

THE SOCIAL CREDITER

FOR POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC REALISM

Vol. 27. No. 1.

Registered at G.P.O. as a Newspaper.
Postage: home 1½d. and abroad 1d.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 1951.

6d. Weekly.

From Week to Week

Whatever the rights of it, and without being in the least assertive that there are any, the quarrel at Palapye between an ex-British M.P. (who was bottom of the poll at the last general election) and two other 'observers' in front of the collected Bamengwato tribesmen will not enhance respect for ballot-box democracy.

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"The formula agreed upon between the Persian and British governments *through the medium of Mr. Harriman*" (*The Times*) (Our emphasis) seems to have taken precedence over the formula presented through the medium of Mr. Stokes on behalf of the other British Government.

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"The object was to propagate knowledge so that it should grow and spread: the difficulty anticipated was not in excluding auditors, but in finding them." This sentence occurs in Note 10 to Spedding's Notes to Ellis's Preface to the *Novum Organum*, which note itself has a footnote citing a passage in Bacon's letter to Dr. Playfere proposing to him to translate the *Advancement of Learning* into Latin:—"Wherefore since I have only taken upon me to ring a bell to call other wits together, which is the meanest office, it cannot but be consonant to my desire to have the bell heard as far as can be. And since they are but sparks which can work upon matter prepared, I have the more reason to wish that those sparks may fly abroad, *that they may the better find and light upon those minds and spirits that are apt to be kindled.*" (160—?).

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"My great Work goeth forward: and, after my manner, I alter ever when I add. So that nothing is finished till all be finished."

"The greatest genius that England, or perhaps any country, ever produced" (Pope's assessment of Bacon) seems very much alive. Anyone who wants to know more than the gossip writers tell us about the realities behind secret societies had better read a curious work, dedicated to "BRO. SAMUEL V. HALL of Liverpool Whose Staunch Friendship . . ." etc. It is recent, and "is not written to prove that [Bacon] was the Creator and Founder of the secret Elizabethan Fraternities, notably, the Rosicrosse Literary Society, the Rosicrucian College and Modern Freemasonry; neither . . ." It seems to us (though we may be mistaken) to link up with a remark by a copyist concerning a passage in the *Revue Internationale des Societes Secretes* (Mgr. Youin: issue of August 8, 1933). The passage, with the additional comment in italics *vide infra* appears below:—

" . . . the German pre-War masons used their facilities of international penetration to give a false impression of the intentions of Germany and her preparedness with regard to war.

"The new Christian Order is a great implement for Hitlerism, and in foreign countries *among Germans*, thus specially in U.S.A. where there are many German colonies.

"Germany used these special cells within freemasonry for her foreign policy. But the new order puts an end to the same use being made by international freemasonry of the now purely German lodges.

"This is a very important departure. [*Undoubtedly freemasonry was used, cell-wise, by those special initiates of the ultra-secret order who worked for the destruction of ordinary freemasonry, while using it, and keeping intact the special order: Wehme or Volsung.*]"

A few pages later in the same issue of the *Revue*, M. Charles Maurras, founder of the *Action Française*, notes "the loss of prestige of Freemasonry," but says that nevertheless it is still a force backed by Jewish money and influence. We have said before that we think Mr. Hannah, who has not abandoned the fight against Freemasonry in the Church of England, has his work cut out. The attachment of the wise and witty Francis to Freemasonry (which is nothing new) may not save Freemasonry; but it may throw 'light' (a favourite word among Rosicrucians) upon the continuity of secret societies, and upon the true place of Francis Bacon in modern history. (He belongs to modern history). At the present moment, there are far too many *little* Freemasons, and they're going to ask for far too much (from the big ones).

As a (minor) example, £2,400 a year (plus a little un-taxed) is too much even in the universities where the *Novum Organum* has had such success, for a slave who is not even a head slave.

The Social Credit Secretariat

NOTICE

Letters on Secretariat business which would normally be addressed to the Social Credit Secretariat or to Dr. Tudor Jones personally should be addressed as indicated below until October 1:—

Mr. Hewlett Edwards,
Nether End,
Austrey,
Atherstone,
Warwickshire.

PARLIAMENT

House of Commons: July 23, 1951.

Electricity

Wind and Water Power (Research)

Mr. Ellis Smith asked the Minister of Fuel and Power what programme he has for harnessing wind, water power, &c., in order to increase the supply of electric power for facilitating the delivery of plant, for ensuring earlier delivery dates, and for the construction of power houses; what increase he expects to achieve annually; and when it is expected that the supply of power will meet the demand.

Mr. P. Noel-Baker: The British Electricity Authority, the North of Scotland Hydro-Electric Board, and the Electrical Research Association are all experimenting in the use of wind for power. The Hydro-Electric Board are rapidly expanding the use of water power in Northern Scotland; the B.E.A. are studying its use elsewhere.

But much the greater part of our electricity must be supplied from thermal stations, using coal. I hope that, 1,100 megawatts of new capacity will be commissioned this year; this rate of commissioning should increase to 1,400 megawatts by 1954.

Severn Barrage

Mr. Ellis Smith asked the Minister of Fuel and Power why it was necessary to make a new Severn tidal model when one had been made at the Manchester University in 1926 and 1930 under the direction of Professor Gibson, Metropolitan Vickers and Fodens directors, with experiments and drawings which satisfied the experts; if he will have inquiries made as to the results of the experiments on the model made in 1947, and the investigation carried out by the Hydraulics Research Organisation; why action has not been taken on the official reports prepared in 1926, 1929, 1932, 1933 and 1945 concerning the proposed Severn Barrage; what is the estimated amount of coal that would be saved per annum and the amount of power generated; and if he will now treat this matter as one of great economic urgency.

Mr. P. Noel-Baker: The report of 1945 was prepared by a panel of engineers under the leadership of Sir William Halcrow. One of their recommendations was that a new tidal model of the Severn Estuary must be made, in order to determine whether the Barrage would cause the silting or the flooding of the Bristol Channel ports. I hope this model will be completed in 1953.

Sir William Halcrow estimated in 1945 that the Barrage would give 2,190 million units of electricity a year; that it would save 985,000 tons of coal a year; that it would take eight years to construct; and that it would require 560,000 tons of cement, 250,000 tons of iron and steel, and 20,000 tons of alloy steel, copper, and aluminium. In the light of these facts, we must clearly await the results of the experiments on the new model. But I agree with my hon. Friend that the scheme is of great importance for the future.

Fares (User Representations)

Mr. A. Lewis asked the Minister of Transport whether he will take the necessary action to ensure that the public users

of road and rail transport have adequate opportunities of presenting their case for reductions and reclassification of fares, where necessary.

Mr. Barnes: A scheme covering all the road and rail passenger services provided by the Commission has been submitted to the Transport Tribunal in accordance with the provisions of the Transport Act and will be considered by the Tribunal at public hearings at which bodies representing users of these services will be heard.

For services not provided by the Commission, fares on omnibuses and coaches are settled under the Road Traffic Acts by the licensing authorities for public service vehicles to whom representations may be made and on trams and trolley vehicles by myself after public inquiry in the case of fares exceeding the statutory maxima.

I think, therefore, that transport users have adequate opportunities for making representations about fares.

House of Commons: July 24, 1951.

Civil Service and Nationalised Industries

Mr. Digby asked the Minister of Labour if he is yet able to make a statement about the negotiations to encourage Government Departments and the nationalised industries to retain their employees after the age of 65 years if they are fit and anxious to continue at work.

Mr. Lee: I would refer the hon. Member to the answer to a similar Question on 5th June.

Mr. Digby: Will the Minister treat this as a matter of urgency as, for example, in the railway industry people are still being discharged against their will on reaching the age of 65?

Mr. Lee: Yes, Sir. We are very concerned about it. We have brought our policy to the attention of the industries concerned, and we will do everything that we can to see that it is carried out.

Captain Duncan: Is the hon. Gentleman aware that his original announcement was made in April, that it is now nearly the end of July and the Government have not yet made up their minds? Meanwhile, men who are reaching 65 are still being dismissed from the Service Departments. Will he look into this matter?

Mr. Lee: It is not true to say that the Government have not made up their minds. Our policy is well known, and we have done what we can. The hon. and gallant Gentleman will realise that very necessary re-arrangements have to be made in industries to do this. We cannot expect people to alter their whole policy and make other arrangements in a short space of time when for many years they have been functioning on a very different basis.

Trade Union Membership

Mr. Hardy asked the Minister of Labour what steps he has taken to make known to employers the terms of paragraph 4 of Article 23 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

Mr. Lee: The Universal Declaration of Human Rights approved by the General Assembly of the United Nations in December, 1948, was given full publicity in a Command

Paper (No. 7662) issued in early 1949.

Mr. Hardy: Is the Parliamentary Secretary aware that there is a firm known as D. C. Thompson, of Dundee, Glasgow and Salford, who have had a closed shop for the last 25 years and do not employ members of trade unions? People who are employed there must sign a declaration not to belong to a trade union, and in view of the international decision about human rights, what is the Minister prepared to do with this firm?

Mr. Lee: I do not know that we have the power to do anything, but I agree with my hon. Friend that it is deplorable that in 1951 any firm should have to adopt such disgusting tactics.

Mr. McCorquodale: Is the hon. Gentleman aware that when the Minister of Labour was winding up the debate on the Hants-Dorset bus dispute the other evening, he showed himself at variance with the Universal Declaration of Human Rights?

Mr. Lee: I do not at all accept that.

Mr. Henry Strauss: If the Minister decides to give further publicity to the provision mentioned in the Question, will he at the same time give equal publicity to the provision of paragraph 2 of Article 20 of the same Universal Declaration, that no one may be compelled to belong to an association?

Mr. Lee: I do not know if that includes the trade union that caters for solicitors and lawyers.

Mr. Hardy: Is my hon. friend aware that at the United Nations on 10th December it was recommended for international acceptance that everyone had the right to form a trade union for the protection of his or her own interests?

Mr. Lee: I quite accept that.

Festival Gardens (Continuance)

Sir Ralph Glyn asked the Lord Privy Seal if he is yet in a position to make a statement concerning the continued opening of the Festival Gardens beyond the present proposed date of termination.

The Lord Privy Seal (Mr. Stokes): The Government fully recognise the advantages that would result from continued opening of the Festival Pleasure Gardens for, say, another five years and believe that such a course would be acceptable to public opinion. Provided local authorities and others directly concerned agree and there are adequate safeguards for the finances, management and the maintenance of suitable standards, the Government would welcome a decision to continue. Assurances that no fresh capital will be needed and that there will be substantial repayments in reduction of the Exchequer loans already made are essential conditions for Government agreement, and actual operating results give every reason to hope that these conditions can be met.

The present position is that the local authorities are in consultation and Battersea Metropolitan Borough Council has resolved in favour of continuance. The problem is being examined in all its aspects by Festival Gardens Limited and other interests concerned, and I will make a further statement as soon as possible after I have had their views.

War Emergency Powers

Colonel Gomme-Duncan asked the Prime Minister if, in

view of the fact that a state of war with Germany has been ended, the state of emergency accepted by the British people as being necessary for the waging of that war may also be ended.

The Prime Minister (Mr. Attlee): The powers taken in 1939 were not dependent on any general declaration of a state of emergency.

Colonel Gomme-Duncan: In view of the fact that the British public gave up a great part of their liberties to meet this emergency and the war has obviously now ceased, does not the right hon. Gentleman think that the emergency should be brought to a close and, if necessary, a fresh emergency declared with more limited requirements from the public?

The Prime Minister: I think it more convenient to adopt the practice we have adopted, that is, of gradually doing away with these powers as they become unnecessary; but there are some powers, as the hon. and gallant Member will realise, that are for the protection of the public.

Mr. Martin Lindsay: With great respect, is not the right hon. Gentleman's original answer a bit of a quibble, because the powers taken in 1939 were taken only in view of a threat of war with Germany, and if no such threat existed they would not have been taken?

Mr. Hector Hughes: Is not the practice adopted on this occasion similar to the practice adopted by this country after World War I?

Hon. Members: No.

Viscount Hinchinbrooke: Is not the declaration of a state of emergency designed to have a tonic and moral effect on the people of the country and to arouse them to a sense of their dire responsibility and duty? Is there not some danger, if this is allowed to drag on from year to year, with a state of emergency against one country and then another, of a certain amount of confusion and frustration ensuing?

Captain Crookshank: Is the assumption that this country when governed by a Socialist administration is in a permanent state of emergency?

The Prime Minister: No, Sir, but we are a country in a world in which there are reactionary Governments and totalitarian Governments.

Balance of Payments (Publicity)

Mr. Gammans asked the Chancellor of the Exchequer if he will publish a short popular pamphlet to explain the significance of the widening trade gap to the ordinary citizen of this country.

Mr. Gaitskell: I will consider this, though I am not sure that a special pamphlet is appropriate.

Mr. Gammans: Is it not obvious that exhortations have completely failed to make most of the people of this country realise that we have not earned our living as a country since the war, and is it not better for some special steps to be taken to point this out rather than that the harsh economic facts should teach us what is in fact true?

Mr. Gaitskell: I should have thought the hon. Member was well aware of the magnificent efforts made by the British people, with very considerable success, to achieve not merely a balance but a surplus last year.

(Continued on page 6)

THE SOCIAL CREDITER

This journal expresses and supports the policy of the Social Credit Secretariat, which is a non-party, non-class organisation neither connected with nor supporting any political party, Social Credit or otherwise.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES: *Home and abroad, post free:*
One year 30/-; Six months 15/-; Three months 7s. 6d.

Offices: (Business) 7, VICTORIA STREET, LIVERPOOL, 2, Telephone: CENTRAL 8509; (Editorial) 49, PRINCE ALFRED ROAD, LIVERPOOL, 15, Telephone: SEFTON Park 435.

Vol. 27. No. 1. Saturday, September 1, 1951.

An Australian View of Immigration*

We have consistently opposed the large-scale immigration policy pursued by both Labour and anti-Labour Governments. A recent survey of immigration and industrial development issued by the Stewart Howard Research Service, Sydney, supports one of our arguments against the present immigration policy—that it helps intensify the inflation menace.

The Research Service mentioned above points out that in the peak period of immigration into the U.S.A., migration accounted for 31 per cent. of the total population growth. But the Australian immigration programme means a migration ratio of 61 per cent. to population growth over the next decade. This vast influx, bringing to this country many who are alien to our traditional way of life, and some who are enemies, is helping to add to the economic difficulties of the native-born.

One of the major official arguments in favour of large-scale immigration has been that it will ensure that Australia is more quickly developed and more adequately defended. The most alarming characteristic of Australian economic developments in recent years has been over-industrialisation, at the expense of the rural economy. More and more of the population continues to be concentrated in several big capital cities. This excessive centralisation is already producing disastrous results. The Sydney Research Survey says that, of the 61,403 displaced persons who had migrated here by the middle of 1950, only 5,666 went to primary industries. Very few other migrants have gone to rural areas. The majority have stayed in the cities, where they have helped worsen the housing position and placed an added strain on essential services, which are gradually breaking down.

We have heard it stated on numerous occasions that the migration programme would materially help to overcome shortages. But the Sydney Survey states that this is not so. It claims that in 1949-50 migrants created an increased demand for commodities by £147 million, but that their output was only £67 million. Under present financial rules, a strong stimulus to inflation has been the inevitable result. Large-scale migration is like large-scale capital expansion: it increases the money supply in the community without increasing the volume of consumer goods for sale.

It must not be inferred that we are opposed to all migration and all capital expansion. But, bearing in mind that capital expansion, like migration, means an immediate reduction in the actual or potential standard of living, even if ultimately it may increase the standard of living, it is

essential that the individual be permitted to decide for himself just how much immediate sacrifice he is prepared to make in anticipation of a higher standard of living later. We have on numerous occasions put forward practical suggestions to enable the individual to decide effectively just how much of his money the Government should get, and for what purposes. However, as the individual does not decide his own financial policies at present, it is essential that every possible device available be used to compel the Federal Government to modify, at the very least, its immigration programme.

It has been well said that charity should start at home. If the Government desires a community of families adequately housed and fed, a fundamental essential for high national morale and genuine defence, it must immediately modify its views on migration. It has been estimated that, while the present rate of immigration continues, the housing position must get progressively worse. The present building rate barely provides enough new houses for Australians. This means that tens of thousands of migrant families, in the struggle to get houses, become fierce competitors with local families. The results are disastrous in numerous ways. They certainly produce the ideal breeding ground for totalitarian doctrines, which far too many of our new migrants are bringing from overseas. Every patriotic Australian must face up to this issue realistically, and not be bluffed by the high-pressure propaganda which will not bear a moment's honest investigation.

"Dollar-Grin" in Austria

There may be some connection between the post-war craze for travel and the officially-sponsored schemes to make people travel at other would-be travellers' expense (students, teachers, food-talkers). "It's an ill wind . . ."; and certainly more eye-opening among the Once Great seems to have been done this summer than for a long time past. It may, of course, find its officially provided safety valve. "As in Germany, so in Austria; there are no obvious shortages of anything. As much fresh butter as you like! Petrol here is restricted to this extent, that you cannot buy it for cash from the petrol-pump, but must buy vouchers for it in centres such as Innsbruck or Zell (unrationed and *ad lib.* in Germany). It is inferior to the German. This village, . . . was almost unknown up to a year ago. Now you cannot get a bed anywhere for love or money. A couple of fair-sized hotels have gone up, and the district is being 'developed'—with Marshall Aid. It is curious that last year similar conditions were found at . . . , which, this year, is half empty despite the plethora of foreign holiday-makers in Austria—Dutch, Swedish, French, Belgian, Italian and German, with G.B. name plates most infrequent of all! What riles me is to see the number of big American 'dollar-grin' cars owned by Germans and Austrians—not that I grudge the Germans and Austrians their cars, but what but an international anti-British conspiracy can explain how the citizens of the countries we are supposed to have defeated in war are able to buy cars denied to us because of 'the dollar shortage.' Prosperity is being dealt out to the Belgians and Italians . . ." (The letter waxes uncomplimentary; but we appreciate a point about the human material required by the Sanhedrin to populate the World Slave State).

*From *The New Times* (Melbourne) June 15.

On Feeding Ourselves

Many years ago I was fascinated by reading the classic "Fields, Workshops and Factories" written by the late Prince Kropotkin. It was a wonderful book for it showed that the British Isles could feed themselves. Over a span of years my memory may be at fault, but I am under the impression that we could support a population of 80,000,000! This figure included the whole of Ireland, for it was before "the troubles" that led to the separation of Southern Ireland into a separate country. Only a very few believed in the possibility, and the slick phrase that we live by our exports has had currency too long. The mad business of voiding wealth to the ends of the world in exchange for the imported food, vastly inferior to healthy home grown stuff (for it cannot be consumed in a fresh condition) won the day with the deplorable consequences we now endure.

The question of food is worrying the housewife throughout the land and ways and means of obtaining good wholesome supplies from our own land is of vital importance. It was therefore with particular satisfaction that I read "Feeding Ourselves" by Philip Oyler (published by Hodder and Stoughton), for not only does it show how we could feed ourselves but indicates a way of retreat from the spurious Industrial Civilisation in which we are enmeshed. While he is not a Social Crediter his outlook is towards the same light and there is so much he has to say which is sane and healthy that some extracts will be of interest.

Oyler points out that after the last war our continental neighbours turned all their energies to the production of food. "Our principal effort was and still is to earn dollars as if we could eat them!" Though over 100,000 men in the services wanted to go onto the land, not one tenth of them had the desire fulfilled. "We spend money in importing raw materials to convert into articles for export, in order to buy foreign exchange in order to buy the food which we could grow." Yet "The Authorities' Exhortation is: 'Export, export, export.' But a time will come when our former purchasers will be able to say: 'Thank you, but we can now make things for ourselves.'"

"With the advent of the Industrial Revolution—and its purely commercial spirit, the modern so-called 'economist' regarding everything primarily from the point of view of money, began to whisper in hearts that were becoming ever more lukewarm to their God—" so that "Time-honoured rules of conduct were discarded." The Golden Rule "of treating others as one would like to be treated—in all phases of life—has waned to such an extent that it has become an exception. One no longer hears anything of 'The just price'—the price that is fair to both buyer and seller." Evidently he has not read Douglas. For further proof he says: "Till gold, the life blood of the commercial body, circulates freely, trade can never and will never prosper."

He goes on to ask why we import so many things, besides food, which we can perfectly well produce ourselves. "For example, why import from Holland rushes for mats and rush-seat chairs, when we have acres of these rushes on the Broads?" "Why import willow for basket making from the Argentine, when willow will grow by any stream or in any damp place in Britain?" Why import blackberries—flax and hemp and silk? One is tempted to exclaim "The eyes of the fool—"

"Money in itself is, of course, neither good nor bad."

"It is the worship of it and the perversion of its use that is evil and does evil, especially when it is treated as a commodity and made scarce or plentiful at the will of the bankers." He goes on to say that we must seek 'the Kingdom of Heaven within' and that no policy, no planning or external reforms can bring about any permanent improvement unless each one of us is given the necessary light to see which way we are taking.

"I am aware," he says, "that plenty of people hold the view that farming can be treated as a purely commercial undertaking. Anyone with sufficient cunning can make money out of the land, but that is not farming." If the soil is mined instead of husbanded cash crops can be raised, but unless we return to it all the organic wastes to maintain its humus disaster will follow. For example "When there is a dry spring, we can see the wind carry away the top soil of many fields in the eastern counties, with their young crops and depositing the lot in the nearest ditches and filling them up to the brim." We fell more trees than we plant, we are exhausting by borings our underground water supplies to supply great towns "which are not returning their wastes to the land in return for what they receive but are emptying them into the sea."

According to Oyler we should encourage small holdings owned by the farmer. "No man, unless he is a saint, can be expected to give the land the same care (the care it needs) if he is a tenant or an employee as he would as an owner." Small farms so owned and properly husbanded give a much higher yield per acre than the larger units. He is also against huge industrial units of every kind and would like to see a return to craftsmanship. "A man should be free to design and build his own home without asking anyone's permission. When he uses local material, he will not be able to spoil the landscape—Hundreds of the lovely little old cottages that grace our villages knew no architect or contractor—" "We ought, of course, to restore and repair the mills, wind and water, and grind (with power that costs nothing) our own cereals on the spot." "There were, by the way, once upon a time over 20,000 mills in operation in Great Britain."

Children should be encouraged to use their hands. "Let them all have the liberty, boys and girls alike, the opportunity, the encouragement to learn in the home, in the workshop, in the fields and woods, and each to find out for himself or herself some special aptitude." "Under a system of forced instruction—the very antithesis of education—the best that can be expected is a nice sort of girl and a decent type of youth, but none or few individuals or characters." "No one can possibly enjoy working on a conveyor belt, for example, and no Christian would want his fellow men to do it."

The Fenland farmers are cited as outstanding examples in Britain of Commercial Farmers who are able to wax rich in money. They use all modern "improvements," tractors, artificials and the good earth is eaten away. "As near as can be calculated the level of the land in many of these farms has been lowered by nine feet during this century." In some places this rich alluvial soil has been used up and some have given up their farms and have "re-commenced to rape the earth in Romney Marsh, the only rich land still unexploited by commercial farming." "Not content with doping the soil, spraying the crops, fumigating the weeds, farmers deliberately kill the green haulm of early potatoes so that they

can be lifted more easily by mechanical means." This treatment, he points out destroys the beneficial bacteria in the soil but allows the survival of the eelworm so that now, on thousands of acres, potatoes can no longer be grown.

In the latter part of his book Oyler tells us a good deal about the peasant farmers in the Dordogne valley and feels that their methods adapted to this country would solve our food problem. He says: "I have lived with, worked with these peasants and have learnt more from them than from anyone else—not merely about husbandry but about cookery, craftsmanship and culture, the art of living." It is most interesting to note that many of these peasants are of British stock having British names and surnames, as well as their livestock! This arises from the fact that Aquitaine was actually a part of the English crown lands for some 300 years. (Read Oyler's former book "The Generous Earth," which gives a vivid description of this lovely country).

"The motto of these peasants is *Un peu de tout*—the complete reverse of ours, which has descended into specialisation of all kinds and made itself in the process as vulnerable as possible in every way."

I am not going to tell you how the peasants farm, that would take many pages and you must read the book, but it is interesting to learn a typical output of say a few of these little farms of about 15 acres each. On eight such farms (150 acres) "there will be an annual output of 60 acres of wheat for a start. There will be at least 32 adult cattle, 16 to 18 yearlings or 2 year olds, 8 to 10 calves, 12 to 16 pigs, 20 to 30 sheep, 8 to 10 goats, 100 to 150 chickens, 50 to 60 ducks, 20 to 30 geese and about the same number of turkeys and dozens of rabbits." Both the farmers' families and their stock will be fed entirely on this produce. There will be a surplus for sale of walnuts, tobacco, plums and vegetables, fat poultry, eggs and from eight to ten fat calves! In addition they make all their wines, liqueurs and brandy! How many of us could enjoy such a variety of wholesome food in England now?

Summing up, Oyler says that our grass is misused and wasted; marginal land is not used; the roadsides are not grazed with cattle, horses, pigs, geese, sheep and goats. There is failure to plant fruit trees, walnuts, almonds, *etc.*, along our roads and above bush fruit, which he suggests should be planted on the lines of all hedges excepting those on the road. There is lack of terracing and irrigation on hillsides, and there are dirty rivers.

A word on dirty rivers. "Records show that 60 or 70 years ago an average catch of salmon in a year in the Tyne amounted to about 120,000 in nets and from 2,000 to 3,000 with rod and line. Now the average catch in nets is 700—"

Perhaps I have said enough to indicate what the author of this valuable little book can tell us, but I would like to add that not long ago he was told to concentrate on milk and rear no calves. That was an order which he ignored and gave the officials the choice of taking on his job and confining him to gaol or allowing him to continue to use his own judgment. The officials retreated and not long afterwards reversed the order, but many farmers were so frightened by the threats that they carried out what he terms "this crazy edict."

Thank you Mr. Oyler and I hope other farmers will follow your lead. R.G.

PARLIAMENT.

(Continued from page 3.)

Mr. Gammons: Is it not a fact that the surplus last year was not due to the earnings of this country, but to the earnings of the Empire and the sterling area?

Mr. Gaitskell: I am referring to the United Kingdom balance of payments.

Education

Miss Horsbrugh (Manchester, Moss Side): . . . I noticed that in one place the Report [Minister of Education's Report for 1950]—and this is one of the difficulties about it—states that secondary education is agreed. What we are discussing now, they say, is the subject of the single, bilateral or comprehensive school. I wish the Report had told us something about the discussions. . . . In the Labour Party pamphlet which was issued—apart from the subject of the common child—we were told that the schools need not necessarily be large, that we need not have such large comprehensive schools. I think this will be a very difficult problem. I see that in the circular which the Ministry of Education sent out in 1947 the comprehensive school was to be about 1,700 to 2,000 or 1,500 to 1,700, and it was always visualised that the comprehensive school had to be a great deal bigger than the nominal school. I think that is a great pity. . . .

When looking into the subject of the comprehensive school I wondered if it were thought that children would get a better education. I have looked into the matter very carefully, but more and more I have become convinced that there is something more than that in their minds. None of us probably takes much notice of what may be said at party conferences—[HON. MEMBERS: "Oh."]—by somebody proposing a motion which he wants his party to accept. He may exaggerate. I think we can put it quite fairly like that; a member of the party, proposing a motion urging certain action, wanting support and wanting the acceptance of the motion, may exaggerate.

But when I saw what was said on the subject of the comprehensive school I found it was not merely argued from the educational point of view, but that it was suggested that the school would bring about the right Socialist outlook on the State. I began to fear that there was more in this than simply the child's education.

When I read this article [Written by Miss Bacon, Member for Leeds, North-East] by the Hon. Lady I came to that conclusion again. We begin by getting these words "class segregation" into our educational discussions. We have used the word "class" in the past meaning a class in school, but I am afraid there seems to be more of what I might call party politics being introduced into the word. The hon. Lady finishes her article on comprehensive schools with these words:

"It is not only the children's education that is at stake. It is the whole basis of society."

Of the basis of society we have already heard in a speech made at that conference, and I seriously ask hon. Members opposite: Can they really tell the Committee today that, when they urge having comprehensive schools, they are urging that solely for the benefit of education—[HON. MEMBERS: "Certainly."]—or do they feel, as has been said, that in that

way will be an opportunity of bringing about the Socialist State and of having more uniformity in education?—[HON. MEMBERS: "No."]—Well, hon. Members opposite do not agree with what was said at the conference.—[HON. MEMBERS: "Who said it?"]—It was said at the Labour Party Conference by the mover of a motion. He said:

"I believe that in the comprehensive system of education lies the basis of educating the next generation to form a Socialist society."

Hon. Members: Who said it?

Mr. Hollis (Devizes): Woodall.

Miss Horsbrugh: Yes.

... Let us be quite certain about this remark I have quoted as being made at the Labour Party Conference. I thought I had made it quite clear. They were words used by a delegate moving a motion. I know the hon. Lady spoke on behalf of the Labour Party Executive, and accepted the motion about the comprehensive schools. The words I have quoted were used in the speech moving the resolution, which was accepted by the hon. Lady.

I do not know—so far as I know, she did not—that she said, in accepting it, that from the educational point of view the comprehensive school was the basis of Socialist society. There was no need for her to say it. I think hon. Members have a perfect right to bring that remark forward as expressing what other hon. Members have in mind as being the basis of a Socialist society. . . .

Mr. Pickthorn (Carlton): Everybody understands education, which is no doubt the reason why we always have such large audiences for these debates. . . . I should like to agree with the Liberal spokesman, anyhow, in some of the things he said, and I entirely agree with him about the role of parents. It is common form in these debates to say that the child is what matters most, but, of course, "the child" in that sense does not exist, and it is very easy to say that what you are caring about is the child when what you are really caring about is what the teacher, or, infinitely worse in my judgment, what the education secretary, tells you about the child.

On the other hand, I believe that all the best scientists and philanthropists now are coming back to the view held by my own grandmother and my old nurse and all the other stupid and illiterate people of 60 years ago, that any family, it is almost true to say, any family, however bad, is a better background for any child than anything else can be, so long as it is his own family. If that is so, those of us who say what matters in education is the child ought to remember that what we are really saying is that the parents are the people who ought to have the most say, and I hope we all do take that view.

I agree also with the Liberal spokesman about examination worries. . . . The worst of the deadly sins, I know well by experience—whereas I believe it is not theologially considered to be extremist or the most primary, it really is the worst in the sense of punishing you all the time, in this world and the next—the worst sin is an untranslatable one, which may perhaps be a tribute to the English: it may be so rare in England that we have never had a word for it, but in Latin it is called *aceda* which is often translated "sloth" but more nearly means "defeatism."

(To be continued).

House of Commons: July 26, 1951.

Identity Cards

Lieut.-Colonel Lipton asked the Prime Minister whether he will instruct the Secretary of State for the Home Department, the Minister of Health, the Minister of National Insurance, the Postmaster-General and such other Ministers as may require the use of identity cards in the discharge of their Departmental duties, to institute a comprehensive review of the present system of identity cards.

The Prime Minister: No, Sir. This matter like emergency legislation generally is already kept under review.

Lieut.-Colonel Lipton: Would my right hon. Friend say by whom this matter is kept under review, because at present a wide variety of people seem to have an interest in it and no single Minister is responsible to the House for the way in which these cards are being used or required?

The Prime Minister: Obviously, where this card is used by a particular Department, the Departmental Minister is responsible, but the general matter is, naturally, considered by Ministers acting together.

... *Mr. Emrys Roberts:* Can the Prime Minister say whether he has, in fact, consulted the Ministers mentioned in this Question, and can he explain why he takes such a conservative view of this matter?

The Prime Minister: I am not taking a conservative view, but this is a matter which requires great consideration. There are a number of occasions on which the use of this card saves the general public a great deal of trouble. The matter has to be reviewed very carefully.

Mr. Hopkin Morris: Can the right hon. Gentleman say what action he proposes to take in view of the recent decisions of the courts which now allow a practice which does not conform with the law?

Mr. S. Silverman: Can my right hon. Friend say when it became the practice to insist that identity card numbers should be put on applications for passports and that the identity card number should be put on the passport itself? Does he consider this to be a proper use of a power based only on the authority of a Defence Regulation?

The Prime Minister: That matter concerns passports and perhaps my hon. Friend had better put a Question down to the Foreign Office.

Lieut.-Colonel Lipton: Is my right hon. Friend of the opinion that the continuation of the identity card system is essential for the carrying out of our social services? If so, will he introduce the appropriate legislation for that purpose?

Sir H. Williams: May I ask the Prime Minister whether he himself, at this moment, is obeying the law and has his identity card on him? I have mine.

The Prime Minister: I think it is very likely.

Cancer Treatment

Dr. Stross asked the Minister of Health what progress has been made by the Rees-Evans Cancer Committee; and when he expects the committee to make their report.

Mr. Blenkinsop: I cannot add to the reply given to my hon. Friend on 31st May.

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HEWLETT EDWARDS,

Director of Organisation and Overseas Relations.

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Published by the proprietors, K.R.P. Publications Ltd., at 7, Victoria Street, Liverpool, 2. Printed by J. Hayes & Co., Woolton.