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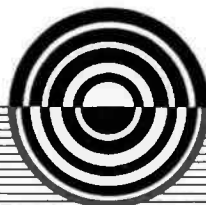
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CONFERENCE



An Ancient Problem Solved

A Fable — By W. Welsh

THE King's Counsellor had a headache. He was trying to think up a scheme for the making of work, for there were many people out of work, and the populace was murmuring, saying, what was the use of a King's Counsellor if he couldn't make work. So he had to think quickly.

At last the King's Counsellor had a thought, and he had it proclaimed that everything was to be done twice. Well, that was all right for the people who worked for the merchants, for they could add up everything twice, take down the shutters of the shops twice every morning and put them up twice every evening; but when some of them tried to sell the same cloth twice over it was thought that the do it twice campaign had gone far enough and it was dropped.

Besides, that helped only the townspeople, and was of no use to the peasants, for when a cabbage grew (and they continued to grow with terrible persistence) was impossible to ungrow it and start over again. The King's Counsellor had therefore to think all over again.

This time he thought really hard, for his job was seriously in danger. At last he hit upon the trouble. It was obvious that the animals were the cause of this distress. He walked through a farm and saw a disgusting sight. A horse was doing work that it would have taken eight men to do. Sir Henry therefore decreed that all horses should be killed and their jobs given to peasants.

The next week he went into the farmyard again and saw a sight that filled him with apprehension. There was a sow with a litter of no less than six piglets. He called the farmer and lectured him upon the iniquity of letting a sow have six piglets at a go, and showed him plainly that if every sow had six piglets there would soon be so much bacon and pork that other food would not be wanted, and many people would thereby be put out of work. The farmer saw the error of his ways at once and promised that it shouldn't occur again.

Sir Henry went back to the palace and organised a Pig Birth Control Board, backed by an Act of Parliament to give them powers to punish. Besides cutting down the number of pigs that Board made work in another way by providing employment for the printers of birth-control regulations, instructions, penalty lists, crime sheets and "fine" tables for the breeders of pigs.

From pigs it was but a small step to cows, from cows to poultry, from poultry to game, and soon there were Boards, backed by legal authority, forbidding cows to give more than a very strict quota of milk, and hens to lay more than a very

limited number of eggs. Nor was it long before the best layers, the best milkers, and all stock that persisted in reproducing itself with a regularity unbecoming to the times, was exterminated.

By the time Sir Henry had had ploughs reduced to half the usual size and had decreed that spades, shovels, forks and other implements should be made smaller, the situation was well in hand, and the public was truly grateful to him.

Sir Henry wanted to make his triumph permanent, though, and he wasn't taking any chances of being caught with a lot of people out of work again. So he went into retirement for a month, at the end of which time he came forth in front of the royal palace and decreed that in order that there should be enough work for all people for ever more they must be careful to keep down the numbers of the people. Therefore, one child only would be allowed to each unmarried couple in future. In this way there would be always lots of work for everyone.

That worked very nicely, and when Sir Henry died his grateful countrymen erected a great monument to him, and every year, on the anniversary of his death, they gathered round it, singing hymns in praise of work, for now the whole country was poor and townsmen and countrymen alike worked from dawn to dusk to get a living, and nobody was afraid of being out of work.

Some years after their benefactor had been buried, however, it began to be apparent that the supply of work was again running short, so they called Sir Henry's eldest son and asked him what they should do.

He thought long and deeply and then said: "Good people, my wise father bade you reduce your numbers in order that there should be plenty of work for all. Owing to the lessened demand for goods and food caused through your having only one child per couple, there is again a scarcity of that beautiful commodity, work. As there is less work now available than when my father gave you his wise decrees it follows that you must have still fewer children, your children will have fewer children still, until within a few generations there will be none of you left, and thus will be finally solved the problem of unemployment. This my wise father

foresaw, but you were not then ready for the truth."

Naturally, the people were not very pleased at being told that within a hundred years or so they would be extinct, but what could they do about it? They had to make work somehow, and it would have been wrong to have let a lot of people grow up without there being any work for them.

WHY IS WAR COMING?

BECAUSE "work" has been elevated as the object of existence, because we have been bamboozled into the "essence of sin" in elevating "means" into ends, have, in fact, lost sight of the ends.

Work, trade, commerce are only "means" to what?

To live in full freedom and security.

Only in Alberta have people demanded from their public representatives these results. Read what Douglas said:—

"This insistence upon production all over the world, as though the problem were of production, is a matter that is hypnotising people into assuming that they must be regimented in industry.

"If you allow this thing to go passively you will be regimented through various stages until we arrive at an effective dictatorship in which nothing can be done, and we shall be hurried by the inevitable results into either another world war, which is looming up very fast at the present time, or one long series of revolts and ultimate chaos."

Southampton, 1935

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What Social Credit Means To The Workers • An Article for New Readers • by the EARL OF TANKERVILLE •

THE MAJORITY OF PEOPLE PROBABLY THINK VAGUELY OF SOCIAL CREDIT AS BEING MERELY A PARTICULAR BRAND OF UNORTHODOX MONETARY REFORM, AND IT WOULD BE WELL, THEREFORE, TO DISPEL THIS MISCONCEPTION FIRST OF ALL.

Far more important than any monetary technique—which, after all, is a matter for the student of Economics—is the wider and more immediately practical aspect of Social Credit which has to do with the objectives for which human beings associate together, and how, in association, they can attain those objectives.

MANY years ago, Major Douglas, perceiving that there was a fundamental flaw in our financial system, set himself to trace and analyse it.

He found, among other things, that, during the process of production, total prices are generated at a faster rate than incomes are distributed; and, consequently, that the community as a whole would be able to buy progressively less and less of what they produce, that debt to the banking system would mount higher and higher, and that eventually the alternatives of starvation in the midst of plenty at home, or war for the sake of keeping out export markets abroad (i.e., in order to get rid of our surpluses which are unpurchasable at home) would bring about a collapse of our present civilisation unless means were found, and speedily put into operation, to rectify the cause of the otherwise inevitable disaster.

He therefore proceeded to work out certain technical financial principles by the application of which the individuals comprising a community would always be able (in totality) to buy as much as they wanted of what they or their machines were able to produce.

But he realised that however correct might be these, or any other, principles for making national book-keeping conform to actualities, no alteration of present monetary methods would ever be allowed by the international credit monopolists to take place until the *power* to make any change at all had first been taken back by the people into their own hands.

Therefore, after 15 years, during which Major Douglas's analysis and technical proposals became known to, discussed, and supported by, a great many people all over the world, it was decided (in 1934) that the time had come for political action rather than argument about technical methods.

Major Douglas pointed out that the individual must first be made to realise

that he has in his hands the power of political democracy before it will be possible for him to secure economic democracy.

He also pointed out that the way to political democracy (which exists in name only at present) lies in a united demand for clearly defined *results* which everybody wants and can understand, and *not* in any demand for technical methods about which there would always be great diversity and conflict of opinions and necessarily very little understanding.

Consider the "sham" of party politics in this regard. Once in every few years we argue about, and eventually vote for, methods. According to our inclination, we vote, in effect, for the Conservative, the Liberal, or the Labour method of imposing upon us results which we do not want—results which are wanted only by those vested interests which control and supply the main bulk of, party funds—namely, more complete control for international finance, which means less security, less liberty, and less prosperity for the individual.

For so long have we had practical illustration of this fact that we have now, to a large extent, lost heart and have become inert and apathetic, and we are, therefore, rapidly losing all social and political vitality. This is just what is desired by those who would like to have us a nation of obedient, work-minded slaves, grateful for even any slight amelioration of our lot which they may care to allow us.

I entirely agree, therefore, with Major Douglas that the most important thing at the present time is not to discuss technical methods (except, of course, among those who wish to be students of a subject) but to get the individual to realise, and to *practise*, the very thing which these anti-social interests are trying to make him forget, namely, his *own sovereignty*.

It is time that we ceased giving "blank cheques" to our trade union officials, our local councillors, and our Members of Parliament, and that we gave them our definite orders instead.

But these orders must be for results only, and not for methods, otherwise we shall continue to be "humbled" by elusive promises, and to be put off by suave assurances of "avenues being explored" and "stones being turned."

We must, however, make ourselves quite clear as to what are "results" and what are, in fact, only "methods." For example: work is only a method, although successive Governments try to make us believe—and they seem very largely to have succeeded—that work is the object of human existence.

Work is a method of obtaining income with which to buy the things we want. The "things we want" is the result; "work," by which I mean human work, is merely one method.

If we invent machines to do a large part of the work for us, then obviously we must find some means, other than by human work, of buying our share of what the machines turn out—and, incidentally, that means without any increase of debt, taxation, or consumer prices, or else collectively we shall be no better off than before.

A result, then, is the thing itself which you really want. A method is any step which comes in between; and, if we ourselves worry about "steps in between" instead of putting the responsibility for these where it belongs—i.e., on the backs of the appropriate technical experts—then we invariably lose sight of, or keep in the future, what we really want, and it then becomes a matter of "jam yesterday, jam to-morrow, but never jam to-day."

If any result which you want is, in fact, what a majority want (and is also, of course, physically possible) you have only unitedly to give your orders to your trade union, local council, or Parliament, as the case may be, and you will be obeyed, because you have it in your power, if necessary, to impose a variety of effective sanctions against members of any authority who are there by your vote (and who, don't forget it, are your paid servants) should they attempt to refuse.

Until we realise our own individual sovereignty, our responsibility as citizens for the results we want, there will be nothing but increasing tyranny against the individual by the institutions and officials which he maintains, increasing demands for all manner of unnecessary sacrifices to abstract ideals, to outworn prejudices, and to other unrealistic ends; together with decreasing security, both in our personal liberty and in our economic circumstances, except upon terms dictated by interests outside of, and in conflict with, our own.

There is only one time to start giving orders, and that is NOW.

Reprinted from the "Newcastle Sunday Sun."

Mrs. Palmer's Page . . .

More Than a True Story!

IT was 1925. Mr. and Mrs. Jones were supremely happy. They would often stop short and wonder whether any two people had ever been so happy before. The answer was always the same. Whenever this thought came they looked at one another with dancing eyes. If no one else was there, they—well, you all know what they did.

It took them about a year to get the house and garden straight. It looked like a jewel inside and out. Everything was so polished and new. Then there were all the old friends who had come to the wedding to be invited at the week-ends, to see the presents in their proper setting; and all the return visits to be paid. How glorious life was!

When the second spring came round and Mrs. Jones was conducting the solemn rite (though how anything could possibly need an extra clean in that house passes my understanding), she took out the tennis rackets from the hall cupboard. A string had gone in each.

"It's time we thought about joining a club," said she.

What Mrs. Jones said went in that house. Mr. Jones was all for the idea—said it didn't do to be too standoffish in a new neighbourhood—and looked in the local directory for an address.

There didn't seem to be any tennis club in Siddons Green.

"Funny thing," said he, "now I think of it, I don't remember seeing one anywhere about last summer."

They asked the local newsagent. No, there wasn't a club within five miles. The older residents, who had lived in the place since long before the new houses came, mostly had their own private courts. The new people didn't want a club. They were too taken up with gardening.

"I won't believe it!" said Mrs. Jones. "Don't tell me there are no tennis players living in these five hundred new houses!"

During the following week she spoke to everyone she knew in the road, and that was everybody, for hadn't they all made friends in the early times of pantehnicons and cups of tea over the fence on moving day, and mutual confidences concerning the delinquencies of speculative builders and house agents?

No; no one wanted a tennis club—what time was there to play, after all? By the time you had got home, had your dinner and looked round the garden, the evening was gone. And where was there a court to be had? Catch any of the old gang offering to lend or hire his court, though it wasn't used from one year's end to another.

"Come to that," said the builder, who was passing down the road at the time, "It'd be easy enough to make a court. That piece of land at the end is too far away from the main sewer to pay me to

build on. I was wondering what to do with it. Make a capital court."

Mrs. Jones was an expert in overcoming sales resistance. Most of her talent was natural. She went back to the three neighbours who had seemed more hopeful than the others, and together they hammered out a scheme. The builder agreed to make them a court if they would guarantee £20 a year between them, as a return on his capital. After all, he liked a game himself. Mr. Jones thought they could manage £4 a year as their share, and perhaps they might get more members next season.

The court was made. The first Saturday's play was watched with great interest by the butcher's boy leaning on his cycle, a road sweeper, and two nursemaids. But by evening a group of neighbours had collected, and at the close of rather an exciting rally, one of them asked diffidently whether the club was open to receive more members.

That was the beginning. By the end of the month they had twenty members, and Mrs. Jones found herself appointed Hon. Sec.

By the end of the season they had fifty in the club, £80 in the bank, and were making plans for laying down two more courts for next year.

That is the true story.

Here is the possible sequel.

• • •

It is 1938. Mr. and Mrs. Jones are still happy, but they don't think about it quite so often. There are four of them now. The house is still exquisitely clean, but the colours are dimmer. They have resigned their membership of the tennis club. Mrs. Jones says she couldn't afford the time to play often enough to justify the expense. Mr. Jones is always putting his hand in his pocket for something. Last year Betty was terribly ill; they didn't think she'd live. He is still paying off the mortgage on his house, and neither of his children was lucky enough to get a scholarship or even a free place at the Secondary School. He can't understand it, for, as he says, they are both bright kids. So he keeps his old car, and does his own house-decorating to save money towards the school fees.

When the local paper announced that the rates were going up and it meant he'd have to find another £3 a year, he said it was the last straw.

"What do we get for it?" he said angrily. "Look at the street lighting, and the disgraceful pavement down this road! They haven't touched it since the day we moved in."

He said he would go to the next meeting of the Ratepayers' Association, just to see what they were doing.

It was while he was there that the

miracle happened. Mrs. Jones thought she heard the postman, but when she went to the door it was only a paper stuck through the letter box. It was called *Lower Rates*, and she was so struck by the coincidence that she took it into the dining room to read by the fire.

She was still reading and thinking when Bill came back, much earlier than she expected. She asked him how he liked the meeting.

"Lot of blasted rot," he replied. He then gave his opinion of the Ratepayers' Association, which I am afraid the editor wouldn't allow me to print. "The old gang were there in full force," he said. "When Robinson asked what they were going to do about rising rates, one of them got up and said we should be turning the corner soon. And went on to say that what we really wanted was a sanatorium. So I got up, and I said, 'If you're going to put £200,000 on the rates to pay for a new sanatorium you'll soon have plenty of ratepayers to put in it!' They all laughed, then went on arguing about the surveyor's salary, poor blighter. Don't want him to have any increase. I got up and came out . . . What's this? 'Lower Rates with no decrease in Social Services?'"

"Someone pushed it through the door." He read it for half an hour. Then, "Oh, Hell!" said he, "What's the use of anything, anyway?"

And went up to bed.

Mrs. Jones said nothing. She had been married for fifteen years.

• • •

But he was reading it again next morning at breakfast, instead of the paper.

"By jove, this chap's right about money," he said. "Listen to this. 'Once a ratepayer has thoroughly understood that banks create credit costlessly, there is no difficulty in showing him that he, and not the banks, is the rightful owner of this credit, since the only factor which gives it value is the hard work, the skill and the material provided by ratepayers.'

"And listen to this from Mr. McKenna, 'I am afraid the ordinary citizen will not like to be told that the banks can, and do, create and destroy money.'

"That's just it. We all feel that some kind of complicated swindle is going on, but don't know what it is."

• • •

He was on to the same thing again that evening.

"They tell you here that if your Ratepayers' Association won't do what you want you should start one of your own, and call it 'The Lower Rates Demand Association.' Not a bad idea."

They talked it over, and decided that the first thing to do was to sound the neighbours about it. During the next week

they spoke to most of the ratepayers in their own road, and their old friends at the tennis club. The result was discouraging. One or two said the *Lower Rates* paper was all eyewash.

"Who are these people, and what do they hope to get out of it, anyway?"

Some said it was a good idea if only there was someone to get it going, but they couldn't possibly do anything to help. Only Smith and Robinson seemed enthusiastic.

"Better give up the idea," said Bill. "Why should I waste my time over a lot of mugs who don't know what they want?"

His wife didn't reply for a moment. She was looking out of the window where Anthony was playing in the garden. She thought of their expenses going on and on, rates and taxes mounting year by year. It would be a camping holiday again this time, and would continue to be, she supposed, until the children were grown up and earning. It wasn't that she didn't enjoy the lovely country, and the grand times they had together, but she got so tired of cook, cook, cook. If only, before they were too old to enjoy it, they could have another holiday together, on their own, like their honeymoon, with lots of nice new clothes; and those delightful little dinners they had in Paris

Anthony had picked up an old tennis racket, and was bouncing a ball against the house wall.

Suddenly Mrs. Jones jumped up out of her chair and cried, "Why, Bill, don't you see? It's just exactly like the tennis club!"

Bill didn't see.

"Don't you remember when we wanted a tennis club, no one else wanted it except Smith and Robinson. They all said it would be a failure, or they couldn't afford it, or hadn't got time to play. But as soon as we got the court made, they all wanted to join!"

"It'll be exactly the same again. Write to the U.R.A.A. and get Smith and Robinson to help you, and as soon as you get going, they'll all want to come in. They're only waiting for someone else to start!"

Bill looked at his wife in the way that husbands sometimes do.

"You're right, Betty," he said.

That was the beginning of the Siddons Green Lower Rates Demand Association. Mrs. Jones was the Hon. Sec. until the work was too much for her to cope with.

• • •

They never discovered who pushed the paper through the door. It must have been a stranger passing by.

B. M. PALMER

The Study of Social Credit

(Some Pointers From The Authorised Course)

I.

Errors of the magnitude which Douglas has unmasked would not be so firm in their hold over the minds of individuals who have displayed considerable mental and practical ability did they not receive support from something inherent in past and present modes of representing the working of our brains.

"Brothers and sisters have I none; yet this man's father is my father's son." This is an assertion in words, all of them familiar words, and only fourteen of them altogether. Yet most people spend quite an appreciable time working out what the statement means. Some give it up, and take refuge in someone else's judgment. If this judgment is correct, they may receive assistance from it, and become sure of the meaning for themselves. "What other judgment can I judge by but my own?" cried the desperate Joan of Arc in the play. It applies. The objective of the Social Credit student should be the correct application of initiative.

The student of Social Credit will encounter nothing inherently more difficult than the elucidation of the familiar little puzzle cited; but he will encounter some matters which entail greater intellectual courage in holding on to the right

answer when he has found out what it is. This is not due only to the fact that some may repudiate (even unconsciously) the Philosophy of Social Credit — the Social Crediter's view of Reality — it is due to habits rooted in our intellectual forms.

Pioneers have to be tough. Those who set out to explore the vast field which Douglas has mapped out are in the position of pioneers. They have not now to read the maps already drawn, and to refer to these maps unfamiliar features in the landscape which most of their fellows in the community cannot even see.

Before they have gone far on their way they will discover that in Douglas's hands the "art of map-drawing" has itself advanced, and long before they reach the end of their journey, that there is no aspect of human life and experience, which has not acquired new and wider meaning. They will find that even the intellectual instruments which men and women have been accustomed to use have themselves been improved by Douglas's use of them, and not merely improved, but put in their right places and made servants of instead of masters.

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Why Did You ?

Have you ever thought how good it would be to

- Ride?
- Swim across the river?
- Grow roses?
- Paint your room as you would have it painted?
- Take down the ugly picture and burn it?
- Say what you think?
- Give something?

Why didn't you?

Have you ever

- Seen the tiny patches of light with curved edges on the eye, felt, in imagination, the moulding of the angle of a jaw when the chin is raised, or the ridges at the wrist where the tendons play when the thumb is out-stretched?
- The shadow that is sea and the shadow that is sky and the shadow that is neither sea nor sky when the moon is, "like a slender shaving of gold thrown up from the rim of the ocean"?
- And have you made these marks over again with some instrument, it does not matter what?

Why didn't you?

- Have you ever seen the whole, when all others saw but the part, and the words to tell it came to your lips and you would have spoken them?

Why didn't you?

Why don't you? No one else can.

HAS never

- the true image of the part carried for perception before you alone before it fell into nothing, and while you saw you lied, saying: "It is Nothing"—or, "It is a Star"?

Why did you?—For now it is for ever Nothing.



THE FIG TREE

A Quarterly Edited by Major C. H. Douglas

J
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E

Containing articles by
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The NEW ERA

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Realities or Symbols ?

W.A.B.M.

MOST PEOPLE, IN SPITE OF THEMSELVES, ARE IMMEDIATELY INFLUENCED BY FACTS WHEN THEY ARE BROUGHT FACE TO FACE WITH THEM.

(1)

THE sight of a dilapidated, starved and miserable man or woman awakens the generous impulses of even the super-sophisticated, and the need being recognised for what it is, an all-too-temporary solution is offered on the spur of common feeling.

And as for the plight of a neglected child . . . ! However, facts of the kind suggested, no matter how unmistakable at close quarters, can be avoided or overlooked in the pressure of affairs, and impressions are notorious for growing dim.

The facts are lost sight of, the suffering forgotten, and in the absence of the living realities, negative ideas grow and are fostered.

Finally, reality is completely distorted and superseded and in the succeeding twilight a new world is born in which there are no "unpleasant" realities, no "painful" facts, and "God's in His heaven, all's well with the world!"

The dilapidated, starving, miserable units of human reality—so unmistakably of this earth—vanish in this ideological, idealistic retreat, leaving not a wrack of their human personalities behind; and in their place remain only vague figments, symbols fit only for the census report and the tabulator of general statistics.

(2)

This process by which men, women and children become mere figures and are discussed and dealt with as abstractions, is no fiction. It is, on the contrary, the unmistakable fact of modern life. It typifies modern life, completely permeates it, and it is going on in every village, town and city in the country—in every country.

It is no accidental development. It is a process called into being by two factors, a dual unity, both financial: one having to do with the creation of debt, and the

other concerned with the repayment of debt.

All other uses to which these figures are put, are additions to the original intention and are quite superfluous to it.

The dilapidated, starving, miserable man, no matter who he is, what he is, or how he suffers, is in this system, "1." His wife, if he has one, is also "1." And his child, if he has one, is "1."

And opposite these figures are put other figures equally deceptive and entirely reticent.

The man, the wife and the child become "3," or again ".003," or "3 per cent." These are falsifications.

It is not to be wondered at that the facts of human misery and destitution are overlooked, forgotten, and finally—in extreme instances—denied. It is not to be wondered at that negative ideas grow and are fostered.

The person with no experience of being slowly destroyed and concealed by figures, cannot have any realisation of what such figures mean when he comes across them in his favourite journal.

Thus, in this process, realities, facts, become symbols vague figments at once totally inadequate and extremely dangerous.

Man becomes a number and, like the convict, loses most of the things that pertain to him as a man.

(3)

The process by which realities become symbols is the result of another process of the reverse order, in which symbols become realities.

It is to balance this process that the first-mentioned process comes into being.

Although it is true to say that realities are of first importance and symbols are a mere matter of convenience, there are groups of men who, while agreeing with this principle, judge realities in accordance with the results of this reverse process.

And as a result they, and the section of

the community allied to them, live, breathe and have their being within the confines of this process.

And further, when on any extreme occasion realities assert themselves and become a menace to the shadowy life of the symbols, this section is quite prepared to see the extinction of realities so that the symbols may survive.

This means that if a reality, say a man, is to be considered in relation to a symbol, say a figure, the man must be judged as of no importance, and his well-being, his intelligence and his life sacrificed without a qualm.

The symbol, the figure, is Money.

(4)

There cannot be any doubt in the mind of any man or woman that his or her own real existence is of more importance than something which merely points to it—a symbol.

So these processes by which a reality becomes a symbol and a symbol displaces the vitally important reality, stand condemned; and with them stand condemned all those who live within the conventions of these processes. In this matter, tolerance is impossible. You do not tolerate a rattlesnake in your bed: you turn it out, if you can.

An alternative process must be imposed. Realities must subjugate symbols, which must take their proper place as things which are merely conveniences.

The alternative to

Man, destitute and anxiety-ridden = 1 (which to the symbol "P.A.C." = "17s.");

Or

Woman, destitute, or anxiety-ridden = 1 (which in a similar connection = the symbol "15s.");

Or

Child, miserable, half-starved = 1 = "3s."

is 3 = sacred Mr. Freeman, with his wife and daughter planning to carry out the stifled vocations of a lifetime, with the opportunity provided by a vast accumulated real capital the yield from which is theirs in common with their fellows.

"Misapplied"

Taxation

In a letter to the *Daily Telegraph* on August 9, Sir James Marchant joins with Sir Oswald Stoll in protesting against the continuance of the Entertainment Tax, which, he says, "eats up irreplaceable capital, cripples production, lowers its quality, increases debts, throws more and more people out of work, destroys initiative, and debases spiritual values."

He refers to the results of this Tax as deadly, and ends by saying: "To-day we surely need to preserve and promote the artistic and spiritual standards and values of the theatre which are now cast down by the leaden weight of this crushing and misapplied taxation."

While it is impossible not to sympathise with the point of view expressed, it must not be forgotten that the removal of any particular item of taxation is only one line in the play.

The Theatre, like every other venture

relying upon the purchasing-power of the general public, is suffering just as much from the taxes imposed on every branch of activity, every condition and process, as from its own specific taxation.

The Entertainment Tax is one of a multitude of Taxes that the consumer must pay before he can use or enjoy anything at all.

The complaints of Sir Oswald Stoll and Sir James Marchant do little to bring to public realisation that all taxation is "deadly" and "misapplied."

THE ART OF FREEDOM

THE ART OF GOVERNMENT IS THE ART OF CONSTRAINING PEOPLE TO DO SOMETHING THE RESULT OF WHICH THEY WOULD AVOID IF THEY POSSIBLY COULD.

THE Art of Freedom is the art partly of restraining tyrants from doing what they will do if they possibly can, and partly the art of retaining initiative in the individual's hands to so act as to gain results which please him, and to change one course of action for another as freely as naturally possible to this end.

The art of securing YOUR FREEDOM IS THE ART YOU MAY PRACTISE TO RESTRAIN TYRANTS FROM DOING TO YOU WHAT YOU DO NOT WANT DONE and what they will do TO YOU if they can.

Voluntary cricket, although it is played under a more or less rigid code of rules and obediently to the will of an autocratic captain is very far from being offensive to English sensibilities.

Yet intelligent obedience in the art of war, which may be regarded as cricket played with a different kind of ball for different stakes, under different rules, is distasteful to most people, in whom a liking for dangerous forms of violence does not override saner considerations. Is this a paradox? If the word, war, is made so horrible that folk will not consider the application of principles developed by the art of war to their own war for freedom, is that not a very adroit use of the art of government?

A favourite trick of rulers is to get people to throw out the baby with the bath water. This is easy if the people

cannot recognise the baby, and still easier if they cannot tell the difference between baby and bath water.

If there is anything in what Foch has to say about intelligent obedience—that's the baby, and there is no good reason why we should throw it away because we don't like brass-hats and servility.

Use "forces superior at the place and time of impact" to the opposition's. If he can get you to throw away the baby grain of sense with the bath water of detestation of military forms, HE WILL DO IT; his forces will be "superior at the place and time of impact" to yours. He will WIN; and YOU will BE BEATEN.

It is possibly in your mind that the soldier does not choose his objective at all, or does so under the pressure of an abstract notion of patriotism.

The citizen of to-day may, if he will, choose his objective, instead of behaving merely as the plaything and food material of an inhuman race of cannibal bankers, who spit us out of their mouths when they have stuck their fangs through us and write up the "cost" of the meal as a debt against our children, to whom they intend to behave in exactly the same way.

Collectively, the citizen of today CAN choose better, and it is of the essence of the situation that he should.

For success in this enterprise it is necessary that there should be a SMALL IMPETUS FROM A BODY OF MEN

WHO KNOW WHAT TO DO AND HOW TO DO IT. Let's prepare that "small impetus."

Foch, looking forward to wars on an ever-increasing scale, had virtually this problem before him: how to do the job (i.e., *win*) when the job becomes too big. He pointed out that there was a "plain Irish sense," let us call it, in which this must happen, when no military genius (he had Napoleon in mind), however great, could be master of the detail of even a part of a campaign. What was to happen then, he said, was intelligent obedience, and by intelligent obedience he meant and described something that was creative and individually respectable in nearly all its features, not something that was inferior and subservient. He took the voluntary adhesion to POLICY (the objective to be gained, including the means correctly adapted to gaining it) as GIVEN (as it is for an army at war), and tried to show that ONCE THAT IS GIVEN, the rest required cannot be less than the whole creative power of the individual. Every kind of initiative, every kind of decision, was appropriate to intelligent obedience—but one: the objective to be gained.

In the war for human freedom, it is that decision the citizen has to take FIRST. The practical sense of Englishmen leads them naturally and inevitably to the rest; for, to the practical intelligence, it is UNINTELLIGENT to die when you need not die; to be beaten (even by bankers) when you need not be beaten.

TUDOR JONES

The "Swindler of Moderate Opportunity"

THE Government's new Bill for the purpose of ending—as far as legislation can—the share-pushing racket, provides a penalty of seven years' penal servitude for convicted offenders.

Such a term of imprisonment is certainly well-earned by the type of individual who swindles trusting persons out of the small capital which, under present conditions, stands between them and destitution.

As a character in the play remarked when the truth had been borne home to him: "You take my life when you do take the means whereby I live." A successful swindler is, in all cases affecting persons of moderate means, a kind of indirect murderer.

Under the present Bill, a person is liable for making misleading statements, concealing material facts, or making promises which there is no reasonable ground for supposing will be fulfilled. The state of affairs in August, 1914, comes to mind,

when the Bank of England, in spite of having caused to be printed on its notes its promise to pay, found itself with nothing to pay with.

And in fact, if the Government had not agreed to aid—instead of preventing and punishing—this particular swindle, by printing Treasury Notes to the required amount, the losses of the public would have been seen to be as high as indeed they were.

The depredations of the "Swindler of moderate opportunity" (shall we call him?) are reckoned to be approximately £5,000,000 plus the sufferings of the victims, whose number probably does not exceed a thousand. At a modest estimate, the Banks' depredations—even apart from the consideration of exactly how much real wealth they have destroyed and restricted—can only begin to be estimated when we have first reckoned the nearly £1,500 millions of local government debt, plus the £8,000 million of national debt,

plus the victims whose number is the number of the population of these islands.

An interesting point about the Bill, which will not be considered by Parliament until autumn, is that the Government draftsmen are said to have had the greatest difficulty in finding a definition sufficiently narrow for their purpose—in other words, they found it difficult to know where to draw the line, if they wished only share-pushers to be caught.

Gill and Teg

"Unholy Trinity," by Eric Gill and Denis Teg (Tegetmeier) is published by Dent for 2s. Mr. Gill's text to eleven "pictures" by Teg is a necessary service notwithstanding the mastery of satirical draughtsmanship displayed. The topics are power, money, work and leisure, poverty in the midst of plenty, war and damnation, from which readers may infer that Art and Literature are now only about three years behind *Social Credit* and one-and-a-half in front of *The Times*.

SOCIAL CREDIT

For Political and Economic Democracy

The Official Organ of the Social Credit Secretariat, Limited.

163A, Strand, W.C.2. Tel. TEM 7054.

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Friday, August 19, 1938

There and Here

EDMONTON is nearly 5,000 miles away. Almost every communication that is possible is in the hands of the opposition to effective expression of the will of the people: posts, telegraphs, publicity, technical and financial means of overcoming Time and Distance.

Yet we know of the intense WAR which has now spread throughout Canada. Our Canadian correspondent says it has "already the features of the Grand Scale: the dust and confusion of the front line and what is just behind the front line." Meanwhile *The Times* cries: "SURRENDER!" knowing there will not be surrender. A curious newspaper! It does not give the news; but it gives the opinion it presumes to base on the news. The news it may repeat (privately) to favoured readers. It has done so before, reserving the "right" to dispense this in its "own time and way."

But SOCIAL CREDIT supplies the news.

To get anything done, says *The Times*, the Provinces must surrender their powers to someone else. You can't crack the nut with your crackers—you must give the nut and the crackers to someone else. Then "he" can crack it for you! It is disrespectful to elderly wives to call that an Old Wives' Tale. EFFORTS TO INDUCE THEM, says *The Times*, HAVE PROVED UNAVAILING.

THAT is all happening over THERE.

HERE, 5,000 miles away, we see what is happening there MORE clearly — and WHAT IS HAPPENING HERE LESS CLEARLY. One may often meet a trooper who does not know. He has even participated in the great battle—and does not know it. He waits to see it debated, twopence-coloured, in his newspaper. He played once in comic opera, where there were the same strange dresses and queer goings on. He becomes a child again. This is so like it! Or he remains a child — this is still more like it! It becomes a game that REALLY does not matter. "What fun men have," cries the French Countess, meeting one who worked "in a BOILER." (Yes, a boiler.)

It's time TO GROW UP.

NOT IN THE STARS

(Mr. de Weirnen, Form Master of the Upper Fifth, meets Smith Major "hanging around.")

Smith: What do you think of the "Queen Mary," sir?

de W.: I am not sure that I do, Smith; I am not sure that I do!

Smith: Why, don't you think it's simply splendid, sir? Of course, I know—all this record-breaking, and all that—gets a bit boring, and all that sort of thing. Nothing but record-breaking nowadays.

de W.: Quite so, Smith; quite so.

Smith: Come to think of it, what you may call the "progress curve" 's getting a bit steep. Golly! It's as though we could do anything we thought of!

de W.: Ah, no, Smith . . .

Smith: Well, almost? . . .

de W.: No, Smith! That's what misleads so many estimable people. Every advance raises new and difficult—very difficult problems, and the faster the progress, the more difficult the problems. The advancement is very slow, Smith (fortunately, perhaps), very slow.

Smith: Yes, I suppose it is, sir. It's a long time since Watt . . .

de W.: James Watt discovered the use of steam as a motive power in 1765, Smith.

Smith: It made a difference, sir? There was Hargreaves's jenny in 1770, and Crompton's mule in 1776; and then . . .

de W.: Oh, yes! Before a century had passed one English writer was saying that in a lifetime man had made such changes on the earth's surface as would be visible to a man in the moon, if he had our powers of vision!

Smith: Really, sir!

de W.: Oh, yes! Francis Galton said so.

Smith: Queer way of looking at it!

de W.: It was.

Smith: You might plot our material accomplishments on a sort of time tape, sir, like the tape in the "clicker" in my old man's office!

de W.: Yes, the last 170 years would be black with them, Smith; black with

them — almost a black piece of tape instead of white paper!

Smith: And before that, sir?

de W.: Before what, Smith?—Ah, yes; you mean before steam?

Smith: Yes, sir. What about that? I suppose there was the whole of civilisation before that?

de W.: Quite so, Smith, quite so; the whole of civilisation. Just as I suggested to you! A very long time! Evidences of civilisation carry us back to at least 3,500 B.C., and possibly to 4,000 B.C. Professor Breasted probably had ample justification for asserting it as an established fact that civilisation arose in Egypt. In fewer than a thousand years all its characteristic features were well established.

Smith: Why, that's less than 6,000 years ago! And what was before that, sir? Just nothing?

de W.: The so-called Neolithic phase of culture may have begun about 3,000 B.C. in England—earlier farther east. There was not much—being born, hunting for food, dying: a few scratches in caves, some instruments, very beautifully made; but — (*laughing*) — your "tape," Smith, wouldn't have had a black dot on it in a thousand years!

Smith: And that lasted?

de W.: The authorities are only guessing. They usually say about a million years — i.e., those of them who are Darwinians.

Smith: 'M! . . . Thank you, sir.

(Later: the Staff Common Room.)

Bolder (a House Master): de Wiernen, Smith wants to see you. He's got something with him.

de W.: Good heavens, Smith! What's all this?

Smith (carrying a wastepaper basket full of "tape"): I found a reel in my locker, sir.

de W.: Yes?

Smith: And I've marked it up, sir. Look! This little bit: BLACK!—an eighth of an inch: 170 years, sir!

de W.: Yes?

Smith: And this bit, four inches and three eighths.

de W.: Ah, yes! I see! The pyramids, the art of smelting metals, the arts of building, painting and embalming; of irrigation and so on . . . I think you have got too many dots, Smith.

Smith: Do you, sir? . . . Well, there aren't very many, anyhow. And this, in the basket—THERE ARE NEARLY 24 YARDS, sir! Twenty-four yards of almost nothing, four and a half inches of "civilisation" and an eighth of an inch of POWER. Do you know, sir, it doesn't seem to me an illusion? . . . Do you know, I feel funny, as though SOMETHING MIGHT HAPPEN? That eighth of an inch! It is so tiny, sir!

(The Common Room is shocked.)

—ANNA GAMMADION

The Liberator

50 cents a year from
Social Credit League of
British Columbia
636, Burrard Street
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British
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Social
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Bulletin

ALBERTA POSTCARDS THE WORLD

ALBERTA'S brief on Dominion-Provincial Relations which was not submitted to the Rowell Commission is now due for publication and is to go direct to the Federal Government.

The brief will run into about 275 pages of 400 words each and 10,000 copies are to be widely circulated in order to place before the people of Canada some of the more relevant details of Alberta's fight for personal liberty and security.

The British reader may well contrast the Albertan method of handling this matter with the official *indifference* to a "Public, standing by, fully informed and deliberately consenting," which is the rule at home when mass hoodwinking is not resorted to.

In Alberta, the people are told by *postcard* of what concerns them. Here is the text on the card:—

"Notice of Publication

"The case for Alberta, being the submission of the Government of Alberta on Dominion-Provincial Relations. Date of Publication about August 1, 1938.

"The Province did not present its brief to the Rowell Royal Commission on Dominion-Provincial Relations for reasons which were given when that body was appointed. Subsequent events have vindicated the Government's action.

"The Case for Alberta is now being submitted to THE SOVEREIGN PEOPLE OF CANADA and their Governments as a practical contribution to our national problems.

"The second part of the brief is devoted to a statement of the Provincial Government's case for monetary and social reform."

Full information will be given in SOCIAL CREDIT concerning Alberta's "Brief" as soon as it is obtainable.

Even since the Albertan people challenged Finance and demanded results, a fierce battle has raged, as our readers know, between all the resources of money and the "increasingly restive" Premiers not of one Province alone but of most.

This is not an abstract "Constitutional issue," as it is labelled by the opposition, it is a *real* issue, overriding forms and formulae.

The "hostility" of the Provinces to the Dominion (is there a Dominion?) is the "hostility" of an entrenched enemy of the people to the implementation of the people's will.

The great fight has already the features of the grand scale: the dust and confusion of the front line and what is just behind the front line.

The fight is ON.

Efforts to induce a surrender have proved unavailing, says our own *Times*.

Rumour Has It—

SASKATCHEWAN is to be endowed with a brand new radio transmitting station for the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation network. It is said that it is to be a 50,000 watt affair and will be suffi-

ciently powerful to cover the entire West during the next Federal election campaign—cover it, that is, with bankers' anti-Social Credit propaganda.

ONTARIO. Some say Premier Hepburn, of Ontario, and Premier Maurice Duplessis, of Quebec, have been engaged in get-together talks directed towards the formation of a new political party with a Liberal list.

The two Premiers are close friends and Mr. Hepburn, who supported Mackenzie King at the last Federal election, now declares he has no admiration for him. He is a monetary reformer and his support of King was on this issue.

OTTAWA. There is much talk in Canada these days of a general election this autumn.

The Dominion wheat crop is expected to break all records, and it may be that the Premier will wish to appeal to the western Provinces in the full flood of their rejoicings after a bumper harvest. Moreover, international developments may bring to the fore the question of Canada's position in the event of a European flare-up. And the difficulties attendant upon the new United States trade agreement which looks like deadlocking because of the wheat export demands of each country is causing some alarm.

TWEEDSMUIR, Canada's Governor-General, has been ordered home to England for a month's rest under doctor's orders. It is believed His Excellency is suffering from a stomach complaint.

Some say that he will not return again to the Dominion, but it is untrue that Lord Stamp has been nominated to fill the post!

HECKLING at a Social Credit meeting at Red Deer, Alberta, was organised by the Secretary of the Unity League, and was one of the worst, "unjust and unsportsmanlike exhibitions I have ever seen," declared Provincial Treasurer Solon Low.

These tactics are just about as futile an attempt to injure Social Credit as the childish Green-shirt horseplay at the recent meeting called to be addressed by G. F. Powell in London.

We do not credit the belief that these demonstrations were both organised under the direction of a powerful central authority.

Credit Unions in Alberta

Hon. E. C. Manning, Alberta Provincial Secretary, forecasts Government support and blessing to the establishment of Credit Unions.

Writing in the magazine section of *The Albertan* for July 23, he says:

"The policy of this Government since inception has been one of encouragement to the people of the Province to improve their condition by united action towards a common and beneficial objective. Indeed, this is one of the great principles of Social Credit, that beneficial changes can be brought about by the united will and understanding of the people concerned, finally translated into definite action.

"A Credit Union is just what its name implies. It is a uniting of the funds, the credit responsibility and the intelligent effort of a group of people, working together towards easing the financial problems of each member of the group and of the entire group itself. The accomplishment to be desired is the establishment of greater financial independence of each member and a general rise in the economic welfare of the whole group."

Credit Unions, sometimes called "baby banks," have been operated for a considerable time in many parts of Canada—notably in the maritime Provinces—with great benefit to the people, but the forms which these organisations have assumed are legion and it can be laid down that, in Alberta, *they will ease fundamental problems only if they increase the people's purchasing power.*

New Conservative Leader

According to the Canadian press report of a recent address by Dr. Manion, the new Conservative Party leader:

Unless the present system were adjusted in such a way that it would provide opportunity for youth and *work and wages* for the masses of the people, it was doubtful if it would endure another twenty years. With it would probably go the cherished freedom and rights of democracy. The nation owed youth, not a living, but a chance to *earn* a living. (Our italics.)

More work, more production—more production, more surplus—more surplus, more exports (or lower prices).

Ah, but . . . Yes, we know . . .

More wages, more producers' costs—more producers' costs, higher prices—higher prices, less consumption—less consumption, less production—less production, less wages . . .

Oh, Dr. Manion!

But it is good to hear a reactionary speak of reform.

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SPACE RESERVED

BY:

THE UNITED RATEPAYERS ADVISORY ASSOCIATION

SECRETARY:

JOHN MITCHELL

Child's Play

THE organisation of action in the Rates Campaign has been simplified to such an extent that the campaign can be started and kept moving by a few simple actions.

These actions can be graded into:

(1) Automatic Canvassing.—This can be set going merely by ordering the correct materials from U.R.A.A., assembling them (a simple operation), and then by delivering these at the first house in each street.

(2) Automatic canvassing combined with organisation of meetings.—This involves the additional work of arranging for a room in which a meeting can be held, advertising the place, date and time on the Canvassers and releasing a number of these ten days or a fortnight prior to the meeting in streets near where the meeting is to be held. This is a means of recruiting workers.

(3) The Collection of Revenue.—A suitable approach to ratepayers, which over a wide area has been definitely proved to produce satisfactory results if practised efficiently, is described in the "Lower Rates Campaign" circular.

This approach can be used either by voluntary workers or people can be encouraged to work as collectors for a few hours a week by paying them a small commission on what they collect. There are many people in employment who would be only too glad to help the campaign and at the same time have an opportunity of supplementing small incomes by spare evening work.

A number of associations are recruiting such workers by private contact or suitably worded advertisements, and obtaining most satisfactory results. Revenue collection is special work, entirely apart from other work of the campaign (which should, wherever possible, be kept to voluntary effort), and it is work of a character which in all types of other organisations is more often than not rewarded financially. There is, therefore, no reason at all why the funds of local L.R.D.A.'s should not be strengthened by this means. (A draft canvassing subscription list containing a suitable appeal and directions can be obtained on application from U.R.A.A.)

The above is a statement of simple action which, if undertaken, is definitely effective in forwarding the campaign. If there are reasons why anyone cannot undertake the organisation of meetings or the collection of revenue, then useful positive action can be undertaken merely by starting an Automatic Canvass, in the course of which, no doubt, helpers will sooner or later be discovered who will be willing to carry out more complex work.

It is quite impossible to exaggerate the importance of this form of action; and it is the simplest and most effective method of developing the campaign in new districts. Widespread supporting action will be a valuable aid for those campaigns which in other districts are so advanced that the local Councils will soon be taking steps that will lead to implementing the ratepayers' will.

Evidence of the striking success of the Automatic Canvass, if the right informa-

tion and directions are put on the Canvasser, has been published in these pages.

Last week Mr. Baxter, the Campaign Manager at Bradford, recounted how two meetings of a very successful character had been organised by advertising them on a score of Automatic Canvassers. This week he reports two more successful meetings similarly organised, with an attendance of twenty at each. Each meeting produced new workers.

Evidence that the ratepayer is willing to give financial support to the campaign has been forthcoming from all over the country. The successful efforts of a baker's roundsman in Surrey in collecting revenue were reported last week. This man is paid a small commission on what he collects. This week's report from his Campaign Manager, Mr. R. G. Ellis, says, "Every subscription has been 2s. 6d. except one, which was 5s. . . . The reception in most cases is very good, only four having refused to subscribe out of twenty-five. We canvassed this road during the Assessment Campaign, and have a number of signatures to that Demand Form. The collector is thus able to address the occupants of the house by name, which may have had a favourable effect in getting subscriptions."

The foundations of the Rates Campaign have been well and truly laid; trusty instruments have been devised and tested by pioneer workers which will enable the campaign to be developed at a very rapid rate. Who will give a hand?

J.M.

TWO PRESS LETTERS

Sir,—In the year 1927 the late Mr. Justice Darling said that innocent men were not hanged in England nowadays, whereupon a gentleman who knew as much about the Law Courts as anyone replied in a press letter that several had been hanged who in his view were not guilty, and gave their names. I thought that this was a golden opportunity of getting an honest opinion upon the outcome of an action in the High Court to resist rates and taxes, and this is what he wrote in reply:—"I do not think any jury could be found nowadays to stand out for the rights of the individual against the tyranny of rates and taxes. One day a peaceful revolution may be effected by the widespread resistance to rates and taxes."

Since becoming a Social Creditor I agree with what this splendid Englishman says, and would like to emphasise the importance of letters to the newspapers upon the

question of rate reduction with no diminution in social services. If we have "the best show on earth" (which we have) it is our bounden duty to let the people know it. They will gladly pay their footing.

Yours sincerely,

JAMES COLMAN

Loan Charges Blamed for High Rates

Sir,—That the kernels of the burdensome high rates at present being levied are the scandalous loan charges which local authorities are having to meet is evidenced by your report of Sunderland Library scheme.

Here we have a local authority applying for slightly over £50,000 and having to repay over £82,000. When it is remembered that banking and financial institu-

tions will provide most of that £50,000, coupled with the fact that these institutions "lend money by creating the means of payment out of nothing," the magnitude of the racket becomes very apparent. Ratepayers should unite and demand "lower rates without a decrease of social services," making it clear to their councillors that they intend this to happen.

Yours, etc.,

J. W. COWARD,

Newcastle Lower Rates Demand
AssociationDeepdale, Holly Avenue, Fawdon,
Newcastle, July 13

—Northern Echo

"That's all very fine, but it's merely the circus without the bread." So said one of the unemployed when he read the press articles on the development of social planning in reference to unemployed club centres.

Indiscreet Statements by a Conservative Chairman

A FEW weeks ago, a resolution was passed unanimously at a meeting of the Isle of Thanet Conservative Association urging the National Government to discourage further increase in local government expenditure until taxation falls.

On July 20, the Thanet resolution was submitted by Mr. E. S. Oak-Rhind (chairman) to a meeting of the South Eastern Area Conservative Union, held in the House of Commons. It is, of course, quite obvious that the resolution is part and parcel of the pre-arranged scheme to apply pressure on the Government to adopt the "economy programme" which has already been decided upon, as a palliative for the nation-wide outcry for Lower Rates, and, needless to say, it was passed unanimously for submission to the Newcastle annual conference, but what is of vital interest to every elector in the country is the candid (and indiscreet) statement with which Mr. Oak-Rhind supported his resolution.

The following extracts from the verbatim report of his speech, as reported by the *East Kent Times*, coming from the source they do, are enlightening:—

"Now I should have thought, speaking very simply, that when the Government determined to re-arm and foresaw the vast expenditure entailed, it would have turned to its Local Government heads and said, 'You must go slow, you must not increase your charges on the people until our rearmament programme is completed, and so help to husband our national resources, should they be required for using this machine which we have re-created.

"But the reverse has been the case, and every pressure has been exercised by the Government and its departments to speed up and increase, on the most lavish scale, expenditure on Local Government projects, an expenditure which very largely finds its way on to the local rates . . .

"Now I have made a charge which I must establish . . . I am taking two examples only, from either end of the expenditure stick, and on the authority of the Chairman of the Roads and Bridges Committee of the Kent C.C.

"1. The Dartford Tunnel. The approach roads have been increased at a cost of £150,000 by the Ministry of Transport over and above the requirements of the County Council.

"2. A corner of a small village is to be

rounded off. The County Council and the Rural District Council agreed the area and the cost at £600, and submitted the scheme to the Ministry. It was returned increased in area and in cost, the cost being now £900, with a footnote stating that if there was not agreement the Government grant would be refused.

"At the last meeting of the Roads and Bridges Committee, I noticed 27 schemes of similar nature dealt with in a similar way.

"When you recognise that the Kent Education Committee is facing similar pressure, and is responsible for some 40 per cent. of the total expenditure of the K.C.C., can you wonder (that rates are so high)?

"I am frightened of 'the five year plan of capital expenditure only' . . .

"On the authority of the Chairman of the Finance Committee of the K.C.C., the county rate will be increased by 4s. in the £ at the end of these five years . . . and on capital expenditure alone . . . and this is a basis on which every local rate be further built."

So there, with chapter and verse, we have the whole base plot in a nutshell. Not only are Local Governments encouraged to enmesh themselves in the money-lenders' web, but they are deliberately and methodically driven further into the mire by means of the financial stranglehold already secured, as a prelude to their being arraigned as "extravagant squander-maniacs" later on, condemned, and sentenced to be deprived of their powers of local government, which have already been reduced to the level of farce.

The demand for Lower Rates and Assessments, with increased social services, is the *only* move on the board capable of countering the plotters, and keeping the Local Governments free to function, with a united body of ratepayers at their back. But action is the crying need—and it must come quickly, very quickly, or it will be too late! C.B.

AUGUST ISSUE

The August number of the Journal that works for lower rates with no decrease in social services.

This is a special news number of

LOWER RATES

containing accounts of rates-action in Hastings, Belfast, Rotherham, etc., and comments on developments all over the country. It also contains more FACTS to help those who are joining in action to achieve low rates.

Obtainable from U.R.A.A.,
163A, Strand.

Price: 2d. a copy, 1s. 8d. a dozen, or
12s. 6d. 100.

Local Campaign News

One Way of Getting Workers

WITH regard to the success we have had in recruiting workers, this has been due to the following:—When we were doing the personal canvass of streets that had previously been covered with the Lower Rates leaflet, we adopted the approach to householders that if they agreed with the Campaign then it was up to them to do something to make it a success, seeing that it was for their benefit. They were then asked if they would do the most important thing: become a worker for the Campaign. If not, would they subscribe to the 1s. Fighting Fund. If not either of these two, then the least they could do was to sign the Demand. This method of approach brought workers from every street canvassed in this manner. All workers have had it repeatedly impressed upon them that they must also obtain new workers, which some have done with considerable success.

"The drawback to this personal canvass method is as you have pointed out, the slowness of the canvass, and the necessity of having to go over the same street several times, owing to people being out or for other reasons."

W. PRATT, C.M., Wolverhampton

Next Salvo

The next "salvo" of meetings in the cause of action designed to secure the results all ratepayers want will start on October 17.

We advise all ratepayers and Lower Rates Demand Associations to work their campaigns with this date in their minds.

October 17th—onwards

• NEW! ALTERNATIVE TO DISASTER

The Case for Social Credit

By L. D. BYRNE

This new pamphlet by Mr. L. D. Byrne is now available at 4d. a copy (postage extra) from SOCIAL CREDIT, 163A, Strand, W.C.2

SOCIAL CREDIT CONFERENCE

Saturday, September 17, and Sunday, September 18

A conference, open to all those who are actively supporting the policy of Major Douglas, will be held in London at The Cora Hotel, Upper Woburn Place, W.C.1.

Major Douglas will speak on the Saturday evening.

CONFERENCE OBJECTS :-

- To indicate the relationship between past, present, and future phases of action.
- To review the weapons now at our disposal.
- To hear of their development and use in action.
- To advise regarding future action.

Members will assemble as from noon on Saturday and the Conference will end at tea-time, on Sunday.

The formal proceedings on Saturday will begin at 2.45 p.m.

It is desirable that those who can arrange it should arrive early and make acquaintance with others.

The opening session will be most important.

Special arrangements for accommodation have been made as below.

CORA HOTEL Charges

Tea and Dinner, Saturday	} 18/6 including bedroom and tips
Breakfast, Lunch, Tea, Sunday	
Charges for those not staying at the hotel but attend the Conference will be	

To cover the incidental expenses of the Conference a small charge per head will be made, the amount depending on the number of people attending. There will be a reduction in this charge in respect of registered supporters.

All who wish to attend should fill in the form below and send it in as soon as possible, and not later than September 3. A ticket of entry will be sent to all approved applicants.

Affiliated Groups are asked to send as many representatives as possible. Social Crediters who do not belong to a group and who are not registered supporters of the Secretariat are asked to fill in the second form and have it completed by two supporters and forward this application to the Secretary.

Full information, including the Conference Agenda, will be sent to all those attending.

ELIZABETH EDWARDS,
Secretary.

YOU HAVE SEEN IT IN THE PRESS

Last year, 137,000,000 tons of coal, or 57 per cent. of the output, were cut by machine, as compared with 80,000,000 tons or 38 per cent. five years ago, said Captain Crookshank, Minister of Mines, in a recent speech.

That is a big increase, but nothing like as big as the increase in mechanical conveying. A total of 123,000,000 tons, or 51 per cent. of the output, were conveyed by machinery, whereas five years ago the figure was 53,000,000 tons, or 25 per cent. It has more than doubled in five years. The production from pneumatic picks was trebled over the five-year period; that is to say, it has gone up from 4,000,000 tons to 13,000,000 tons.

This, of course, accounts for the number of miners "released from toil," the general bad state of trade in the areas affected, and the business failure of various retail merchants, since the miners are denied purchasing power.

The White Fist in the Red Glove

Russia's Army and Navy estimates for the current year total approximately £2,700,000,000, announced M. Zvereff, Commissar of Finance, in a Budget speech to the Soviet Parliament on August 10.

To the New Bureaucracy, virtually a privileged aristocracy, with its large percentage of white Russians, and its generous sprinkling of white bankers, it will be a pleasure to set about planning the taxes to cover this huge sum of pen-created money.

Having avenged the slaughter of the late Czar and his family by wiping out the last of the genuine Bolsheviks of the October Revolution, this white pretence of red rule has enough in common with the reds it has "liquidated" to block the way for any kind of freedom for the people no matter how successfully the problem of production is solved. Toil and Taxes are the order of the day!

Denuding the Countryside

There were 42,200 fewer farm workers in Britain on June 4 last than there were a year ago. That is to say, a drop of 6.7 of the total workers on the land.

Agricultural and land holdings fell by 87,000 acres. The area under crops and grass showed a decrease of 85,000 acres. Arable land continued to decline, showing a fall of 152,000 acres.

CONFERENCE IN LONDON, SEPTEMBER 17-18, 1938

To :-
The Secretary,
Social Credit Secretariat Limited, 163A, Strand, W.C.2.

APPLICATION FOR ATTENDANCE.

(Block Letters)

Name Where Husband and Wife are attending, please indicate.

Address.....

Group (if any).....

Are you a registered supporter of the Social Credit Secretariat Ltd?

Time of arrival Saturday?.....

Time of Departure Sunday?.....

Do you wish to stay at the Hotel?.....

If so, will you indicate which meals you will require (cross out the ones you do not wish to take):

- Saturday : Lunch, tea, dinner.
- Sunday : Breakfast, lunch, tea, dinner.

If you are not staying in the hotel which meals will you require :

- Saturday : Lunch, tea, dinner.
- Sunday : Lunch, tea, dinner.

Remarks :-

To be completed and sent in addition to the other form by those who are neither members of affiliated groups, nor registered supporters.

Form 2.

We, the undersigned know

Name..... of (address).....

and declare to our knowledge that he (she) is a Social Creditor and supports the policy of Major Douglas.

(a) Name..... Affiliated Group or office.....

(b) Name..... Affiliated Group or office.....

BIRTHS, MORTGAGES AND DEATHS

By G.W.L. Day

AMONG the extraordinary things about modern government is the habitual use of methods of procrastination.

Seeing that the present economic system does not "deliver the goods" it is obvious of course, that no genuine change for the better can come about except by altering it; and because the governing influences of certain powerful minorities forbid any serious alteration, all Governments are obliged to pretend they are going to do something—which, of course, implies playing for time.

Procrastination is only to be expected. There is nothing surprising about it. What does seem surprising is that the same methods of hocus-pocus should be used decade after decade without the exasperated electors marching down Whitehall and doing something about it.

One of these methods, which everybody must know by now, is the setting up of a Commission of Enquiry to investigate some problem which the Government wishes to shelve. Such a Commission may sit for as long as three years. Another year or so may elapse while the findings are being considered. After this, it may be argued that the information is out of date, and if there is any pressure on the part of the long-suffering public the Government can appoint another Commission and begin the game all over again.

Because of the strong feelings of women voters on the subject, maternal mortality is something which no Government can openly ignore. If we had a dictatorship which could suppress statistical information, no doubt it could be slurred over. But unhappily successive Medical Officers of Health mention the waste of life in their annual reports, knowing quite well that others will do so in a more detailed way. Even Ministers of Health sigh deeply in the House when this distressing subject comes up for discussion. Something, therefore, has to be done about it.

I forget exactly how many Commissions of Enquiry have sat on the subject of maternal mortality since the beginning of the century, but it is a good many. The last report was made in 1937, and the last but one in 1932. The next one, I suppose, is due in 1942.

In the main essentials these reports are unanimous. They declare that about half of the deaths in childbirth are unnecessary: that is to say, about 1,000 lives are thrown away each year. The mortality rate among the mothers is just about what it was at the beginning of the century,

*although due to scientific research and better hygiene, infantile mortality has been reduced by 50 per cent. since the war.

The 1937 report says that of the mothers who died and could have been saved, 15 per cent. died through lack of ante-natal care, 19 per cent. through lack of judgment, 3.7 per cent. through lack of facilities, and 7.7 per cent. through negligence on the part of the patient.

The Committee summed up by saying that "inexpert midwifery is a factor of major importance, which operates in areas where high and low maternal mortality exists."

The 1932 report said that mothers often had to rely on young doctors who had not had sufficient training in obstetrics. It recommended more hospital accommodation. In the densely populated areas women often apply for admission in vain. In some areas the county hospitals are still administered under the Poor Law, and women who choose to be confined in them have to suffer the ignominy of being treated as paupers. Small wonder that many prefer to stay at home, no matter how inexperienced the doctor or the midwife.

And these women are just those who are most likely to go on an unsuitable pre-natal diet, either from ignorance or from poverty, or both.

Some years ago Mrs. Stanley Baldwin and some other ladies interested themselves in the mothers of one of the poorer districts in Wales. They found that when women were properly fed before childbirth the mortality rate fell heavily. Proper feeding is one of the major factors.

We have the knowledge, we have the material means, we have the organisation to prevent these poor women from dying in childbirth. Only the money is lacking. And if this be doubted, compare the mortality figures for the rich and the poor.

Because this country is mortgaged up to the hilt, we think we cannot afford to find the necessary money. We think it because

it never occurs to us to question the legality of the mortgage, or to enquire into how such mortgages arise or how they can be paid off.

If we did enquire, we should find that the whole thing was a "plant," and that we are in much the same position as millions of Hindus in India whom the Simon Commission found to be in irredeemable debt to the moneylenders.

Technical arguments about the ramifications of the financial system lead nowhere. The point is that it is producing absurd results, and results, moreover, which the vast majority of us do not want. For example, the unnecessary deaths of 1,000 mothers every year.

We should insist upon other results being shown.

In view of the diminishing consumption of flour and bread, a cartoonist in *Le Canard Enchaîné* (Paris) asks satirically: "When you've extracted the petrol from the wheat, couldn't you make a sort of synthetic flour out of the petrol?"

SOCIAL CREDIT SECRETARIAT

Thursday Evening Meetings

at 8 p.m.

In the Reception Room,
163A Strand, W.C.2.

General Programme for the Autumn Session

GROUP A. Addresses on general subjects will be given on alternate Thursday evenings, commencing September 15 at 8 p.m., with an address entitled "Enquire and Learn" to be given by Mr. R. Gaudin, Director of Propaganda and Publications.

GROUP B. A course of seven lectures on alternate Thursday evenings, commencing September 22 at 8 p.m., based on Major Douglas's book "Economic Democracy." Fee for Course under Group B:

5/- if paid in advance.

5/6 if paid by instalments of 1/- a lecture and 6d. with application.

1/- per single lecture.

"Economic Democracy" was written nearly 20 years ago. The prestige of the author has increased with the passing of time.

The general course of events as it has developed since the book was first published has sufficiently justified the correctness of the analysis.

Social Crediters are asked to bring their friends to these addresses and lectures, and thus help forward our work.

Refreshments will be served before the meetings and during the intervals.

There will be two Social evenings during the Session.

The names of speakers and the titles of their addresses will be published on this page from week to week.

Please address all enquiries to Mrs. B. M. Palmer at this office.

R. GAUDIN,
Director of Propaganda and Publications.

INCOME TAX—PRIVATE

Third Reminder

Final notices for Income Tax will soon be issued.

Unadulterated Social Debit.

When you pay—as you must—register your acute dissatisfaction in a practical way.

Send a donation equivalent to 2½ per cent. on your tax to the Social Credit Secretariat.

For every £1 of tax, sixpence to fight the invidious system which fattens on taxation.

Remember—sixpennyworth of right action produces more effect than a pound's worth of wrong. The wrong action is forced on you. Don't neglect the right simply because it is not compulsory. Taxpayers—forward! W.W.

EIRE FOR THE EIREANN BANK?

"FINANCIERS SUSTAIN THE STATE AS A ROPE SUSTAINS THE HANGED."—Montesquieu.

"If great national banks are oppressive, as they are, one would imagine that an omnipotent International Bank would be the final tyranny." So said Douglas twelve years ago, in a footnote to a remarkable but little-known book which he translated from the French.

The book was "The Bankers' Republic" and the writer J. L. Chastenet, Deputy for the Department of the Isere.

The Final Tyranny! Fresh from her political conquests, free from the hated Saxon yoke, no longer Ireland, but Eire, queen even over her name, the island of intransigent rebellion, is to knot about her own neck the hangman's rope. It was there before, there all the time, perhaps; but, as though to mark more truly than pomp and ceremonies can mark the attainment of an Eireann Constitution of her own, "Free" Eire is publicly to tie the knot.

Her own Minister of Finance assisted in the due preparation of the rope—the new rope: flaxen presumably, may be green. He appointed a Commission of a Chairman, 18 members representative of "various" Irish interests and two representatives of "external" interests, Professor T. E. Gregory, of London, and Mr. Per Jacobsson of the Bank of International Settlements. Even *The Times* has the decency to place the "external" in inverted commas! Even so, FIVE Eireanns do not sign the majority report which has now been published. The City is pleased. Why? Let us turn to another city:—

First of all, a picture.

At the end of March, 1924, M. François Marsal, Minister of Finance, called together in the Ministerial salon in the Rue de Rivoli, the directors of the great banks, the Crédit Lyonnais, Comptoir National d'Escompte, Société Général, Banque de Paris et des Pays-Bas, Banque de l'Union Parisienne, Banque Rothschild frères, Banque Nationale de Crédit, Crédit Industriel et Commercial.

It was rather cold. I speak of the weather. And the Minister murmured to those surrounding him: "Do sit down, gentlemen; sit down here, Monsieur le Directeur du Crédit Lyonnais; do not stay so close to the window, there is a slight draught."

"And you, Monsieur le Directeur de la Société Général, come nearer to the fire, because of your cold."

The Minister of the Republic hesitated a moment, sighed a little. He then casually remarked:

"Please make yourselves at home, gentlemen, you are at home here."

There were a few coughs, a few laughs, a few creaking of chairs. The Minister then added:

"There is, gentlemen, a slight payment which worries me. I need about 700 millions. Wait a moment, here is the exact figure, 695,861,000 francs.

Naturally I think of you. I know you will not refuse me this help. Conversely, one good turn deserves another. And I shall not forget you. I have still some Treasury Bonds . . ."

The gentlemen present looked at each other, and then nodded their heads. And one of them remarked shortly:

"This evening, Monsieur le Ministre, you shall have your 700 millions, or rather the exact number of millions which you require. When it is a question of the Nation, we always respond to the call."

Bows. Handshakings. Curtain.

How many times has this same scene been staged in the Rue de Rivoli? What does it matter how many times, since it is a fact. Observe, I pray you, a Minister of the Republic begging alms of the great banks with which to pay interest on the National Debt! What a lamentable picture!

But it is not sufficient to deplore this situation. One must alter it. From merely condemning the grip of the Banks, and of High Finance, on the State and upon democracy, it is necessary to proceed to acts. To act is imperative if one would not see the Republic remain the captive of the financial oligarchy, and the country totally ruined and rolled to the bottom of the abyss.

—So, M. Chastenet.

There! But that was the French Republic. It was not the Eireann Republic. Now it is the Eireann Republic.

The Times—which does not know even the colour of an Eireann blue book — "apparently it is buff"—knows that "the burden of past debts should not be aggravated by an increase in the purchasing power of money . . . Conditions are required that will result in ADEQUATE savings and the application of them to DESIRABLE forms of CAPITAL investment." How does it know? Why, the report says so!

The newspaper knows that the Debt and Investment Council envisaged with wide co-ordinating and advisory functions is to check the large and continuous growth of deadweight debt—the report says so.

It knows that these recommendations are "bound to excite controversy," though there is no evidence that the report says that, or that under the impact of the scheme if and when it comes to be

adopted, "No notable increase in the population can be expected during the next quarter of a century; on the contrary the possibilities are that it will continue to decline."

Yes, to decline; to dangle from that rope "which sustains the State as a rope sustains the hanged."

"One must alter it. From merely condemning the grip of the Banks, and of High Finance, on the State and upon democracy, it is necessary to proceed to acts. To act is imperative if one would not see the Republic remain the captive of the financial oligarchy, and the country totally ruined and rolled to the bottom of the abyss."

National Service

THAT shop full of ready-made goods, the National Council for Social Service, in its annual report, recently issued, displays a full measure of self-esteem in the creation of social clubs and other amenities for the unemployed. Social effort in the distressed areas is admittedly commendable; but in contributing to the unfortunate we should make certain that the labels are not changed in the process, and that the initial act of assistance is not utilised to create "bread and circuses" mentality.

A little while ago Sir Josiah (now Baron) Stamp, in an address to the Institute of Public Administration, suggested that the requirements of our civil service should be modified so as to bring into Whitehall the kind of man who can direct the life of a "semi-planned society."

It is not without significance that the National Council, in the report, also states that "The evolution of a new social order to meet new conditions of life is likely to be more successful if deliberate planning and experiment go into it than if it is left to the play of blind conflicting forces."

How cunningly "blind conflicting forces" are contrasted with the "new" (i.e., good) order desired by the Council! The simpler alternative, namely, to provide the distressed areas with money, with which they can form their own clubs, free from the interference of officials, is not considered. E.J.P.

DOUGLAS S.C. GROUP AT DERBY

Fifteen Social Crediters at Derby have formed an association, the Douglas Social Credit Association of Derby. They have held four meetings and are finding their way towards that vigour which has made some groups of fewer than fifteen members, in association with the Secretariat, "news for the world." Derby readers should see Mr. W. R. Foster, of 436 Uttoxeter Road, if they have not done so.

Announcements & Meetings

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

BELFAST D.S.C. Group. The public meetings on Thursday evenings will be discontinued until September 22. Monthly group meetings will be held as usual on the first Tuesday of each month. Enquiries to Hon. Sec., Belfast D.S.C. Group, 72, Ann Street, Belfast. S.C. holiday-makers are warmly invited to look us up.

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.

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.

CARDIFF Social Credit Association. Hon. Sec., R. W. Hannagen, The Grove, Groveland Road, Birchgrove, Cardiff. Meetings suspended until September.

DARLINGTON. Enquirers should get in touch with Mr. J. W. Jennings, 1, Bracken Road.

DUNSTABLE. All interested in Lower Rates please get in touch with Mr. A. R. Tremayne, 23, High Street South, Dunstable, Beds.

LIVERPOOL Social Credit Association. Fortnightly meetings have been suspended until September 23. Further enquiries to Miss D. M. Roberts, "Greengates," Hillside Drive, Woolton.

LYTHAM ST. ANNE'S. All Social Crediters holidaying in this district can get SOCIAL CREDIT weekly from the following: Lambert's, The Crescent Post Office, The Bridge, St. Anne's; or W. H. Smith & Son, The Station, St. Anne's.

NORTH Newcastle-on-Tyne Lower RATES Association. All interested please get in touch with J. W. Coward, Deepdale, Holly Avenue, Fawdon, Newcastle-on-Tyne, 3.

POOLE and PARKSTONE Group. Every Friday, 7 p.m., The Studio, Hermitage Road, Parkstone. Inquirers welcome. SOCIAL CREDIT

on Sale at W. H. Smith & Son, The Square, Bournemouth; Walker & Witterat, Post Office, Parade, Parkstone; and C. T. Snook & Son, Poole.

PORTSMOUTH D.S.C. Group. Weekly meetings every Thursday at 8 p.m., 16, Ursula Grove, Elm Grove, Southsea.

SOUTHAMPTON Group. Please note that the Headquarters have been removed to 8, CRANBURY PLACE, SOUTHAMPTON. Tuesday meetings are postponed temporarily. Members please call to see the new and more advantageously-situated premises.

TYNESIDE Social Credit Society invite co-operation to establish a local centre for Social Credit action in all its aspects. Apply, W. L. Page, 74-6, High West Street, Gateshead.

UNITED Ratepayers' Advisory Association. District Agent for S. Wales and Monmouthshire, Mr. P. Langmaid, 199, Heathwood Road, Cardiff.

WALLASEY Social Credit Association. Enquiries welcomed by Hon. Sec., 2, Empress Road, Wallasey.

SOCIAL CREDIT CENTRE

163A STRAND, LONDON, W.C.2

OPEN daily from 11 a.m. to 6.30 p.m. Closes 1 p.m. Saturdays. Refreshments. Inquiries to Mrs. B. M. Palmer.

The Thursday meetings are suspended and will be resumed in September.

Miscellaneous Notices
Rate 1s. a line. Support our advertisers.

WOLVERHAMPTON D.S.C. Group. Fortnightly meetings in the Ante-Room, Central Library. Next meeting, Tuesday, August 30, at 8 p.m.

DERBY S.C. Association. Meetings are held fortnightly (Tuesdays) at the "Unity Hall," Room 14, at 7.45 p.m. Next Meeting, August 23 "United Social Club" cater for refreshments to all bona fide members of S.C. Association.

S. O. S! Speakers wanted urgent! for Southsea Front. Every Sunday. Hospitality offered. Previous experience unessential. Write at once, J., 99, Cottage Grove, Southsea.

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163A Strand, London, W.C.2

We Will Abolish Poverty

ELECTOR'S DEMAND AND UNDERTAKING

This is the form for Parliamentary electors to sign. It should be sent to United Democrats, 163A, Strand, London, W.C.2. Signatures will be treated confidentially.

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

Address

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