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FOR POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC REALISM

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## WHY COLLECT TAXES?\*

By RALPH L. DUCLOS, President of the Douglas Social Credit Bureau, Inc. (of Canada).

(From the "Ottawa Citizen" of August 15, 1942.)

The success of our war effort depends on men and supplies both quality and quantity, at the right place and at the right time. The money system, which is largely bookkeeping, can be made to fit the needs of the moment if, as and when the powers that be so wish it.

As the Hon. J. L. Ilesley, minister of finance, so aptly put it:

"...as if the limitation of our supply of these military articles were the amount of money we can spend, whereas it is really the plant capacity and skilled labour available for their production..."

There is a serious shortage of labour and of many materials including paper and metal, yet to collect taxes, millions of forms are filled out by busy people; tons upon tons of paper are used; tens of thousands of files in steel cabinets are filled with the forms and thousands of workers are occupied in checking, filing and auditing. All in all we have a very cumbersome machine—costly in materials and labour. We are afflicted by "documentitis" and suffer from writers cramp.

Surely we can simplify this whole business and get on with the war. In my article *Tax Bonds For Your Taxes* published in *The Ottawa Citizen* July 4, I quoted the highest authorities to show that banks do create money "out of nothing" and lend it to the government at interest. I suggested that the taxpayer should receive interest bearing bonds for his money also: that if the banks get bonds for "created" money, then the taxpayer should get bonds for "earned" money; that "ink" money should not be considered better than "sweat" money. I would now go a step further and suggest simplifying the procedure whereby this can be accomplished.

It is quite possible to eliminate a large portion of the forms now used, save materials as well as considerably reduce the accountancy, filing and general office work involved.

In lieu of the very complicated and burdensome methods employed for tax collection from both individuals and corporations why not use the system employed by many large corporations in paying their employees. The Ottawa Public School Board, for instance, instead of paying its staff by cheque or cash merely issues an order to the bank transferring

the money for salaries from the board's account to those of its employees.

In the case of taxes or compulsory savings the employer could on his books deduct the required amount from the employe's salary or wage and transfer it to a special bank account opened in the employe's name. This procedure could also be used for the employer's own taxes and for corporation taxes as well. The money could be "frozen" in this special type of bank account and not be withdrawn for the duration and until such times thereafter as the government permitted its release. The "freeze" would, of course, also apply to prevent the banks from using the money for any purpose whatsoever. Periodically the employer and the banks could fill out report forms for the government as a check on the whole transaction. The government by the same procedure could add interest at the bond rate to the accounts and the banks receive a commission for the book-keeping involved.

In order to eliminate complicated calculations for each individual taxpayer, tax schedules could be simplified and the rates for various classes of taxpayers printed in tabulated form, similar to the rate tables used by life insurance companies.

That this suggestion is sound is borne out by the following authorities:

The Hon. J. L. Ilesley, in the House of Commons, Nov. 21, 1940:

That the task of finance is not only to provide the funds which are used to pay for the war services but *more fundamentally is, by taxing and borrowing, to restrict the civilian demand for economic resources...*

Royal Bank of Canada, *Monthly Review*, August 1941:

It is, therefore, vitally important that taxation and borrowing should be considered not merely as devices to raise money *but rather as measures to prevent money from being spent for non-essential purposes.*

P. M. Richards, financial editor, *Saturday Night*, March 28, 1942:

*The hard truth is that the government didn't itself want our money as much as it wanted to deprive us of it.*

The Financial Secretary to the (British) Treasury in the House of Commons on April 8, 1941:

What you have to emphasise is not so much the money that you are going to get in but the fact that what you are after is reducing consumption.

Prof. A. F. W. Plumtre in the *Financial Post*, October 5, 1940:

It must be remembered primarily and seemingly paradoxically, that the government object is not to get money, but merely to reduce the public's spending... The government can always "get money" because it may as an

\*The author's title, which incorrectly appeared in the *Citizen* as *Why Pay Taxes?* A comment by Major C. H. Douglas on this article will appear shortly in *The Social Crediter*.

alternative to borrowing or even to taxation create the required funds.

The bank account transfer system as suggested above would fulfil the requirements laid down in these quotations, of restricting civilian purchasing. If the government so chose it could make arrangements through the banks to have the frozen funds transferred from the taxpayers' accounts to its account to be used for war purposes.

Should, however, the government intend to make the money represented in compulsory savings available to the individual after the war, it would be simpler to have the money merely frozen in the bank accounts and not transferred for government use. As stated by Prof. Plumtre, the government can find any money required by means other than taxes and to avoid complications after the war that course would be advisable.

Dealing with the return to the individual after the war of money represented in compulsory savings *The Accountant*, official organ for the Chartered Accountants in England, in its May 9 issue stated:

"It seems incredible that the intention can be to pay it out in money but even if it were so disbursed at a future time, that could only be done by increasing taxation in parallel."

It would appear that were the government to use the money raised by compulsory saving it would merely be equivalent to postponing an increase in taxation until after the war when the money is to be returned to the individual; the theory of "sound" finance being that all government money must come from taxes up to the limit of the taxpayers' capacity to pay.

It is therefore suggested that all direct, personal taxes and compulsory savings be taken from the taxpayer through the transfer banking account method with the money merely frozen in the accounts and without the government utilising it in any way and that it be made available to the taxpayer after the war, as conditions permit.

By this simple change in our taxation methods great benefits would accrue to the individual and our war effort would be correspondingly stimulated. It would:

1. Reduce civilian consumption and release production for war purposes.
2. Reduce governmental costs in paper, printing of forms and in materials such as filing cabinets and other office equipment.
3. Materially reduce labour costs in government departments and industrial concerns releasing the labour now employed in "filling out and checking forms," for war purposes.
4. Provide security for the taxpayer in the post-war period thereby strengthening morale in the armed forces and on the home front.
5. Establish a cushion of "stored" purchasing power to stabilise post-war conditions.

If we must adhere to the abracadabra of so-called "sound" finance, we can at least be practical and in the interest of self-preservation divorce this fetish from Canada's war effort.

## FROM WEEK TO WEEK

M. I. Brendan Bracken writes an article published in Lord Beaverbrook's paper to say that the Colour Bar must Go. Bar to what? Is this the Minister of Information's answer to the great flock who say they can't do anything because there is no alternative to Mr. Churchill as Prime Minister?

It has occurred to no one in *this* country (United Kingdom) to wonder what the R.A.F. was for until the "B".B.C. suggested that there was some doubt. The *real* reason for the existence for the force is "to train the International Air-Force of the Future." ("B".B.C. broadcast, 8-55 p.m., September 13)

No Clarence, in mentioning in *The Times* the roofs in London from which Amuhrkans with nothing better to do could 'see London' in company with Shell, Unilever, I.C.I., Masonic and Insurance personnel with nothing better to do, Sir Harry Brittain did *not* mention the Old Lady's establishment.

A correspondent to a Newcastle paper writes that when even so-called "Independent" M.P.s cannot escape some of the many whips wielded by varied interests, "I see only one hope: the substitution of the party representative by the Dependent representative, nominated by and subject to the policy and will of the constituency. . . . Perhaps I had better protect the label Dependent lest some political genius founds a new party on it."

That able coadjutant of the late Sir Flinders Petrie, Miss Margaret Murray, has, among her more recent contributions to the elucidation of the mysteries of this wicked world, a book called *The God of the Witches*. In it she tries to show that witchcraft was a pagan cult whose followers worshipped the goat, impersonated, in the rites of the sect, by a priest dressed in goat-skins. She says that at least two Kings of England were secretly members of the sect, the son of William the Norman (whose Jewish entourage was recently the subject of a note here), and Henry II. Rufus (red as in Red-shield, Red-field, Red-Reading, die rote-Dame, *etc.*, *etc.*) submitted to his being sacrificed as the 'Divine Victim' at a septennial ceremony. Henry, Miss Murray thinks, didn't; but forced Thomas à Becket to be a substitute victim. Of Rufus, she says "He jeered openly at Christianity, delighting to set Jews and Christians to discuss the merits of their respective religions." He plundered churches and religious establishments, and resented the qualification 'God willing' to any agreement to carry out his own commands. Few of the nobles and ecclesiastics mourned Rufus; but the people thought they had lost a friend! Quite a Union boss!

## THE NEW JERUSALEM

"The bombing of the Unitarian Church in Effra Road, Brixton, in 1941 was followed first by Rabbi M. Swift's

invitation to the Unitarians to use the Synagogue Hall, then by the two congregations' invitation to members of St. Matthew's Church to join in fellowship meetings, and subsequently, by further stages, to 'The Way of Friendship' movement which to-day embraces 11 churches of various denominations.

"At the first of a series of united gatherings to discuss 'Religion and Reconstruction,' arranged by the movement and held last week at the Synagogue Hall, Effra Road, an address was given by Prof. E. S. Waterhouse, of Richmond College, who traced the origin of democracy to the Old Testament. The brotherhood of man, expressed by the Prophets, was the historic basis of that democracy which to-day was in peril. Reconstruction would have to have a religious basis. In the long run it was always the spiritual forces which won—there was no more marvellous illustration of that than the Jewish people.

"Rabbi Swift, who presided, emphasised that in that movement they stood for the mobilisation of all the forces of righteousness in them for the good of all men. Urging that they keep steadfast to the truth which each of them held dear and sacred, he declared they had decided to sweep aside all obstacles in the track of friendship."

—*Jewish Chronicle*, June 12, 1942.

NEWS IN ENGLISH

The times and wavelengths of B.B.C. overseas broadcasts of news in English published in Hansard for July 14 are as follows:—

	*Time.	Wavelengths
<i>European Service—</i>		
00.30—01.00	...	261.1, 49.59 m.—Morse transmission.
08.00—08.20	...	1500, 373.1, 49.59, 41.96, 41.49, 31.75, 30.96, 24.92, 24.8 m. (Sundays 41.96 m.)
13.30—14.00	...	1500, 373.1, 49.59, 41.49, 31.55, 30.96, 25.38, 24.8 m.—"London Calling Europe" includes news
20.15—20.30	...	1500, 373.1, 49.59, 49.10, 48.43, 41.96, 41.49 m.
<i>Pacific Service—</i>		
06.15—06.30	...	49.10, 42.46, 31.55, 31.25, 25.53, 19.82, 19.60, 19.49 m.
08.00—08.15	...	42.46, 31.55, 25.53, 19.82, 19.60, 19.49, 19.42, 16.84 m.
<i>Eastern Service—</i>		
11.00—11.15	...	25.53, 19.82, 19.49, 19.42, 16.84, 16.77, 13.97 m.
13.00—13.15	...	25.53, 19.82, 19.49, 19.42, 16.84, 16.77, 13.97 m.
<i>African Service—</i>		
16.00—16.15	...	31.75, 25.53, 19.82, 19.66, 19.49, 16.84, 16.77 m.
18.00—18.15	...	31.55, 31.25, 25.53, 19.82, 19.66, 16.77 m.
20.45—21.00	...	31.25, 25.68, 25.53, 19.82, 16.77 m.
<i>North American Service—</i>		
21.15—21.30	Sundays	} 31.32, 31.25, 30.53, 25.58, 25.53, 19.82 m.
21.45—21.55	Weekdays	
22.45—23.00	...	31.32, 30.53, 25.68, 25.53 m.
01.00—01.15	...	31.32, 30.53, 25.68, 25.53 m.
02.45—02.55	...	31.32, 30.53, 25.68, 25.53 m.
04.30—04.45	...	40.98, 31.32, 30.53, 25.68, 25.53 m.

\*N.B.: Greenwich Mean Time.

"YOUTH" REPLIES TO PLANNERS

We should be touched by your consideration  
Of problems that affect our generation  
But, frankly, we are not. It may disgust you  
To learn it but we simply do not trust you.  
We fear the gifts with which you would present us  
They hide a cunning scheme to regiment us.  
Curl up, old busybodies, on your shelves  
And go to sleep and...leave us to ourselves.

PARENTS' SUGGESTION

The Tory Party, curious to relate,  
Would make our children worthy of the State.  
I can suggest a vastly better way—  
Reform the State and let our children play.

ONE FAMILY'S ULTIMATUM

The smug  
Humbug  
Conceit and bad manners  
Of all the planners  
Make us determined not to enlist  
Under their banners  
But to find where their works are  
AND THROW IN SPANNERS.

EXCALIBUR

TO EXCALIBUR

I've been thinking on your name  
For such whimsies of the mind are important.  
When King Arthur's sword was flung into a mere  
It was caught by the hilt and drawn below,  
For future use I suppose—it was not lost.  
Merlin swore that King Arthur would come again,  
And I believe that many great and small figures in history  
Come again.  
Now you or I can be King Arthur  
For he who masters self can master all,  
And the enemy, stupid with false pride and blind with  
intellectualism  
Cannot see its own personal and spiritual salvation  
In an acceptance and putting into practice of  
The new knowledge about money.  
That is their affair, and you and I cannot wait forever for  
them.  
There are dragons to slay and maidens to rescue,  
And our fellow-kinsmen to protect,  
And a gesture, or something more to make when you say,  
"Paws off our one-time fair land of England,"  
With your chemicals and scientific bunk about fertilisers  
Which means murdering the land.  
There's a task for you Excalibur, with your Excalibur.  
The world is round, it has no top,  
And you must look up Stuart Chase  
In his *Tyranny of Words*.  
You will then look at a word before you use it  
As a bricklayer eyes a brick before he slaps on the mortar,  
Or a plumber looks at a joint before he runs on it  
The molten lead.  
You might say, on reflection, "My Hymn of the Elders  
Was a light joke, peculiarly and in a unique way English."  
This I am thinking is the explanation,  
But, there's a task for you, Excalibur, with your Excalibur;  
And you will have at your side, Yours for the high purpose.

J. W. R.

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Saturday, September 26, 1942.

### “But Soft; We are Observed!”

Mr. Hilaire Belloc once wrote a story with this title concerning the years (about 1979) in which Mary Bullar, C.B., D.B., D.B.E., C.F., etc., was Prime Minister of England, wherein are related the adventures of the adopted son of a not-very-rich Cuban, one of whose eccentricities was a fixed idea that he held the title to the “dues, rents, fines, etc., and all emoluments thereof” of a mushroom port, classically named Piraeus, in Texas. The heir to the “Mallard Millions,” when he came of age, wishing to escape from the ridicule these mythical millions brought him, fled to England, and, on the way, got mixed up by the sleuths with an agent for the profitable conversion of the world supply of a rare and as yet unknown metal called Eremin. It is useless to commend the story to the editors of *The Times*, the *Economist*, and various less reputable journals which, to the uninstructed eye, present the appearance of being in some degree interested in finding a remedy for the miseries which afflict the nations of the earth. Like the Administration of Prime Minister Mary Bullar, they won't listen to the truth. Doubtless they have their reasons, where Prime Minister Bullar's Administration had no reason beyond the characteristics which nearly every Englishman now knows to be the characteristics of the Next-to-the-Governing-Class.

Douglas once described the problem as the problem of the dipsomaniac who would do everything to be cured of his delirium tremens except give up drink.

What is really astonishing to us, at the present moment, is to observe with what uncanny certainty the patient's paralytic hand reaches unerringly for the bottle which contains his ‘poison’ and avoids every bottle which doesn't. (Yes, of course, they're marked; but John Citizen doesn't know even that. He doesn't even know there is any difference. The real task of Social Crediters is to guide him, in action, to an understanding of the difference.)

These reflections are suggested by two articles in *The Times* (September 18 and 19), on *Private Enterprise*, one in the *Economist* on *The Political Dilemma*, one in the 44-page ‘Banking Supplement’ to the *Economist* (September 19) on *Soviet Banking* and the September issue of the P.E.P. Broadsheet, *Planning*, which is a ‘write-up’ of the Fair-Shares-For-All theory: even if what you suffer from is planning, whatever you have you must have *more* planning!

The Soviet fan who before the war was telling us (without any discoverable evidence to go on) what a marvellous financial system the Russians have, may be surprised to learn that the chief feature of Soviet war finance “is the absence of any financial technique in the accepted meaning of the word”; and that in this respect Russian practice

returns to “the same as it was in the early period of the Soviet regime”; that in the middle period, owing to the fact that “the structure of the planned economy was threatened with disruption,” business organisations were compelled by the Government to resume the keeping of accounts, and to work to that basis; and that there was introduced a system of State-controlled short-and-long-term lending by banks, keeping accounts at a Central Bank, which Central Bank “thus possessed complete control over the country's industrial activities.” This does not sound terribly unorthodox, and in view of the fact that the overriding policy was the familiar ‘balanced’ economy of all bank-ridden countries, it may be inferred that it wasn't. How could the *Economist* admit that a mere turn of banking policy could effect such vast changes as it pretends have been effected in Russia?

The plum of the newspaper's article on the Political Dilemma is the assertion that “Without much doubt, if the elector knew of a better hole to go to, he would flock there in such numbers as to change the face of British politics.” *But there is no better hole!* Well, there you are!

The bed-side table of *The Times* is so overcrowded with bottles of incongruous shapes and sizes as to look chaotic, but most of the contents are not far below ‘proof.’ Says the correspondent: “To-day monopoly confronts us everywhere; the ‘invisible hand’ has gone.” But, “Industry is run to-day by directors whose interests are not necessarily identical with those of their shareholders. In most important firms they are not, except in theory, even appointed by the shareholders.” The ‘invisible hand’ is merely a phrase for competition. “Agriculture, cotton, coal, parts of iron and steel, and transport have had monopoly forced upon them by the Government; Repeal a dozen Acts, and they become once more highly competitive industries.” “If we strengthened the law, and set up a commission to enforce it, could we not make the pursuit of monopoly a hazardous adventure?” “How to make our economic system more flexible is by no means an easy problem. But if it can be done the pressure to escape from competition will relax, and competition may once more become a healthy social mechanism stimulating efficiency and subordinating the individual to public [social?] control.” “Left to the market alone, cotton, coal, agriculture, tramp shipping and many others would be highly competitive industries defying monopoly because the small unit is efficient enough in relation to its larger competitor to succeed in holding its own.” “When the State plans for compulsory education it does not have to nationalise all the schools.” “Competition may be made the servant of planning.” “We must beware of the people who advocate socialism in order to make the world safe for capitalists.” “Private enterprise may still find a wide range of industries where it would prove more efficient and more amenable to public taste than will the giant public trust.”

In a subheading, in letters a quarter of an inch high, *The Times* tells us that the alternatives for the future are “Control” or “Control.” Quite so: Freedom from delirium tremens without giving up drink.

T.J.

The Jewish Board of Deputies at a meeting, their largest since the war, have made it “perfectly clear that the Community is determined to uphold the authority of the Board and insists upon the necessity in particular for asserting its complete control over its subsidiary, the Trades Advisory Council.”

## INITIATIVE --- and All That

By W. WILSON

Considering the chaos to which the world has been reduced, there might appear some justification in the argument that those who have so nearly succeeded in realising their plans for wrecking organised society must be possessed of more 'initiative' than have those who have attempted to prevent the rot. A little thought, however, will show that this is not so.

"The dynamic forces (employed by the enemy) are Fear and Desire." (*The Big Idea*).

Obviously, Douglas does not intend here to imply that planners use *their own* fear and desire as a dynamic. Definitely not. He refers to the fear and desire of individuals everywhere, of you and me and our neighbours. Planners in general are using *our* initiative to propel us in the wrong direction, just as financiers in particular are using *our* credit to hold us in the wrong path. It is extremely doubtful whether planners are any better blessed of initiative (motive power generated from within) than are bankers of real credit. Their power resides in the fact that they understand the psychological techniques of Initiative, and apply this technique upon the minds of people who are unaware, or only vaguely aware, that such a power exists. Occultism!

Again, it would be as great a mistake to condemn fear and desire as such, as it would be to decry money as the root of all evil. Desire is a universal motive force. Fear is one of a number of emotions which assist in arousing or arresting desire. The problem of individuals everywhere is how to regain control of their own emotions and desires from the usurpers. And the problem behind the problem is that people are unconscious of the fact that the control of their emotions and desires has been usurped.

This leads to a consideration of the technique of initiative. Forgetting that peculiar conglomeration of truth-cum-phantasy-cum-fervour-cum-charlatanism which is lumped together under the word 'psychology' in public libraries, let us take a look at the work of those hard-headed gentlemen who, by trial, error and elimination—and at vast public expense—have arrived at certain principles of human dynamics which *work* more or less consistently. I refer to the 'ad-men' and propagandists.

Preparing an advertisement is rather like making a cake, and the skill employed in getting together and weighing out the ingredients is no less exacting. Just as the good cook always has his mind on the appetite of the eater, so does the good propagandist rivet his attention on the desires of his public. The technical ingredients of literature intended to lead others to action are:

1. Devices to attract and hold attention.
2. A description of the goods, or programme. (Policy).
3. One or more reasons.
4. One or more emotions.
5. An injunction to buy, or act.

These factors do not usually appear in this order: in fact, items (3) and (4) are used as 'essences' which are blended inextricably with the rest of the mixture.

It will be observed that this technique is almost identical with that of the hypnotist. It *is* hypnotism. By fixing the attention of his reader, the propagandist puts the Ego off its guard. He then tells his subject what he wants him to do, taking care in the process to pose a reason and stir an emotion. Then he issues a command to the will.

Hypnotism is control of the will by an outsider. Propaganda is hypnotism by remote control. I believe that the difference between the two is only one of degree, just as any seeming differences in technique rest mainly in the direct hypnotist's power to short-circuit the process. This I hope to make clear as I proceed.

At this stage it is necessary to point out that the propagandist has developed a vocabulary of his own. People are inclined to scoff at it as 'advertising jargon.' Jargon it may be, but let us bear in mind that the words have grown, not out of any abstract theory, but in the application and perfecting of a technique. Propagandists are not noted for their love of abstract psychology. They are in business to make a living, and are judged solely on their success in making people act according to the wishes of their clients. To them, their jargon means something *in reality*, although it is doubtful whether anybody has ever tried to arrive at definitions. Here I propose to define Reason and Emotion as they are regarded by those who employ them as dynamic forces.

A REASON is any statement estimated to allay doubt in the conscious mind. Neither truth nor strict logic is essential. EMOTION is the word applied to any feeling or instinct the roots of which are submerged below the conscious mind. The reasons and emotions used in any particular instance are chosen solely for their dynamic potency. The professional propagandist learns to think in a province outside judgment or morality.

It is an instructive game to meditate upon the various government propaganda campaigns in the light of the terms and definitions I have given, and to jot down the ingredients of these sumptuous repasts. Remember, for instance, evacuation. One basinful of Panic; a large teacupful of Mother Love; seasoning of Patriotism, and half a dozen wopping great Reasons which have mostly been proved false by actual events. Now try Fuel Rationing.

The Injunction is the least subtle part of the technique. It amounts to a more or less direct command to act, which the competent propagandist uses as a sort of detonator spark, dropping it into the explosive mixture at a point nicely timed. The fact that the psychological injunction is being reinforced more and more by legal and military sanctions is evidence enough that the invisible hypnotists cannot rely on the total efficacy of their remote dynamic. But we must not under-estimate its terrible power.

(2)

If I possess a means of driving railway engines by remote control, and my objective is to abduct the Brighton Belle, my first concern will be to distract the driver's mind from his own controls. If I am clever and lucky, I might induce him to step down from his cabin to see my new gadget and, as part of the demonstration, lose his train for him. Or, if I cannot make him leave his cabin, I might at least devise some trick to make him take his hand from the brake lever, and then start up his train under him, making it perform queer and unexpected antics.

The direct hypnotist usually operates upon a willing subject who, by a voluntary concentration of attention, surrenders that *conscious awareness* which normally controls his subconscious engine. The process is completed by the hypnotist suggesting sleep. This puts the conscious mind out of operation, leaving the hypnotist in absolute command of policy and action. The driver is right out of his cabin,



and the Brighton Belle travelling full steam ahead for Southend.

For the propagandist the task is more subtle and less sure. He has to jump the barrier of conscious judgment without assistance from his subject, and without hope of putting him completely to sleep. Hence his need of those interim tricks, reason impulses and emotion impulses.

"Hi," he shouts to the driver, "do you realise that 84 world-famous scientists, sitting in Geneva, have proclaimed that 72 per cent of all rheumatism suffered by engine drivers in Hawaii is caused by standing too long in draughty engine cabins?" And while the poor fellow is using his best hand to scratch his head over these cabalistics, the propagandist starts up the engine with an emotional appeal.

The effectiveness of this sort of psychological dose increases with repetition. If the driver finds that his engine behaves, not once but many times, in a way that it *shouldn't* behave according to the laws of the controls he knows, there comes a time when he loses all faith in those laws. The individual has lost his faith in his own ability to produce desired results by voluntary actions.

If there is one characteristic above all others which marks the advancement of humanity past the condition of animals, it is surely to be found in the continued development of consciousness. An animal may know, but a man knows that he knows: he can control the use of knowledge. Although it is profoundly true that 'you' (meaning an outsider) cannot change (the abstraction) human nature, it is no less true that every healthy individual possesses the urge to modify and perfect his own nature. This urge expresses itself in two ways: in the attainment of a firmer control over his instincts and passions and by a steady refinement of his powers of objective judgment. Notice that these two active motives are complementary to each other. Both lead to the same result: the strengthening of the conscious mind in relation to the subconscious—the raising of the wide-awake Self—the Ego—higher and higher above the instinct-plane of the animal. Hypnotism not only binds back the individual to his animal self, it also puts the animal on a leash.

Now I am quite certain that the 'steam' which propels the human engine is generated in the subconscious part of the mind. In our conscious mind we formulate desires through the reason (which, so far as it is purely 'conscious,' amounts to nothing more than a skilful coupling up of accumulated sense impressions). We may therefore regard the ego as the driver in a small cabin of consciousness, with his hand on a single control called Reasonable Desire. This control is the beginning—the initiative part—of the dynamic, but it is not the dynamic itself.

*To be continued.*

## Points from Parliament

HOUSE OF COMMONS: 10 September, 1942

### PROLONGATION OF PARLIAMENT

*Mr. W. Brown* asked the Prime Minister whether he can make any statement as to the Government's intentions as to prolonging the life of the present Parliament?

*The Prime Minister*: A Bill to prolong the life of the present Parliament is being presented to-day.

*Sir Percy Harris*: Would the Government consider following the precedent of the fourth year of the last war and setting up a Speaker's Conference? I only ask my right

hon. Friend to consider that.

*The Prime Minister*: It is not proposed to take that step on this occasion.

### Black-coated Workers (Taxation)

*Mr. De la Bere* asked the Chancellor of the Exchequer whether he will consider granting some form of relief from taxation to the black-coated worker whose salary ranges from £300 to £800 a year, in view of the fact that the majority of these men have had no increase in salary since the outbreak of the war and their expenses have been considerably increased as a result of the war; and whether he will allow them a remission from taxation in connection with their season ticket travelling expenses?

*The Chancellor of the Exchequer (Sir Kingsley Wood)*: I am afraid that I can hold out no hope of special taxation relief on the lines that my hon. Friend suggests. I would remind him that Section 26 of this year's Finance Act provided for relief to salaried workers in respect of additional travelling expenses, up to 10 a year, resulting from a change in the place of work or residence owing to the war.

*Mr. De la Bere*: Does not my right hon. Friend realise the ever-increasing hardship of these forgotten men, that many of them are family men with obligations and with a status to keep up, and that their position is very acute indeed? Will he really give further consideration to these men, who never get any attention paid to them in the House of Commons? I hope hon. Members will support this demand on behalf of many men who have gone through great hardship after many years of hard work?

*Sir K. Wood*: No, Sir. Attention has already been paid to their case in the way that I have indicated, and I regret that we cannot deal with a very large number of similar claims.

*Mr. De la Bere*: My right hon. Friend will appreciate that I shall go on and on pressing their case for reconsideration.

### SUPPLY: REPORT—SERVICE PAY AND ALLOWANCES

[*The following is a passage from the discussion which occurred as to whether the statement of the Government's proposals should be made at the beginning or the end of the debate:—*]

*Mr. De la Bere (Evesham)*: May I ask the Leader of the House how it was that at a Press meeting last night certain announcements regarding the Government's intentions were made—for instance, that the Women's Services should receive two-thirds of the increased pay of the Forces? Why is the House treated with this contempt? It is quite wrong. It has happened over and over again.

*Mr. Bevan*: The hon. Member for Evesham (Mr. De la Bere) has raised a matter of very great importance. It is unprecedented for a statement of Government policy to be made to an outside body when the House itself is to consider the matter. Is it correct that last night the Government informed the Press of its intentions concerning soldiers' allowances? If that is so, then, in my submission, it is a most humiliating position for the House to be in. We are entitled and privileged to have the first announcement, but now the Press has it first, and we are to wait for an hour or two and then be informed of the Government's policy. I seriously suggest to you, Mr. Speaker, that the dignity of

the House is deeply involved in this matter.

*Mr. De la Bere:* The Press is put before the House.

*Mr. Bevan:* On a point of Order, Mr. Speaker—

*Mr. Speaker:* No point of Order arises.

*Mr. Bevan:* May I then, through you, Sir, respectfully ask the Lord Privy Seal whether last night a statement was made to Press representatives of the Government's policy on this matter?

*Sir S. Cripps:* It has long been the practice in all Governments, when some statement is to be made on behalf of the Government, to give the Press in confidence a background to that in order to assist it with its publicity. It has been done by every Government and by every Ministry.

*Mr. Shinwell:* Will the right hon. and learned Gentleman tell us now.

*Sir S. Cripps:* I am perfectly prepared to tell the House when the time comes. The only question is when it is convenient for the House to have the statement, and as there are two views as to when it is convenient, I hope the arrangement I have suggested will meet with approval.

*Mr. George Griffiths (Hemsworth) rose—*

*Mr. Speaker:* The right hon. and learned Gentleman the Lord Privy Seal has said that he will make a statement in the course of the Debate.

## HOUSE OF LORDS: September 10, 1942 RAW MATERIALS

*Lord Portal:* . . . In America to-day we have the Combined Raw Materials Board, which was started when the Prime Minister and Lord Beaverbrook went over to America. On that Board sits a direct representative of the Minister of Production, and that representative is Sir Clive Baillieu. That Board is an overall Board—that is to say, it has the central control of pooling of all raw materials. That means that we must be in constant touch with the Board. Whatever the supplies may be, and wherever they come from—from the Empire or anywhere else—they come to that Board to be allocated to ourselves, to Russia, or to any other of the Allied nations. We work in the closest touch with the Board. I am not going to discuss to-day the question of the Combined Production and Resources Board which was initiated on the other side by the present Minister of Production when he went to America two or three months ago. Sir Robert Sinclair represents the Minister of Production on that Board. It is obvious that these two Boards must work closely together because you must ally production with raw materials. . .

## JEWISH REFUGEES

*Lord Wedgwood* had given Notice that he would call attention to the attitude still shown towards Jewish refugees, from Nazi oppression, in the services, in the Law Courts, in civil life, here, in Palestine, in the Colonies, in Canada, and Australia; to ask for full use of this man power; and also move for Papers. . .

[*Complaining of increasing anti-semitism in this country, Lord Wedgwood declared that it was spreading, particularly among the 'upper governing classes.' One of two police-court cases he quoted concerned a German refugee woman, 61 years of age, wife of a wealthy citizen of Hamburg, who, in Germany:*]

had been robbed of everything and the husband sent

to a concentration camp. They escaped to this country. The old lady had evidently gone slightly wrong in the head, and had apparently taken to pilfering articles of small value. She had stolen a 1 lb. pot of marmalade. The case came before London Quarter Sessions and she was sentenced to six months' imprisonment. In the course of the hearing the doctor said that what she probably needed was attention, and the Chairman of Quarter Sessions said she would get the attention she needed in prison. . .

*Lord Marley:* . . . about two months ago it was my privilege to go to one of the few remaining camps in Canada to open, on behalf of the Canadian authorities, a metal-working training school, established in the internment camp for the purpose of using the man-power of the refugees. By that time there were only between 1,000 and 1,200 refugees still interned, and the camps had been turned from barbed-wire enclosures into absolutely open camps. The interned refugees were able to walk out of the camp and come back again, and there had not been a single case of breaking bounds.

In the school which we established, largely by funds some of which I was able to help to get from the United States of America, we are training 140 refugees at a time in a four-months' course. The Canadian Government have established, alongside the internment camp, a special camp, which is called a machine repair depot. Every refugee who has completed his four months' training is moved to the machine repair depot, where he becomes a free man. He is no longer an interned refugee; he is a free man. He is paid the usual wages for the repair of the machines for the war effort which is undertaken in this camp. The Canadian Government have already been able to use a considerable number of the refugees in the camp, and have guaranteed to take every refugee who goes through the training course, so as to secure a full use of the man-power available in repairing the machines required in the various industrial plants in Canada. One of the most interesting results of this is that, although the British Government offer to the refugees a certain number of places in ships going to England, where their cases may be reviewed, the number of refugees taking advantage of this offer is only about one-third of the number of places open to them. The others prefer to stay in Canada. . .

*The Secretary of State for the Colonies (Viscount Cranborne) (Lord Cecil):* My Lords, the Motion which the noble Lord, Lord Wedgwood, has put upon the Paper is very widely drawn, so that it might include almost any subject connected with the Jews. I should like to thank him for his great courtesy in indicating to me the specific points, or, at least, some of the specific points, which he intended to raise, for, in this way, he put me in the position to make some answer to him. I hope, however, that the House will forgive me if on the present occasion I do not make a very full reply, for during recent months we have had a great many debates on the Jewish question, all of them initiated by Lord Wedgwood. Those debates have covered many of the points which have been referred to in the discussion this afternoon. . .

I would like to say at once that I deeply sympathise with the main purpose of the noble Lord in reprobating to the utmost degree the wickedness of Anti-Semitism. In that he is, if he would only believe it, entirely at one with His Majesty's Government. But I must confess that I was a little bewildered by the nature of the arguments with which he recommended his case. If I had been intending, or any of your Lordships had been intending, to raise a debate on

the subject of the ill-treatment of the Jews—and Heaven only knows that that treatment is horrible enough—I should have expected that your Lordships' attention would have been devoted to the really terrible events which are at present occurring in Germany, in Poland, in Czechoslovakia, and now even in France....

But it was not against those fearful deeds that the noble Lord poured out in vials of his wrath this afternoon, except in a mere parenthesis; it was not with the Germans that he showed his great indignation; it was with the people of this country, or certain sections of the people of this country and of the Dominions. Now, frankly, I do not understand that...

He referred to an old lady who had been sentenced to six months' imprisonment for pilfering a pot of marmalade. Certainly that seems, on the face of it, a very formidable sentence. But what are the facts about this lady? She was a woman who had already been convicted four times for shop-lifting! She was a notorious shop-lifter!

*Lord Wedgwood:* Is it not the case that every time the articles involved were below the value of a shilling?

*Viscount Cranborne:* It is not really a question of the value of what was taken. The point is that at the present time there is a great shortage of goods, and there is a danger to the community in this practice of shop-lifting... These facts, which are all relevant to the case, were not divulged to the House by the noble Lord this afternoon as they should have been. It was disingenuous on his part not to give the full facts of the case. I must say that I deplore, and hope the House also deplores, these reckless charges against the impartiality of British justice which, as your Lordships know very well, has been above reproach for many centuries. The impression the noble Lord gave here was that British justice is corrupt, and that it is corrupt in the sense that it is affected by political considerations. That, my Lords, is untrue and he knows it is untrue. It is no good saying that sort of thing. I cannot understand a man in the responsible position of the noble Lord making irresponsible comments and remarks of that kind....

I was therefore driven to the conclusion, if the noble Lord will forgive my saying so, that consciously or unconsciously he seemed to want, not that Jews should be discriminated against, but that they should occupy a privileged position. To that of course the British people would never agree, and what is more, the Jews themselves would not want it, because they know perfectly well that would be the quickest and surest way of promoting Anti-Semitism. But if the noble Lord's Motion has been put down merely to obtain an assurance that His Majesty's Government are not Anti-Semitic, that is what I may call a very easy ball for one to hit a six off, and I am very ready to give him that assurance absolutely and in the most unqualified manner....

I have come to the end of what I have to say, but in conclusion I would just appeal to the noble Lord, Lord Wedgwood, most earnestly to stop these senseless and baseless attacks which he makes that have really no foundation in fact. They do not do him any good; they do not do the Jews any good. They only distress those of us who are his friends. I do beg of him, that, in this battle for the rights and liberties of the Jews as of everybody else, in which we, no less than he, are engaged, he should henceforth divert his broadside to the enemy, and not keep them exclusively for those who are fighting by his side.

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