had helped to draft at Premier Aberhart's invitation, and did not even know what the Social Credit caucus or the Cabinet had decided.

It was after his interview with the Cabinet, apparently, that he came to the decision to withdraw.

Mr. Aberhart says he is astounded at Mr. Hargrave's departure and protests that his Government has not lost its firm belief in Social Credit principles.

EVERYBODY'S POLICY

Macmillan Economist Appeals For "Abolish Poverty" Policy—The Only Policy

SIR THOMAS ALLEN, former member of the Macmillan Committee on Finance and Industry, president of the Co-operative Congress, in his inaugural address as President of the Newport Chamber of Commerce, has joined the ranks of those who agree with the policy of SOCIAL CREDIT—everybody's policy.

In a speech free from the current cant about work—as if work were an end in itself instead of a means to an end—he asked whether we as a nation—whether the world at large—will re-shape the economic system so as to make available for human good the vast capacity for production which science has created, or whether we shall continue the restraint of production in order to maintain the profits of the few. Are we to organise for abundance or for scarcity?

Sir Thomas pointed out that the outstanding fact of the so-called modernisation of business is that the industrialist is being replaced by the financier; and he argued that that results in restraint of production for the preservation of profits.

What is needed is that we should use the capacity for production to the uttermost till every man, woman and child on the face of the earth is well-fed, well-clothed, well-housed, and well-educated—till there is health and security and the opportunity of enjoyment as well as of service for every citizen of every land.

WARNING AGAINST MONOPOLY

He uttered a strong warning against the monopolistic trend of modern business, and against the idea that the community exists for the benefit of industry.

He said:

"To that position there can be only one end: the assumption by the State itself of the functions of industry.

"Is that goal the direction to which industry itself is unconsciously leading? Is it bringing a Frankenstein into being which will turn and destroy? Is the final limit, whatever its temporary success, going to be a tragedy to those who invoke it?"

THE SCIENCE OF WEALTH

"The new economics," said Sir Thomas, "is the science of wealth; the old was the science of want; the new, the science of plenty, the old, the science of scarcity, which every monopolistic system was trying to perpetuate. Any system which does not get down to that fact is going to be left behind."

Economic sufficiency, not economic scarcity was the foundation of all national greatness and progress.

Was not the secret that we should organise for abundance, not for scarcity?

It was time to turn to the consumer's side rather than the producer's side for a solution. The consumer, vigorously followed up, would do more to unloose the deadlock in international trade than all the conferences on monetary standards or tariff policies.

CONSTANT HUNGER

Restraint of production could have no ultimate promise for the world. More than half the world, instead of knowing anything of sufficiency, knew only the sense of constant hunger.

On those whose only want was food, work and reasonable comfort depended very much the economic solution of modern problems, and in them and through them there was reasonable hope of ultimate safety and a chance of prosperity.

(Continued from previous column)

(Yes, that's what he sees. What will he do?)

"To hold to progress today is very difficult. Conscious irresponsibility and ruthless self-interests have already reappeared. Such symptoms of prosperity may become portents of disaster."

(But is prosperity dangerous?)

"If I know aught of the will of our people, they will demand that the conditions of effective government shall be created and maintained. They will demand a nation uncorrupted by cancers of injustice."

(No, no, no. The will of the people is not for a powerful bureaucracy. It is a demand for results. The abolition of poverty in the midst of plenty.)

GOVT. SAYS WALK TO WORK TO KEEP FIT!

NEXT WEEK IN PARLIAMENT, MINISTER OF HEALTH SIR KINGSLEY WOOD WILL ANNOUNCE GOVERNMENT "GET FIT" PLANS.

Workers will be advised to walk to work. National Health Insurance will be made available from the age of 14 (at present it is 16) "to prevent physical deterioration following schooldays."

Forest camps will be started in summer, free for workers and workless.

GRANTS

Government grants will be offered to local authorities "to assist them to provide swimming pools and playing fields."

Gymnasias will be built in all schools with government grants for school use in daytime, for grown-ups in the evening.

A "university" for physical training instructors will be set up.

Temporarily the Army will help by lending gymnasiums and instructors free to young men's clubs.

All these schemes would be a joke if they were not so stupidly cruel. What the people need most, as Sir Thomas Horder has said quite bluntly, is more food in the belly.

Physical jerks on an empty stomach are not what the people want.

Have You Seen It?

- G. W. L. Day on New Threat to Liberty - Page 4
- The Party Engine - Page 6
- New Bruno Barnabe Newage Cameo : Page 7
- Pressure Politics in 1769 - Page 8
- News of the Week. News from Overseas. Commentary. Mrs. Palmer

ROOSEVELT Liberator or Betrayer?

FOUR years ago Franklin Delano Roosevelt made a speech which seemed more outspoken than the most powerful attacks ever made on the money power.

At that time Major C. H. Douglas pointed out that the attack was on persons, not upon the system they operated. Pointed out that there was nothing in the speech incompatible with strengthening, not weakening, the very money monopoly he seemed to be attacking. And so it was.

In the four years of his office the banking system of the United States was strengthened and centralised as never before.

In the midst of another speech, seemingly so full of pity and promise, there lurk phrases which can be used to cloak tyranny.

"The Constitution of 1787 did not make our democracy impotent. In fact, in these last four years we have made the exercise of all powers more democratic, while we have begun to bring autocratic powers into the proper subordination to the people's Government."

(Why not subordination to the people's will?)

"I see a United States which can demonstrate under democratic methods of government that national wealth can be translated into a spreading column of human effort hitherto unknown."

(The work cry again. Why not a spreading column of human satisfaction?)

"In the nation I see tens of millions of its citizens who at this very moment are denied the greater part of what is the very lowest standard today of the necessities of life. I see millions lacking the means to buy the products of farm and factory."

"I see one-third of the nation ill-housed, ill-clad, ill-nourished."

(Continued in next column)

ROVER BARGAINS

ERNEST SUTTON LTD. OFFER 17 IMMACULATE ROVERS AT ATTRACTIVE PRICES—SEE THEM AND JUDGE FOR YOURSELF



- 1936 14 h.p. Streamline Coupe, Grey, Blue trimming.
- 1936 14 h.p. Sports Saloon, Grey, Blue trimming.
- 1936 14 h.p. 6-light Saloon, Grey, Blue trimming.
- 1936 12 h.p. 6-light Saloon, Maroon, Maroon trimming. Also two similar cars, Blue, Blue trimming, and Grey with Blue trimming.
- 1936 10 h.p. 6-light Green, Saloon, Green trimming.
- 1935 14 h.p. Sports Saloon, Black, Brown trimming.
- 1935 14 h.p. 6-light Saloon, Grey, Blue trimming. Also similar car, Blue, Blue trimming.
- 1935 14 h.p. Speed Saloon, Grey, Blue trimming.
- 1935 12 h.p. 6-light Saloon, Maroon, Maroon trimming.
- 1935 12 h.p. Speed Sports Saloon, Black, Brown trimming.
- 1935 10 h.p. 6-light Saloon, Maroon, Maroon trimming.
- 1934 14 h.p. 6-light Saloon, Green, Green trimming.
- 1934 12 h.p. Sports Saloon, Brown, Brown trimming.
- 1934 10 h.p. 6-light Saloon, Maroon, Maroon trimming.

ROLLS ROYCE

1932 20/25 7-Seater Limousine by Thrupp and Moberley.

RILEY Nine

1935 Kestrel Special, 2-carburettor series, self-change; faultless.

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Abomination of Desolation

WHEN the Labour Party Commissioners visited Witton Park, Co. Durham, children at the council school handed them a letter. It read:

"We, the prefects of the council school, beg to wish you success in your efforts to bring work to our village. Most of us have never seen our fathers go to work . . .

"We hope you will use your influence with the Government so that we may see our fathers and brothers return home daily begrimed with the dirt of local labour."

A Russian professor, Pavlov, made an experiment with dogs. For a long period he tapped the dogs on the leg before letting them have their food. After a time the dogs began to connect the tap on the leg with the approach of a meal, and their mouths watered. It was found that the tapping made their mouths water even though no food followed.

This process is called "conditioning." One can imagine a litter of puppies growing up with a tremendous ambition to get tapped on the leg three times a day, and if the taps were withdrawn, and food withheld except in very inadequate quantities, a cry going up, "We want taps; we want to see our fathers and brothers come home bruised with the blows of life-giving taps."

Thus these poor children have lost the natural sense which would make them say, "We are hungry, give us to eat; we are naked, give us clothes." They cry for WORK.

Schacht's Happy Birthday

THE financial papers went all girlish last week over Hjalmar Schacht's sixtieth birthday. Montagu Norman sent him an antique clock.

Schacht came into the public eye when the German Mark collapsed and "successfully" steered the country during the difficult transitional period from the old discredited currency to the new.

That was the time when most of the financial appointments were being given. Montagu Norman appeared from obscurity to pilot into effect the brutal recommendations of the Cunliffe Committee, which both Prof. Gustav Cassel and Mr. Reginald McKenna warned the nation would plunge it into untold misery; and Stanley Baldwin became a kind of permanent premier as a reward for pawning Britain to America in the debt settlement.

Thank heaven, these old men are getting older.

Hitler's Colonial Ballyhoo

AT the Reichstag meeting called for March 30 Hitler will doubtless reiterate yet more strongly Germany's demand for colonies.

COMMENTARY

Even the old Republican Government carried on a propaganda campaign for the return of colonies taken from Germany under the Peace Treaty.

The colonial campaign has since been carried on by the Nazi Government with increasing intensity through the press, cinemas, theatres, leaflets and even cigarette cards.

Hitler prefers guns to butter and other provisions, so Germans are suffering many deprivations just now. He likes to ascribe these deprivations not to the Government's policy but to Germany's lack of colonies.

Germany does not really need colonies, either for supplies of raw materials or for development and settlement. All raw material-producing countries, whether colonies or self-governing states, are only too anxious to sell their produce, and Germany could purchase all she needs without controlling the country of origin.

The cry for colonies in which to settle emigrants and "develop" is artificial, arising out of a system that calls for employment at all costs. When employment is given at home by "developing" overseas countries, it means, in effect, the enslavement of the people of those countries to the financial system which creates the money for their development.

Plenty of Beef But No Brain

THE Beef Bill in the Commons, comments the *Birmingham Gazette* on January 22, again appears to find all parties rather helpless over finding a food policy which shall meet farming demands without making most foods scarcer and dearer for urban consumers.

And they will continue to be so helpless while they attempt to decide on policy over the heads of the electorate, and at the same time pose as experts in finance and economics.

What the people want is set out in the Elector's Demand on the back page. That policy will solve the farmer's problem and the consumer's problem—when the people unite in demanding it.

Service for Londoners

CONGRATULATIONS to the *Daily Express* on its campaign to let Londoners express their opinion of London utility services.

Those services are for the benefit of Londoners, or should be. There is no other sane reason for their existence.

The letters show where the shoe pinches. Maybe some notice will be taken of them—maybe not.

Neither the letter-writers nor the newspaper have the "sanctions" needed to make the transport, lighting and heating companies toe the line and give the public what it really wants.

The real pressure of public demand has yet to be felt. It will come.

Summing Up

THE upshot of this campaign revealed widespread public dissatisfaction.

Chief complaint from suburban readers was about transport—crowded tubes, 25 in 10-seater railway coaches, empty "firsts," full "thirds," dirty carriages, bad timing.

There were letters about the Post Office. Outpost villages demanded 'phone kiosks, stamp machines, better postal deliveries. People complained of a fortnight's delay in receiving 'phone installation.

And there were complaints about the gas companies. The iniquity of meter rents, paid year after year, the blanketing of complaints to the companies by their asking a five shilling "search fee"—returnable if the complaint is substantiated, non-returnable if it is not.

On Monday, the newspaper summed up. "Don't Put Up With It," said the writer.

"Too many people are accepting inefficient public services as though they couldn't be altered.

"These services are for your benefit and comfort—so get your complaints off your chest now."

Fourth Form Economics

AN increase of exports, says Sir Arthur Salter in *The Times* of January 20, is the only method by which we can hope quickly to make any serious impression upon the unemployment figures.

The mind of the economist works in a curious groove; he is wrong every time he opens his mouth, and he never learns anything.

The only object of foreign trade is to get goods from abroad which we don't produce satisfactorily at home.

Sir Arthur thinks its object is to make work.

Work is only a means to an end. It can be performed by men or machines.

So long as people like Sir Arthur think the object of exporting is something abstract, like currency stability, or something which is not an end at all, like employment, and forgets the simple fact that it is to pay for foreign food—so long will he be wrong.

Everything is O.K.

When it's O.K.

EVER heard it said "It's O.K. if it's O.K.?" Let it sink in and then read this.

You'll recall what the heroic Archbishop said, when firing heavy artillery at a position already evacuated; those castigating remarks about the Duke of Windsor and his friends.

That was—O.K.

Did you see last week what Mr. Thurtle, Socialist M.P. for Shoreditch, said in the House about the Archbishop's speech?

Mr. Thurtle said: "Will the Postmaster-General represent to the B.B.C. that it is

altogether deplorable that a broadcast on an occasion of this kind should be used for an outburst—"

And then there were cries of "Order" and the end of the sentence was inaudible.

Mr. Thurtle added: "On a point of order I merely asked the Postmaster-General, as representing the B.B.C. in this House, if he would represent to the B.B.C. the undesirability of allowing episcopal spleen of this nature—"

Again cries of "Order," of "Oh, Oh!" drowned Mr. Thurtle, and Mr. Maxton asked "What's wrong with that?"

The Speaker: Mr. Thurtle is using an epithet which is never allowed in this House. That was not—O.K.

And then up spake Commander O. Locker-Lampson: May I ask whether he does not think that this criticism of the late King might have been made while he was on the throne? The Speaker again intervened.

That also was not—O.K.

The Coming War!

YOU know it now. Now that it is almost too late, you know that some time soon we are in for it. London and the other great nerve-centres are doomed to become helpless targets, and you along with them.

We have been saying this since 1919. In the very flush of post-war optimism, we said "Everything you are doing now makes the next war more certain. For God's sake reverse the process before it is too late."

No one listened. We were told that it was wrong to speak about another war, since talking about it encouraged war—the most stupid remark that ever was made.

If a man who has just recovered from tuberculosis resumes the way of living which gave it to him in the first place, and which will inevitably give it to him again, we have got to talk.

We must take the risk that by talking we shall suggest him into illness sooner than he would otherwise fall.

He is going to fall sooner or later, anyway, unless he changes his way of living. It is our clear duty to tell him so.

Well, we were right all those years. The war is now here, and there is no one who cannot see it. Is it not possible that we are right again when we say that there is still a chance of escape? *One chance only!*

We can escape—but only if we as individuals take responsibility for imposing our collective will in association upon Parliament—to abolish poverty and thus eliminate the chief cause of war.

Soviet 'Purge'

THE "purge" which is now taking place in Soviet Russia is barely comprehensible.

By what process a dozen men can be induced not merely to proclaim themselves "guilty," but seemingly to wallow in the details of their guilt, we do not know—we shudder to think.

This at least we can say: The proposition that man exists to serve the state is faithfully worshipped in Russia. In its soil the ultimate flowers of evil seem to bloom. It is of the essence of sin.

Don't let it happen here.

IMMINENT ECONOMISTS interviewed by FROTTI

[O. R. Hobson, "News Chronicle" City Editor, on January 20, in a leader page article, said that slumps always follow booms, suggested that prosperity should be damped down by raising taxes and making it difficult to raise money by borrowing. Following day Geoffrey Crowther, also of the "News Chronicle," said that taxation and borrowing were the same thing.]

CROWTHER (of the 'Nose-Comical') on TAXATION

FROTTI. Do you think the Government should borrow for rearmament?
 CROWTHER. No. Rearmament should be paid for out of increased taxation.
 F. Why?
 C. Because it comes to the same thing. It is a mistake to think that future generations repay Government debt.
 F. Are you sure?
 C. Yes. The point that is overlooked is that taxpayers are, by and large, the same people who will be asked to lend the money. So, whether by loan or taxation, it comes out of the same pockets. Taxation is SOUNDER—that is all.
 F. Is this true?
 C. Yes. Similarly when a loan is repaid the money comes out of the people's pockets in taxes and promptly goes back again in repayment.

F. Oh! oh! Come! come!
 C. I assure you this is true.
 F. Do banks ever create credit?
 C. No. It is you and I who lend all the money.
 F. Well, just now you said that taxpayers lend the money. Then you go on to say that taxpayers will be taxed in order to repay to themselves the money they have lent to avoid taxation. Doesn't this strike you as fatuous?
 C. No.
 F. Have you ever studied economics?
 C. Don't be rude.
 F. What is the National Debt?
 C. It is money lent by taxpayers.
 F. Why cannot they get it back?
 C. Because they have not enough money to pay high enough taxes to repay themselves the money they lent.
 F. I am now tired and shall go to bed. Goodnight.

HOBSON (same humour-sheet) on BOOMS & SLUMPS

FROTTI. Why don't you like booms?
 HOBSON. Because slumps always follow them.
 F. Oh. Sunspots, of course.
 H. No. It is when capital goods get out of step with consumption goods.
 F. What do you mean?
 H. People, by saving too much, have stimulated the flow of capital goods too fast. This means more consumption goods, which people refuse to buy.
 F. Because they have no money?
 H. No. Because they want to go on saving.
 F. Do you mean that the half of the population who Sir John Orr says have insufficient to buy food do this?
 H. Economists do not like the idea of raising the bank-rate.
 F. Are you going to answer my question?
 H. No. Keynes and others think that the way to cure slumps is to stop booms.

F. How will killing prosperity keep us out of depression?
 H. If prosperity is damped down, depression will not seem so bad.
 F. How will they do this?
 H. By raising taxes, stopping public works and making it difficult to raise money by borrowing. Taxation for rearmament would do this.
 F. But Geoffrey Crowther says that borrowing money and taxation come to the same thing—both come out of our pockets, since there is no such thing as credit on future generations.
 H. Did he?
 F. Yes. Don't you think the Editor of the *News Chronicle* might have left a week between yours and Mr. Crowther's articles?
 H. Never mind now. Let us all unite to slump ourselves out of the boom.
 F. I didn't quite catch that, but—Amen!

News From Overseas

NEW ZEALAND M.P. SUPPORTS ELECTORAL CAMPAIGN

SPEAKING at Sydney, Australia, on his way back to New Zealand after his visit to Britain, Captain H. M. Rushworth, Member of Parliament for the Bay of Islands, said he had met most of the Social Crediters whose names were familiar to overseas adherents, including Major Douglas.

"He came away from discussion with them thoroughly convinced of the absolute soundness and necessity for the Electoral Campaign," reports the *New Era*.

"He had been long enough in political life to see the liberties taken by political parties with their election promises, in the absence of the organised pressure of public opinion."

"There were many ways of diverting a Government from the course it set, and bribery was not necessarily the method used."

"He had no reason to believe that a Social Credit Party in power would prove any exception."

"It was essential that the sovereign will of the people be mobilised to demand what they want. That is about the only way they will get it."

Previously, according to another report in the same paper, Captain Rushworth had spoken on the same platform in Melbourne with Mr. John Hogan, the famous "boy orator," who has carried the message of Social Credit—freedom and plenty in security for all—throughout the Commonwealth.

Both speakers stressed the urgent necessity of getting on with the job of the Electoral Campaign, the importance of which Captain Rushworth was able to underline by reference to conditions in Europe.

L5,000 Million Not Enough

PRESS reports state that more dividends were paid in the U.S.A. in 1936 than ever before. The total money income of the American people for that year is estimated as five thousand million pounds.

But reformers who think that all would be well if incomes were more equitably distributed are wrong.

Five thousand million pounds sounds a lot, but divided equally amongst the population it would only mean about L100 a year each. To quote a famous research organisation—the Brookings Institute:

"Mere redistribution of existing income would not provide reasonable standards of living for the masses of the people. If we are to achieve the goal of satisfactory standards of living for everyone, the first requirement is to increase progressively the total amount of income to be divided."

"Only as aggregate national income increases from \$60,000,000,000 a year to \$100,000,000,000, to \$150,000,000,000, to \$200,000,000,000, will the goal of a high standard of living for everyone be attained."

Mrs. Palmer:

Two Women Write About POVERTY . . .

SOONER or later we all encounter the ardent Socialist or Fascist who has all her facts well off by heart. She trots out strings of statistics and economic "truths" one after another.

Should we have an encounter of this sort before an audience of two or three some of us feel misgiving, simply because we are not prepared.

The question of equal pay for equal work, for instance, or whether married women should have careers—are we ready to say just why it's a waste of time to argue about it?

To meet this very real difficulty, Miss Jean Campbell Willett, L.L.A., F.R.G.S., has written a splendid little book, "Women and Poverty." It is published by the Social Credit Press, price fourpence.

She has dealt with every aspect of the woman's problem from the Social Credit point of view.

No matter what your work—artist, teacher, business girl, or mother—you will find something to help you here.

Statistics are used in the right way, not to divert attention from facts, but to emphasise salient points.

We are not bewildered by useless data, but given just what we need to help us in our propaganda.

The writer and speaker will find a wealth of information in this book.

Moreover, it is well and simply written. I think the Publications Department puts too low a price on it.

Fourpence!

Compare this book with some priced at as many shillings.

Miss Willett could have enlarged it with photographs and biographical details of famous women, added a few quotations and more statistics, put it in a smart cloth binding and published it at eight and sixpence. And well worth it, too!

But she has done something better. She has shortened what she has to say without losing any of its value—no easy task this—so that the book shall be within the reach of every woman in the movement.

In the library the other day, I looked through a good many books on the woman's point of view. Most of them had been written with care and sincerity.

Books on the history of women and the struggles for freedom in the nineteenth century were as a rule splendidly done.

But writers of both sexes on presentday affairs seem bewildered. Their interpretation of modern tendencies is naïve, and their remedies childish and impracticable.

To give an instance. Miss Eleanor Rathbone, M.P., maintains that the chief cause of poverty is a workman not being paid according to the size of his family, despite the fact that she can find no source for the extra money save additional taxation!

This is just one example among many of the sort of thing our prominent feminists write about.

To anyone who has mastered the principle of the National Dividend, such suggestions seem mere moonshine. We wonder how intelligent adults can waste their time over such childishness, never pausing for an instant to ask a question about money, or where it comes from.

I wish Miss Willett had given us a longer section on Women's Vote and Democracy. This is the only criticism I would make of her book.

We need to understand something about the Parliamentary system in order to appreciate the value of the Electoral Campaign. But perhaps Miss Willett will give us this another time.

So I hope all of you will send for "Women and Poverty," price fourpence, postage 1d.

It's so readable that you will be able to go through it while you are putting the baby to sleep, if any of you are still old-fashioned enough to stay with him during this process!

THANKS to all those who have written to me. Lack of time prevents me from sending a personal reply to each, but I am very grateful. Please don't stop writing!

NO COMMENT

THE Canadian Finance Minister, the Right Hon. Charles Dunning, speaking on December 31, said that Canadian trade was booming, external trade having increased by 200 million dollars in 1936.—*The Montreal Witness*, January 6.

A total of from 1,050,000 to 1,100,000 on direct unemployment relief, with a probable 200,000 or more included from the drought areas, and perhaps another 100,000 aided through works projects, farm placement and settlement, a grand total of approximately 1,200,000, is the Canadian Welfare Council's estimate of relief totals for mid-December.—*"Halifax Herald,"* December 29, 1936.

The population of Canada is 10,400,000.

(Continued from previous column)

This Commission, like the melodrama on the air reported above, is intended to lull people into the belief that the Australian banking system is the best ever.

Its report is a foregone conclusion, as are the reports of all such enquiries which are only intended to prevent people from taking action.

It may recommend minor alterations in the financial system, but it will not even hint at the possibility of plenty for all.

The 16,800,000 words might just as well not have been spoken for all the good they will do to the people of Australia.

No Royal Commission is necessary to prove that millions suffer lack and that plenty is possible for all.

The Australian people can reply to this mass of verbiage in six words—We Demand the Abolition of Poverty—if they unite in doing so their demand will be granted. M.W.

The people of the U.S. can secure the higher income referred to in this report when they want it enough to drop quarrelling over the division of what is admittedly an insufficiency, and unite in demanding plenty for all.

Money is only tickets, and there is no reason why the amount of tickets should not be increased to 200 thousand million dollars or more, if goods to that value can be produced, and they can be!

Banking—Dramatised

IT was reported some time ago that two of the big American banks had contracted for a series of broadcast concerts for a period of three years, by the famous Philadelphia Symphony Orchestra. With each concert, the report states, there is to be given an "instructive talk."

Of course broadcasting is commercialised in the U.S., and programmes are all "sponsored" by advertisers of one sort or another.

The banks manage things more cleverly in England. Here we enjoy the inestimable benefit of broadcasting under control of a public corporation paid for by listeners, and the banks get their propaganda "put over" for nothing!

Following the American example, the Rural Bank of New South Wales recently broadcast a "Radio Dramatisation of the Development of Australian Banking" to celebrate the opening of a new head office.

The records of homes sold up and lives wrecked, by the operation of what bankers describe as "inexorable economic laws," but which are in fact conventions which they refuse to change unless forced to do so, should provide ample matter for dramatisation.

16 Million Words—About Banking

THE Australian Royal Commission on Banking has heard 5,600 typewritten pages of evidence, approximately 16,800,000 words.

(Continued in next column)

"STRONG MESSAGE PUT OVER VIVIDLY"

IT'S NO USE just being SORRY



YOU CAN END ALL THIS

THE January issue of *Printing*, in its "Gallery of Typography," reproduces the poster "It's No Use Just Being Sorry," after Baruc.

This poster was reproduced in *SOCIAL CREDIT* (October 23, 1936) and large numbers have been distributed through the agency of Mr. G. R. Treen and the National Dividend Club.

Originally a cartoon by Baruc, it was converted into a poster by Mr. Bernard Sleigh, R.S.B.A.

Printing describes it as "A letterpress poster with simple typography, putting over vividly a strong message."

For NEW READERS

Read about Social Credit and then see how much more interesting your daily paper becomes.

- SOCIAL DEBT OR SOCIAL CREDIT. By George Hickling (*Ready shortly*)
- WHY POVERTY IN MIDST OF PLENTY? By the Dean of Canterbury 4d.
- WOMEN AND POVERTY. By Jean Campbell Willett 4d.
- APPROACH TO REALITY. By Major C. H. Douglas 3d.
- ARMAGEDDON. By Jacques 2d.
- SANITY OF SOCIAL CREDIT. By Maurice Colbourne 6d.
- WHAT'S WRONG WITH THE WORLD? By G. W. L. Day 1s.
- THE USE OF MONEY. By Major C. H. Douglas 6d.
- THE ECONOMIC CRISIS. Southampton Chamber of Commerce Report 6d.
- THY WILL BE DONE. By J. Creagh Scott 4d.
- THE FEAR OF LEISURE. By A. R. Orage 6d.
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Vol. 5. No. 25. Friday, January 29, 1937

The Canute Complex

EVERY now and then somebody "indignantly" repudiates the suggestion that there is plenty, and that there are deliberate plans to restrict production.

The latest example of this dishonest evasion of the consequences of their restrictive policy is an unusually crude circular of notes for speakers issued from Conservative headquarters.

This effusion takes a number of the statements made from time to time in SOCIAL CREDIT and purports to demolish them.

It dismisses as "dishonest" our references to the millions of bags of coffee destroyed in Brazil—because, it says, this was done by the Government to keep prices up!

It also pours scorn on our references to wheat restriction.

The following quotation from the *London Corn Circular* for January 18 will take some laughing off, however:

Total visible supplies of wheat, compiled by Reuter's Agency, calculated as on January 4 for the past ten years, are (in thousands of bushels):

1928	...	341,300	1933	...	549,300
1929	...	521,200	1934	...	475,100
1930	...	509,100	1935	...	456,700
1931	...	558,000	1936	...	440,800
1932	...	586,100	1937	...	265,500

Comments by *The Times* on these figures are to the effect that visible supplies of wheat at the beginning of 1937 are not only the smallest in 10 years by a considerable margin, but are less than half the 1931, 1932 and 1933 totals. The present position is undoubtedly a great improvement on past years, but until demand really broadens there is an ever-present fear of a series of successful crops leading to a reaccumulation of an unmanageable surplus.

There is the restrictionist glorying in his restriction. Rejoicing in the reduction of the bounty of Providence.

Yet what is the use of a Corn Exchange which keeps us short of bread?

THESE things would scarcely be worth mentioning if they did not reveal the state of mind of those who have no legitimate business if it is not to serve us all.

The Conservative Party sponsors candidates at elections. And no one wants Members of Parliament because of their curly hair and sparkling eyes.

We expect results from them—results that we want, not that they in their bumpousness think are good for us.

For if there is anything everybody wants it is the distribution of the abundance of the good things of life made available by our common heritage of scientific production.

Yet here is the Conservative Party trying to teach people that there is no restriction of production, and anyway, if there is, it is because the Government knows best!

IN the words of the new president of Newport's Chamber of Commerce, reported on page 1, we have been saying for more years than we like to remember

"The new economics is the science of wealth; the old was the science of want—the new, the science of plenty, the old the science of scarcity, which every monopolistic system is trying to perpetuate. Any system which does not get down to that fact is going to be left behind."

The restrictionists and destroyers are in the saddle—but the march of progress is inexorable. Plenty is going to be distributed.

And as we can see the truth we prophesy that there will be no Conservative Party—nor any party. No party of have-nots trying to oust the haves, nor any party of haves trying to keep the have-nots unde..

For we can all "have" in this age of plenty.

G. W. L. DAY has read "The Prince" by Machiavelli. Here he talks to you about the Machiavellian principle of—

DIVIDE and RULE

A Cunning Device With Which Your Rulers Now Threaten Your Liberty

THROUGHOUT history, two great groups of influences have struggled for mastery. The first may be called Barbarism. It expresses itself in systems of exploitation of the people by powerful or cunning minorities. Its methods are trickery and the use of Force. The second is the true civilising influence which renounces the use of Force and insists upon the importance of the individual.

Christianity in its undiluted form expresses the second influence. The first has resided at different periods of history in the State, the Church and in Finance—wherever, in fact, was situated the seat of material power.

It is evident that a pitched battle is being fought out at this present moment by these two sets of influences.

ON the Continent, Barbarism is very apparent. I know quite well that one section of our press paints dictatorships of the Left in lurid colours, while another section portrays dictators of the Right with horns and tails.

There is exaggeration and distortion; nevertheless, when all allowances have been made, there remain certain facts which nobody will deny, such as the suppression of individual liberty and initiative, the elevation of a centralised State to a position of overwhelming power, the substitution of State-controlled propaganda for free opinion, and so forth.

Nor are these disturbing symptoms peculiar to the Continent. They are beginning to appear in Great Britain.

Five hundred years ago, many of these principles of government were accepted by all wise rulers, and it so happens that we

have a most interesting text-book handed down to us which sets them forth in clear and lucid terms.

This little book, I daresay, is on the desks of all the world's dictators at this present moment, and perhaps of our own rulers, too.

It is called "The Prince," and the author of it is Nicolo Machiavelli, whose exemplars are the notorious Pope Alexander VI and his son, Cesare Borgia, the Duke of Valentino.

"THE PRINCE," although short, contains so much worldly wisdom that I cannot deal with it all in one article. For the moment I will begin with the Third Chapter, in which the author is discussing the best ways of holding a new principality.

He says that a prince ought to make himself head and defender of his less powerful neighbours, weakening the more powerful among them so as to preserve a balance, and preventing any foreigner as powerful as himself from gaining a footing there.

Then he instances the Romans, who sent colonists to the countries they annexed and maintained friendly relations with the minor powers without increasing their strength.

In Greece, for instance, they kept the Achaians and Aetolians friendly, though they never allowed them to increase their power.

They humbled the kingdom of Macedonia and drove out Antiochus, and by such methods they held the countries they annexed.

On the other hand, he quotes as a warning what happened to Louis of France, who was brought into Italy by the Venetians, who wished with his help to acquire half the state of Lombardy.

Having got his foot into the country, everybody made advances to him and became his friend, and had he observed the correct rules, says Machiavelli, he could easily have held his position.

But instead of this, he destroyed the minor powers, increased the power (a major one) of the Church, brought in the King of Spain,

and neither settled in the country nor sent colonists.

Even then he could have held on by remaining friendly with the Venetians, because they, being powerful, would always have driven off anyone with designs on Lombardy. But instead of this he took their dominions from them, and so disaster befell him.

ALL this is an illustration of the principle "Divide and Rule," a principle which is understood as well today as ever it was in Machiavelli's time.

It is the principle by which a lift works. To hoist a lift-ful of people up 20 storeys of an American skyscraper would need a considerable amount of force without the aid of a cunning device.

When their weight, however, is more or less balanced by another weight which descends when the lift rises, only a comparatively small force is required.

Those who rule us use a similar device of counterbalanced weights. From their viewpoint, the People, united, are an immovable weight.

To shift them this way or that, it is necessary to divide them on some unimportant issue so that they are now more like a pair of scales. By depressing this scale-pan or that, the manipulators can produce the effect they desire.

They must make friends with the "minor powers"—that is to say, they must strengthen the hands of groups of whom they are not afraid and whom they can always crush at will. They must not assist major powers, but on the contrary humble them.

And above all, they must not allow any powerful "foreigner" to get his foot in. The term foreigner can, of course, be applied to the intrusion of any new force which is hostile to the *status quo*.

I AM sure that if you think about these principles you will be able to find many examples during the last few years of their being applied.

The arbitrary division of mankind into Reds and anti-Reds is a case of the counter-balance principle. There is a good deal of evidence to show that two of the biggest banking houses in the world are behind them.

One of them finances the Communists, the other the Fascists. Whether this is true or not, it is clear that *somebody* is behind each group and that far from wishing to heal the split, great material forces are trying to widen the breach.

What they will *not* allow if they can help it is the appearance of a powerful foreigner in the shape of a fundamental idea which cuts across both Communism and Fascism and unites the people under its standard.

ANOTHER example on a smaller scale is the Derby Recruiting Scheme which was employed during the War.

To conscript all the men they wanted *en bloc* would have been like trying to raise a weight by sheer physical strength. Instead, it was announced that a group of young, unmarried men would be called up.

At this news, the older and married men applauded. There was thus a division of forces. A little later, another group was called up, whereupon those who were still over age said to themselves, "If these men go, perhaps they won't need us," so they lent their support, and again there was a division of forces.

Finally, when they called up the last lot, those who had already been conscripted (and their relations) said "Why should these shirkers skulk at home? Let them go!" So once again opinion was split.

When conscription comes again, the same methods will be employed, and the ghost of Nicolo Machiavelli will give an approving chuckle.

WAR

NATIONS DON'T FIGHT

— MEN do

BULLETS DON'T KILL NATIONS

— they kill MEN

It is individuals who die and suffer in wars

"When there is a war it is Private, Lieutenant or Colonel Smith who loses an arm or whose wife places a wreath on the Cenotaph. I have not noticed that the name of the Public appears in the casualty lists of any of the nations engaged in the late war."—Major C. H. Douglas in "The Control and Distribution of Production" (p. 16).

Just as it is individuals who are killed or mutilated in wars, so also it is the choice and action of individuals NOW that can prevent another war—which is closely threatening.

RATEPAYERS FORCE COUNCIL TO MEET THEIR DEMAND

“Requirement” Achieves Results In Two Days

A CINDER path leading from Ash Path Hill Lane, Ickenham, Middlesex, to Ickenham Road is the nearest approach to Ickenham Station for the two hundred people who live in the lane.

It was in bad condition, caused them ceaseless inconvenience.

Local Social Crediters aroused a demand for better facilities. They drew up a requirement :

SOCIAL CREDIT AND THE ABDICATION

IT is satisfactory to note that, besides Social Credit publications in this country, allied journals overseas have all perceived the truth behind the King's abdication.

The *Social Credit Review of East Africa* took a line which was identical with that of SOCIAL CREDIT. Indeed, the wording of one passage in its leading article for December 18 is striking. Headed "The Sabbath is made for Man, not Man for the Sabbath," it concluded thus:

"It is not without significance that, at this time, the most powerful King on earth has weighed his Crown with the weights of the American declaration of independence—"The inalienable right of man to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness" . . . and has found it wanting."

It is most satisfactory to read the comments of the *Ottawa Evening Citizen*, made as the drama was being enacted. This journal also put its finger on the spot — Institutionalism versus Man.

An exception was *The Albertan*, self described as "A publicly-owned newspaper supporting Social Credit principles." Its comments on the abdication were a flat denial of those principles.

COUNCIL ASKS CONTROL OF CYCLISTS

More effective control of cyclists and police supervision of pedestrian crossings where a number of accidents occur are recommendations made by Camberwell Borough Council Works Committee for submission to the Ministry of Transport.

The committee had been considering proposals for reducing crashes on the road between Camberwell Green and New Cross Gate.

"We are concerned," it is stated, "to find that in nearly 50 per cent. of the accidents pedal cyclists were involved and over 20 per cent. were collisions between pedal cyclists and pedestrians, one ending fatally for the pedestrian."

This is another blow aimed at liberty, when all road experts are agreed that the only way to check the road toll is to build better roads.

Why do the authorities hesitate to do this? Materials, labour, resources are available.

THE ALBERTA EXPERIMENT

An Interim Survey
By Major C. H. Douglas
Will be published in March by Eyre and Spottiswoode. The first chapters of this book on this most stirring and momentous piece of current history will appear in the next issue (March) of THE FIG TREE

Ash Path Hill Lane to Ickenham Road

The above path is in bad condition and causes ceaseless inconvenience to residents of this area.

We, the undersigned ratepayers of Ruislip, REQUIRE that the above footway be repaired and put into good condition without delay. As ratepayers we are entitled to this service.

In 90 minutes 106 signatures were obtained.

Everyone wanted the path mended; two or three offered help; one man came up late at night to ask if he could do anything.

The Requirement was sent off by registered post the next morning, January 4, with a letter to the clerk to the Ruislip-Northwood Council:

"Attached is a REQUIREMENT that this path be repaired and put into good condition without delay. This is signed by 106 residents of this neighbourhood, most of whom are ratepayers.

"Should your Council need further evidence that this is an urgent requirement —it can be provided."

DAILY PROGRESS

Meantime, daily progress was reported on the Social Credit poster board:

Monday, January 4. "Our REQUIREMENT has been posted to the Council."

Wednesday, January 6. "The Council have delivered one load of ashes."

Friday, January 8. "Two more loads of ashes. Now we want more ashes and a few men to spread them. The Council have referred the matter to the Highways Committee."

The work was begun a week before the reference back to the Committee.

By the end of the second week the job was nearly done. This notice appeared on the board:

THE COUNCIL recognising the authority of the ratepayers

REPAIRED OUR PATH within a fortnight of the date of our demand.

WE ASKED FOR SOMETHING which we all wanted and knew could be done.

IN JUST THE SAME WAY we can demand and secure something which is JUST AS POSSIBLE and which we all want much more— SECURITY IN WHAT WE HAVE FREEDOM AND PLENTY FOR ALL

EFFICIENCY

Public interest in the Requirement was remarkable. Several people did at first think of it as a petition and therefore useless, but later agreed that it was a reasonable requirement which they were right to demand.

Several said that the Council would refuse, because they were going to make up the road or because the land did not belong to the Council—but they agreed that the repairs were necessary and signed.

The Council had, in fact, decided to postpone the work for some such reason. And yet, against their own decision, they have done the work.

Small effort was needed to produce a definite substantial result—a result that can be achieved wherever the reasonable demands of the public are made known effectively to those in authority.

Protection From Floods Refused

FLOODS in the Thames Valley rose inches daily last week. Councils in stricken areas complacently refuse to act.

Their attitude, the same for 22 years, is "nothing can be done about it."

As long ago as 1914 the Thames Conservancy Board drew up a scheme to control floods for local authorities whose areas were liable to floods.

The local authorities, said Lord Desborough, chairman of the Board, were "unanimous that they would prefer the floods."

Views expressed (to the *Evening Standard*) by representatives of local authorities show that floods are apparently still preferred.

Sunbury Council: Flooding not serious enough for any heavy expenditure. Only few low-lying meadows, part of one road with no houses, affected. Thames Conservancy responsible.

Maidenhead: Floods do not affect our ratepayers. When any danger we have means of warning everybody. Flooding is inevitable. Thames Conservancy taking every possible step.

Berkshire County Council: Thames Conservancy have done much since last serious flooding. Water gets away much quicker than it did before. Don't think they can do much more.

Thames Conservancy chief engineer said: "We have no further schemes for flood prevention under consideration."

So although expert schemes are available the councils do nothing. What are they there for?

Surely the residents in these areas are not content to "swim to work."

The councillors are their servants. They are put there for their benefit.

HOW MUCH ARE YOUR BANK CHARGES? Protest If They Are Excessive

I HAVE just had my pass-book from my bank. I find a substantial increase in the charges for handling in the account.

Formerly banks charged on a commission basis—2s. 6d. to 5s. per cent. of turnover. Now I find I am charged 30s. per page of my bank manager's ledger—L5 5s. for six months turnover of L640.

It appears to me that the banks are using the Old English faith in their integrity, to sustain their dividends by taking advantage of accounts which are not subject, usually, to personal scrutiny and imposing charges which are out of all proportion to their services.

I TRUST YOUR READERS WILL DRAW THE ATTENTION OF THE PUBLIC TO THIS POSITION, AS IT IS THE SECOND TIME I HAVE SUCCESSFULLY CHALLENGED EXCESSIVE CHARGES.

LANCASTRIAN

FOOD RESTRICTION EXPOSED

THE total cure of herrings in Britain in 1936 was 78,750 barrels fewer than in 1935. The Dutch cure increased by 185,367 barrels and the German cure by 148,000 barrels.

Here are concrete results of the restrictions operated in Britain by the Herring Board.

Right in our own homes an artificial shortage of good nourishing food is imposed by an Act of Parliament giving to the Herring Board dictatorial powers which it uses tyrannically in the insane effort to limit the plenty of herring to a shortage of effective demand.

Faced with poverty in the midst of plenty, the Board sets out to abolish plenty, and if it can't abolish plenty, at least make sure our people cannot have and enjoy it.

SUBSTITUTES FOR PLENTY

DIRECTOR J. WERLIN, of the German Mercedes Benz motor company, says the world will soon be producing substitutes for petrol, rubber, lead and zinc.

Because the supply of natural oil is becoming scarce, Germany, Britain, France, Italy, Japan and America, he says, have begun already to produce synthetic fuel oils.

Chromium, lead and zinc are also becoming

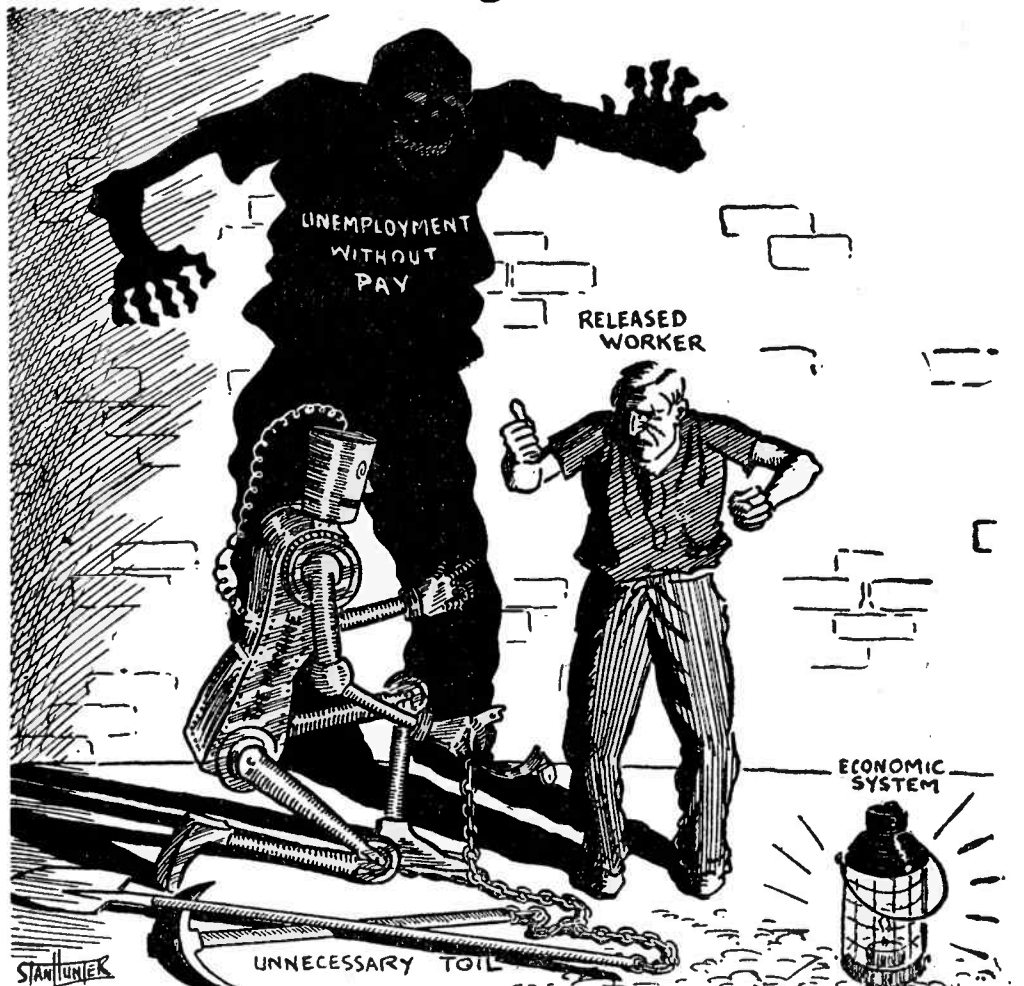
ing scarce, he adds, and substitutes are being found for them.

"Such experiments are costly, but in National Socialist Germany obligations to the nation outweigh interests of shareholders."

Maybe some of these substitutes are or will be necessary. What is sure is that the problem of producing everything mankind needs, or even thinks it needs, has been solved twice over.

Time we enjoyed it all.

Demand the Wages of the Machine



The Robot: There you are, sir. I gave you freedom for leisure, and a higher life. Unemployed: Yes, but that dreadful shadow haunts me!
—Cartoon by Stan Hunter, from the "New Era," Sydney

“While Parties Dictate Our ‘Democracy’ the People have no power to get what they want . . . Nothing is left for them but to choose the least of the evils . . .”

THE PARTY ENGINE IN THE CONSTITUENCIES

A DAY or two before a Parliamentary election takes place, that excitement which the national character finds and delights in where any doubtful event is approaching lends great heartiness to the unreal struggle—unreal so far as any difference of principle is concerned, but commonly very real in the conflicting ambitions of the two candidates.

The last night or two before the poll is a debauch of mere excitement upon either side, called a rally, the intensity of which is often a gauge as to whether a few hesitating voters have been drawn into the whirlpool on the one side or the other.

But its main purpose is not persuasion, but ritual. It is very expensive, and there is some finessing as to the bespeaking of halls, etc.

Meanwhile a number of workers of the poorest classes, who by legal theory give their services gratuitously, are engaged in person-

ally interviewing every elector and getting him to say that he will vote for their side.

The majority pledge themselves to both sides, as indeed courtesy demands; but a certain proportion answer yes to one side and no to the other.

As is always the case when large numbers of human beings are being estimated, an average can be struck, and the average of these stubborn souls is fairly fixed. To estimate the results of the canvass, as it is called (it is endowed with an elaborate system of checks and counter-checks), a certain percentage is taken off all the pledges, doubtfuls are added to the opponent's canvass, and the result is thought to be, and often is, a rough indication of how the poll will go.

common to all, because the grievance to be redressed was felt by the whole nation.

Now, as a matter of fact, nothing of the kind happens.

Programmes are drawn up by the politicians, usually after consultation with each other, and between these are the voters asked to choose.

No subject not mentioned in either programme, however much the people may desire to raise it, can be effectually raised. No solution of any problem, except the prescribed solutions, however much the people might prefer it, can ever be really discussed.

Nothing is left to the people but to choose the least of the evils.

HILAIRE BELLOC
and
CECIL CHESTERTON

25 years ago wrote this damning indictment of the party system now published by SOCIAL CREDIT in serial form. Every word seems as up to date as when it was written. EIGHTH INSTALMENT appears today.

desirous of keeping his promise and carrying out the wishes of his constituents, he will generally find it impossible to do so.

The front benchers, by their control of the House of Commons, control also the effective programmes submitted to the electors.

Announcements & Meetings

Notices will be accepted in this column from affiliated Groups at 6d. a line, minimum three lines

Cardiff United Democrats. Meetings each Wednesday at 34, Charles Street, at 8 p.m.

East London United Democrats. Readers in East Ham, Leyton, and Walthamstow districts willing to assist in campaign, are requested to write to District Supervisor—Herbert Dixon, 28, Chigwell Road, E.18.

Glasgow Douglas Social Credit Association. A public meeting will be held in the Central Halls, 25, Bath Street, on Tuesday, February 2, at 8 p.m. Speaker: Philip McDevitt, Esq., J.P. Subject: “Some Implications of Social Credit.” Chair: Miss E. G. Whitton. Admission tickets, 4d. each, may be had from members. Bring a friend.

Hereford. Readers in this district willing to form a Douglas S.C. Group, please write to R. C. Richardson, Frith, Ledbury.

Liverpool S.C. Association. Next meeting, for members of all Social Credit and United Democrat Groups on Merseyside, on Thursday, February 4, at 7.45 p.m. in the Common Hall, Hackins Hey. Discussion on Organisation. It is hoped all Campaigners will be present. Hon. Sec., Miss D. M. Roberts, Fern Lee, Halewood Road, Gateacre.

Northampton. Anyone in town or surrounding districts interested in the active side of Social Credit, please communicate with the local Secretary, 14, Victoria Road, Northampton, or 163A, Strand, London, W.C.2.

Poole and Parkstone Group. Meeting, Wednesday, January 27, at 7.45 p.m. Speaker: Mr. Edward Hewlett. The Studio, Hermitage Road, Parkstone. Inquirers welcome.

National Dividend Club. Electoral Campaign. Enquiries are invited and should be addressed to the Honorary Secretary: Capt. T. H. Story, 28, Ashburnham Gardens, Upminster, Essex. At all meetings time is set aside for comments, discussion, questions and answers, for our mutual assistance in the Campaign. Whether yet members or not, all are welcomed.

Miscellaneous Notices

Rate 1s. a line. Support our advertisers.

Furnished Rooms, 6s. to 8s., 574, Welbeck Road, Newcastle-on-Tyne, 6.

Press Cuttings Bureau. Accountant; World's Press News; Countryman; Scottish Farmer; Church Times; Banker. Will anyone willing to act as scrutineers for the above papers please write to Mr. T. L. Mawson, Petit Port, St. Brelade's, Jersey, C.I.

What is it all about—this Social Credit? Leaflet entitled “Ask and It Shall Be Given You” explains briefly yet pithily. It is available at 4d. a dozen (or 2s. for 100; 8s. for 500; 15s. for 1,000) post free from SOCIAL CREDIT, 163A, Strand, London, W.C.2.

Social Credit literature (including all Major Douglas's works), leaflets and pamphlets can be had from the same address. List on application from SOCIAL CREDIT, 163A, Strand, London, W.C.2.

**OUR ADVERTISERS SUPPORT US—
PLEASE SUPPORT OUR
ADVERTISERS**

ON the day of the poll the voters cannot, of course, be expected to register their opinions—for, as a rule, opinions are not at stake—nor even to fulfil their pledges.

A vast and expensive organisation for getting at each voter personally and bringing him to the poll is set to work. The opportunity of a ride in a motor car or a carriage is not without its influence, and the mere pestering by the workers is of great effect. Were it not for this costly effort the proportion of those who vote would be negligible in most constituencies.

It is, of course, essential to the life of the party system that the numbers should be fairly equal on either of the sham sides, taking the country as a whole.

Therefore, to win by 10 per cent. of the electorate in any one constituency is an enormous majority; to win by 5 per cent. a solid and satisfactory one; to win by 2 per cent. does not mean that the seat is safe, but the election is hardly called close.

Whoever gets the larger number of crosses duly goes off to Westminster to vote for anything whatsoever that the machine may give him orders to vote for during the next few years.

No mention has been made of what is called the organisation with its local salaried officials, noting the removal of every elector, checking the names, places on the list, residences of all, and so forth. That type of work may be easily imagined.

Oddly enough it is commonly performed (though at a wage) by one of those men, common in the provinces, who sincerely believe in the reality of the differences between the professional politicians. Their simple faith is one of the anomalies of the system.

THUS does the party engine work at the constituency end of its activities, and thus is the personnel of the House of Commons determined. It helps to explain that personnel.

If the selection of members has, of course, been taken completely out of the hands of the people, quite equally so has been the selection of the programme of which they are supposed to ask the electors' approval, but on which, as a fact, official candidates must depend as a brief.

In a really democratic system, the initiative would come from the people. They would ask for certain alterations in the law, and would send men to Parliament to express their wishes.

The demand by the electors would come first, and the declarations of the candidate would merely embody that demand. Under such a system, programmes would naturally vary from constituency to constituency according to the special needs and grievances of the locality; but some demands would be

IT is true that in framing their programmes the politicians have their eyes on votes. But the vote-catching of politicians is a matter of arbitrary arrangement; it has nothing to do with any national demand.

One side bids for the votes of Churchmen; another for the Nonconformists. One hopes to secure the support of publicans; another that of teetotalers.

But the question to be answered is framed by the politicians. And to frame the question is to go a long way towards framing the answer.

It was not always so; at least not to the same extent. Just as the control of the House of Commons over the Ministry has weakened, just as the control of the electors over their members has weakened, so has the initiative of the people in legislation weakened.

There is no machinery, at the present time, by which the people can raise a particular political question, however intensely it may interest them, unless it is included in the programme of one or other of the political parties.

They can indeed obtain pledges from candidates, but such pledges, as we have seen, are perfectly valueless.

For, though a man may be pledged to vote for a particular measure, he cannot vote for it unless it is brought into Parliament and a division taken on it, and it has already been shown that the front benches can generally prevent a division on any inconvenient question, and even if a division is taken, can prevent the matter going any further.

Thus, even supposing, no small supposition, that the elected member is honestly

LETTERS—continued from page 7

The Malthusians

With regard to the editorial in the current issue of *The New Generation*, in which the editor good-naturedly replies to my rather impolite criticism of his comments in his September issue—may I refer him to the calculations of Professor O. W. Willcox, formerly consulting agrobiologist at Iowa State University, who proves that with intensive modern agricultural methods enough food to feed New York City could be produced on a piece of land scarcely larger than the site of the city itself? Also to “The Chart of Plenty,” in which a number of highly competent research workers calculate that America could easily produce enough food for an optimum standard of living?

There are, of course, countries with poor agricultural land; but against these we must set those with rich agricultural land. At the present moment the whole trend of commercial enterprise is towards restricting agricultural productivity. If the aim were to increase it, I see no reason why the world should not be able to feed itself to bursting point.

G. W. L. DAY

WITH the loss of initiative the people have also lost all right of veto. Not only are they unable to frame the programme which their representative is to carry into effect, not only can their demands, even if their representative is pledged to them, be entirely neglected, but the most detested of measures, for which there is no shadow of mandate, which was never mentioned at the previous elections, may be passed into law, and the electorate is utterly powerless to secure their repeal.

Even though they should punish their members for voting for such measures by rejecting him at the next election, his successor, the representative of the other team, will probably lack the will, and will certainly lack the power to undo the work, if that work is approved by the front benches.

It is clear, then, that, despite all the elaborate machinery of polling booths and ballot-papers, despite all the frenzied appeals to the popular will which are the staple of political eloquence at election times, the people have neither the power to make Parliament pass the laws that they want nor to prevent it from passing the laws that they dislike.

The whole power of legislation has passed to that Standing Committee of Professional Politicians which is called in the House of Commons the Front Benches.

BRUNO BARNABE — Another Newage Cameo

JOHN NEWAGE'S
SCHOOLDAYS

"WELL, Johnny," said Mr. Newage as they wandered through the spacious grounds, "how do you like your new school?"

"It's great, dad!"

"Rather different from those we knew, eh, mother?"

"I should think so, indeed!" answered Mrs. Newage, as she glanced round appreciatively. "Do you remember how they sometimes used school-buildings that had been condemned?"

"But why, mother?" asked Johnny.

"Because they said they hadn't enough money to buy new ones. The same ridiculous excuse of lack of money was the cause of schools having to go short of teachers, books, apparatus and other necessities."

"By the way, Johnny, what's the largest class you have in your school?"

"Fifteen. Why?"

"Because at one time it was nothing unusual to have sixty in a class; consequently teachers couldn't give any individual attention, and education of real value was impossible."

THEY passed through a gate in a high hedge on to an expanse of green.

"This cricket ground makes me feel I want to put on a pair of pads again," said his father. "Your generation doesn't realise how lucky it is. Only a few years ago lots of school-children in cities not only hadn't any playing fields, but hadn't even seen a blade of grass."

"You're pulling my leg, dad."

"I was never more serious in my life!"

"But that's awful."

"Of course, so were dozens of things in the days of the Money Power."

"WHAT'S that lovely building over there?" asked Mrs. Newage.

"That's the masters' quarters," said Mr. Newage. "Teachers nowadays don't have to herd together in a common room, or eat their mid-day meals in classrooms and boil kettles of water to wash in like some of them used to."

You must see our classrooms, Mummy. Most subjects have their special room now.

You don't have to waste time getting things out and putting them away. Our geog. room's my favourite. Lovely relief maps all over the place, and charts and a whole heap of photographs, though we use the cinema mostly."

THEY entered the main building.

"Here it is," said Johnny, opening a door which led into a spotless well-ventilated room evenly heated and fitted out with comfortable desks each with plenty of light. Careful attention had been given to the choice of colour in the decorations. The effect was restful yet exhilarating and bright.

"No wonder you enjoy school, sonny," said his father as he glanced around. "What's this?" and he pointed to a clay model.

"We work on that when we do our map-reading. It's great fun. The contour lines on the map show us the various heights, and we make the model accordingly."

"I ALMOST wish I were at school again," said his father, "but I'm afraid I'd hate

having to learn a lot of dates when it came to history."

"Oh, we don't have to do much of that these days. Our history master was telling us how they used to teach history in the old days, that was before all our text-books were re-written. It must have been a bore."

"Have the text-books been re-written?" asked his mother.

"Oh, yes, they had to be; they were all full of lies, he said. Specially done to foster the martial spirit, jingoism, and hatred of the foreigner. He got quite hot about it."

"Yes," added Mr. Newage, "the financial system in those days, being an economic lie, was the cause of many another lie being taught in the schools. Thank Heaven, that's all changed."

"IT'S all very wonderful," said Mrs. Newage. "And to think that all schools are as good as this one. No more of those terrible council schools, where children were all boxed together and often too starved to learn."

"Just another thing to thank the Electoral Campaign for, mother."

"Yes, indeed. That's a date that you'll have to remember, Johnny."

"Like 1066," said his father with a laugh.

This Book Shows Who CAN Spend, Who NEEDS Money to Spend

By Elizabeth Edwards

"THE Marketing Survey of the United Kingdom" (Business Publications, Ltd., Carmelite Street, E.C.4) is a fine book full of fine figures, but it has a misleading title. It should be called a guide to purchasing power.

The theory is simple: sell your more expensive and desirable goods to people who have wireless licences, car licences, a house with more than eight rooms and a telephone.

Whether they want your stuff or not, they have the purchasing power, so they are your market.

This book assumes firstly that sufficient goods of the right sort can be turned out by the factories, secondly, that markets exist, and, thirdly, that the retail markets are largely non-specific and coincide with the existing and more or less limited supply of purchasing power.

The first and second of these assumptions are true. The third is false and is respon-

sible for some of the most astonishing phenomena of modern times, ranging from the world fairs at Wembley, Chicago and Brussels to "night starvation," and from the lights of Piccadilly Circus to the accusation from every magazine and every street corner of B.O., D.T., superfluous hair, pyorrhea and other distressing ills.

There is some mental discomfort, too, for you cannot afford to avert all of them. Advertisers are clamouring for a repartition of your meagre budget in their favour.

The mass markets for which the manufacturers are looking can only be obtained by fulfilling the greatest wants. But the people who want most are obviously those who have least—the 11,800,000 workers who earn less than £125 a year rather than the 10,000 who earn £10,000 a year, and the people who live at Merthyr Tydfil which has a purchasing power index of 45, rather than those that live at Bournemouth, which has one of 195.

The first step to selling more goods is to correlate the markets with the people's wants, and this means that a share of a supply of purchasing power sufficient to buy the goods that are not being sold should be made available to each person. And that is the National Dividend.

Valuable data are given on conditions of life throughout England—figures on occupations, employment, wages and retail shops, etc., for the country as a whole, for counties and for the larger towns — together with classified list of marketing services, technical specialists and supplies.

The difficulty of selling commodities can be judged from the large number of pages devoted to advertising advertisement.

Finally, chaps, in the contribution on the shrinking markets caused by a declining population (chiefly caused by the lack of purchasing power) we find a Frotticity: (when the population declines) "all the possible incentives to consumption will, therefore, have to be marshalled by industry in order to keep industrial development up to its present level."

Or is this Colonel Blimp?

LETTERS

(See also page 6)

Three Cheers for Dalton

ACCORDING to Ian Mackay in the *News Chronicle* for January 14, Dr. Dalton, Chairman of the Labour Party Commission to the Distressed Areas, told him that he could not understand why the Government had not made West Cumberland "one of the key positions from the point of view of national defence."

Even if an airman flying "with a load of bombs" succeeded in getting across the Pennines, "he would have lost all sense of direction."

One can picture, sir, the laughable plight of this irritated young fellow, and the, no doubt, savage despair with which he would simply drop his cargo overboard without the slightest idea of where it was going.

Must we not congratulate the good doctor on a complete solution to the problem of over-population?

SOLID LABOURITE

Getting Through

WHEN we can "get through" to Urban and District Councillors, who are usually business men, the fact that they in their public capacities as well as in their private lives are "sore let and hindered in running the race that is set before" them by accepting the domination of finance, and that there is nothing to fear but everything to be gained by the distribution of purchasing power and consequent reduction of taxation, we shall have advanced a marked distance and gain most valuable allies.

Beaford, Devon HILDA M. CLIFFORD

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G.K.'s WEEKLY

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HUNGRY PEOPLE WANTED CORN

Price Racketeers Would Deprive Them To Get Bigger Profits By Export

PRESSURE OF THE PEOPLE WON

By Haro

HUNGRY people wanted corn which was deliberately being withheld from sale. Prices reached levels which made it quite impossible for the people to buy, so that the corn was not sold.

This choice little example of artificial scarcity was engineered by certain people holding offices which enabled them to extract large proportions of the wheat crop as rents for Crown tenancies, in Jersey, A.D. 1769.

The imposed inability of the people to buy corn was quoted as evidence for the necessity of exporting it to markets where prices were temptingly high owing to more natural causes.

This episode of 1769 therefore had all the classic features of the world ramp of today whereby we are told, nation by nation, how extremely important it is to export things which we could very well do with ourselves.

The people who had sweated to grow this corn were eager to buy it for their own and their children's stomachs if they could have bought it at a just price.

Good Prices

To a superficial observer this would appear to be a most natural and justifiable desire, but to the trained mind it was an altogether unreasonable demand in view of the well-known economic fact that good prices for the few are much better for the few than good food for the many, because few get sick of good prices whereas many get sick with too much good food.

Consequently, the stomachs of the people being empty, their heads were full of fantastic notions, for it is a notorious fact that stomachs empty of good food always accompany heads full of bad ideas.

The most absurd of these ideas was that corn, grown by the Islanders, should not be sold abroad until the Islanders had first taken what they themselves wanted for their own needs.

Did you ever hear of such a thing? Of course not, because many a tide had to fill and empty the Island's little bays or ever Douglas put forward this pernicious doctrine as his own and so set thousands of restless tongues clacking in its defence.

The authorities took no action, knowing that it was far better to let other people starve than to tinker with the inexorable laws of sound finance which protected their own personal interests as well as those of the officials already mentioned.

After all, who was there in the Island to blame them except these common people with empty stomachs, whose point of view was so obviously biased?

Nevertheless, pressure politics were not unknown even in these early times although,

had you used this expression to the hungry growers of corn, their only comment would have been a facial mark of interrogation.

Chattering Groups

At that time ships in the harbour were being loaded with the golden grain the people so much desired and, in consequence of this, some hundreds of women met around the communal brick ovens and there discussed the matter in chattering groups.

They had never heard the term economics, but they knew something of good housekeeping, which is its original meaning, and they also knew that without the means of good housekeeping, that is to say, without corn, there would soon be nobody to keep house for.

In addition, they also knew how to express themselves in a manner at once forcible and straight to the point. "Let us die on the spot rather than languish in famine. God hath given us corn and we will keep it in spite of those — and the court, for if we trust them they will starve us."

Decisive Action

This statement of their policy (from which a strong phrase has to be omitted) was a pattern of clarity, and their subsequent resolve to go down to the ships and get what they wanted a perfect example of decisive action.

And so it came about that from the cliff-lands of the far northern parishes, from the dunes of the west, from the lowlands of the east and the sunny lands of the south, there flowed into the cosy valleys leading to the town, little tributaries of women which combined into a surging roaring torrent then burst its way into the old market place and down to the harbour.

This turbulent stream, composed of the fiercest thing known in living nature—females fighting for the preservation of life—swept down into the ships and demanded the re-landing of the corn.

Paid a Just Price

Baffled and bewildered in the face of an emergency the like of which in all their experience of emergencies they had never faced before, the masters and crews were beaten and the demands of the women were obeyed.

Then these common people presented an object lesson in common honesty for, although they took the corn for their own use they also paid for it—paid a just price—thus giving clear evidence that the need for export was a complete and entire fiction as it so largely is today.

But there is a sequel to this invigorating little incident. The menfolk, doubtless tortured by a sense of inferiority in comparison with their women, who by now were, perhaps, putting on airs in the matter, could

stand the combined shame and injustice no longer.

And so, some five hundred bold spirits took in hand an enterprise which was to have more far-reaching effects than the mere sacking of corn ships.

In all likelihood, having fortified themselves in the manner traditional to the liquidation of long-standing grievances, they set forth in a body and, in spite of all opposition, forced their way into the very heart of the Island Legislative Assembly then in session.

Threats, Cudgels

There, as is recorded by old chronicles of the time, with threats and cudgels, they made known their demands to such good purpose that the Assembly complied with what was demanded and a new code of laws was brought into being embodying many and great reforms.

There is also a moral to this little bit of true history. If you, the people of today, want something which you believe to be your rightful national heritage, you yourselves, both women and men, must rouse up and demand it as did these old stouthearts in their own day.

But a riot is not a revolution and cudgels are no longer of political effect. There is a better weapon forged for you by your liberty-loving forefathers, a sword waiting to be drawn from the scabbard of your British constitution.

Would you like the feel of this good sword in your hands? Right! We can tell you how to draw it.

SUBWAY TO SCHOOL SAFETY PLAN

Kettering (Northants) surveyor, Major J. P. Haigh, has an idea for saving the road toll of child life.

He plans a subway from new school premises to the opposite side of the road. Two entrances, running parallel with the road, would link at the subway.

Is it too much to hope that it will not be turned down on the ground of cost—which would be absurd when all the materials, labour and facilities are available.

Girl Takes Life with Her Last Pennies

Twenty-four-year-old Mary Jane Park, of Hereford Gardens, Paddington, W., had been ill, on half-pay. On Monday she told a man friend: "I have only fourpence halfpenny. I think twopenny worth of gas will be the best way out."

A few hours later, her friend, a married man, who, at the Paddington inquest on Friday, said he had helped the girl financially, found her gassed. Verdict: "Suicide while of unsound mind."

This girl worked in a shop, was paid 30s. a week, paid 16s. a week for a room—14s. left for clothes, food, except when she was ill, when she had half.

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Woolworths, Profit L6 Million, May Raise Prices

ANOTHER record year for Woolworths.

The annual meeting of this company goes without a hitch. Jubilant shareholders and modestly complacent directors join in a happy New Year Party, and a good time is had by all.

And how the small traders of this country must hate it all.

An increase of profit of half a million, bringing net profit to nearly six million means an average profit of about L8,000 at nearly 700 stores.

The only discordant note at this year's meeting was the hint that the unprecedented step may be taken of raising the 6d. limit.

Bad times ahead for fixed incomes, wage earners, and all who have to make money go a long way.

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Contents of Current Supplement

Major Douglas Answers Questions. S.C.S. Publications Department in 1936. Free-Lance Tactics. Special Article by the Editor of SOCIAL CREDIT. Major Douglas on The King and The Money Power.

(24)

WE WILL ABOLISH POVERTY

Below is the form Parliamentary electors are being asked to sign. Please read it carefully, sign (if you have not done so already) and send it to United Democrats, 163A, Strand, London, W.C.2. Will you volunteer to help in the Campaign?

ELECTOR'S DEMAND AND UNDERTAKING

1. I know that there are goods in plenty and therefore that poverty is quite unnecessary.
2. I want, before anything else, poverty abolished.
3. I demand, too, that monetary or other effective claims to such products as we now destroy or restrict shall be distributed to me and every Briton so that we can enjoy all we want of them.
4. These distributions must not deprive owners of their property nor decrease its relative value, nor increase taxes or prices.
5. In a democracy like Great Britain Parliament exists to make the will of the people prevail.
6. So I pledge myself to vote for any candidate who will undertake to support this my policy, and to vote consistently against any party trying to put any other law making before this.
7. If the present Member of Parliament here won't undertake this, I will vote to defeat him and his successors until this, my policy, prevails.

Signed

Address

(Signatures will be treated confidentially.)