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# SOCIAL CREDIT

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For Political and Economic Democracy

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Weekly Twopence

## Are You Fighting The Nosey Parkers ?

THE Government, it is reputed, is determined that the Nosey Parkers' (Population Statistics) Bill shall go through—in modified form, but with the vital Orders in Council clause still operative.

The modifications proposed—to pacify the Members of Parliament who have raised their voices against this iniquitous measure—mean nothing. The important thing is that at any time, any Government, if the Bill is passed, will be able to extend indefinitely the list of questions that may be asked.

Don't let this Bill pass. Last week we urged everybody to resist "Nosey Parkerism."

We repeat this warning. Resist this impertinent inquisition, for this Bill is the thin edge of the wedge which is to cleave your liberties—

AND IT WILL PAVE THE WAY FOR MORE RESTRICTIONS OF PERSONAL LIBERTY.

It is not too late yet to show resistance. But hurry—for the Bill has already passed its second reading.

Read this quotation from the Bill:

"On registration of birth, stillbirth, death or marriage : the registrar to have the power

to obtain information on any other matter with respect to which it is desirable to obtain statistical information, with a view to ascertaining the social or civil condition of the population."

If this passes, every clerk in the registrar's office can ask any question he likes about any matter he likes with the power of the law backing him !

It sounds unbelievable, but there it is, this Bill will make bureaucrats dictators of inquisition.

Is that what you want ?

### DOUGLAS SAYS

Major Douglas told a crowded meeting at Ulster last week:

"OF the ultimate outcome of the struggle (in Alberta) I have no doubt whatever, but it will be a long and bitter one. There is no single issue in the world today which approaches it in importance . . . for the whole world.

"The cold, hard fact is that the struggle for the control of credit is a war, the deadliest war ever waged by humanity.

"There is no one . . . who cannot . . . play a small part or possibly a great one in this struggle, and I commend it to you as being of greater importance than anything else which can occur in your lifetime."

The speech is reported on page 5.

## Another 108,954 On Dole: Demand Wages Of Machine

### After Eleven Dole Starved Years . . . .

TWENTY men from the Durham Distressed Area were unemployed for eleven long years. Then one day they were given work. Sixteen of them were so unfit that they failed to hold their jobs for more than one day. Captain Graves, who told this story to the Dorset British Legion, said that the day after they began work he found them with hands swollen twice their normal size and with weals on their hands so big that he could lay a pencil between them.

"Their knees were raw," he said, "their backs almost broken. The foreman sacked them."

### BANKERS SAY: 'FIND THEM WORK'

LAST month the number of registered unemployed jumped by 108,954. These figures represent living men and women, whose "wages" are now cut off. They have gone on the "dole."

Their access to the markets is now restricted to the miserable pittance paid weekly at the Labour Exchanges. 1,499,203 of our fellow-countrymen and women are now "on the dole."

### POWELL TRIAL: APPEAL IN JANUARY

IT is expected that the appeals against the conviction on charges of defamatory libel of Mr. G. F. Powell, Social Credit adviser to the Alberta Government, and Mr. J. H. Unwin, M.L.A. and Government Whip, will be heard on January 17 by the Alberta Supreme Court of Appeal.

Both are at present pursuing their duties while on bail.

The other charges, namely, of seditious libel and counselling to murder, are being dropped.

Mr. Justice Ives, who tried the accused and sentenced Mr. Unwin to three months' and Mr. Powell to six months' hard labour, with a recommendation for deportation in the latter case, has been granted six months' leave from January 1.

Next week we hope to publish a summarised account of the trial.

### Trawlermen Face Disaster

BECAUSE of heavy losses, Grimsby and Hull trawler owners have decided to lay up 20 per cent. of their deep water fleets, about 80 ships in all, from the beginning of 1938.

After a conference it was announced that as a result of long and protracted negotiations the owners had decided that nothing short of a systematic plan of laying up a portion of the fleet could stave off the disaster facing the whole production side of the white fish industry.

Years ago high financial magnates wrote letters to each other saying:

"Slavery is likely to be abolished by the American Civil War power, and chattel slavery destroyed. This I and my European friends are in favour of, for slavery is but the owning of labour and carries with it the care of the labourers, while the European plan, led by England, is that money-lenders shall control labour by controlling wages. This can be done by controlling the money."

This they have accomplished, and those who go on and off the dole are at the mercy of a wage slavery system more cruel, more vicious in its torture than the system of chattel slavery.

The bankers, the labour leaders, the economists, will all be advocating "we must find work for the poor unemployed." We warn every man we can reach that this is a perpetuation of slavery, and to choose to continue as a wage slave in competition with machinery is the height of folly.

Today all wage slaves suffering continuously under the threat of having access to the means of life suddenly cut off because a machine has displaced him, can, if he will, choose a way to be free from this intolerable slavery; but that way is not to demand work, is not to accept the idea that the only claim to the means of life is that of a slave, but to demand the birthright which is not a work right, which is now our own—the wages of the machine.

There is no other way possible to become free. By demanding work we are demanding war, and if we persist in that demand we shall get what we are asking for; and we are choosing death, when the glorious opportunity is here to be seized quickly, to demand what we want, the means of life, to demand the right to live, not the right to work.

We must demand the "wages of the machine" and access to the means of life, whether we work for it or not.

If we don't do that, then we are choosing death and slavery and the destruction of the cultural inheritance which, while the opportunity remains, can make us all free of every kind of slavery.

DEMAND FREEDOM IN SECURITY.

## Alberta By-Election: Enemy Gets First Blood

IN a by-election brought about by the retirement of the Social Credit Member for Lethbridge, Alberta, the so-called "Unity" candidate succeeded in defeating his Social Credit opponent.

At the general election in 1935, the Social Credit candidate polled 3,700 votes, Liberal 1,946, Labour 654 and Conservative 341.

At the by-election on December 2, the Social Credit candidate polled 3,210 votes, and his opponent, who represented the People's League and the Liberal, Conservative and U.F.A. Parties, 3,980.

There was thus an increase of votes cast of 549, and a decrease in the Social Credit vote of 410.

In view of the fact that this is a town constituency—and the main body of Social Credit support is in the country districts—and of the unlimited funds of the opposition, the result may be regarded as very satisfactory.

The successful candidate is a Dr. P. M. Campbell, who has practised in Lethbridge for the past 37 years, and is a past president of the Alberta Medical Association.

The defeated Social Credit candidate was Mr. A. J. Burnap, an American by birth and an employee of the Canadian Pacific Railway, who has lived in Lethbridge since 1920.

(MORE ALBERTA NEWS, PAGE 8)

### Buying a Car?

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# COMMENTARY

Perhaps you've read these items in your newspapers—  
our comment will give them a new significance

## Spotlight

THE International Conference of "World Service" at Erfurt, a few weeks ago, and attended by representatives from twenty nations came to unanimous agreement that the judgment of the court at Berne, Switzerland, expressing the opinion that the "Protocols of Zion" were a forgery is a judicial error; being the result of the strange procedure of the judge who granted the experts of the Jewish side a hearing and accepted the evidence of their 16 witnesses, while he refused to hear a single of the 40 witnesses offered by the defending Aryan side.

What does it matter whether the "Protocols" are a forgery or not? There is obviously something frustrating the people from enjoying the "freedom in security" available, but just hating Jews is no solution.

The people must demand what they want until they get it. During the "demand" interval, the authenticity of the source of frustration will become unveiled, and the truth disclosed will help towards the freedom the people can get if they want it hard enough.

Meanwhile, the responsibility of true democratic action cannot be successfully evaded by the substitute of race hatred.

## Cuckoo

MR. MALCOLM MACDONALD, Dominions Secretary (yes, the same man who said, referring to Alberta, "If there is anything that I could do which might prove effective I should be glad to do it") has been speaking at Dingwall—on bird-watching.

He asked his hearers to forget the world's appalling problems, and went on to tell them how, hearing in a wood a birdsong "like the voice of a village maiden," he investigated. He found the singer was none other than "a crested tit, making its first recorded appearance in the neighbourhood of Lossiemouth!"

This is indeed a welcome change from the man who every year writes to the papers: "This morning I heard the first cuckoo call; is this a record?"

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## "Ladylike" Measures Ineffective

MISS FLORENCE WHITE, who founded the National Spinners' Pensions Association two and a half years ago, told a packed meeting that as far as Parliament was concerned she felt up against a stone wall or closed door.

"So far we have knocked at this door in a ladylike manner," she said, "but the Government must realise that there are other ways of fighting."

She is urging pensions for spinners at 55 instead of at 65.

## Babies in Bermuda

MR. DAVID ADAMS, M.P., is to ask the Secretary of State for the Colonies:

"Whether his attention has been drawn to the report of the Select Committee on Unemployment in Bermuda, which has recommended as a remedy for the excessive population the compulsory sterilisation of certain categories of persons, including the fathers of one illegitimate child and the mothers of two illegitimate children..."

An article in a British Honduras newspaper says that the Governor of Bermuda appointed a Select Committee in 1935 to enquire into the unemployment question. This committee reported, in effect, "Too many babies. Prevent them."

## Ingenuity

THE State University in Athens (Georgia) now employs a machine which checks the answers in students' examination papers, adds up the total marks, and delivers the corrected papers neatly sorted in piles.

## Villagers Object to By-Pass

HUNDREDS of people packed into Esher Village Hall at a meeting called to protest against a Ministry of Transport proposal to make an Esher by-pass road.

The people, who came not only from Esher but from half a dozen villages around, carried with cheers a resolution that three delegates be elected to co-operate with delegates appointed by the Dittons Residents' Association in attending at the Ministry to ascertain exactly the Minister's proposals and to protest against any part of the commons being used for the by-pass.

## £1,300

is earned every year by a hospital in this country through the collection and sale of FOREIGN STAMPS.

Please help our common cause by sending all the foreign stamps you can collect. Readers overseas, whose home stamps are "foreign" to us, can be especially helpful in this campaign.

Simply put the stamps in an envelope and address them to:—

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Social Credit Secretariat,  
163A, Strand, London W.C.2.

Our warmest thanks are sent to all readers who have already responded; but we need many more yet.

## Crisis in Cotton Trade

"GLUTTED warehouses," "Recession," "scheme of reorganisation," "shortage of orders," "set-back," are phrases taken from a recent article. So the Banker's-Scrap-the-Spindles-remedy hasn't cured the patient after all. Well, well!

# BOOKS:

Gem from G. W. L. Day. It's called "Libellous Lyrics"

**LIBELLOUS LYRICS on Superior People,** by G. W. L. Day, illustrated by Hynes. (Herbert Jenkins, 3s. 6d.).

"**FARADAY and Edison and Bessemer and Watt—**

All these here inventor chaps—they're not so hot;

For any fool can make a thing with no great pains,

But when you come to sell a thing, why that needs brains!"

Thank heavens! here at last is what we have been waiting for—a collection of really neat, witty verses by G. W. L. Day, the well-known contributor to this paper.

Here we find all the things we have been wanting to say expressed with just that added point which well-worded verse alone can give. All the silly asses (sometimes including ourselves) whom we would dearly love to give a kick in the pants here get what is coming to them.

There is a pretty wide range of them: the Press Man, the Best Seller, the Modern Girl, the Blackshirt, the Communist, the Bishop, the Banker, and the thorough-going Englishman, all receive their due. How about this!

### MAYOR AND ALDERMEN

We're the fathers of the Borough,  
Most meticulously thorough  
When we sit for our municipal debates;  
If there's trouble in our city  
We appoint a sub-committee,  
And we clap another penny on the rates.

Or this, from "The Querulous Armament King":

Making guns and ammunition  
Gives you wages and position.

Simple enough! But it says a good deal. Some of these rhymes have a real rip-roaring rhythm which carries you along like a motor bicycle:

Publicity Pulls,  
Publicity Pays  
In hundreds and thousands and millions  
of ways.

Publicity Scores,  
Publicity Beats,  
It makes you a Rubens, a Handel, a Keats.

... but I mustn't quote the whole book.

There are 44 poems, none of them dull, and most of them first rate; and I must not forget to point out that the 25 illustrations by Hynes are worthy of the verses, which is saying a good deal.

I liked particularly the pictures of the bursting Health Enthusiast.

(But what exactly do I do with all of this virility?)

Why, dash it all, I'm keeping fit, and isn't that enough?)

The Black-Coated Worker, the Bilious Crooner (a gem), and the Babies' Welfare League:

But murderous germs expire in flocks in Serum, lymph and anti-toxin.

As a last quotation I'll give you this one from "The Obstinate Experts":

They find the method and excuse  
For making people poor;  
They're paid, yes, paid to barricade  
The bursting larder door;  
We're mad—oh, dammit, what's the use  
Of saying any more?

Not much, indeed, except that I hope my selection of quotations will not give you the impression that this is a book primarily for Social Crediters. It is not.

It is a witty collection of verses of the times which will be thoroughly enjoyed by anyone with a certain amount of common sense and humour; and, thank heavens, it solves the problem of the Christmas present for this year, at any rate.

If you are looking for a really enjoyable gift, call off the search and "call it a Day."

GEOFFREY DOBBS

THIS DEMOCRACY, by Joseph Yahuda, LL.B. (Pitman, 5s.).

THE author claims to have something new to say about Stewardship, Responsibility and Equality relative to Democracy. The theorising is subtle, the logic abstract, but

## Free to Suppress

AN indication of the importance of the legislation for control of banking in Alberta, passed in the short special session of the Albertan Legislature, August 3-6, is that a record number of words was telegraphed by press representatives to the waiting world.

The *Albertan*, reporting this, says that some 32,000 words were telegraphed on August 6, all previous records, even during the visit of Edward VIII when Prince of Wales, being beaten.

## Teaching Party Politicians Real Democracy in Australia

THE recent Federal elections in Australia afforded a fine opportunity to real democrats to give first lessons in democracy to their politicians. Candidates of all colours in the bankers' rainbow were approached and asked to sign undertakings that, if elected, they would obey the wishes of the majority of their constituents as expressed to them from time to time.

The responses of some of these paid "public servants" should go far to convince the Australian people of the need to unite in demanding the results they want, instead of voting for technical programmes. Two members of the Cabinet openly attacked the Electoral Campaign, whose organisers were responsible for asking candidates to pledge obedience to electors, whom it seeks to unite in a demand for the abolition of poverty and—in effect—for the issue of National Dividends.

Full reports showing the number of pledged candidates elected have not yet been received, but it is known that in one state—South Australia—the pledge of obedience was signed by at least one candidate in each constituency. It is believed that the position in Western Australia was even more favourable.

The Campaign will be pressed with renewed vigour now the election is over, until the people of Australia realise and exercise their sovereignty, thus making political democracy a reality and economic democracy an accomplished fact.

the clarification known in the Douglas school relating to the true principles of practical Democracy and free association is apparently unexplored country to the author.

To what lengths abstract word-spinning can mislead a man is betrayed by the author's reference to Newfoundland.

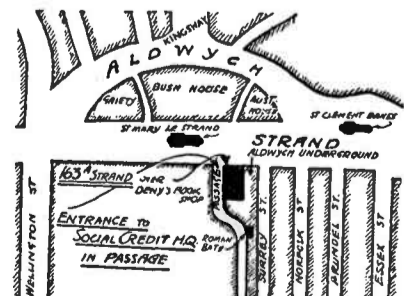
He assumes that the suspension of the Newfoundland Constitution can be justified until the corruption which "manifests itself simultaneously in the electorate and the politicians" has been eliminated.

"The fact that in this case democratic responsibility has not been abolished, but merely transferred, has obviated a great danger." Nuff said! **BROCK**

\*Order your copy of "Libellous Lyrics" direct from Social Credit, 163A Strand, London, W.C.2.

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## ALL FOR SIX SHILLINGS

I HAVE just made my Christmas puddings, according to an old family recipe. I used

- |                     |                         |
|---------------------|-------------------------|
| 1½ lb. raisins      | 10 oz. suet             |
| 1 lb. currants      | ¼ oz. spice             |
| ½ lb. sultanas      | ¼ nutmeg                |
| ½ lb. peel          | ½ tsp. ground cinnamon  |
| 10 oz. bread-crumbs | 8 ground bitter almonds |
| 6 oz. flour         | 6 eggs                  |
| ½ lb. brown sugar   | 1 wineglass brandy      |

This made five little puddings, which cost altogether a little over six shillings.

★

**13 MILLION PEOPLE IN THE COUNTRY CAN AFFORD LESS THAN 6s. A WEEK FOR FOOD.**

## A Mother Answers The Nosey Parkers

TALKING of the Nosey Parker Bill, Members of Parliament who support this Bill, with its sponsors, should meet Mrs. Walters, of 9 Blackfriars Road, Waterloo, S.E.

Her story is typical of her neighbours in the tightly wedged tenement streets of S.E. London.

She said: "I want to be able to give more than bread and butter and cocoa to my children. At the moment it is all we can do to give Jean her start."

Mrs. Walters has been married five years—Jean is three, their only child.

She went on: "Three months after we got married my husband was knocked off work. He was out of a job for a long time. We scraped along and managed. Then there was Jean.

"I was in hospital for three months and she was only two and a half pounds at birth. It was undernourishment, they said.

"My husband is an educated man and can do any job. He went round to the labour exchange and after weeks they offered him a job—18s. a week.

"We can't give Jean all we would like—if there were more we couldn't feed them. That's the answer—give us something to offer to the kids; give us low rents and a decent wage.

"I'm a motherly woman; I like children, but I don't want another as things are.

"In the meantime the three of us can manage and we are happier than most people in the world. Oh, we are very happy, and I don't grumble—only when they sit and talk their heads off about something they don't understand."

(From *Daily Express*, December 2.)

## MRS. PALMER'S PAGE FOR WOMEN

# The Tragedy of Youth Today, Is—Frustration

A WEEK or so ago, Sydney Horler, adventure story writer, did an article for the *Daily Sketch* entitled "The Secrets of Happiness."

He wrote that the contented man or woman would seem to be almost an extinct type; that wherever he went he heard little but criticisms of existence, futile curses and crashing discord, especially from the younger generation.

I think there is some truth in what he says. I know that if I were a mother of growing boys and girls I should be deeply concerned.

Mr. Horler says that to put the blame on the wear and tear of modern life and the competition which becomes fiercer every day, is to overlook the real cause of our discontent, which is this: we want to get out of existence far more than we put into it—we expect too much from life.

Then he goes on to say that the happiest people are not those with world-famous names, or millionaires; they are simple-minded folk who are only too thankful that they have three square meals a day and a roof over their heads, and he adds that—

*The less one desires, the more one enjoys what one already possesses.*

### Told To Give Up

IF Mr. Horler is writing for the young, he might as well have saved his ink and paper—for what is he telling them to do? To give up the struggle and leave the battlefield before they have struck a blow.

What he is in effect saying to them is this: "Yes, I agree with you that life is rotten; but the best thing you can do is to take as little share in it as possible.

"Do not hope for fame, or luxuries, a magnificent motor car, a beautiful home, or interesting friends. Get back to the simpler things."

I do not believe they will listen for a moment.

We all know that many young people

today are unhappy, but I do not believe that Mr. Horler comes within a mile of guessing the reason.

Young people do not object to the wear and tear of modern life, nor are they afraid of fierce competition — they revel in it, if they've got any guts.

**But what they fear and loathe to see in their elders and in the world around them is cowardice and hypocrisy.**

And almost everywhere they look they will see these two monsters, bred of the primeval slime. And the world that they have made is a world so unreal and irrational that the foundations of all beings shake with hideous mockery.

When their elders give lip-service to some code of values which has lost all relation to existing reality, the great gulf between this code and the real state of the world as they come to experience it is to them a terrible betrayal.

They find themselves in a contradictory universe, and are bitterly unhappy.

This, I believe, is the real tragedy of youth today—frustration.

### Just Grand Talk

MR. HORLER has himself given an outstanding example of what I mean in his essay when he upbraids the young for wanting to get out of life far more than they put into it.

This is one of those grand phrases which are solemnly recited as an axiom.

It is the theory of rewards and punishments in fancy dress. Yet one of the first things youth learns is that there is no relation whatever between the moral and material worth of a man; that it is possible to put our all into life, and get less than nothing in return.

**Which is more real to a little boy, the League of Nations, or tanks, guns and gas masks? Can he reconcile the two? You know he cannot. Nor can the young man and woman.**

## Only Five Per Cent. Vitamins In The Modern Loaf

MALNUTRITION is not only a question of insufficient money to buy food. The Committee Against Malnutrition has pointed out that even those who do not lack the means are frequently undernourished, and has cited as example the modern loaf, whose vitamins content is today only five per cent.

A doctor has described in the *British Medical Journal* how brown bread can be prepared in such a way that vitamins are not removed. It is made by mixing one part of raw wheat germ with two parts of whole meal, and baking in the usual way. He asked a baker to make a supply for a patient, but so difficult was it to get genuine wholemeal flour that the baker was obliged to grind English wheat himself, in a large old-fashioned coffee mill. But he made the bread.

Now comes the most interesting part of the story. The woman conceived after this bread had been included in her diet, and the doctor got similar results with other patients.

Wheat germ contains the Vitamin E, the fertility vitamin, whose absence is believed to lead to sterility.

Though it would be too soon to draw definite conclusions from these experiments, there is no doubt that the commercialised loaf is a poor thing compared with the splendid article of diet it could be if it were produced as food for the people, and not primarily as a commercial proposition loaded with bank debt.

## COME TO OUR ALBERTAN EVENING

SOMEONE said at one of our Thursday night meetings at the Rendezvous—"This is the only place of its kind where I have not been asked for money."

We want the good tidings of Social Credit to be available to all. However poor you may be, even if you cannot afford 2d. for a cup of tea, you are still welcome at 163A, Strand.

Nevertheless, heavy expenses have to be met. The profit on the sale of refreshments, which is steadily rising, does not do much more than cover the wages bill. Rent has to be paid, and for those who have not thought about this before, I must explain that it is met by subscriptions paid by Douglas Cadets.

It was suggested that we should have an "American Tea" to help the funds, "but why not an Albertan Evening?" said Mr. Dobbs.

He went on to explain that at an American Tea, everyone was expected to bring a gift, and also to buy one, but at an Albertan Evening, you are free to contribute or not, just as you like.

We like the idea so much that an Albertan Evening it is going to be.

Can we blame them if they say, "Oh, what's the use? Let's have another drink and forget it!"

The young woman is told that the falling birth-rate is becoming a national problem. Yet she knows that the man who loves her cannot afford to keep her as his wife, that she must go on working at her job if they decide to marry. And how can they afford to have children?

The talented young student has to consider first how he can best earn a living. The proper use of his God-given talent must be an entirely secondary consideration. And often the divine spark must die.

**In college the engineer and architect are trained to respect the great principles of design, the canon of good taste. But in the drawing office they find there is one question which takes precedence of all other—"How much will it cost?"**

The wonders of engineering, the miracles that can be worked with steel and concrete, are entirely dependent upon figures written in a bank ledger—the real is subordinate to the artificial.

### Those Simple Things

IN a book on psychology which I am reading it is explained how a little boy had a nervous breakdown because the family situation was rotten underneath, while apparently respectable on top; and this I believe to be an exact parallel to the unhappy condition of the youth of our nation today.

And Sydney Horler's suggestion is to run away from the problem—to be content with the simple things, which he enumerates as real friends, a log fire, a good book, a well-seasoned pipe, the reflection at the end of the day that the work has been done as well as possible, the song of the birds, the light of the moon over the marshes, the wind from the sea, etc., etc.

And realist youth will know he is mocking them. For they know perfectly well that even these simple things are very expensive nowadays, that they cost a great deal of money, that hardly anybody can afford them. How many of us can live a cultured life in the country with the sentimental luxury of a log fire?

How many can afford three square meals of good English food a day?

**How many have their own roof over their heads and are not worried either by rent, rates or building society instalments?**

In the third century the leaders of thought decided that the world was so bad that nothing could be done about it; more and more of them retired to the desert and lived the simple life in caves. This was the beginning of the Dark Ages.

What are we to think of our writers, preachers and scholars of today who are urging a very similar code on our young people?

Thank God that before it is too late we can show a new way of life to our sons and daughters—a life which has its origin in the dynamic truth which lies behind the Social Credit Movement.

It has been suggested that we should have on sale a few articles suitable for Christmas presents, and we shall be very pleased to receive any *inexpensive* contributions such as home-made cakes, sweets, handkerchiefs and other small gifts.

The refreshments will be slightly more elaborate than usual and will cost 6d. a head.

But I want it clearly understood that no one will be pressed to buy. So please don't stay away if you have no spare cash. Those of you who still have a few Christmas presents to get may perhaps find something to your liking. If so, it will give you additional pleasure to know that you are indirectly helping Alberta.

There will be an interesting speaker, too.

Don't forget the date—THURSDAY, DECEMBER 16, at 8 p.m.

B. M. PALMER

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## A Vanished Illusion

"WELL, the Labour Party machine is no different, it's not democratic."

Jim Smith, known as a member of the political party referred to, strongly resented this apparently casual remark.

"That's not true," he challenged at once, "our Party is the only bulwark against the growing tendency of Fascism everywhere."

"You regard the Fascists as opposed to democracy, probably?" asked the unknown man.

"I certainly do," replied the Labour voter with great emphasis.

"You think they are wrong?" pursued the stranger.

"They are wrong," came the answer.

"But saying another body is wrong doesn't make you right, does it? Opposing what you regard as a non-democratic party does not make your party democratic, either. Does it?"

Pause.

"Wait a minute, wait a minute, you talk like a lawyer—," the Labour man eyed the stranger warily, "—I'm not going to argue myself into any of your traps, or start answering any of your questions. I'm a loyal Labour man, I am."

"I'm not questioning your loyalty, of course, but you challenged me, you haven't proved your Party democratic."

"And you haven't proved that it isn't," shouted the loyal one.

"Agreed," said the stranger in a quiet tone, "but I can show you how to prove it for yourself—that is, if you want the truth."

"Sure I want the truth, but it's GOT to be the truth, mind you—how can I prove it?"

"WELL, in a democracy, it is the people—the electorate, men like yourself—who decide what shall be done. Do you agree?"

"Sure," replied the other, "go on."

"That means men like you make your own agenda of what you want done, and in the order that you want the results shown. You, for instance, would place what you want first at the head of the list."

"Whatever shows largest preference at the top of the agenda becomes the mandate of the electorate, and whomever you choose to represent you become bound by the mandate. Do you agree?"

"Sure, that's democracy, that's what we do."

"Is it?" asked the stranger.

"What do you mean, 'is it'?"

"I mean I've never heard of the Labour Party doing that—somebody at the top usually makes the programmes, and that's not YOU."

"We vote on it."

"That's not democracy, you are voting on somebody else's agenda. Now for the proof, you sit down some time and think out for yourself what YOU want first—you are the greatest authority on what you personally want first. Don't kid yourself—forget trade union and party leaders—be honest—think out what you want first—and THEN TRY PUTTING IT ON YOUR PARTY AGENDA."

"That's easy."

"Is it? You try it."

THREE months later. "Hello—did you try out that test for democracy?"

"Yes, I did, and I found what you said was true."

"What are you doing now?"

"Nothing."

"Why not continue to practise democracy?"

"Eh? . . . How?"

"Well, you've started a free agenda, let's get on with it. Let me add what I want, then we'll go round the shop and have an election for the result we want."

"Come on!"

And so another nucleus of true democrats, men who know what they want first, was born.

# Take Out This Policy Of Perpetual Endowment

IF you venture into the miry saltings beside Yar river, with a torch, when the toads are on the move, you will often find a fat old toad with a young one clinging to its back. With belly to the soggy ground, and awkward, splayed legs, the old toad struggles along under its burden.

If you pull the young one off, you will be surprised at the indignant tenacity with which it clings so long as it can. And as soon as you turn your face away it will be back again, fast as a limpet and flat as a sole on a sandy bottom. An old shepherd once told me, "'Tis the young un's riding the old un's to death."

In civilisation we have, of course, slightly better methods than these batrachian sansculottes of the marches. In civilisation we insure father's life, and mother's, and as the premium pence mount up year by year, the old faces become wrinkled, and then one of them has a stroke, and the day of reckoning draws near. The day of reckoning!

MORE than once I have been startled by a scrimmage among the sparrows in the elder tree which stands outside my yard door. If you are like me, excited by such goings on in tree-tops, you would run as I do, to see what all the flutter of wings and birdish gossip is about.

Often as not you would find one bird, dragged, with beady eyes alive with fright, and a host of others darting about it chattering, and attacking it in concert, as if there were a League of Birds where all the strong ones agree which solitary, weak sparrow shall be the victim, and those who do not peck talk a lot. Several times the old shepherd has passed by the garden gate as the whole flock screaming in pursuit of the lame fugitive has flown over.

"'Tis the young un's pecking the old un's to death," he has said between two long puffs at his old black pipe.

I wonder. In a daily paper there was news of a fellow who insured his life for a good, round sum. There was no bird-pecking business in it. He didn't have to poison his mother for insurance money. That, of course, has been done, but not in this case. This fellow was terribly in debt, and his insurance premium was nearly due. His life, in the circumstances, was not worth the price of two sparrows. But his death was worth £6,000.

IF he lapsed his policy he would not have nearly enough to pay his debts—you know what surrender values are like; they are literally like surrender. Moreover, he couldn't possibly pay the premium which was immediately due. But, if he

lapsed his life, he maintained his policy in full force to the benefit of those who had trusted him. So he shot himself.

That, it must be admitted, was praiseworthy. After all, you have to give up whatever you possess that makes life worth living to a banker if you want to secure a "debt" to him, so why shouldn't you give up life altogether to secure your really honest creditors?

And yet, when this poor fellow had taken all that trouble to be honest with his investment, and when he couldn't answer back, the insurance company wanted to dispute their liability.

They wanted him to die of scarlet fever or something like that, because people who contrive special demises upset the actuaries' tables.

Actuaries' tables are like bookies' prices; they are designed to ensure that whoever wins they never lose. Insurance companies cannot bank any profits if people don't abide the decisions of nature and the routine of accident. That would never do with bankers on the Board, who simply must be pleased.

If insurance experts took any interest in natural history they would regard it as a sin against Nature if sparrows pecked themselves to death.

THE real point is that insurance is a greedy kind of thrift with no justification in Nature whatever. All monetary thrift is rather greedy and ugly. And it is silly, because money is not a real thing. It is a claim upon real wealth. To save money would be justifiable if there was any security in the possession of money.

But despite the prejudices engendered by habit and convention, there is not. Security resides in the teeming real wealth of the world—the food, the clothing, the goods which exist and the mystical powers of civilised culture by which man can continually replace such things. It is the preservation of this order of things which alone means security for anyone.

The only valid insurance against distress is the full, uninterrupted cycle of production and consumption in the economic field. It has nothing to do with saving money, and everything to do with rescuing industrial and agricultural power from destruction. Great Britain can be insured as a going concern by the issue of National Dividends as claims upon the security implicit in our powers of production.

WHY, then, do we spend our time like quarrelsome sparrows, pecking each other to death in the bitter competition for a livelihood, for trade, for the short supply of money doled out by a private monopoly which fishes for its premature

Article on  
The Insurance Racket  
by  
the well-known  
SOCIAL CREDIT  
short story  
writer —

**CHARLES  
JONES**

recovery by stimulating misleading fears and encouraging the hollow thrift of the insurance policy which settles for the coffin and plumes?

Money is not swag. It is a simple mechanism for the distribution of our own self-created wealth. Then demand National Dividends, and make it do its work. There is a policy of perpetual endowment which can be taken up by all for the asking — NATIONAL DIVIDENDS.

## REMEMBER EDWARD

(He abdicated just a year ago)

REMEMBER Edward when the sun goes down

Upon our English freedom.

Remember him who threw aside a crown,

The pride and pomp, the panoply of state,

The cheering crowds, the printed adulation

Sheathing a poisoned fang;

The kingly titles and the bended knee

He left to be a man and to be free.

★

WE shall remember when the shades of night

Fall on our ancient fight for liberty.

He suffered also from this tyranny,

This cunning gift of freedom, always to choose

The form of our frustration. Thus, for him,

Whether to be a husband or a king;

For us—whether to eat or mate,

Freedom, to choose, or health,

Whether to starve or serve the power we hate,

The very devil who destroys our wealth

And seeks to bind us into slavery.

C.G.D.

## SPELLBINDING THE PEOPLE

FROM 1918 onward the special temper of our people, their genuine honest belief that they govern themselves democratically through Parliament, and the necessity for keeping up this illusion, have made it extremely difficult for those who control credit to manage the financial situation created by the Great War.

Their immediate task, in 1918, was to maintain the public in its belief that the War had been financed through money lent by private citizens.

Now, since the total amount of money in existence in 1918 was very considerably greater than the total amount in existence in 1914, notwithstanding the fact that we had been spending more than a million a day for several years, the feat of persuading people that all this cash had been "lent" was no easy one. It was achieved, but only at the price of buying America's silence.

If America had insisted strongly and openly on the repayment of our immense

debt to her, there would have been no alternative but to expose the real truth.

The so-called "investors" in America no more desired this exposure than our own rulers; but they pressed their advantage home and made Britannia give up her title of Mistress of the Seas. It is not improbable that our victorious fleet—the magnificent defence we had built up—was scaled down to gratify American pride.

If we are now unable to protect our coasts, let alone our food routes, future historians may well find a very potent cause in the financial control exercised by America over us in the first years immediately after the War, when our financial policy was watched over directly by an American adviser.

This control existed not because we owed America money: it existed because our Government could not pay America the true debt we owed her—which was a debt in goods, not money—without explaining to the public the secret of credit-creation.

It was quite easy to persuade the English to weaken fatally their first, and essentially unaggressive, line of defence: their Navy.

The instructed press ingeniously "smote the chord of self, which, trembling, passed in music out of sight." There was a shameless press exploitation of every generous emotion, every hearthrob of repentance for the four years' butchery, which a healthy instinct made us feel to be a common responsibility of all the participants, enemy and allies alike. During the high tide of this emotion, our Navy was quietly shorn of its strength . . .

The social structure in which we live is founded on the people's ignorance; it can last only so long as the public remains imbued with the conviction that the National Debt is a debt of honour, and that interest charges on this debt must have the first claim on the national revenue.—D. E. Faulkner-Jones in "The Fig Tree" (No. 4).

**Major Douglas Tells Ulster—****'NOTHING SO IMPORTANT IN THE WORLD TODAY AS THE ALBERTAN STRUGGLE'****Deadliest War Ever Waged By Humanity**

**TWELVE** hundred people attended the Ulster Hall in Belfast on November 30 to hear Major C. H. Douglas speak on "Your War in Alberta."

Mr. N. F. Webb, who was in the chair, stressed the fact that the problem in this country was the same as that in Alberta, and, in introducing the speaker, referred to him as the best-known, the most famous economist in the world today.

Major Douglas received an ovation, the warmth and sincerity of which was unmistakable.

The speech was a masterly exposition of issues involved in the struggle for freedom, the main front of which is in Alberta.

**WAR HAS BEEN OPENED**

He said:—

"In the Western Provinces of Canada a war has been opened, and Alberta is the first place where battle has been joined; this war, whatever its outcome—and from the bottom of my heart I believe we shall be successful—far transcends, in the importance of its issues, the war of 1914-1918 or any other war in history."

Referring to the two Social Credit advisers who have gone from London to Alberta, he said, "If Powell and Byrne do not end in jail, they will end in victory. If they do go to jail they will not stay there long because the Albertans will let them out."

Some of the main points of the address are quoted as follows:

"Although the war is only in its opening stages (for whatever its outcome it will be a prolonged struggle), certain facts of vital importance to us all have been demonstrated as never before.

"It has been made quite plain for all to see that in Canada as a whole, as here and in the U.S.A., so-called democratic Governments are nothing but one-way streets.

"That is to say, that what we call Governments are only permitted to exist, and are invested with all the panoply of power, supported with money, and their ways made smooth by help from the press, for just so long as they use their powers primarily in the interest of international finance . . . .

"Powell and Byrne were invited into the arena, and as a result of their entry the Albertan Legislature was called into special session and three Acts were passed definitely designed to give control of the credit system of the Province to the representatives of the Albertan people.

"This was real business, and the Dominion Government, with the financiers behind it, reacted at once. Within a week of the passage of these Acts, a storm arose unequalled in the political history of Canada, and the Prime Minister, Mr. Mackenzie King, 'disallowed' the Acts. . . .

"Since it was realised that as soon as effective action was taken it would be violently misrepresented—and these Acts were misrepresented as soon as they were proposed—another Act was passed which was misrepresented even more completely than the others.

**MISREPRESENTED**

"This was the Press Bill—misrepresented as a censorship—which actually provided for no censorship whatever but for the publication of sources of information, and of corrections. In other words, it was a Bill to provide for fuller information of the public, since the source from which information is given is as informative as the information itself.

"At the time when Mr. Mackenzie King 'disallowed' the Albertan Acts the Governor-General, Lord Tweedsmuir, was in the Arctic Circle, and it is, in my opinion, unquestionable that Mr. King's action was a flagrant abuse of the Royal Prerogative, and could properly have been taken only had the Lieut.-Governor in the first place refused assent to the Bills. . . .

"With a full appreciation of the gravity of what I am saying, I am convinced that in the case of the ring of international financiers who control the system the conscious objective is to keep the great mass of the population in fear of poverty and of loss of

social position; by which I do not necessarily mean in lack of physical necessities, although that is the result of it, but I do mean that it is intended that they should be kept in constant insecurity and under the threat of grinding toil, even though such toil is not demanded by anything realistic in the situation. In the main this is accomplished by immense misdirection of production effort, such as redundant factories, "Public Works," "Fashions," etc.—anything but consumers' goods.

**DEBT-CREATION**

"I can imagine that anyone unfamiliar with the techniques of the debt-creating system under which we all exist, might say that this is merely wild assertion incapable of proof. On the contrary, it is capable of the simplest possible proof, and arises from the following propositions:

- (a) Modern life and work cannot be carried on without the use of money;
- (b) All money comes into existence as a debt from the community to the money-creating agencies;
- (c) The debtor is the servant of the lender until his debt is paid;
- (d) The debts owing by the community to the money-lending agencies are increasing in geometrical ratio, and could never possibly be paid off, since the amount of money in existence at any time in the possession of the community is only a microscopic fraction of the debts held against them by the money-lending agencies. . . .

Although the debts owed by the community to the money-lending agencies are assuming astronomical proportions, they are quite small in comparison with the real wealth of the community measured in the same units.

"Perhaps an instance of this in connection with the Province of Alberta may be illuminating. A very conservative and detailed estimate of the capital wealth of Alberta at the present time, places that wealth at the astounding figure of forty-six thousand, two hundred million sterling (£46,200,000,000), or over £50,000 for every man, woman, and child in the Province.

As you are probably aware, the population of Alberta, men, women and children, is about three-quarters of a million, or less than that of the city of Belfast, and the greater part of this population, which might be



**MAJOR DOUGLAS**  
**'Greatest Economist'**

supposed to be the titular proprietor of the Province of Alberta, on the assumption that the citizens of a country are the owners of it, which is of course not true, are for the most part in a state not merely of grinding poverty, but hopeless debt.

**PRIMARY RIGHT**

"Nevertheless, all their debts together do not represent a hundredth part of the capital wealth of Alberta, but since they are money debts, and the wealth in Alberta is real wealth, and not money wealth, civilised life in Alberta is becoming impossible. . . .

**"No change in the banking system, or its administration, is of any value whatever which does not place to the credit of the individual citizen those assets which are now placed to the credit of the banks . . . ."**

"It is a primary civil right of any people to be correctly informed. A nation is simply an assembly of individuals who agree to co-operate for their own advantage. Stripped of all the trappings of romance, if a nation fails in successful co-operation for the advantage of all concerned, then it fails as a nation, and a community cannot know what is to its advantage if it is persistently misinformed. I might add that the population

**No-One Who Cannot Play a Part**

of Great Britain is the most grossly misinformed of any of the so-called democratic countries . . . .

**"The cold hard fact is that the struggle for the control of credit is a war — the deadliest war ever waged by humanity . . . ."**

"The three Acts I have mentioned are, therefore, the first offensive against the entrenched monopoly of credit, and were instantly recognised as such by the international financiers. They were the first Acts to be immediately and vigorously resented, and the first step in resisting them was the 'disallowance' I have described.

**"I am confident that the prime strategy of the financiers is at all costs to delay Social Credit action until such time as they have control of the administrative system along the lines of Russia or Italy."**

"The financiers are fighting to retain control, and it is that control we have to wrest from them. Although the matter at the moment, and on the surface is being carried on along lines of legality, nevertheless, as always, the real question is one of sanctions.

"The Albertans have done great work and scored three tactical victories to one of the Dominion Government. And while the latter's delaying tactic has set the Provincial Government the problem of keeping up the morale of the Albertan people against a great barrage of misinformation, at the same time the Dominion Government is steadily losing in prestige over the whole affair.

**"Of the ultimate outcome of the struggle, I have no doubt whatever, but it will be a long and bitter one. There is no single issue in the world today which approaches it in importance, not merely for the people of Alberta, or even for the people of Canada, but for the whole world."**

"The issues of poverty amidst plenty, of war, of insecurity, of health and even sanity, are all bound up in it. There is no one in this room who cannot, in some way, play a small part, or possibly a great one, in this struggle, and I commend it to you as being of greater importance than anything else which can occur in your lifetime."

The speech is printed in full in the Supplement this week.

**TEMPLE BAR 4154**

**T**HERE is a misprint in the London Telephone Book which makes the telephone number of the Social Credit Secretariat Limited appear to be 4145. It is not. The correct number is **TEMPLE BAR 4154**

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**THE FIG TREE**

A QUARTERLY EDITED BY MAJOR C. H. DOUGLAS

Will advertisers please note that the latest time for accepting copy for this column is 12 noon Monday for Friday's issue.

### Announcements & Meetings

**Belfast Group D.S.C.M.** The second of two addresses on EXPORT TRADE will be given by Mr. Martin Wallace in the Social Credit Rooms, 72, Ann Street, Belfast, on Thursday evening, December 16, at 7.45 p.m. All welcome.

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

**Birkenhead Social Credit Association.** Enquiries to the Hon. Secretary, 16, Tilstock Crescent, Prenton, Birkenhead. Phone B'head 4405.

**Blackburn Social Credit Study Group** meets each Tuesday at 8 p.m. in the Y.M.C.A., Limbrick. All welcome. Enquiries to Hon. Sec., 47, Whalley New Road, Blackburn.

**Bradford United Democrats.** All enquiries welcome; also helpers wanted. Apply, R. J. Northin, 7, Centre Street, Bradford.

**Brighton and Hove D.S.C. Group (Peacehaven Sub-Group).** Meetings at "Skyros," Edith Avenue South, Peacehaven, fortnightly, at 8 p.m. Next meeting, Tuesday, December 21.

**Cardiff Social Credit Association.** Weekly Conference of Supervisors, Officials and Dept. Officers at 34, Charles Street, on Wednesdays, at 7.15 p.m. prompt.

**Cardiff Social Credit Association.** We meet every Wednesday at 34, Charles Street. Visitors are cordially invited to listen to highly interesting talks on the most important subject in the world. Admission is FREE. The time 8 p.m. All are welcome. Light refreshments are provided.

**Liverpool Social Credit Association.** Enquiries to Hon. Sec., Miss D. M. Roberts, Greengates, Hillside Drive, Woolton, Liverpool.

**National Dividend Club.** Help of all members most urgently needed every Thursday, any time between 5 and 8 p.m., Social Credit Rendezvous.

**N.W. London.** Every Wednesday, 7 to 10 p.m. "At Home" for N.W. contacts at 14, Richmond Gardens, Hendon Central. Phone HEN 3151.

**Poole and Parkstone Group.** Every Friday, 7 p.m., The Studio, Hermitage Road, Parkstone. Inquirers welcome. Social Credit and other literature on sale at Branksome Chine Café.

**Portsmouth Douglas Social Credit Group.** Please note in future our meetings will be held each THURSDAY, 8 p.m. Goodies Café, 69, Elm Grove, Southsea (side door, upstairs). All welcome; discussion; questions; admission free.

**Sheffield S.C. Group.** Lt.-Col. L. F. Wylde on "The Truth About Alberta." Sunshine Café, Orchard Street (Upper Room), Friday, December 10, at 8 p.m. Admission Free. Collection.

**Southampton Group.** Public meetings every Tuesday at 7.30 p.m. for lectures and discussion. Advisory Council Meetings (open to all members) 7.30 p.m. first Friday of each month.—2, London Road.

**Southampton Douglas Social Credit Association. ORGANISATION FOR WOMEN.** It has been decided to endeavour to increase the number of women members of the Association, and meetings will be held every Monday evening at 7 o'clock. Refreshments will be provided at moderate prices. Enquiries for further particulars should be addressed to Miss J. A. Claxton, 2, London Road, Southampton.

**Stoke-on-Trent.** Will anyone interested in Social Credit please communicate with Miss F. Dixon, "Linden," Brownhills, Tunstall?

**Stockton-on-Tees Social Credit Association.** A public meeting will be held in the Allotment Holders' Assembly Rooms, Farrer Street, Stockton, on Tuesday, December 14, at 7.45 p.m. prompt. Speaker: Mr. Gilling-Smith, "Can Transport Be Made Safer?" Admission free.

**Sutton Coldfield S.C. Group.** Next meeting in Central High Schools, Victoria Road, at 8 p.m., Friday, December 10. Address by Mr. E. T. F. Pywell: "Social Credit in Practice."

**Wallasey Social Credit Association.** Public Meetings first Tuesday in each month at the Sandrock Hotel, New Brighton (Rowson Street entrance) at 8 p.m. Enquiries to Hon. Sec., 2, Empress Road, Wallasey.

**Wolverhampton D.S.C. Group.** Fortnightly meetings in the Ante-Room, Central Library. Next meeting, Tuesday, December 21, at 8 p.m.

### Miscellaneous Notices

Rate 1s. a line. Support our advertisers.

**Farnham and District (Surrey).** New Group now forming. Will all interested communicate with E. Hollingworth, "Firtree," Wrecchlesham, Farnham?

**Home Made Sweets,** 3s. od. a box post free from Mrs. Patterson, 38, Portdown Road, London, W.9. Highly recommended.

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**Typist.** Voluntary typist required for Social Credit MSS. Will anyone oblige? D. Jackson, 99, Cottage Grove, Southsea.

### G.W.L. DAY DISCUSSING

ONE Christmas afternoon several years ago I watched a man, whose Christmas pudding had evidently been too liberally flavoured with brandy, trying to push a bicycle up a steep hill. He contrived to make the bicycle seem *alive*; it pushed him all over the road, and finally threw him head over heels into a ditch, completing the music-hall effect by falling on top of him.

I couldn't help thinking that this is exactly what the Machine is doing to Man all over the industrial world. We contrive to make the Machine seem not only alive but malignant, and this happens because we are not in full possession of our wits.

We try to push the Machine so as to give ourselves more work, and the Machine retorts by throwing us into the ditch.

In spite of endless efforts on our part to thwart the Machine, it insists upon doing

### HE KNOWS

THE President of the Lille Chamber of Commerce has written to the President of the Council (the French Parliament) that it is hopeless to consider ways and means of increasing production when there is no corresponding increase of consumption, which is actually being steadily reduced by currency depreciation, taxation and rising prices. He says that there is nothing wrong with the productive capacity of factories in the Lille area, most of which are thoroughly up to date and capable of producing as much as is wanted. This was in response to an appeal from the French Government to seek ways and means of increasing production.

Here is somebody who can see the hole at the bottom of the market. People don't demand enough at the retail counters. Is it because they can't or won't? Why don't we consume more?

## Alberta's Two Historic Achievements

AT an informal private gathering on October 13 to bid Godspeed and *au revoir* to Mr. and Mrs. Byrne on the eve of their departure to Alberta, Major Douglas, in paying a tribute to Powell and Byrne said, of what had already been accomplished since they went to Alberta last June:

If the Alberta adventure were to end tomorrow—a contingency which I do not for one moment expect, but if it were to end—it would have accomplished two important things, two things which have never been accomplished before.

The first thing it has done is to clarify for the man in the street what governments really are. To the man in the street in Canada it is now clear—and eventually to the man in the street here and everywhere else it will be clear—that the official government of a country is only a sort of one-way street.

That is to say, official governments are supported by the financial government—the real government at the present time—for just so long as they will take the knocks, the kicks and the odium of imposing penal taxation and other unpopular measures.

But just so soon as any official government ceases, like the Government of Alberta at the present time, to be the instrument of imposing penalties on the general population, it is immediately shown up as having no force of its own.

In Alberta the real government has been exposed for the first time in history. This is a great achievement; it is unique, for we now see what mankind is up against: It is not official governments; they are only the tools of the real power, which is finance.

The second achievement in Alberta is something more local, but it has certainly clarified in the minds of Canadians just what a Social Credit government is concerned with.

Before this, Canadians had little idea of what it was all about, but when the Social

more and more of the work, putting us on ever shorter working hours, with the result that we are faced with the prospect of leisure; and leisure in a world designed for lifelong work does not seem to us a very pleasant notion.

SOME days ago, representatives of more than 200 voluntary organisations, education authorities and industrial undertakings met and set up a committee to carry out a national survey on this problem of the use of leisure.

The prime movers were the National Institute of Industrial Psychology and the British Institute of Adult Education.

Some of the speakers who addressed the meeting had some pungent things to say about the present state of affairs.

Sir Wyndham Deedes, who presided, said leisure was "free time" in which people could do what they liked and become human beings instead of mere industrial drones. Working hours were shorter, but there were millions to whom leisure was a mere mockery.

Captain J. H. Blaksley, of the National Institute of Industrial Psychology, said that ninety per cent. of the population was engaged in work below its mental capacity.

Another speaker spoke of the deadening effect of modern mass production work and said the dreadful thing was that young people grew to like it, though it prevented any development of personality.

Others mentioned the millions of "clean rooms" which we were busily providing in block-flats, rooms which failed to provide any proper playing facilities for parents and children; also the enormous lengths of time spent by millions of people in travelling to and from their work—and travelling in wearisome discomfort, too.

What is the aim behind all this ant-like activity of the present day?

PROFESSOR EINSTEIN said recently that the acknowledged aim of mankind used to be the search for objective truth. If this is what our aim should be, how is our industrial life affecting it?

According to the N.I.I.P. speaker, all but

ten per cent. of us are engaged in work which is below our mental capacity. Think what this means. Suppose a sixth form boy at school were forced to work with the fourth form; or suppose a qualified doctor of experience were compelled to spend his life as a medical student.

Anyone who is *alive* must continue to learn, to progress; if he stands still in one place, something dies in him.

The mass production processes, after a certain length of time, have just this effect on a man. They deaden him, arrest his psychological growth. Yet, according to one speaker, young people are actually getting to like being slowly murdered in this way!

Some people are beginning to feel that the Machine is an evil thing. I don't think it is any more evil in itself than the Christmas reveller's bicycle. It is our fogged condition which is at fault. We don't realise what is happening to us.

What kills us is allowing the Machine to push us over into the ditch. The no-work, no-pay rule makes our labours a soul-destroying drudgery and our leisure hours a farce.

Countless numbers would prefer economic safety to the risk of starvation, even if the price they had to pay was the drugging of the spirit. To feel or not to feel, that is the question. Safety First! Many prefer not to.

BUT leisure? Ah, that is indeed something to be dreaded. Drug addicts must live in their dreams, not in reality. Better not give ourselves time to think. Besides, as St. Catherine said, too much meditation on an empty stomach is not a good thing, even for religious development. One has to eat, and to eat one must go on working.

The Machine, if it could think, would be mightily surprised at us. It is so very willing to feed us, clothe us and provide for us. But we won't let it.

### WORK

WORK is the deadliest of the perversions. The natural instinct of natural man is to avoid work, and nothing shows more clearly the degeneracy of the modern world than the fact that work has become a social jewel, something to be sought with fervour, even a rarity, a prize for those who most closely resemble the ant. . . . Work's a perversion; everything except pure and voluntary creation. No one who has worked for twenty years—and when I say worked I mean laboured for hire—can either see clearly, hear with certainty, think straight, or feel ecstasy.

—From "Juan in China," by Eric Linklater

### Christmas Cards



Star, of a son of man  
Born as a crownless king,  
By thy soft light we bring  
Gifts to the young and old.

Under the ancient spell  
"Peace, to men of  
goodwill,"  
So we, and others, still  
Clasp close the hands  
we hold.

Shine star, on rich and poor  
Lighten the darkest way,  
Till comes that brighter day  
Prophets have long  
foretold.

Supplied in packets of 12 cards with envelopes. Two shillings a dozen post free from SOCIAL CREDIT, 163A Strand, London, W.C.2

SPECIAL PRICE TO AFFILIATED GROUPS

1s. 9d. a dozen.

**Look For That Hole In The Road**

First encourage people to try small things. Don't necessarily tackle the financial system straight away—tackle the local district council because there is a hole in the road and make them put it right. When you have got a number of people to see that you have got a hole in the road put right, they can set out to get a new road, and so on. The principle is to try it on the dog!—Major Douglas at Westminster, March 1936.

**STORM OVER COUPAR ANGUS**

COUPAR ANGUS is a country town in Perthshire, Scotland. Education in Scotland has often been the envy of the island if not the world. It is in danger of being the butt.

Instead of School Boards there are now County Education Committees which consist of persons nominated from other public bodies or chosen as specially suitable persons. In their wisdom the Perthshire Committee has laid it down that boys must be taught knitting!

The parents of one of the boys, Thomas Lamb, aged 8, has objected to their small son being taught anything deemed so effeminate as knitting and have expressed their wish that Thomas be not taught to knit.

From the Dundee Courier and Advertiser of November 23 and 24 one is able to glean the relevant facts, which, reduced to their most simple expression, are that if the boy will not learn to knit he is to be excluded from the school by the school master, whereupon the parents will be prosecuted by the Committee for not sending him to school.

Mr. J. G. Bryden, of Scone, at a meeting of the Committee on November 22, asked: "Are we to have parents dictating to us what we are to teach? If parents are allowed to refuse this or that subject the whole discipline and arrangement in schools will be upset." It is fair to record that Mr. Bryden did not get away with that statement of insurmountability.

Another extremely interesting feature of the case is that the Dundee Courier next day devoted a long leader to the subject, and although it ended by being facetious, it, by no means a "Left-wing" paper, said of the suggestion of parents dictating, "Just think of it! A parent with the audacity to imagine that he is to have any say with regard to what his son is to be taught! Prosecute the insolent fellow."

It is a vivid example of the attitude of mind which the servants of the community seem to acquire as soon as they have been elected by the votes of the units of the community.

Scotland may waste its time as to the merits of knitting for boys if it likes, but no "Authority" in our island ought to be allowed to forget that it has its authority from the citizens and not from some abstract source which in the act of election or appointment endows it with infallibility.

Electors all over the country ought to be active and alert to nip in the merest bud any such intolerable claim.

**PRESS CUTTINGS**

**Special Notice**

Will all those who so kindly assist the SOCIAL CREDIT Press Cuttings Bureau, please note that press cuttings should be sent in future to Mr. S. J. Venables, Venesta, Mont-a-l'Abbe, Jersey.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS NOTICE

**• PAGE DEVOTED TO NEWS OF THOSE WHO HAVE FOUND THAT 'HOLE IN THE ROAD'**

**Bedford School Strike Mothers Will Get New School**

AFTER six months the school strike mothers who live south of the river in Bedford have gained the major part of their demand—a school in the London Road area.

The Bedford Town Council have never admitted that the school strike influenced them; but nevertheless it has approved in principle the recommendations of the Education Committee that a Junior Mixed School, with accommodation for 500 scholars, be erected on a site on the London Road Housing Estate.

There was a long debate on the recommendation, which was eventually carried with three dissentients.

It is difficult to see why, if the request was so eminently reasonable as to be approved six months later by the Town Council, it was not sufficiently reasonable to be approved at the time.

*In fact, the mothers have this much of the results they demanded.*

**BANK OFFICIALS THREATEN ACTION IN SCOTLAND**

STRIKE action to secure the reinstatement of a Scottish bank official, who was dismissed by the Union Bank of Scotland, was discussed at an emergency meeting of the International Federation of Bank Officials' Associations in London.

The federation passed a resolution unreservedly condemning the dismissal, and pledging its wholehearted support to any action the national executive of the Scottish Bankers' Association might take for the reinstatement of the official, Mr. A. Ian Macpherson, of Hamilton, who is an executive member of that body.

Mr. Macpherson was dismissed following an interview at the head office of the bank on October 29. A pamphlet issued by the Scottish Bankers' Association alleged that after a threatened strike by employees of the Union Bank of Scotland six months ago, which had the support of the Scottish Bankers' Association, Mr. Macpherson became a "marked man."

Mr. Macpherson's dismissal was followed by a meeting of bank employees in Glasgow, at which 1,000 people passed a resolution of protest.

An official of the Scottish Bankers' Association stated that the bank refused to recognise the association and had turned down a request to meet the employees' representatives.

**Farmers Demand Better Paper**

ALL association journals should serve the members of the associations to which they belong. In particular they should provide a medium for free discussion amongst members. It should also contain official reports of the activities of local branches of the association.

A demand for a better National Farmers' Union journal is being keenly pushed in many parts of the country. It is of vital importance to us that this effort should be successful.

Will all readers who are members of the Union, or of any affiliated body, or who have friends who are members, write C.H.J., c/o The Secretariat at once.

A similar demand is being started in Ulster.

**Residents Win 30-Limit Demand**

AFTER a fight lasting more than four months, residents of Hampstead Garden Suburb have gained their demand for a thirty-mile speed limit in Falloeden Way.

Mr. Burgin, Minister of Transport, announced in the House of Commons that he had decided to give notice of his intention to introduce a speed limit of 30 miles per hour in Falloeden Way, for a distance of about half a mile.

Processions and public meetings have been held in Hampstead Garden Suburb to demand the speed limit at Falloeden Way, which has been described as a "death trap."

Mr. Burgin recently informed the Hampstead residents that it was not he alone that imposed speed limits. He had to consult with the London Traffic Advisory Committee.

Between them they must be congratulated on filling a want after a four months' lag.

And the residents are to be congratulated on their pertinacity.

**Social Credit Supplement December**

Contains a full report of the Great Speech in the Ulster Hall, Belfast, November 30.

YOUR WAR IN ALBERTA By Major C. H. Douglas

WRESTLING WITH HORSES By Hewlett Edwards

THE SHEFFIELD VICTORY—AND AFTER

BANK MADE LAWS By A. Hamilton McIntyre

SURVEY OF ACTION By the Local Objective Department

UP THE POLE By W.L.B.

The monthly SUPPLEMENT to SOCIAL CREDIT is issued free to all Registered Supporters of the Social Credit Secretariat Limited. See Announcement on page 8.

**700 PETITION FOR SCHOOL TRANSPORT**

MORE than 700 families living at the west end of the Ford Estate, Sunderland, have signed a petition to Sunderland Town Council asking that free school travelling facilities be given to their children who, in many cases, have more than a mile to walk to school.

A request to the Council to admit a deputation of five to their monthly meeting has also been sent with the petition.

The nearest schools for many of the children between the ages of 6 and 11 are more than a mile away, because the Havelock School, which is supposed to be the school for the Estate, is only for infants and seniors.

"Parents are too poor to afford bus or tram fares for these children," said Mr. W. Ryan, of Front Road, Ford Estate, secretary of the committee which has sent the petition.

"With the bad weather coming on they get wet on their way to school and often there are no facilities for drying their clothes.

"The majority of residents in this part were moved from the East End of the town under slum clearance schemes and we feel it is the duty of the education authority to provide travel facilities free."

**By-Pass Demand**

AFTER consideration of a petition signed by 282 Amersham residents, including the High Sheriff and the vicar, asking for a road to by-pass the town to cope with the expected increase in "through" traffic with the completion of the Western Avenue, Buckinghamshire county highway authority has rescinded a former resolution that a by-pass was unnecessary.

It has authorised the safeguarding of a route for a by-pass on the north-eastern side of the town and the preparation of a detailed engineering scheme.

**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 ..... 4d.

DEBT AND TAXATION. By L. D. Bytne ..... 2d.

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 ..... 2½d.

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. With a foreword by the Dean of Canterbury ..... 3d.

THE FEAR OF LEISURE. By A. R. Orage ..... 6d.

MONEY AND THE PRICE SYSTEM. By Major C. H. Douglas ..... 3d.

ECONOMICS FOR EVERYBODY. By Elles Dee ..... 3d.

THIS LEADS TO WAR. By G. W. L. Day ..... 1s.

HOW TO GET WHAT YOU WANT. By G. W. L. Day and G. F. Powell ..... 2d.

Six Propaganda Folders:

WASTE; THE CHOSEN EAST OF GOD; FEEDING RAVENS; A FAMILY NEEDS MONEY; FOREIGN TRADE; WASTED LIVES (4 of each 1s.)

(each) ½d.

Leaflets:

"ASK AND IT SHALL BE GIVEN YOU" (2s. per 100) ..... ½d.

WAR (2s. 3d. per 100) ..... ½d.

WHY PAY TAXES? (2s. 3d. per 100) ..... ½d.

TYRANNY. By C. H. Douglas. ... ½d.

Obtainable (postage extra) from

**SOCIAL CREDIT**

163A Strand, London, W.C.2

## Page Of News From Overseas

# ENEMY HAVE NOT SCORED THEIR PROMISED VICTORY IN ALBERTA

**I**MMEDIATELY the Albertan Government, in their efforts to meet the electorate's expressed desire for \$25 dollars a month and lower prices, challenged the right of financiers outside the province to monetise Albertan wealth, a mass attack was launched by wireless, press and politicians. But the victory which the provincial Conservative leader, J. M. Duggan, prophesied by November 22 has not materialised.

The attack appears to have been ill-advised, for, according to J. S. Woodsworth, M.P., the Dominion leader of the C.C.F. party, reports from Alberta indicate that the Social Credit Government would be re-elected if it resigned. The net result of this frontal attack has been to make the real issue—that the fruits of their association are being withheld from the Albertan people by the financiers—even more apparent, and to make even sharper the division between the mass of the people and those who profit by the present system.

In the fight that is to come this may well be the deciding factor, for the people of Alberta are being subjected to a financial blockade. How effective such a blockade can be made remains to be seen.

## To Seek Profits

Finance will endeavour to restrict supplies of what is today the life-blood of all civilised communities—money.

But so long as world trade is on the upgrade, commercial interests will tend to seek profits in the development of Alberta's vast resources, as has been shown by the rapid growth of the Turner oil-field recently.

The Federal Government will support the blockade so long as pressure from finance is greater than pressure from the other provinces in favour of fair play for Alberta, and Alberta will be discriminated against when financial favours are granted.

An example of such discrimination is the decision to write down Saskatchewan debts, referred to previously in these columns, by \$100,000 (£20,000) dollars. The "write down" originally suggested was \$75,000 (£15,000), and, one suspects, the increase of one-third is due to the Albertan situation, and with an eye to a campaign launched by the Saskatchewan Conservative leader for more drastic reductions, or a tax of 100 per cent. on all interest over 3 per cent.

## Debt Wangle

The Saskatchewan debt reduction is being pointed to in the press as showing the "opportunity that Alberta lost" through its government's policy, and E. L. Gray, Liberal leader in Alberta, is now offering the seductive bribe of "a general reassessment of the debt structure" which finance is willing to allow to a chastened people.

Alberta's Press Bill—which is to make it necessary for the press to quote sources of information and to publish Government corrections of misstatements when ordered to do so—has been hung up indefinitely by reference to the Supreme Court.

Meanwhile the so-called "Padlock Act" in Quebec, which authorises the police to shut down "communist" propaganda centres, has now been used to close the offices of seven papers, on the grounds that they are communistic.

When the Padlock Act was passed, Mr. Mackenzie King was urged to disallow it, but presumably, as it contained no threat to the financial control of the press, he took no action. It is difficult to see how he can fail to act now, for to do so would show too flagrant discrimination against Alberta even for him.

**Party Politics is not Democracy. It is a mechanism of frustration financed by the Money Power.**

## BANKS PUT IT OVER WITH MUSIC

(From our New York Correspondent)

**T**HE Chase National Bank, U.S.A., in co-operation with "other" institutions, has reopened its broadcasts, reported in SOCIAL CREDIT some months ago. This year the time on the air has been doubled because of the interest manifested by the public in last year's half-hourly programme.

The Chase Bank programme will present the great artists and fine music of last year, together with short talks of "public importance."

The Bank hopes that through the medium of music (that medium of thought which is a universal language), and through highly qualified speakers, all will gain "a clearer understanding of economic facts and principles."

"The Spider in the Parlour is Neil Caruthers, a well-known populariser of the orthodox point of view, who writes often for the press. He is head of the Business School at Lehigh University.

Speaking for about seven minutes on "The World at Work," in a programme including Wagner and Mme. Jeritza, he said:

*"Many people think that economics is a vague, impractical science. But this is not so. It has a vital and individual importance for everybody. Though it truly is the most complex of sciences, for it deals with everything—every tool and item that is used in production—and though no man knows all about this science (and fewer realise how little they know), we must be careful not to permit our opinions to result in action, lest this action lead us we know not where.*

*"All of you who are listening, indeed, every man, has an opinion about rising prices, stock market, tariffs, thirty-hour week, the distribution of wealth, etc., and while this is as it should be, let us not be misled into the awful errors of the past. [Do nothing and you won't make a mistake!] There is basically a problem of work. And again a problem of useless spending. When a boy breaks a window with a baseball, he makes the nation poorer, and when money is uselessly spent we have exactly the same result."*

"The awful errors of the past" are largely due to action taken without sufficient knowledge. People have voted for this or that method, and it has failed them.

But the way to prevent this is not, as he appears to suggest, to refrain from action, it is, instead, to act by demanding the results we want, leaving Mr. Caruthers and the other experts to devise the methods for producing them—with, of course, a penalty for failure.

## SASKATCHEWAN SUPPORTS ALBERTA

**A** REPORT has been received of a most successful Social Credit conference at Saskatchewan in October.

Some 70 representatives from groups all over the province attended, and returned to their homes determined to organise support for the people of Alberta.

As Saskatchewan borders Alberta on the east, support from this quarter should be particularly helpful.

Speeches were given by the Hon. E. C. Manning, Provincial Secretary for Alberta, and Joseph Needham, Member of Parliament for Battleford, who was elected president of the Saskatchewan Social Credit League.

## 'Any Change In Alberta Is In Our Favour'

(Extracts from an Albertan correspondent's letter.)

**A**S far as I can now see, the people are stronger than ever for us. Most certainly, this action (the Powell case) has made all former supporters more than ever convinced that this is a struggle to the finish, and they are not letting up at all. The more trouble we have, the more they will try to get to the bottom of it . . .

I was in the bank the other day. The assistant manager said to me, "Are you convinced now that it is all foolishness?" I replied, "I am thoroughly convinced that the old system is giving its last shudders before *rigor mortis* sets in."

We didn't argue. He gave me the impression he agreed with me. I told him we wanted, "You fellows, we want the banks, but we don't want the system." He agreed . . .

We seem to hear little or nothing about either the People's League or the United Canada Association these days. People on the whole are turning a deaf ear to them.

I noticed a pile of books (leaflets), "Facts about Canada's Chartered Banks," on the counter of the bank. But they were the same lot as two weeks ago. Whether anyone takes any now or not I don't know.

Personally I don't think the efforts of these people have had any effect whatever unless it has been to increase the number of Social Credit supporters. The whole thing seems to be quieting down.

No Social Creditor seems to pay any attention to them at all, but on the other hand, the talks by members of the Government are being listened to by most everybody. If there is any change whatever, it is in our favour . . .

### LECTURES and STUDIES

Courses available at lecture centres or by correspondence. CALENDAR AND PROSPECTUS, 3d., obtainable from Headquarters, or from the Information Supervisor of the nearest Group. All applications to join Correspondence Course to Miss Brill, Social Credit Secretariat Limited, 163A, Strand, W.C.2.

## SOCIAL CREDIT JOURNALS OVERSEAS

The ALBERTAN. Daily. \$8.00 per annum.  
"The Albertan," 9th Ave. and 2nd St. W., Calgary, Alberta, Canada.  
CAHIERS DU CREDIT SOCIAL. Published at irregular intervals. 5 cents a copy.  
Editor: Louis Even, Gardenvale, P. Que., Canada.  
The SOCIAL CREDIT REVIEW. Monthly. 5 cents. 2s. per annum, post free.  
Social Credit Association of Manitoba, 199 Osborne St., Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada.  
TO-DAY AND TO-MORROW. Weekly. 5 cents. \$1.00 per annum.  
11051 80th Ave., Edmonton, Alberta, Canada.  
BEACON. Monthly. 5 cents.  
The Official Organ of the Society for the Advancement of Economic Security. 175 King St., Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada.  
MONEY. Monthly. 2 cents. 2s. 6d. per annum, post free.  
17, Fifth Ave., New York, U.S.A.  
The NEW ERA. Illustrated. Weekly. 3d. 12s. per annum, post free.  
Radio House, 296 Pitt St., Sydney, N.S.W., Australia.  
The NEW TIMES. Weekly. 3d. 15s. per annum, post free.  
The New Times Publishing Co. Ltd., Box 1226, G.P.O., Melbourne, Australia.  
WHY. Fortnightly. 3d.  
Box 1056, Auckland, New Zealand.  
VOLKSWELVAART. Monthly. 2½ cents. ft. 50 per annum.  
"Volkswelvaart," Marijstraat 69, Apeldoorn, Holland.

Readers are invited to supply particulars of any overseas papers not listed here.

## SOCIAL CREDIT SUPPLEMENT MONTHLY

This well printed house organ is privately circulated monthly or oftener as occasion demands, and contains technical, internal, and confidential matters of special interest to "Douglas Cadets." Speeches by Major Douglas are usually first printed in the Supplement.

The Supplements are not for sale. They are issued, free of charge, only to Registered Supporters of the Social Credit Secretariat Limited.

Registration under the Secretariat Revenue Plan is available to all, whatever their means, since it is based on self-assessment or exemption. The Revenue Plan, which fully explains this, will be sent on request.

In order to reduce expenditure of subscribers' funds on unnecessary postage and wrapping, the Supplements are posted in the current copy of SOCIAL CREDIT.

### APPLICATION FORM

I wish to enrol as a Registered Supporter of the Social Credit Secretariat Limited; please send me particulars.

Name.....

Address.....

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163A Strand, London, W.C.2

## 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

- I know that there are goods in plenty and therefore that poverty is quite unnecessary
- I want, before anything else, poverty abolished.
- 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.
- These distributions must not deprive owners of their property nor decrease its relative value, nor increase taxes or prices.
- In a democracy like Great Britain Parliament exists to make the will of the people prevail.
- So I pledge myself to vote: if I can for a 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.
- 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.)



# SOCIAL CREDIT

## Confidential Supplement

ISSUED BY THE SOCIAL CREDIT SECRETARIAT LIMITED

163A Strand, London, W.C.2

No. 16

DECEMBER 10, 1937

**"THIS war, whatever its outcome—and I believe from the bottom of my heart that we shall be successful—far transcends, in the importance of its issues, the war of 1914-18, or any other war in history."—Major C. H. DOUGLAS, speaking in the famous Ulster Hall, Belfast, on November 30, 1937.**

# Your War In Alberta

IT has been my very great privilege to address a Belfast audience in this famous Ulster Hall on several occasions. The last time I did so I could not see my audience because of the heavy fog, but I am glad to say I can see you quite well tonight.

On previous occasions I have come here largely as a propagandist, to lecture to you on economics or on the theory of democracy in which we are all interested. Tonight, however, I have come in a somewhat different rôle; that of a reporter and an interpreter of events which are taking place some six thousand miles away in Alberta, under the able leadership of Mr. William Aberhart, the Premier, and under the guidance of the two men you have sent out, Mr. G. F. Powell and Mr. L. D. Byrne.

I think it might be regarded as a tribute to our impartiality that I am a Scot and Mr. Byrne is an Irishman and Mr. Powell a Welshman. Or perhaps you may be reminded of the old saying, "The more I see of men the better I like dogs," because I see a lot of Scots and Englishmen—so I chose an Irishman and a Welshman.

The woops in your war in Alberta are its general population, and if Powell and Byrne do not both end in gaol, they will lead them to victory. If they do go to gaol they will not stay there long because the Albertans will surely let them out.

## A Clear-Cut Alignment Of Forces

Even if the public outside the Province of Alberta or the Dominion of Canada had no direct interest, except as spectators, in what is going on under the leadership of Mr. Aberhart, its dramatic value would be of the highest. Indeed, it has great "news value," as is evident from the space given to it by the general press, even though the reports are carefully edited to misrepresent and distort.

The fact is, however, that in the western provinces of Canada a war has been opened, and Alberta is the first place where battle has been joined; and this war, whatever its outcome—and from the bottom of my heart I believe we shall be successful—far transcends, in the importance of its issues, the war of 1914-18 or any other war in history. When I say war, I mean war—war in which every sanction of civilisation and of barbarism will be brought into play.

If it were only in Alberta that the forces which are there aligned against each other were beginning to form, then the outlook would certainly be bleak. But the same forces are simultaneously opposed to each other, though not yet so obviously, in Australia and New Zealand, in this country and in parts of Europe, and to a less extent in the U.S.A. Everywhere there is growing a clear-cut alignment of the forces of international finance against the forces of genuine democracy; and the clear-cut nature of the issues is not the least important feature of this situation.

## One-Way Government

Although the war is only in its opening stages (for whatever its outcome it will be a prolonged struggle) certain facts of vital importance to us all have been demonstrated as never before. It has been made quite clear in Canada specially, but also here and in the U.S.A., that, although popularly elected, democratic Governments are nothing but one-way streets. That is to say, that what we call Governments are only permitted to exist, and are invested with all the panoply of power, supported with money, and their

ways made smooth by help from the press, for just so long as they use their powers primarily in the interest of international finance.

The Government of Alberta elected in August, 1935, with an overwhelming majority—fifty-seven out of sixty-three Members were elected under the label "Social Credit"—evoked no particular opposition from the Dominion of Canada Government at Ottawa for just so long as it increased taxes and used the greater part of the increase to pay the interest on bonds held by financial institutions.

## No Opposition While Monopoly Unchallenged

Now the very last thing I am doing is to criticise; indeed, I think it was very natural that a Social Credit Government in the flush of victory should have been lured from the path of Social Credit. The point I am making is this. It was allowed to experiment with all sorts of devices which did not, and could not, lead to any effective infringement upon the monopoly of credit held by the banks. For example, a Bill was passed, among many others, for establishing something which was indistinguishable from a Provincial bank; and another under which so-called Prosperity Certificates, documents very similar to ordinary dollar bills, were printed and circulated. Both of these Acts were flagrant infringements of Dominion prerogatives, but no action such as disallowance was taken, since it was easy for anyone who understood these matters to see that both were useless as an effective challenge to finance.

In short, at least two Bills became law which were complete infringements of the relations between the Province and the Dominion, but no action was taken because, under the advice of an orthodox financier appointed for the purpose, the management and administration of the Province of Alberta, apart from these two experiments, was indistinguishable from that of any preceding Government, except that it trebled taxation, and bondholders were getting the proceeds of the increased taxation.

But after two years of rather pathetic experimentation a very definite line of action was taken. By methods which I have explained before in Belfast, based on what is called the Electoral Campaign, the Albertan electorate set about demanding the results it was not getting. The pressure for results became so overwhelming that the Ministers had to yield and take steps to implement their election promises.

## Effective Action Provokes A Storm

Powell and Byrne were invited into the arena, and as a result of their entry the Albertan Legislature was called into special session and three Acts were passed definitely designed to give control of the credit system of the Province to the representatives of the Albertan people.

This was real business, and the Dominion Government, with the financiers behind it, reacted at once. Within a week of the passage of these Acts, a storm arose unequalled in the political history of Canada, and the Prime Minister, Mr. Mackenzie King, "disallowed" the Acts.

This question of disallowance is important as an indication of one line of counter-offensive.

Since it was realised that as soon as effective action was taken it would be violently misrepresented—and these Bills were misrepresented as soon as they were proposed—another Act was passed which was misrepre-

sented even more completely than the others. This was the Press Bill—misrepresented as a censorship—which actually provided for no censorship whatever but for the publication of sources of information, and of corrections. In other words, it was an Act to provide for fuller information of the public, since the source from which information is given is often as informative as the information itself.

## The B.N.A. Act

The Constitution of Canada, so far as it is supposed to have one—and it is supposed to have one—is contained in the British North America Act, commonly called the B.N.A. Act. This is an Act of the British Parliament of 1867, which confers certain rights on the Dominion and on the Provinces, including rights regarding disallowance. Some understanding of this matter is necessary, as you will be seeing a lot about it in the papers within the next twelve months, and unless you know what it is about you may be misinformed.

The power of disallowance was a delegation to the Governor-General of a power residing in the Sovereign, who in 1867 was Queen Victoria, and her powers were much greater than they are today. In theory the reigning sovereign has the right, known as the Royal Prerogative, of refusing his assent to Bills passed by Parliament, but we all know quite well what would happen if it were to be exercised today, and it certainly does not seem possible to invest a Governor-General with greater powers than his sovereign.

In the B.N.A. Act the only references to the power of disallowance which I can find are in Sections 55, 56, and 57, which read as follows:

55. Where a Bill passed by the Houses of Parliament is presented to the Governor-General for the Queen's Assent, he shall declare according to his Discretion, but subject to the provisions of this Act and to Her Majesty's Instructions, either that he assents thereto in the Queen's name, or that he withholds the Queen's Assent, or that he reserves the Bill for the Signification of the Queen's Pleasure.

56. Where the Governor-General assents to a Bill in the Queen's name, he shall by the first convenient Opportunity send an authentic Copy of the Act to one of her Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State, and if the Queen in Council within Two Years after Receipt thereof by the Secretary of State thinks fit to disallow the Act, such Disallowance (with a Certificate of the Secretary of State of the Day on which the Act was received by him) being signified by the Governor-General, by Speech or Message to each of the Houses of Parliament or by Proclamation, shall annul the Act from and after the Day of such Signification.

57. A Bill reserved for the Signification of the Queen's Pleasure shall not have any Force unless and until within Two Years from the Day on which it was presented to the Governor-General for the Queen's Assent, the Governor-General signifies, by Speech or Message to each of the Houses of Parliament or by Proclamation, that it has received the Assent of the Queen in Council.

An Entry of every such Speech, Message, or Proclamation shall be made in the Journal of each House, and a Duplicate thereof duly attested shall be delivered to the proper Officer to be kept among the Records of Canada.

That is to say that the only case when it ceases to be a personal matter for the Governor-General is when he refers it to the British Privy Council.

Section 90 of the Act gives the same right of disallowance and reserved assent to the Lieut.-Governor in respect of Provincial Laws as the Governor-General has in respect of Dominion Laws.

I went carefully into the whole question in 1935, when I was in Alberta, with the best Constitutional lawyers, and they were quite clear that the power of disallowance, to the extent it still existed, lay with the Governor-General in person, and not with the Governor-General in Council—the latter term, of

course, being another way of saying the Dominion Cabinet.

## Opposition Tactics Illegal

At the time when Mr. Mackenzie King "disallowed" the Albertan Acts the Governor-General, Lord Tweedsmuir, was in the Arctic Circle, and it is, in my opinion, unquestionable that Mr. King's action was a flagrant abuse of the Royal Prerogative, and could properly have been taken only if the Lieut.-Governor had in the first place refused assent to the Bills.

Now the next step was for Alberta to repass the Acts with modifications to make them more difficult to disallow, and this brought into play a power which had never before been used in Canada, when the Lieut.-Governor of Alberta, Mr. Bowen (who was appointed by Mr. Mackenzie King in 1935), reserved the Royal Assent.

As these Acts had just been passed for the second time, the nature of this action can be judged if we imagine the King to withhold assent from a vital Act of Parliament passed by large majorities in the House of Commons and the House of Lords.

It is certain that the actions of Mr. Mackenzie King and of Mr. Bowen cannot both be legal.

All of this is a clear indication that as soon as anything is done which genuinely attacks the prerogative of international finance—and such was the nature of the Albertan Acts—then the titular governors simply become the puppets of international financiers.

## The Mortgage Stranglehold

Before proceeding to explain to you in more detail the nature of these Acts, the present position of them, their objective, and the probable trend of developments in connection with them, I think it desirable to give you a brief picture of the situation as we see it, and as I think we see it correctly.

In the first place, there exists, specifically in Alberta, but to a greater or less extent all over the world, a condition of affairs, the understanding of which is absolutely essential to any grasp of world politics today. It can be briefly expressed by saying that a Government—no matter whether it is a so-called sovereign government, or whether its sovereignty is disputed, as in the case of Alberta—is regarded by its Plutocracy, by which I mean the money-lending interest, and not necessarily the rich men, primarily as the administration of an estate to be mortgaged up to the hilt, the mortgages to be created by the lending, to the population of the estate, of its own credit at the highest possible return of interest.

It is essential also to realise that the primary objective of this policy is not merely, and certainly not in any realistic sense, the acquirement of monetary wealth by the plutocrats through the machinery of the banks, mortgage companies, and insurance companies which are their agencies. Though in comparison with the rest of the population these men are immensely rich, their scale of personal luxury could in many cases be maintained upon an income of extremely modest proportions, and their immense reserves are used to perpetuate the system and to finance the wars which are the outcome of it.

## The Threat Of Grinding Toil

With a full appreciation of the gravity of what I am saying, I am convinced that in the case of the ring of international financiers who control the system, the conscious

# Your War in Alberta (continued)

objective is to keep the great mass of the population in fear of poverty and of loss of social position; by which I do not necessarily mean in lack of physical necessities, although that is the result of it, but I do mean that it is intended that they should be kept in constant insecurity and under the threat of grinding toil, even though such toil is not demanded by anything realistic in the situation. In the main this is accomplished by immense misdirection of production effort—redundant factories, "Public Works," "Fashions," etc.—anything but wanted consumers' goods.

I can imagine that anyone unfamiliar with the techniques of the debt-creating system under which we all exist, might say that this is merely wild assertion incapable of proof. On the contrary, it is capable of the simplest possible proof, and arises from the following propositions:

- Modern life and work cannot be carried on without the use of money;
- All money comes into existence as a debt from the community to the money-creating agencies;
- The debtor is the servant of the lender until his debt is paid;
- The debts owing by the community to the money-lending agencies are increasing in geometrical ratio, and could never possibly be paid off, since the amount of money in existence at any time in the possession of the community is only a microscopic fraction of the debts held against them by the money-lending agencies.

The proposition which is put forward by the Governments, who act as spokesmen for the money-lending agencies, is that capacity to pay should be the measure of a debtor's liability, which means that everything that he does not require for a bare existence should be at the service of the lender.

There is another point which is frequently misunderstood, and which I should like to make to you, since it is vital in a consideration of the remedial steps which can be taken in connection with the situation, and that is that, although the debts owed by the community to the money-lending agencies are assuming astronomical proportions, they are quite small in comparison with the real wealth of the community measured in the same units.

## Alberta's Real Wealth Is £46,200,000,000

Perhaps an instance of this in connection with the Province of Alberta may be illuminating. A very conservative and detailed estimate, which has been made at my suggestion, of the capital wealth of Alberta at the present time, places that wealth at the astounding figure of forty-six thousand, two hundred million sterling, or over £50,000 for every man, woman, and child in the Province.

As you probably know, the population of Alberta, men, women and children, is about three-quarters of a million, little more than half that of Northern Ireland in an area 50 times as large, and the greater part of this population, which might be supposed to be the titular proprietor of the Province of Alberta, on the assumption that the citizens of a country are the owners of it, which is of course not true, are for the most part in a state, not merely of grinding poverty, but hopeless debt.

I am not saying that there is £50,000 potentially in the pockets of every man and woman in Alberta, but the debts of the population amount to about £400 a head; nevertheless, all their debts together do not represent a hundredth part of the capital wealth of Alberta; but since they are money debts, and the wealth in Alberta is real wealth, and not money wealth, civilised life in Alberta is becoming impossible. This is the picture that I want you to bear in mind as a background to anything I may have to say.

## Debt Should Be Asset Of Citizens, Not Banks

Now in essence, the problem which faces Alberta, and not less the rest of the world, is quite a simple one. The present financial system is, as I have said, a debt-creating system, but it must be remembered that, to the holder, an acknowledgment of debt is an asset. If you grasp what I mean by this, you will see that you have only got to put the individual citizens in the position of the moneylender, and every development which takes place through the aid of money is reflected in an asset which can be placed to the credit of the citizen. In other words, it is not the credit system in itself which is primarily defective in the world today, it is the usurpation of that credit and its conver-

sion into a monopoly, which is at the root of the dangers which face our civilisation.

## Nationalisation Is NOT The Remedy

Once again, let me emphasise that what is called "nationalisation" has no bearing on this problem. The Bank of New Zealand has been nationalised and debt and taxation are rising more rapidly than before its nationalisation. The Commonwealth Bank of Australia is a nationalised bank, and is, if possible, more tyrannical than the Bank of England. The Bank of Canada is controlled through the Dominion Government, with the result that the Bank of Canada controls the Dominion Government. Mr. Montagu Norman, the Governor of the Bank of England, is alleged to have said: "Nationalisation? We welcome it."

Once again, let me endeavour to put the matter in that nutshell with which all Social Crediters are familiar, as being the dimensions to which they are asked to reduce their explanations.

**No change in the banking system, or its administration, is of any value whatever which does not place to the credit of the individual citizen those assets which are now placed to the credit of the banks.**

## The Bank Acts

We are now perhaps in a position to consider the steps which are being taken in Alberta to implement these ideas. The first of these are comprised in two bank Bills, one of which consists of two Bills which were subsequently consolidated in one Bill known as "An Act to Amend and Consolidate the Credit of Alberta Regulation Act," the short title being "The Credit of Alberta Regulation Act, 1937." The essential provisions of this Act are first that all bank officials shall be licensed, so that if they refused to carry out reasonable orders, their licenses could be withdrawn or suspended. In the second place it is provided that every bank operating in Alberta shall, from the passing of the Act, establish one or more local directorates, and that a predominating number of directors shall be nominated through the Social Credit Board, which is the department of the Alberta Government concerned with the initiation of a Social Credit system.

You will notice that this Bill involves no confiscation of bank property, involves no interference with the methods of bank administration, but, like all boards of directors, the board of directors set up would have control of bank policy.

The provisions are not even very novel. Many other businesses are licensed, pawnbrokers, doctors, dentists and chartered accountants, and so forth. The Act was disallowed because it referred to banks.

Many other businesses have Government nominees on the board—I will instance Imperial Airways, but there are many others at home and abroad. It is nothing novel, but it was disallowed because it referred to banks.

The second Banking Bill was a reply to the "disallowance" of the first Bill, and greatly increases taxation upon banks for the relief of taxation upon individuals. Under the Canadian Constitution a Province can unquestionably impose any direct taxation it chooses, but this was disallowed because it referred to banks.

## Correct Information A Vital Need

Since it is important that the political power of the population of Alberta should support those and similar measures, it is fundamental that they should be properly informed as to the meaning and object of them, and therefore a Bill entitled "An Act to Ensure the Publication of Accurate News and Information" was passed. It was fiercely attacked under the pretence that it was a censorship Bill, which is a gross misstatement. The provisions of it, however, made it compulsory that, if the Government should require it, the source of news, and, if necessary, comment upon it, should be published by any newspaper.

Now the weight to be attached to either news or comment depends very largely upon the source from which it proceeds, and the so-called "freedom of the press," at the present time, consists in a freedom to publish any amount of propaganda, together with the right either to censor completely any reply, or alternatively, and invariably, to insist on a signature to the reply. Thus anyone carrying on a controversy with the powers which for the most part control newspapers, is in the position that his adversary can say what he likes without disclosing his identity, whereas publication of dissent from

the views thus anonymously expressed can either be refused or, if it is published, can be discounted as coming from someone known to be a "crank."

It is a primary civil right of any people to be correctly informed. A nation is simply an assembly of individuals who agree to co-operate for their own advantage. Stripped of all the trappings of romance, if a nation fails in successful co-operation for the advantage of all concerned, then it fails as a nation, and a community cannot know what is to its advantage if it is persistently misinformed. I might add that the population of Great Britain is the most grossly misinformed of any of the so-called democratic countries.

Now Alberta has certain rights granted under the British North America Act which are quite beyond discussion (so long as the validity of the B.N.A. Act is conceded, and that is gravely affected by the subsequent passage of the Statute of Westminster); it is specifically laid down that all matters pertaining to property and civil rights shall be the sole prerogative of the Province and not of the Dominion.

It is the contention of the Province that it is a primary civil right to be correctly informed, and the interference with the Act to Ensure the Publication of Accurate News and Information was a gross infringement of Provincial rights under the B.N.A. Act.

## The Folly Of Premature Plans

To an audience such as this these Bills will hardly require explanation as simply logical steps towards the primary objective of any Social Credit Government—the assumption by the population of the control of its own policy through the control of the Credit System. Please note that they are not a "Social Credit Plan." Immense harm has been done by persons, probably well meaning, but equally lacking in experience, training or judgment, who have represented the problem as one of drawing up some neat, tidy "plan" on the lines familiar to observers of the Sidney Webb-Fabian Society tradition.

The only effect of this is to produce on those members of the community whose assistance would be most useful, an impression of irresponsibility. Americans have a name for people of this kind: "Parlour Pink." The cold hard fact is that the struggle for the control of credit is a war—the deadliest war ever waged by humanity. When the war has been won it will be sensible to dispose of the spoils, but not until then.

## The "People's" League

The three Bills I have mentioned are, therefore, the first offensive against the entrenched monopoly of credit, and were instantly recognised as such by the international financiers. They were the first Bills to be immediately and vigorously resented, and the first step in retaliation was the "disallowance" I have described.

At the same time the activities of an organisation called "The People's League" was redoubled. You will no doubt have noticed that if there is a particularly dirty piece of work to be done, it is generally done by a league said to represent the persons who are to be swindled. I have always noticed that any company almost exclusively controlled by foreign capital is called "The British . . . so-and-so," and acts in the interest of the British in much the same manner as does the Bank of England. Representatives of the chartered banks, mortgage companies and insurance companies were, and are, also active members of the People's League.

They were all very indignant that the British in Alberta should be so badly treated, and agreed that there was only one thing to be done; and that was to get Mr. Aberhart and his Government out as quickly as possible.

This "People's" League hold meetings all over the country; I heard of one at a place called Red Deer, where the audience was larger than the population of the town, and that half the audience was recognised at another meeting 300 miles away. A mobile population!

A very interesting feature of the propaganda being carried on is an oblique attack upon the "Demand Results" policy of the Social Credit League and the United Democrats in Alberta, which was so dramatically successful in the hands of Mr. G. F. Powell in restoring unity in Alberta six months ago. Without exception the bankers' broadcasts are devoted to an attack upon Social Credit technique and a perversion of facts in regard to banking and finance, and the "Demand Results" policy is side-tracked as much as possible.

The general line now being taken is that, although the financial system is, of course, not perfect, any changes in the direction of Social Credit would make matters much worse, and that the proper course to pursue is to reorganise completely the whole economic system on the lines of Fascism or Communism, and to have a general argument about how to do it. I regard this feature of the campaign, the attempt to stir up a technical wrangle, as being particularly interesting and informative, because I do not underrate the brains of our adversaries, and I am confident that the prime strategy is at all costs to delay Social Credit action until such time as they have control of the administrative system along the lines of Russia or Italy.

The financiers are fighting to retain control, and it is that control we have to wrest from them. Although the matter at the moment, and on the surface, is being carried on along lines of legality, nevertheless, as always, the real question is one of sanctions. In this connection there is significance in the remark generally attributed to General Griesbach, of the People's League, that with twelve hundred rifles he could clear Social Credit out of Alberta in two weeks.

Our adversaries are certainly realists, and as lately as 1932 they arranged for the Provincial police force to be superseded by the Canadian Mounted Police, who are controlled from Ottawa. However, for obvious reasons, I cannot discuss this aspect of the matter very closely, but I know that it is receiving every possible attention, and there are ways of dealing with it.

## Other Provinces Now Taking Notice

Meanwhile it has been made clear to a large number of people in Canada that Social Credit, which formerly was only words to them, has something to do with banks. This is very important. All over Canada people are saying, "Oh, they are against the banks, are they? Well, we're all for it."

There is also a growing feeling that if Albertan laws can be treated with such contempt, it may be the turn of any Province next. They are taking notice, especially in New Brunswick and Quebec. Quebec, which has immense political power at Ottawa, is solidly on the side of maintaining and extending Provincial as compared with Dominion control. It will almost certainly turn out Mr. Mackenzie King, and whoever takes his place will have to walk much more warily.

The immediate objective of the opposition is to gain time, and in this they have succeeded, for the Bills, which would have been disastrous to them, have certainly been delayed. Whatever the outcome of the Supreme Court's deliberation upon them they will almost certainly be referred, by one side or the other, to the Privy Council in London, probably next midsummer.

The Albertans have done great work and scored three tactical victories to one of the Dominion. And while the latter's delaying tactic has set the Provincial Government the problem of keeping up the morale of the Albertan people against a great barrage of misinformation, at the same time the Dominion Government is steadily losing in prestige over the whole affair.

## The Supreme Task Of This Generation

Of the ultimate outcome of the struggle, I have no doubt whatever, but it will be a long and bitter one. There is no single issue in the world today which approaches it in importance, not merely for the people of Alberta, or even for the people of Canada, but for the whole world. The issues of poverty amidst plenty, of war, of insecurity, of health and even sanity, are all bound up in it.

This is just as much your fight as it is the fight of the people of Alberta. In fact, you have no future worth considering unless you grasp and deal with this matter. The things which fill the papers in these days are of minor importance. The scurrings to and fro of the Edens and the Hitlers are the inevitable result of the present system, and these men are merely the public relations officers of International Finance, which makes their scurrings necessary.

If that is so, and I am convinced that it is so, all these other issues are bound up in the struggle to make democracy a correct reflection of the people's will and at the same time to abolish poverty in the midst of plenty.

There is no one in this room who cannot, in some way, play a small part, or possibly a great one, in this struggle, and I commend it to you as being of greater importance than anything else which can occur in your lifetime.

**C. H. DOUGLAS**

YOU may argue that to the cobbler there is "nothing like leather." To me, I admit, there is, at this stage, nothing like local objectives. I have it in my bones that through this action, the barriers are now crumbling; I mean those barriers which exist between the movement and the public.

To put it another way, the result of local objectives will be to bring the movement into its correct relations with the people; that of a staff, whose function is to advise an increasingly eager public how to get what it wants.

The sequence of events at Sheffield seems to me of great interest. It was this.

Local Objective action was followed by success. At that point a dozen or so of the keenest of those demanding pressed the focus of action (of course one of us) as to "what was behind it." He told them—"It is Social Credit"; and in effect they said "If that is Social Credit, let's hear more about it"—and you can imagine the discussion carried on into the early hours.

I believe that this sequence is just about "in the line." You will observe the drawing inwards of "those interested" to our centre, while the larger public of ratepayers is to be encouraged to further action. For the immediate result is that our Headquarters were asked by the ratepayers, to provide speakers at a public meeting.

This presented us with a new problem and the following is, so far as I am concerned, my first attempt at an address following up a successful objective. I would ask all to consider the best line to take in such circumstances; to improve upon what I have said, to make it their own, as unless I am mistaken, it will not be long before it is "all hands to the pump."—

HEWLETT EDWARDS

## THE SHEFFIELD VICTORY AND—AFTER

IT is now some weeks since you, as ratepayers of Sheffield, acting together, 50,000 strong, secured a promise from the responsible official that your rating assessments should not be raised.

That was strong, determined work, and I congratulate you. I am a ratepayer, too (who is not, either directly or indirectly? and under threat of penalty I have just had to render an account of my house, including garage and hen house, so that I may be re-assessed; and I have no illusions as to what that means to me. For in my district we have not, as yet, made any demand such as yours, and so we have no promise that assessments will not be raised. So you may think of yourselves as ratepayers PLUS—plus that little something others haven't got! . . . or rather, have not found.

Some of us were, I expect, rather surprised at the rapid, efficient way in which your demand met with success. There was little delay—everything seemed to go just right. It was all over in a few weeks. You might say that you organised yourselves along certain lines for a definite thing and got it.

Now that is something which does not happen too often these days, and it is worth some consideration as to how, comparatively easily, you got what you wanted. The first point is that everyone was in it. An enormous majority of Sheffield citizens wanted an assurance that their assessments would not be raised.

Very often large numbers of people grumble about something or want something done, but it is not so often that they get it done. Perhaps they form a committee, or send a deputation, or a humble petition, and so on. Usually the reply is that the matter will receive attention, and then it is quietly shelved, or attention is directed to something else.

So although agitation and ventilation is desirable, in itself it is not enough. It is necessary to have some means of collecting this united will and directing it as pressure on the right point—or person.

If you have wandered, as I have, over the moors and hills near this city, you will have noticed pools and streamlets of water on the hill-tops; but no one would expect to get power from the water as it is, up there. The thousand sources and streamlets must be collected in a fast-running, powerful river, or perhaps conserved in a reservoir, from which can be drawn the power needed to turn wheels.

All our British democratic institutions contain similar possibilities of collecting and using power—the power which belongs to us as ratepayers and electors. That is a plain fact; if we will use it we have, here and now, ready to be used, our own democratic machine which will enable us to get what we want. You have been using it, with, one might say, 50,000 man-power, to get what you want.

tion, and so it is. But don't imagine that you can get hold of this power for your own personal use. If you have misgivings as to this, just try and put over a demand for something which is NOT wanted—say, to close all the public houses in Sheffield.

The driving power of this machine lies in the expression by each individual of his will, unitedly, towards some definite end which in common with others he desires.

The operation of the machine is the application of this united will as pressure on the individuals who are responsible to electors.

I put it to you that this is worth thinking about. You have used our sound English democracy as it should be used, and you have proved that it works.

Nor is this just a matter to go on thinking about, and being pleased about; but let this victorious experience lead to further action. Action in resisting any authority which threatens to give you what you don't want; action to get what you do want.

If you work together with the same determination and sincerity as before, you need have no fear of failure.

When the public expresses its will in public action it will always win!

It might seem rather strange that such pressure should be necessary, but we cannot altogether blame the Council, the Corporation, for this, if we never tell them plainly and simply what we want. This has led them to give us what they think is good for us and, of course, it is quite true that some of the Councillors have a very wrong idea of what they are elected for.

It is clear enough, when one thinks of it, that the only reason for the existence of these institutions is to serve us. We elect them for that, and nothing else.

Demand one thing at a time and stick to the point. Whatever it is that you want, make this a clear and simple demand, and never let it be diverted. You will find that this is not so easy as it sounds. Many people want to talk of the way of doing it, but of course that is a hopeless diversion; that's the job of the engineer, the architect, accountant, or financier; the man who puts your will into effect.

Send your demand to the right person, the nearest person who is responsible to you, as electors; generally, that will be the Councillor of each Ward. Keep up the pressure. Publicity of all sorts is a fine thing for this—and here in Sheffield you have a press with a genuine public

spirit as anyone can see from the reports of what was done.

Never forget that the source of the power which works your democratic machine is the expressed and united will of each and every one.

If you keep to these simple rules you can develop a power which cannot fail to get what, together, you want.

You are here, I understand, to decide how you can best organise yourselves as Ratepayers.

Organise—for what? That is the first question.

Sometimes it seems that the payment of rates is nothing but a sort of punishment; but I think we should remember millions are spent each year in providing us with substantial benefits such as schools, roads, police and so forth. As ratepayers, I think we should have a good deal more voice as to what the money is spent on. It may be that you require nothing more than to keep the rates fixed where they stand, neither more nor less. Or perhaps you may want to reduce the rates, or you may have other aims more positive, to do with schools, housing, roads, traffic regulation or what not.

If I were one of your members, I think I would propose that the aim of the association should be wide enough to include these—say something like this:

**"THAT THE AIM, OR POLICY OF THIS ASSOCIATION, BE TO GATHER UP THE UNITED WILL OF THE RATEPAYERS AND REPRESENT THIS TO THE AUTHORITIES; WELCOMING THEIR CO-OPERATION AND OVERCOMING THEIR RESISTANCE."**

When you have settled that, the rest resolves itself into a sound businesslike organisation—any well-run production concern is a model. One man as manager, director, is responsible—in that case to the shareholder—his job is to get results. In your case the chairman would be responsible to the members, and he should be given a free hand to choose the best men to help him.

What you, as members, want from him are results, or, speaking more correctly, sound advice which, if you act on it, will produce results.

What he, as chairman, will want from you is continued support not only in words but in action—in signing and getting signatures to other demands, for example.

Those are the lines I would suggest. They are the lines which run close to what is natural human nature; and which work, as you have proved.

It may be that having tried out

## Wrestling With Horses

By Hewlett Edwards

ONE of my friends sometimes tells me that I am too fond of illustrations, images, metaphors and the like. Such criticism has often led to midnight wrestling with reined-in horses who explore every avenue in search of that famous toasted tea-cake ordered from a Member of Parliament in the guise of a Lyons "Nippy."

All this is preliminary to another attempt.

This afternoon, being Saturday, soon after one o'clock I plunged into the station at Piccadilly Circus. How many people pass through that station at the rush hour I don't know, but there they were rushing to one machine for change, to another for a ticket; or going straight through

with a triumphant flourish of a season-ticket. Down the moving stairways they stream, one column moving to the right for north and south, another to the left for east and west; down another flight and the eastward battalion again change direction right; and those bound westward turn left. Ten thousand change at Charing Cross, ten thousand at Baker Street, and so on, until if you could follow each unit in the surging torrent to the very end you would find that each one—knowing the ropes and guiding himself—got where he wanted to be.

There are many different points to be made about all this; one could say, with truth, how most of the incessant rushing round would be unnecessary—how still better these things could be arranged—how many would refuse to do it IF we had full use of our Social Credit. But none of these is my point. So, please regard the illustration instead as an instance of how people can find their way about a well known mechanism to get what they want.

This quite ordinary capacity, which is possessed by us all is, I think, one of the hinges on which democracy will turn.

The mechanism which is used by the travelling public is far from simple. Transport an Esquimaux direct from his Arctic igloo to Piccadilly underground; give him a penny, and you will see how difficult and dangerous it is to get to Bond Street. But give him a few words of English, and an inducement to vibrate daily between Shepherd's Bush and Mincing Lane, and in a fortnight, he will be an old hand at the game. In this we educate each other, helping elderly strangers on to the escalator, elbowing the burly farmer from his four-square stand in the centre—you will soon see him move over and "stand on the right."

The mechanism of democracy must be like that—so that in going all out to get what we want, by our very frictions and contacts we show others how to get what they want.

Again, look at the net results of that Saturday rush. At 2.30 p.m. you might find two hundred and twenty thousand city men murdering the worms in gardens from Kew to Woodford Green; five thousand golfers murdering the turf on their favourite greens, a thousand school-girls murdering each other on 45 hockey fields (allowing a few spares) . . . an intractable complexity of results but—*it happens*. Somehow all those people sort themselves according to their own wishes. It is true that we are used to travel, but the fact is that we use an extremely complicated mechanism, selecting this or that alternative, in a way which we are quite confident will produce whatever result we want.

With equal confidence every elector should know just how to go about placing and forwarding his "demand for results"; whether it is to be held in common with a dozen neighbours, or some objective which concerns the whole nation. And with equal certainty he should be able to anticipate the fulfilment of this demand—subject only to the preservation of mutual freedom.

To attain this we must first have a clear idea of the general outline of a mechanism which would give this result. The article by G.F.P. in the Supplement of May 7, 1937, was not written in an academic spirit but was a lead in this direction; read it again. We have now had six months to think it over, and (just in case it means something!) it would be a good idea to try to think out how the beginnings of that mechanism could be used now in our alignment towards democracy.

### QUESTION AND ANSWER

IN the next issue of the Confidential Supplement to SOCIAL CREDIT will appear Major Douglas's answers to questions by Social Crediters at the London Conference, after his speech "The Policy of a Philosophy," and by the general public after his Belfast speech "Your War in Alberta."

the machine you will want to go on using it, and, in that, I wish you all good luck. It is certainly not my part to say what you want in Sheffield. If you decide to go on, it will be interesting to find out what Sheffield wants next.

I read with great interest of the 168 individuals who acted as centres in the demand. It sounds to me as if those people will be just the channel you want—first to find out what the residents of their district want next—and then to advise them (from the chairman) how to get it.

Led by Sheffield, it looks as if this may become a national movement. When it reaches that sort of scale, the real possibilities of modern civilisation will begin to appear.

A good many public men have touched upon this. Commander Stephen King Hall, of the B.B.C., in a recent article said:

"Whether we like it or not, we are going to be the leaders in this movement out of nineteenth century materialism into the long-promised land of the full life of every man; a life in which leisure for the recreation and expression of the mind and body will take precedence over work for body-keeping purposes.

"The workers must realise that in the years to come the happy, contented and prosperous nation will be that one whose representative at the International Labour Conference at Geneva will be able to say: 'Gentlemen,—I am able to boast that once again my country tops the list in the number of those who are not registered as employed in gainful occupations. We lead the world in that most beneficial of all pursuits, the enjoyment of leisure.'"

These are possibilities which exist here and now. I expect Stephen King Hall is hinting that the time is fast coming when we shall be sensible enough to distribute the goods and so forth that science has made it so easy to produce, and that means some sort of National Dividend for each one of us. If that is what he means, so far as I am concerned, the sooner the better.

You may think that this is a far-distant prospect. I am not so sure, but I certainly agree that the next point for Sheffield to decide is what Sheffielders want next.

And here are some prophetic words from a speech by Mr. Winston Churchill. He was talking of war:

"We seem to be moving, drifting, steadily against our will, against the will of every race and every people and every class, towards some hideous catastrophe. Everybody wishes to stop it, but they do not know how.

"But if you could introduce some new theme, in this case the practical effect of a common purpose and of co-operation for a common end, if you could introduce that, then, indeed, it might be that the reign of peace and freedom might come, and that science instead of being a shameful prisoner in the galleys of slaughter, might pour her wealth abounding into the homes of every land."

The practical effect of a common purpose and of co-operation for a common end!

By their action the ratepayers of Sheffield have shown where this lies—have shown the practical effect of a common purpose and of co-operation for a common end. This is the

**CAPTAIN STORY** and I spoke very much on the democratic lines given above—and the ratepayers' meeting decided to adopt the "policy" proposed to it. Moreover, the chairman and committee appear favourable to our ways of action.

For all that, I don't feel satisfied. I am certain that a much closer connection with the interests of ratepayers could be made than is made in the above remarks; perhaps incorporating a few (very few) figures comparing total rates with loan charges and so on. I hope that some of our hard-headed business ratepaying Cadets

## SIGNS OF THE TIMES

A letter to a friend by a new Douglas Cadet resident in France

IN your reply to my last comments, you say in effect that since men with brains are in high places, leave them to it, and matters will work themselves out, or should work themselves out, to the satisfaction of everyone. Further, you say you do not see much that individuals can do but to continue to have faith in the "brain-trust," meanwhile doing our best in our allotted callings.

MY reaction to the brains in high places is to say that you are right. There are some brains in high places, but we have a right to inquire what these brains are doing and to what end they are being used. On the other hand, there are men in higher places than their brains are . . . and again we have the right to ask what they might be up to.

There is a lot of brains and a lot of intelligence being grossly misused and mis-directed. The scientist who is now poring over the construction of the latest in death-dealing devices certainly has brains, but his activities would be better directed towards tracking down disease . . . The financier at present bringing off wonderful scoops in the troubled waters of international finance does not lack brains either, but could he not be asked to apply his ability to the solution of the problem of the abolition of poverty and the distribution of freedom?

The reactionary forces here in France (worshippers at the shrine of the golden fetish) are bending all their power to break the Popular Front Government. Spokes are in the wheel at every turn. So far they have failed.

Only two short years ago, when Laval's massive doses of deflation were being administered, we were faced, so we were told by the high

priests of the Merchant's Temple, with an accursed abundance. Production was far too great compared with consumption.

"Widen the meshes in the fisherman's nets," was the cry, "slaughter the cattle and bury them, drag up the vines, and denature the corn."

Now, all of a sudden, production (French) is discovered to be calamitously deficient, and the cause?—the 40-hour week . . . The remedy? (not as yet openly published)—to revert to longer hours.

The thin end of the wedge is to induce workers to do more than the 40 hours already, by offering overtime pay . . .

If the productive capacity of France, industrial and agricultural, were exploited to the full, with the aid of the most modern devices, the 20-hour week is overdue . . .

Spain takes a back seat. Just about the time the Intervention Committee succeeds in protecting those intervening from intervention, China crashes into the news, or rather, Japanese bombs crash into China . . . If people cannot or will not buy Japanese exports, then they will be jolly well bombed into doing it.

In Germany, an example of what the "brains" devise is to show 4,000,000 sheep how to dive into underground shelters.

America, and all cotton consumers, are faced with another calamity—8 per cent. cotton, so the Government rushes in, and promises 8 cents as a rock-bottom price, and a loan to all farmers who will undertake to curtail production "as they are told" next season. At the same time the Argentine Government is distributing free seed to all farmers willing to intensify the growing of cotton . . . If I'm mad, have me put in an asylum . . .

## FINANCE OF THE MONTH

# BANK MADE LAWS

By A. Hamilton McIntyre

LOOKING over past legislation and the peculiar way in which it favours the banker, Social Crediters have developed a suspicion that at the time of making of laws the banker and his friends have had an undue influence on our legislators. It is not very often that we can catch them actually at the game, but there has been an instance this last month of the beginnings of a move to initiate future legislation in favour of the banks. Mr. R. A. Wilson, Joint General Manager of Lloyds Bank, in his presidential address to the Institute of Bankers on November 3 provided such an instance.

He stated that it was the general practice of banks to impose the fewest possible restrictions on their customers, but that the risks involved in this attitude were proving themselves to be too severe for the banks to carry. This seems to me so much eyewash. The facts of the matter are that the banks have always imposed the greatest possible number of restrictions upon their customers which the customers would stand for, and what Mr. Wilson should have said is that he thinks that the bank's customer is now in a position to stand for a little more.

### That Little More

Discussing how this "little more" can be imposed on the customers, Mr. Wilson suggests that the committee appointed by the Lord Chancellor for law revision, or some similar body, should be given an opportunity of discussing with the bankers some of their present difficulties. Notice the inversion of the real position. Mr. Wilson suggests that the Lord Chancellor's committee should

be given the opportunity of discussing the matter with the bank; what he really means is that the banks should be given the opportunity of pressing their views on the Lord Chancellor's committee.

What is intended is the passing on to the Statute Book of measures directed to the following ends:

First, to abolish the office of Treasurer continued by the Local Government Act of 1933. The undisclosed object of this move is to give the banks in general more power over the local authorities.

Secondly, to compel local authorities to have certain regulations corresponding to those of the articles of association of a limited company. The undisclosed object of this is to improve the security of local authority bank loans.

Thirdly, to amend the Bankruptcy Act, 1914, in respect of the section dealing with "fraudulent preferences." The undisclosed object of this is to protect the bank's advantage over other creditors in bankruptcy and confirm them in the strong position they hold at present, whereby they are always first to get anything that is going when the client is on the verge of bankruptcy.

Fourthly, to impose on the customer an obligation to examine his bank pass book periodically. The real move behind this is for the purpose of excusing the banker when he pays on a forged cheque, and to throw the blame on the customer.

Fifthly, to change the Bills of Exchange Act, 1882. The undisclosed reason for this is also to throw the onus on to the customer, which is at present on the banker, to prevent fraud in certain cases.

### And The Lot More

Now, if the banks are not afraid to claim openly (as Mr. Wilson has done above) that they are entitled to push for certain amendments of the law in certain particulars, we have a strong case for assuming that for every claim they make openly they make many more behind the scenes, and the fact that the legislation of the country favours finance does not mean that it just "grows" that way like Topsy, but that during the whole course of framing the legislation the banks and financial houses were always on the spot exerting their influence in the required directions.

### Pubs And The Talkies

A few months ago I dealt with a feature in business whereby every

trade was trying to "muscle in" on somebody else's business. The latest example is a move by three public houses in the London area to muscle in on the talkies. This has roused the ire of the Cinematograph Exhibitors' Association, who are considering ways and means to interdict the showing of any kind of film in public houses.

The position seems to be that a special size of film of a non-inflammable type does not require a cinema license to show, and it is a pretty safe bet that the powers behind the Cinematograph Exhibitors' Association will, if they fail to get their interdict under present legislation, exert the strongest pressure on the licensing magistrates to put a stop to the rivalry.

The situation, of course, could not arise in Scotland, as one of the principles behind licensing legislation in Scotland is the great principle that public houses must be made as miserable as possible. Any suggestion of music or entertainment of any kind in ordinary public house premises is forbidden, the owner of the premises being threatened with the withdrawal of his license.

### The Stockbroker's Nightmare

One of the headings in the stock market columns of the papers during the month was "Shareholders Losing Money while Profits are Rising." The market editor went on to say:

"In steels, oils, and other groups some major declines have been recorded, and the stage has now been reached where shareholders in companies, which are doing a bigger trade than ever before in their history, are losing heavily on their holdings. This is, in fact, the most sensational feature of the whole Stock Exchange position at the moment. Even in the steel trade, where production is running at a record rate, investors, who subscribed for shares offered to the public only a year or two ago, are already well out of pocket."

The above extract is worth a little consideration by readers of the Supplement. It exhibits the confused and contradictory thinking which is indulged in by stockbrokers, etc.

It would be easy to fill a column of comment on this, but I wish my readers to exercise their own minds on it, and as my space is limited I will content myself with suggesting that it seems to be a case of prediction out-pacing production.

## DEPARTMENT OF LOCAL OBJECTIVES

### Survey of Action, September, October, November, 1937

The following local objectives have been gained by democratic methods during the last three months:

Date	Place	Number Signing Demand.	Reception by People's Representatives	Sanctions Employed.	Objective Gained.
September	Blackburn	1,800	Poor	Publicity in pulpit and press. Use of municipal vote.	Reflooring of a school.
"	Bradford	700	Good	Publicity in press and by bulletin.	Immediate installation of safety measures at cross roads of King's Rd. and Queen's Rd. No soft rubbish will in future be placed on the St. James' rubbish tip.
"	Northampton	—	—	Publicity in press.	Prevented the erection of unnecessary new offices for Water Commission.
October	Belfast	25,000	—	Publicity in press, in street and by bulletin.	Promise that rating assessments shall not be increased at re-valuation of property.
"	Sheffield	50,000	Poor	Publicity in press.	Immediate start on new school at High Farm previously delayed for 3 years.
"	Wallsend	900	Bad	Publicity in press.	£15,000 voted for a new water supply.
November	Okehampton	—	—	Publicity.	

**"Follow-through" Action:** In Blackburn the parents set about procuring the re-surfacing of the school yard by the same methods. Northampton residents are now requesting increased scope in bus transport, but are having difficulty with their "representatives." Inhabitants of Belfast are uniting in a campaign to ensure that a promise already given that rating assessments will not increase, shall be kept. Ratepayers of Sheffield have formed small existent Ratepayers' Associations into a Federation with the following policy: to gather the will of the people and represent it to authority, welcoming their co-operation, overcoming their resistance.

**Unfinished Campaigns:** Many objectives are in progress. In many cases hostile authorities have held up the accomplishment of the people's expressed will, notably at Bethnal Green, where the Council has directly and categorically refused to represent the majority of the people (70 per cent.) in a Re-development Area who do not wish to be removed to flats. Facts recently revealed in the national press make ironical comment on the dictatorial attitude of the council on the superiority of the new tenements. The inhabitants of this district now realise the autocratic tendencies of their local government.

Another group of campaigns still in progress is concerned with rates and rating assessments. Such campaigns are running at Banstead, Bebington, Birmingham, Cardiff, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, North-west London and Upminster. Most of these are in the initial stages.

**Other Objectives:** In all but one of the cases mentioned above there has been direct contact with Social Crediters, and the projects have, in the main, been carried through according to the principles of true democracy. Abroad, particularly in Australia and South Africa, many Local Objectives have been accomplished. These will be dealt with in a separate report, as progress can be estimated more easily in a limited field. The many projects that have been gained by methods not strictly democratic have also been omitted although they are striking evidence that the patience of the British people has at length been exhausted by arbitrary and hypocritical government. There has, for instance, been a notable epidemic of school strikes. The methods employed to consummate such objectives have been diverse, ranging from something near democracy to an abject crawl; in many cases the use of fragments of the Social Credit procedure shows the more remote limits to which our ideas have penetrated. They might be described as the fringes of our expansion, waiting to be plaited into the firm structure by further and more definitely democratic action. These projects have been very much more numerous than those embodying a strict democracy.

E.S.E.

## UP THE POLE

WEEDING out a pile of old newspaper clippings recently, I came across a ludicrous little sequence which seemed to have a message of good cheer for those of us who have taken the trouble to separate means from ends.

An item in *The Times* described the Soviet air expedition to the Arctic as having circled the North Pole and landed on an ice floe some miles to the west.

This drew a protest from a naval staff officer who had always understood that it was possible to leave the North Pole in one direction only—namely to the south.

The next letter in this saga is so exactly like the arguments used by Mr. H. T. N. Gaitskell in criticising the A+B Theorem\* that it deserves reproduction in full.

"A correspondent takes exception to the phrase, 'west of the North Pole,' claiming that all directions from the Pole must be southwards. Such a statement requires some qualifying or modifying. Suppose a house were

built four-square at the North Pole, with windows on all sides—would all these windows face the same direction—namely, southwards? Again, if a man stood on the top of a hill and proceeded to walk therefrom, it is true that every direction must be downwards, but could he not travel towards any point of the compass? It must be borne in mind that while the Equator lies south of the North Pole and can only be reached by travelling downwards, it can also be arrived at via any point of the compass.—Mr. D. BEVERIDGE, 8, Muller Avenue, Bristol 7."

The subject will be found to divide any roomful of people into two camps—hotly argumentative—and ultimately drawing diagrams on the wallpaper.

The correct answer is very easy and obvious, of course, and is only lightly technical. The controversy that can rage round this simple matter is indicative of the futility of trying to "educate the public in the Social Credit financial technique," or of addressing a public meeting on the subject. W.L.B.

\* "What Everybody Wants to Know About Money," edited by G. D. H. Cole.