

SOCIAL CREDIT

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ANOTHER CRISIS IN AMERICA

Heads We Win, Tails You Lose !

BY an unanimous decision of America's Supreme Court, President Roosevelt's compulsory enforcement of his National Recovery Act has been declared illegal. The statute has been law for about two years now, and it has become the supporting arch for an immense amount of administrative machinery. It looks very much as if the New Deal is in ruins.

Whether this is premature or not, SOCIAL CREDIT has repeatedly prophesied that the N.R.A. would fail. So let this prophecy be recorded again and remembered for or against us in the future.

New Deals, such as President Roosevelt's, are bound to fail because they are founded on economic fallacies, and because their aims and objects are not really what the people want. So although they may seem to succeed for a while, it is quite certain that their futility (to use no harsher word) will eventually be discovered.

Put the American New Deal on the dissecting table and we shall find something like this.

Owing to the outrageous inadequacies of the Financial System under which all countries are forced to live, America, a country glutted with gold, goods and international loan certificates, is reduced to apparent pauperism. The scandal becomes so great that Finance, which is directly responsible for the fiasco, calls for a State of Emergency.

A strong Government comes in to "save" America, and Industry is put under a sort of martial law. Things which have been left to private direction become matters of State dictation. Producers can hardly call their factories their own. Although they have spent most of their lives learning their jobs they now have to take orders from government bureaucrats who certainly know less about it than they do.

But, after all, business efficiency is not the aim. On the contrary, it is to create work, and quite inevitably this can only be achieved by prodigious waste, such as wholesale restriction and sabotage.

As to the £ s. d. of it, the whole thing hinges upon America borrowing herself out of debt. Or if you like, "passing the buck" to Posterity.

Some two years ago Major Douglas forecast the probable developments in America in a speech at the *New Age* dinner. This was just after President Roosevelt had taken office.

He pointed out that the President was ringed in by financiers, without whom he would probably

never have been elected, and that he would no doubt strengthen the American banking system along the lines of our own branch system of banking. Immense borrowings from the banks for schemes of public works would consolidate the power of Finance and reduce the industrialists to impotence. His final warning was that America could hardly be kept continuously at work without sabotage on a scale which can only be provided by war.

Now if the New Deal had been kept going for another six months or so, its futility would probably have become clear to everyone; and this would hardly have suited Finance, which always aims at obscuring awkward facts. So a monkey-wrench has been thrown into the N.R.A. machinery by an appeal to the Supreme Court. There is even a rumour that the N.R.A. was framed (through the bankers) in such a way that it could be wrecked at will!

It looks suspiciously like another bankers' ramp.

To begin with it is a deflationary move, and secondly it confuses the issue just when it was becoming clear. Now it will be easy for the tame parrots to cry, "Ah, but it would have succeeded if it had been given a fair trial!"

And thirdly, it is all part of an ingeniously contrived plan whereby Finance always makes a scapegoat of the Government.

It is like this. Faced with an unworkable system, a weak government probably does nothing decisive, whereupon Finance waits until things are in such a mess that it can safely shout for a strong government to meet the crisis.

The strong government, being committed to the sacred rules of budget-balancing and work creation, has no choice but to institute a species of dictatorship since it is enforcing something unnatural on the people.

This gives Finance another weapon, for as soon as the poor bewildered sheep are beginning to get an occasional glimpse of their destination, it can indict the government for interfering with the liberty of the subject.

Finance, in fact, holds a very strong hand, and it can play a trump card whenever it chooses, pushing the world back into the valley of mists where all is darkness and confusion.

The telephone and the wireless have made it a little more difficult to suppress news, but to counter-

WELL —
WHAT DID
GLADSTONE
SAY ?

(See page 266.)

The Government Toes the Line

But Not Yet to the Will of the People

MANY years ago I saw a fakir astound his audience by making a celluloid duck dance in a bowl of water by beating time with his finger above it. I happened to know, however, that the hair which joined the bird to his hand was obtained from the Indian nurse next door. I was strongly reminded of this in reading recently the speech of the Chancellor of the Exchequer to the British Bankers Association. His aim, of course, was to hypnotise the public into the belief that the sound financial duck was dancing to the tune of prosperity and not to that of scarcity, want and threatened chaos, the means by which finance maintains its control over the people.

"All through the long period of world depression which brought such devastation among many banking systems," Mr. Chamberlain said, "the British banks have never had to seek assistance from the Government." How indeed *could* the Government assist the banking system of this country when industry is virtually in pawn to the banks, and Parliament has no control whatever over banking policy?

Mr. Chamberlain admits this and proceeds to show how they (the banks) "supply industry with the financial resources which are essential for its expansion." Now, we know that financial credit is not granted as a gift, and if this means anything its implication is that industry is permitted to expand only by virtue of the loans made by banks against the nation's credit, and further that, because this money is issued as a loan, it must be repaid with interest, which is patently impossible while the banking system claims ownership of all of it.

The National Debt

With the National Debt standing at about £8,000,000,000 it certainly *does* appear that the Government has never assisted the banks—who, together with other financial institutions, are estimated to own seventy-five per cent. of it. The fact that the greater part of the National Debt is made up of expenditure on the war, shows that while the Government did come to the rescue of the banks it thereby landed itself further in debt and hung an immovable millstone around the necks of the people. The Chancellor, you see, was not quite right, but the effects of the War debt upon the country's progress no doubt exonerate him in the eyes of finance.

Possibly Mr. Chamberlain has not read the words of his famous predecessor Mr. Gladstone, who explains the Government's position in regard to monetary policy as follows:—

From the time I took office as Chancellor I began to learn that the State held, in the face of the Bank and the City, an essentially false position as to finance . . . The hinge of the whole situation was this: The Government itself was not to be a substantive power in matters of finance, but was to leave the Money Power supreme and unquestioned. In the conditions of that situation I was reluctant to acquiesce, and I began to fight against it by financial self-assertion from the first . . . I was tenaciously opposed by the Governor and Deputy-Governor of the Bank, who had seats in Parliament, I had the City for an antagonist on almost every occasion.*

Mr. Montagu Norman himself once described the relations of the Bank of England and the Treasury as those of Tweedledum and Tweedledee.

"It is a fortunate coincidence," Mr. Chamberlain continued, "that the Jubilee should have come at a time when the revival of prosperity has gone so far that people can dare to be happy . . ." Let us go no further than to state that poverty amidst plenty is now the paradox and disgrace of the day, and to couple this with the leading headlines which the *News Chronicle* bore on the day before Mr. Chamberlain's speech: "Cheap Gas Masks For All" . . . "Experts Busy on Munitions."

Where is this prosperity to which we are to "get back"? Must we revert to the 'eighties, to 1914, or only to 1929? And if so, what of our marvellous progress in the realms of invention and science? What of

our enormously increased productive capacity? We must remember that we are capable of producing more to-day than in 1929 and that with less human labour. If this is so the community as a whole should be better off, and to "get back" must only mean a lowering of our standard of living. What is the position, Mr. Chamberlain? For if we are exporting more we are certainly not getting the goods we want in return. Surely "it is more blessed to give than to receive"!

Valse Chancelloria

It is, in fact plain that the Chancellor is dancing very prettily to the tune of sound finance, and when we realise that all financial measures contemplated by the Government are always referred to the Governor of the Bank of England for approval, we can appreciate how completely dominated our elected representatives are, and how unquestioningly the Government must toe the taut line laid down by the money monopolists. So far as the people are concerned the line appears to hypnotise them in much the same way as a chalk line hypnotises a hen, for they seem quite unable to see through the monetary hoax and utterly incapable of taking any effective action to break its obviously undesirable power over human life.

There is one opening left to us, however, by which we can win freedom. It is in the hands of the democratic electorate of this country to wield the enormous powers they possess to see that the tyranny of high finance is removed for ever and that the wealth of goods and services now being destroyed or restricted is distributed to provide economic freedom for all.

If there is one thing for which the average Member of Parliament has a profound respect it is the power which rests with his constituents, since they have complete control as to whether he retains or loses his seat. Now let us apply this to two principles of our democratic constitution:

- (1) Members of Parliament are, quite literally, our paid servants—elected by us to represent us and to see that OUR wishes are carried out.
- (2) We, as a people, are not experts and are, therefore, only called upon to demand RESULTS from our Governmental servants.

It will be readily appreciated that, acting in large enough numbers, we can remove our representatives if they refuse to insist that the responsible experts appointed by them give immediate effect to our wishes—in this case the abolition of poverty.

Now the National Electoral Campaign is opening the eyes of voters to these facts and ensuring united action at the next General Election. Democratic rights are being realised, and it is not lightly that we warn Mr. Chamberlain and his fellow members to cease their lip-service to the community and make themselves familiar with the plain fact of the situation, which is that they will be sacked and discredited if they do not see that our will is carried out. And our will is that

WE DEMAND THE ABOLITION OF POVERTY AND THE ISSUE OF A NATIONAL DIVIDEND!

M. C. BOND.

Another Crisis in America (Continued)

balance this, the misinterpretation of events has been developed with extraordinary precision and skill.

When all the evidence of passing events is distorted to suit the aims of Finance, nations can do nothing except cling fast to the facts which are beyond dispute.

If there is any sanity left in the world, the Americans must *know* that they are living in one of the richest countries of all time. And they must *know* that the system under which they are living is making them appear to be poor.

With these two solid facts to go upon they should rise in wrath and demand that the anomaly be brought to an end.

G. W. L. DAY.

* Morley's *Life of Gladstone*.

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Notes and Comments

WE are sorry to say that Nature refuses to be handled, and with a deplorable lack of economic foresight will insist on providing the world with too much wheat.

An international agreement to restrict wheat production came into force at the beginning of the crop year 1933-4. The idea was that acreage should be reduced, stocks cut down and a higher price for wheat reduced artificially. But the only success reported in the first year's working is "some reduction of acreage, stimulated perhaps rather by low prices than by the agreement. At the end of the 1933-4 crop year the world surplus had actually increased!

And even worse is to come. "While two successive crop failures in North America had resulted in a temporary amelioration of the statistical position, the maintenance of the present level of world wheat acreage must . . . result in the re-accumulation in wheat-exporting countries of further burdensome surpluses."

So all the twenty-one countries are advised to sign up for another year and try to put old Mother Nature in her place.

The Advantages of Fascism!

The disclosure by the Italian Minister of Finance, in his speech on May 18, that the Italian Budget deficit has averaged £40 million for the past four years seems to indicate that the Fascist State is treated with special leniency by the overlords of international finance. Is Italy allowed thus to break the canons of "sound finance" as a reward for sticking to the gold standard? Or can it be an indication to those countries which still

maintain a form of democratic government of the favours to be expected from its abandonment?

Whatever the explanation, these annual Budget deficits are proof that Italian Fascism has yet to find the cure for the absurd state of affairs in which every country is chronically in debt to the banks.

In the early days of Fascism, Italy contracted a loan from J. P. Morgan—no doubt to help to pay the cost of the revolution. If there be gold in Abyssinia, perchance it may help to pay off this debt and these deficits, but the payment of debts which need never have been contracted is a poor excuse for the loss of a single life.

Circumstances Alter Cases

Like Italy, France has had a budgetary deficit for some years, but unlike Italy has retained at least a semblance of democratic government. Furthermore, the French people have resisted strenuously past attempts to lower the standard of living, whereas the Italian standard has been forced down successfully.

The sudden crisis through which France is now passing is attributed in orthodox quarters to "budgetary disequilibrium," but if this be true, why does not Italy suffer also? It would seem that this crisis, like the crisis in Great Britain in 1931, has been induced, but whether to force the acceptance of some form of open dictatorship, or a currency stabilisation agreement based on a "reformed" gold standard, or both, time alone can show.

It was reported that the British Exchange Equalisation Fund was employed to support the franc last week, and simultaneously, *The Times* correspondent reported that ". . . the banks, . . . have been insisting on immediate budgetary deflation while some of them were themselves large sellers of francs . . ." These reports read in conjunction would seem to indicate that our own gold maniac, Mr. Montagu Norman, is playing a hand by "saving the franc" on conditions, while the French banks intensify the crisis to ensure their acceptance.

One thing only is certain, whatever the outcome, it will be one more step towards that world financial hegemony of which the Bank of International Settlements is intended to be the centre.

Direct Attack

Now that Social Credit has broken bounds and, like a bird, is soaring and singing its way to the higher spheres, the obvious fears of The Powers That BE are manifesting themselves in open and fierce denunciation.

Having for years barricaded Social Credit out of every well-known journal of any consequence, they are now obliged, by sheer force of circumstance, to advertise it nobly by outspoken criticism, disparagement and misrepresentation.

An editorial in *The New Statesman and Nation* (quoted on page 277), admitting that "pensions on a scale *adequate* to afford a reasonable standard of life" (our italics) must come soon, does two things: it shows that those who have refused an "adequate" amount hitherto *were aware it was not enough*, and it shows a craven fear that Social Credit Proposals are likely to win the day, *by reason of their desirability*.

Nevertheless, the fate of democracy in Britain is daily becoming more perilous for, as Major Douglas pointed out at Buxton, the electors who compose the British democracy are *forgetting their true rights and functions as directors of policy*, and are permitting the persons they "elect to represent them" at Westminster to *dictate to the people what they want and how and where they want it*.

The New Statesman and Nation provides a crucial

example of a vital step being "arranged" ready for the next General Election, which is also being hurried forward for reasons WE could explain.

It is almost safe to prophesy "Pensions at 60" as one of the new cries—and it will work wonders.

The other *index* sentence in this noteworthy editorial also marks it for what it fears. "The orthodox may reassure themselves that there is *no real danger of 'Social Crediters' ever getting their way, but . . .*"!

Perhaps the danger is *unreal*? If so, why trouble to hurry up "the orthodox" to get a move on to avoid it?

This Prosperity

The *Daily Mail* (with that unconquerable optimism which has made us a great nation), not only says that prosperity is round the corner, but tells us that we are three-quarters of the way round the corner after it. Eighty per cent., to be exact. These are Mr. Chamberlain's words (which the *Daily Mail* endorses), and the remaining twenty per cent. is coming along in the lift.

Not only this, our noble *Daily Mail* adduces proof. And the proof is that Rolls-Royce, Marks and Spencer, Tate and Lyle, British Oxygen, Barry and Staines, the Lancashire Steel Corporation, and one or two other firms have increased their profits.

"It is no wonder that this country to-day is the envy of the world," says the *Daily Mail*.

Is it? It is a pretty well-known fact that what little business there is, is passing into the hands of the big concerns and that their success spells the ruin of a host of smaller tradesmen and others who are ruthlessly squeezed out. Take Woolworths and Marks and Spencer, for instance. How many shopkeepers have been ruined on their account?

One of the firms quoted is Spillers, Ltd., the milling firm. This supplies poultry farmers and others with "millers' offals" for stock feeding. So the bigger the profits of Spillers, the less such farmers are able to make, for they are ground to powder between the upper and nether millstones of cheap eggs and dear feeding stuffs!

The only sort of prosperity we are likely to get while things remain as they are is that of a hut full of Tommies playing halfpenny nap on their pay of a shilling a week.

Too Poor to Fight

Dr. Drayser, Vice-President of the Reichsbank and right-hand man of Dr. Schacht, Germany's supreme financial ruler, has been sounding the alarm against another war.

"To forge arms at the risk of a financial catastrophe," he said, "would be useless, as the cost would leave the nation without the strength of using those arms and maintaining them.

"The leader of a State who from the very beginning does not want to be deprived of the military value of his defensive forces, must think of having his finances in order."

Now this is the old, old cry that we cannot fight unless we have enough money. It was trotted out at the beginning of the Great War. We were told modern warfare was so expensive that we couldn't last out financially for more than three months. Whereupon we fought for four and a half years and could probably still be fighting now, so far as finance is concerned.

Finance, remember, is frightened of modern wars. They are too violent and their effects are too incalculable. So, although it has a supreme disregard for human

lives, it tries to stop wars by telling us that we can only fight in so far as our finances will allow, whereas it is perfectly obvious that so long as our real credit (which is quite a different thing) holds out we can go on fighting indefinitely.

By a curious twist of irony, the real cause of wars lies in finance, so that if we are aiming at safety we shall have to break those very rules which finance upholds.

Fear and Propaganda

A reader has pointed out that there is an organised propagandist movement to instil fear into people's minds, through Press, Radio and Cinema, and he goes on to cite two films which illustrate his point, namely, "Forgotten Men" and "The Modern Miracle."

He also sends us a cutting from the *Liverpool Daily Post*, a letter from a Mr. Robert Gladstone, which begins: "Before long we shall be receiving instructions from the Government in regard to protection against gas attacks from the air," and then proceeds with the suggestion that the Corporation should find out what unoccupied cellars there are in Liverpool and take steps, with Government approval, to clean them out and provide them with water and electric light.

Well, we have all heard of the lion trainer who boasts that it is all done by kindness. No doubt kindness is the best way in the long run, but when it is not possible to be kind, fear is the next best thing.

Our financial rulers much prefer to have us all happy within limits—or shall we say bovinely contented?—for in this condition we are less likely to make things hot for them. But when the training system runs away with them, so to speak, and contentment is no longer possible, it is natural for our financial lion tamers to foster scares through Press, Radio and Cinema.

There is only one antidote to this fear complex, and that is Social Credit. Social Credit, if you think about it, is the exact opposite of fear. It breathes calm and reassurance. In fact, it may be compared with that blessed feeling of Reality one experiences on waking from a hideous nightmare.

Competition is Spreading

Brewers and publicans are worrying about what they call "meeting the competition of cinemas and other places of entertainment." The fact is that the parents of many families find themselves so short of money that they have to go without their glass of beer for several days so as to save enough to take themselves and their children to the cinema.

Now in the old days trade competition was fairly straightforward and clearly defined. One brewer would compete against another, and one cinema against another cinema. But now a new phase has arrived in which entirely different industries are vying with each other to wheedle a little purchasing power out of the public.

Some brewers are suggesting that pubs should be made places of entertainment as well as places for conversation and refreshment. Others are arguing that their job is to provide good beer, not to go into the entertainment profession.

How far is this sort of unnatural competition to be found in other trades? Is acute shortage of money in people's pockets forcing them to choose between economising in fresh milk and economising in clothes?

Bakers, grocers, drapers, brewers, coal merchants and many other tradesmen have the right to demand that their customers should receive incomes sufficient to let them buy food, drink, clothing and so on without having to sacrifice some other necessity of daily life.

Use Your Vote for What You Want

The Power and Responsibility of the Man in the Street

THERE is plenty for all. It is no longer necessary for some to go without sufficient food or clothing just because others have enough or more than enough. The King, the Prince of Wales, the President of the Royal Society, ministers of all churches, statesmen of all parties, scientists, engineers and men prominent in many other walks of life, all have said the same thing in their different ways. To-day every man and woman in Britain either knows or suspects that it is the simple truth.

Now, if this country could produce only such a limited amount of food, clothing, and shelter that some people had to go short, it might be reasonable to agree to let the Government say who should have more and who less. But this is no longer so, or at any rate it need no longer be so. The brains and skill of generations of men have, little by little, built up the marvellous machines for producing power, transport and goods which exist to-day. These machines do work instead of men; that is what they were invented for, and the only thing to do is to accept machinery as a right and reasonable step in our development, one in which we have all had a hand either personally or through our ancestors, and to welcome it. Machinery is, in fact, like having mechanical slaves to work for you, but slaves who can work all day and every day without complaint or injustice.

Why Not Plenty for All?

But machines do not use the goods they can turn out in such quantities. They need only a small amount of power, lubrication and so forth to keep on producing for long periods. Thanks to machinery we could all, every single person in this country, have at least as much food as we can eat, as many clothes as we want, as much warmth and shelter as necessary, and many other good things beyond these. There is no need to take money away from those who have; no need even for us all to work to produce these things, when machines can do so much of it for us.

Why then haven't we, as a nation, the use and enjoyment of this plenty which everyone agrees to exist, or that very soon could exist if machines were allowed to work as hard as they can? Why is the cotton industry, for example, not allowed to produce all the clothes it could, and why are many of the clothes that actually are made sent abroad without our getting anything in return except promises to pay from people who will never be able to pay? Why aren't the unemployed miners allowed to get at the coal, and why is every invention for saving their labour looked on as a disaster by miners and their families? Then why are fields being allowed to go out of cultivation, fish being thrown back into the sea, fruit left to rot under the trees, pigs being destroyed, milk poured into the gutters? And this in our own country where many thousands of people live from day to day in fear of starvation for themselves or, what is worse, fear of starvation for their children?

There can be only one possible answer. The method used in the past to give us a claim to all the goods produced by the community is out of date and has partly broken down. This method is called money, and while modern machinery can make a new world of good things for us if we like, we are unable to claim them because we haven't the money, or, as we may call it, the *money-tickets*.

Poverty, Not Unemployment, the Problem

How this has come about is a technical matter which you can study if you happen to be interested in that sort of thing, but the important thing is that it *has* happened and *is* happening more and more every day. Machines don't want the goods they produce; but *we* do. We aren't getting the money because the machines are doing what used to be our job, but the machines don't use wages any more than they use goods. The important thing to remember is, in fact, that *poverty* is the evil to be faced, *not* unemployment.

To be "unemployed" means, or ought to mean, nothing

whatever except that the industrial system no longer needs your time and energy, and is therefore setting you free to do whatever work you most like in the world, while paying you the wages of the machine which has displaced you.

If the wages of the machine are distributed to us, every man and woman in England, we can then, taking us all together, claim the whole of the goods the machine produce. At present we have only our wages, salaries, and dividends; and the difference between these all added together, and the cost of the goods produced all added together, is getting bigger and bigger every year. In other words, the sum to be distributed in National Dividends every year ought to be getting bigger and bigger, too, the more successful we are in getting machines to work for us.

Money Cannot be Abolished

You may ask why the problem would not be solved equally well by cutting out the money-tickets altogether, and simply letting the Government distribute the goods free. This might possibly not be a bad way of doing it for the minimum of food, clothing and shelter, but the point is that we as a nation are far richer than that. When you had ensured to every person these necessities of life, you would still have an enormous quantity and variety of goods to which you were entitled, and no one likes having someone else to tell him what he is to have when it is quite possible for him to choose himself.

Well, money is the best method yet invented for giving us that free choice. There is no point in doing away with it, and also there is no point in taking it away from some people, by taxing them or stopping all their profits, in order to give it to others. Money, which is really a ticket entitling you to your choice of goods, can be created by any Government up to the amount of goods which are available for sale. And to-day that means that everyone might have more, without anyone having less.

What Everyone Can Do About It

If you agree with what has been said so far, you will want to know how this simple but tremendously important adjustment to our money system can be brought about. The answer is that you belong to a democratic country, that is to say, you send representatives to Parliament, whose business it is to make clear the needs which you in each constituency have in common, and to see that as far as possible these needs are satisfied. At present Parliament has to decide that many things which are obviously wanted by the great majority of people cannot be done owing to lack of money, although it is physically quite possible to do them, and although Parliament used to have control of the creation of money and could very easily regain that control.

The result is that each Government in turn soon becomes unpopular with the electors; whether it is drawn from one party or is a coalition of parties makes very little real difference to what it is able to do for you, and your support of this or that party clearly does not and cannot get you what you want, except, perhaps, at other people's expense. Behind most of the differences of opinion between parties at present, in fact, is the snag that they are constantly having to choose between doing one thing or doing another thing, both of which are physically possible and very likely badly needed, but which cannot both be done owing to there not being enough money to go round.

Now if the gap between the money in your pockets and the price of goods for sale no longer existed, Parliament's business would be, as it ought to be, to pass on your other needs and desires to whoever was the appropriate expert to carry them out, assuming always that they are physically possible and do not interfere unnecessarily with other people's freedom. But the first general need or desire which Parliament has to pass on, and which underlies all others, is that this gap between the amount of money available and the prices of goods for sale shall be closed, and the expert in this

case is the Bank of England. This gap cannot be closed by doing away with private profit, because the gap would exist just the same even if industries were nationalised, nor by nationalising the banking system, which would have no effect, for the same reason, and would very likely also result in a loss of efficiency.

It can be done only by all of us together giving orders through Parliament that it *shall* be done, and, if it is not done within a definite time, turning out either the members of any Government which refuses to order it, or turning out, through Parliament, the experts who refuse to carry out its orders. This is what the Electoral Campaign exists to do. Your pledges are needed so that we can go to your M.P. and tell him to get on with it, as otherwise you are going to turn him out. Your name will not be made public, there will be no need for that.

Remember that this is the first time you will be able to feel that your vote is going to *get something done* that you really want done, and will not be wasted, as it has been up till now because the lack of money has handicapped all parties equally. Singly you can do nothing but grin and bear it, but together you are

irresistible, and the simple act of signing the Elector's Demand and Undertaking* will make you irresistible.

Do you want economic security and freedom for yourselves and your families *now*, apart altogether from any further money you may earn by staying in your job or getting one of the thousands of new ones, big and small, that will be going if you want them? Would you like to be free for life from the fear of the results of losing your job, or, as an employer, of losing your reasonable profits? Would you like to be able to stop worrying, day after day, about "where the money is to come from"? Would you like your country to be so prosperous that it need never go to war in order to "capture" foreign markets, and so strong that no other country would ever again dare to attack it?

Perhaps you think this all sounds too good to be true. Try it and see. Your signature and those of your family or household are all we are asking for. Parliament will do the rest, but it will only do it when you tell your Member clearly what it is that you are determined to have done. Use your vote for what you want!

D.O.R.

* Reproduced on page 277.

On Getting Something for Nothing

WELL, we all do it, and, unless we are greater hypocrites than we should like to acknowledge, we get the best things in life for nothing.

Take first religious freedom. The fact that orthodox religious practice may be for the moment at a discount is beside the question for, in this, as in all else, the free-thinker would be the first to claim his freedom. The pearls must be there whether his response to them be mystical or porcine.

And what of political liberty? True, we have not got it, but we think we have, and from the time of Magna Carta onwards our British "independence" has been our joy and pride. The point is have our "liberties" cost us anything? No, as in the case of our religious privileges, they have been bought with a price—but not by us. Other men have laboured and we have entered into their labours without the cost of a penny or one night's rest.

To come next to matters more material and concrete, there is also a vast cultural inheritance near home—the acknowledged right of every citizen to enjoy.

In London, with the exception perhaps of music which, if worth hearing, is in no great demand, the most superb architecture, the finest pictures and a wealth of research products second to none in the world, can be enjoyed by all free.

Not only are people "allowed in" to places of culture but they are welcome. Times and seasons are set apart for school-children that they, also, may be shown, and taught to appreciate, as Britons, their British inheritance. But here, strangely enough their birth-right seems to come to an abrupt end. They may have the great things of the past, it seems, but not the small. As Britons, all may inherit great traditions of service, patriotism and discipline, but, as Britons, no safeguard

is theirs against starvation, poverty and distress. A man indeed, may be prepared to die for his country and get his uniform free, but if he wants to live for her he must pay cash down. And this in an age when, thanks again to past benefactors in the realm of science, man has so mastered nature that poverty is a needless crime.

We have a curious mentality in this matter. It is supposed to be quite right to give a man a free view of a beautiful Landseer but quite wrong to give him a free lunch—unless, of course, he can really afford to pay for it himself, in which case no harm is done. But if he be actually in need there may be serious injury done to the consumer's morals. Still more curious, we do not feel like this about ourselves when in receipt of material benefits free. If we, or our immediate friends, come into a little legacy, or hear perhaps that we may retire somewhat earlier than we had thought, we make it a matter of congratulation, not mourning. Whole classes, moreover, are judged by our self-made standards.

Those sections of the community, for instance, whose incomes are above a certain level are apparently immune from the perils accompanying good fortune. We read that, "Yesterday, Lord Vergyich completed his minority and entered upon his magnificent inheritance." Does it occur to any of us that the young man's relations must naturally be prepared for the worst? No, in finance "To him that hath shall be given," and evidently with the silver spoon went a spinal column of invulnerable character. It is only the poor who lack strength in that necessary appendage.

We are afraid for their morals, and satisfy our sensitive consciences by reminding our less fortunate brothers that "Man does not live by bread alone" — while adding liberally enough to our own menus.

E. G. KYNOCHE.

Love on the Dole

THIS is a grim play and describes with powerful simplicity the sort of lives which those 400,000 families, the "hard core" of unemployment, are leading to-day. Hankey Park is as dark and unlovely a spot as ever defiled the once picturesque North, and the economic conditions for most of its inhabitants are equally ugly. Mr. Hardcastle has been "out" for some time and his son, Harry, has to go about in his boiler suit because he can't afford decent clothes. Sally, his sister, who is engaged to Larry Meath, the idealistic machine minder, covets a pair of shorts, which seem quite out of her reach until Harry happens to win a threepenny "accumulator" bet with Sam Grundy, the local bookie.

This Sam is the villain of the piece, and one gathers that he is pulling the strings with the employers to gain his ends—which happens to be Sally. Before long

Harry is "out," too, and Larry gets killed in an unemployed demonstration.

After this nothing seems to matter any more to Sally except the family's plight, and she ends by going to live with Grundy, who already has an inconvenient wife.

The climax of the play occurs when Sally comes in very smartly dressed and her father discovers what is happening. Losing all control he hits her in the face. But having done this and cried aloud to Heaven to give him work, he can say no more, for Sally has come armed with jobs both for him and Harry. Grundy has fixed that.

Anything is useful which shows the present unnecessary distress as it really is, and not as a blasphemously euphemised distortion of it, like the accounts of warfare in girls' papers. "Love on the Dole" is realistic enough, and it is brilliantly acted.

Miss Wendy Hiller, the young Manchester actress, who plays Sally, is entirely convincing, and I particularly liked Mr. Alex Grandison as Harry and Mr. Julien Mitchell as Mr. Hardcastle. G.W.L.D.

Golden Blinkers

The Situation in South Africa To-day

SOUTH Africa owes her present relative prosperity to the fact that the gold standard has been given up in many countries, that she herself has abandoned it, and that her gold mines are therefore booming.

If any reader feels inclined to question these apparent moonbeams from the larger lunacy, as Stephen Leacock would say, I refer him to the special South Africa number of *The Times* of May 31, where it is made clear that "the world's monetary distress has proved for South Africa a great economic blessing." The article continues: "The unique position of gold had shielded South Africa from the worst results of the world depression, for the breakdown of the gold standard, far from undermining faith in the metal, had intensified the demand. (My italics). The writer admits that this is a "striking paradox," and I hardly feel that it is an exaggerated term to describe a condition in which the demand for a metal intensifies in proportion as it fails to do its job.

The Position of Agriculture

Once away from the few large ports and the gold-mining area of the Rand, and this gilt façade of prosperity can be recognised for the unstable thing it is. Again I refer to *The Times*: "The gold-mining industry . . . during and since the depression has saved agriculture from complete disaster." It proceeds to explain that most of the Union's production of food-stuffs is subsidized by the Government, either by export bonuses or by what amounts to the compulsory export of so-called surpluses in order to keep up the internal price level. The money for these subsidies has come from the mining industry and from taxation of the city consumer, and the article continues, "The artificial foundation on which the agricultural and pastoral production of South Africa thus rests is one of the most disturbing features of the years since Union, especially of recent ones." Finally, we are to be reassured by being told that "this feature is not peculiar to South Africa," and that in any case industrially everything is going splendidly, even if such development may be "unsound from a purely economic point of view," the moral being that "employment for the youth of our people has to be found." (My italics).

It might be of advantage to summarise. As gold fails progressively to correspond to the realities of trade, there is more and more "demand" for it. If it were not for this, South Africa would be having a crisis. The day after governments are de-mesmerised from the appeal of this tooth-stopping yellow metal, South Africa will be having a crisis, and an exceedingly acute one.

The foregoing, I believe, goes far to explain both the pressing need for the rapid spread of Social Credit ideas in the Union, and at the same time the unusual obstacles in the way of such a spread. Big cities like Cape Town and Johannesburg, where rapid progress might naturally be expected in other circumstances, are the very areas where things are (relatively) prosperous. In such centres organised discontent on any scale appears to be confined to the Labour Unions and they, like their colleagues in every other part of the Empire with the shining exception of Tasmania, are still haggard with the idea that nationalisation can in some miraculous way render the price system self-liquidating, while they of course look on unemployment as a disaster and as synonymous with poverty.

Social Credit Activities

There are nevertheless encouraging signs that a realisation of the precarious nature of its boom period is spreading in South Africa, and that the time is ripe for the expansion of Social Credit activities which is reported from many points. Four Social Credit groups in or near Cape Town have lately cooperated in a campaign to collect signatures for a petition to the Government to appoint a Royal Commission of inquiry into the working of the financial system. This was accompanied by a circular to all Members of Parliament explaining the situation, as well as one to various

organisations which might be expected to obtain the signatures of their members.

Just before the opening of this campaign the Chairman of the Sea Point group had broadcast from Cape Town an address on the Douglas Social Credit proposals, and later on addressed a private meeting of M.P.s on "The Economic Crisis and the Douglas Remedy." In the course of his broadcast, which was an exceedingly clear and attractive outline of Social Credit, the speaker expressed a thought which will be echoed by people in all parts of the world when he said, "The New Economics concerns us because it concerns our children, and decides whether they shall lead lives of security and happiness or suffer the perils and dangers of poverty and war."

There is no Social Credit paper in the Cape Province, but in the Transvaal Johannesburg rather surprisingly has two, the *Social Credit Bulletin* and the *Social Credit News*. The volume of Social Credit correspondence and discussion in the general press, however, is increasing steadily month by month. Papers whose columns have been opened at various times to Social Credit news include *The Cape Times*, *The Natal Mercury*, *The Natal Advertiser*, *Forward* (the Johannesburg Labour organ), *The Trades and Labour Journal of South Africa* (Johannesburg), *The Farmers' Weekly* of Bloemfontein, and *The Rand Daily Mail* (unfavourable as far as I have seen).

The Mayor of Bethulie, Orange Free State, in a most interesting paper prepared for the Annual Congress of the Orange Free State Municipal Association at the beginning of the year, and printed in *The Industries of South Africa*, asked, "Why is it not realised that the flood of machine production is evidence of unlimited wealth; that unemployment is a sign of progress?" Finally, the Financial Commission League, which is agitating for "the creation of a commission from the ranks of the people to investigate the economic problems of South Africa," includes in the suggested personnel at least one active Social Creditor, from Natal, besides the Mayor of Bethulie.

Social Crediters in South Africa are faced with special problems of propaganda in view of the gold situation and the place taken in the nation's economic life by the coloured population in the Cape as well as by Kaffirs in the Rand mines, but against considerable odds they seem to be making definite progress in 1935.

J.D.B.

Overseas News

The Secretariat is already acting as the centre and "switch-board" of the world-wide Social Credit movement, but, in order that its efficiency in this important department of its activities may be continually increased, the Director of Overseas Relations asks all Social Crediters, either in Great Britain or elsewhere, to let him have any overseas information of interest for publication in SOCIAL CREDIT, or for the confidential information of the Secretariat. Letters, visitors to Great Britain, newspaper cuttings—all such are news sources of potential value to us and the movement. (At present, information of Social Credit activities in the Irish Free State, Newfoundland, France, and South Africa is particularly welcome.) Never mind if news items are duplicated; no one suffers except the Secretariat.

J. D. BENNETT,

Director of Overseas Relations.

Visitors to Norway

Will any Social Crediters who are intending to visit Norway (for however short a period) and who are willing to do a little light and pleasant holiday propaganda there please write to the Director of Overseas Relations, Social Credit Secretariat, 8-g, Essex Street, London, W.C.2, as long before their visit as possible?

Translators

The response to the request for translators has been most satisfactory, and the Director of Overseas Relations again thanks those who have volunteered to do work whenever necessary. He now has a more than adequate panel for all immediate needs.

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Will any journal wishing to reproduce Major Douglas's speeches or writings, either in whole or part, please note that these are STRICTLY COPYRIGHT IN ALL COUNTRIES, and that permission should be obtained in every case by application to Major C. H. Douglas, c/o The Social Credit Secretariat, 8-g, Essex Street, London, W.C.2.

Birmingham Supports Secretariat

Should soon be leading the Electoral Campaign

AT a well attended meeting of delegates from Social Credit groups in the Birmingham area held in Queen's College, Birmingham, on May 29th, the following was placed on record: "That the feeling of this meeting be recorded that we go back to our groups with the recommendation that we support wholeheartedly the Secretariat so far as any group can do in accordance with the E.C.D.1 and O.D.1 and I.R.1."

As practically the whole meeting supported this and the letters reference E.C.D.1, O.D.1 and I.R.1 reflect the entire policy of the Secretariat the results following upon this resolution are likely to prove very far reaching indeed: not only in the district of Birmingham but all over the Kingdom. Birmingham and the districts surrounding it have always had a great influence on the whole nation and the reason is generally pretty well known.

The people of Birmingham district have always been noted for independence of character, and this no doubt is one of the reasons for the support that has been obtained there from the early days, for the proposals of Major Douglas. In Birmingham, more than in any other large industrial centre, the small workshop run by a man, himself working in the shop and employing half-a-dozen or more hands, has survived, so that to-day, despite all difficulties, there are still many of these one-man concerns carrying on successfully.

This has bred and maintained a spirit of independence which has made the name of Birmingham known throughout the world, not only for cheap goods, but for some of the best products and most ingenious devices of the craftsman. This has all provided a fertile soil for any proposals like Social Credit which would give greater freedom to the individual. But at first the resultant independence of spirit and self-confident character proved somewhat of a hindrance to the ready acceptance of methods suggested from authoritative sources.

Thus for a time the Birmingham Social Crediters stood back from the Electoral Campaign, they simply could not easily accept directions, even though they came from a man whom their own votes had helped to appoint to "get on with the job." But Birmingham has now found itself. The Social Crediters there have realised that individuality can be expressed in co-operation after all, and that only by such co-operation can the Social Credit movement secure the full increment of association.

All those working in the campaign of action which was recommended to the Movement by Major Douglas at Buxton, and subsequently endorsed by his election as Chairman of the Secretariat, will welcome this increase of strength which in days to come will, we predict, count for much.

Middle Class Restraints

The Strait-Waistcoat Under the Black Coat

IS the middle class moribund? That once fashionable tall hat and black coat is now *de rigueur* for undertakers only, perhaps not without significance.

By tradition the emblem of middle class respectability and middle class independence—the black coat remains a mournful symbol of the Little Man's faith in his power to stand alone in a world that is rapidly being organised to squeeze him out.

The director of the small company, his clerk, and the small retailer who supplies them are all individualistic in their business outlook, and blind, it seems, to what looms close behind them, a growing, already mountainous pile, the industrial scrap-heap.

Caught unawares between the upper and nether millstone of the Planners and the Socialists, the middle class worker's security and independence are gravely threatened. The mills of these new politico-economic gods as yet grind slowly, but the middle class must bestir itself to preserve its former liberty and independence.

Bolshevism, in this country, is a useful bogey, and nothing more. It may amuse Sir Stafford Cripps to make our flesh creep, for which no doubt he is being more heartily damned by his master than ever was Mr. Wardle's Fat Boy, but such antics are solemnly used to make the good bourgeois of this country shiver in his shoes until the next election and then vote true blue—probably for the last time as the citizen of a democracy.

Pressure from above is the potent threat to the middle classes and to the very existence of democracy.

This pressure is the more or less conscious and deliberate effort of the finance-capitalist to consolidate and extend his power. Fascism is its political expression. Behind all Planners are financiers.

Dictators in Italy, Germany and Austria, put in power with the support of the middle classes, are busily reorganising industry in the interests of financial oligarchies.

Austria is little more than a fief of Threadneedle Street. In Germany Dr. Schacht, of the Reichsbank, has Hitler, the political puppet, in leading strings. Finance is openly in the saddle in Belgium, where Van

Zeeland, of the Banque Nationale, has recently formed his first Cabinet.

Mussolini, one suspects, is himself something of a financier. In the early days of the depression he ordered the banks to buy up their own shares and those of every important Italian industrial concern. Subsequently he formed special financial institutions to take over these holdings from the banks and to furnish funds for new public works and colonial development schemes. These institutions were alleged to be financed and virtually controlled by Government, but it appears from a recent article in *The Economist* that their funds are passing into the hands of powerful financial groups, so that in Italy, as elsewhere, the stranglehold is tightening.

This country is not yet committed to a Fascist régime. Democratic ideas are more deep-rooted, and the menace of a dictatorship of the Left is less real than was formerly the case in Italy and Germany. Yet there is a strong movement, particularly among the wide-awake Tories, towards the reorganisation of industry in favour of the big units and to the eventual extinction of the smaller.

The recent debate in the Commons made no bones about the aims of these Tory revolutionaries, who introduced the motion "with a view to creating employment." Neither mover nor seconder, however, in developing their case for Planning seemed able to show how it would affect unemployment at all, beyond temporarily increasing it by restricting output. The whole debate showed how little our statesmen and politicians of any party are in touch with the realities of scientific power production.

All schemes of large-scale planning and rationalisation have a Fascist taint. They involve regimentation and restricted production; they perpetuate the economics of scarcity, and once the freedom to criticise and condemn is lost, the Age of Leisure and Abundance may be wantonly postponed for generations.

Already hundreds of small producers have had to sell out of business, thankful, perhaps, for a sum sufficient to maintain a reasonable, though diminished, standard of living. Thousands of small shopkeepers, less for-

tunate, have passed through the bankruptcy courts to the direst poverty. The employees of both are unemployed.

Even in the citadel of finance itself the axe falls, for the Bank of England is reported to be offering a pension of £2 a week to one thousand members of its staff as an inducement to retire before the age of forty!

No system of rationalisation or planning pretends to remedy this squeezing out from an already insufficient stream of purchasing power.

Workers of all grades may be superfluous to-day, but on maintenance of their purchasing power the prosperity of this country, and indeed of the whole world, depends.

N. MESHED.

A Political Lion Roars at the Christians

"... We refuse to go to the stake for what offends against our commonsense. We may have to do so presently if some doctrinaires get their way. But that the country should ever be run according to a magic formula of surplus value, or social credit, or dialectical materialism, arouses a benevolent scepticism in the average Englishman. His instinct is that these panaceas are too simple and would disappoint expectations. Reformers promise the perfect society on the morrow of the revolution. The Christian Church, if no other organisation, has found through its long history that there is no safe and easy way to the New Jerusalem."

(Extract from a speech to the National Council of Free Churches by Mr. Stanley Baldwin, reported in *The Christian World* for April 11, 1935.)

After the churches' experience of Mr. Stanley Baldwin in the coal lock-out of 1926, when he told the Bishops and representatives of the Free Churches who appealed for a settlement in keeping with Christian principles, not to interfere in matters which did not concern them, it is a little surprising to find him speaking by invitation to the National Council of the Free Churches. Christian forgiveness is an excellent thing, but should it be extended to giving gratuitous publicity to one who believes that there are higher laws than those of Christianity, to wit, "inexorable economic laws"?

Had Mr. Baldwin been invited to speak on the policy of the National Government it would have been understandable, but the title of his address was "Liberty, Religion and Civilisation," and as his action in 1926 demonstrated, he considers religious principles of value only when they are not in opposition to *man-made* economic principles.

As with religion, Mr. Baldwin has demonstrated by his actions and words that Liberty and Civilisation are also only of value to him if in their right place. If it were not so, could he have supported the Disaffection Bill, or the Unemployment Regulations? The former threatens the liberty of every individual and the latter were intended to depress still further the standard of existence of several million citizens of the richest Empire in the world.

The extract we have quoted from his speech is chosen

because of the reference it contains to Social Credit, but it is typical of the whole. The attempt to confuse Social Credit with Socialism and Communism would not mislead anyone with any knowledge of the subject, but how many of his hearers had this knowledge? Similarly, no one who knew Major Douglas's statement "that the end of man, while unknown, is something towards which most rapid progress is made by the free expansion of individuality, and that, therefore, economic organisation is most efficient when it most easily and rapidly supplies economic wants without encroaching on other functional activities," would accept the suggestion that Social Credit "promises the perfect society on the morrow of the revolution." Social Credit promises nothing except increasing economic freedom.

Mr. Baldwin's peroration was a perfect example of bankers' balderdash. He said, "It is, I may suggest, a misleading exaggeration to assign all our ills to economics or even to politics. These do not quite exhaust the possible sources. There is man—I had almost said the natural man, but I must quote the Book of Job correctly—to whom wickedness is sweet in the mouth, though he hide it under his tongue."

Mr. Baldwin would have his hearers believe that our difficulties to-day are largely due to the wickedness of the natural man who refuses to conform to "inexorable" economic laws, when the evidence of his senses shows him that those laws are not based on truth. We would remind Mr. Baldwin and his listeners of one who said, "The Sabbath was made for man, not man for the Sabbath," and whose instructions to His followers was, "Feed My sheep."

Social Crediters seek to realise that state in which "They shall sit every man under his vine and under his fig tree; and none shall make them afraid." This is the antithesis of Utopianism which would force man to live as some authority, whether banker, politician or churchman, would have him live. Mr. Baldwin, and those who, like him, regard unemployment as an evil to be overcome, would make men work. Social Credit would free men from belly slavery to the ever-increasing extent the progress of science makes possible.

M. JACKLIN.

Communal Control of Distribution

"IT is clear, self-evident and beyond controversy, that there can be no final solution to the difficulties and oppressions which afflict us inside the existing wage system. As in the case of the productive worker, neither the status nor the welfare of the distributive worker can ever be secured until he is a working and responsible partner in a self-governing system of distribution."

THE foregoing extract is taken from the introduction to the "Report on Community Control of the Distributive Trades," submitted to the annual general meeting of the National Amalgamated Union of Shop Assistants, Warehousemen and Clerks. The report itself outlines a vast bureaucratic organisation, entitled the National Council of Distribution, under a National Economic Authority, representative of each socialised industry and service.

This proposed National Council, although concerned directly with distribution and therefore dealing with consumption, is to have no representative of consumers upon it.

At the end of the report there appears a statement which, were it fully understood in all its implications by the workers, would have made them realise that, in seek-

ing workers' control, they were backing the wrong horse. It is as follows:—

"... industrial democracy means the abolition of the wage system and the establishment of the principle of continuous payment to the worker whether his services are at any given time required or not. The payment the workers receive in connection with a given occupation might well be supplemented by the issue by the National Economic Authority of additional purchasing power which everyone will receive as a citizen right. *This seems essential if consumption is to be equated with production.* (Our italics.)"

It is encouraging to find a trade union thus tacitly acknowledging that neither the abolition of profits, nor the communal ownership of the means of production will enable the product of industry to be fully distributed. Why, then, concentrate on these things? Surely the first step should be to demand this "additional purchasing power" now? To postpone this demand until the country is completely socialised is, we believe, to postpone it for ever, and even the most optimistic Socialist cannot believe it will be possible to expropriate the present owners of industry in the near future.

We can demand a National Dividend now if we use the vote properly. When it has been secured a change in the control of production can be considered, if anyone still wants to bother about considering it.

Social Credit, the Secretariat and the "Parlour Pink"

ALTHOUGH it has already been done in various forms, it may perhaps be useful at the present time to restate briefly the position of the Social Credit Secretariat in relation to the Movement as a whole. I might add that what follows has been written solely on my own responsibility. I have no official connection with the Secretariat, nor has that body requested me to write this article.

Sixteen years ago Major C. H. Douglas, an eminent civil engineer who had served in the Royal Flying Corps during the war, put forward an analysis of the economic system and certain proposals for rectifying the growing chaos in trade and industry. The startling novelty of his suggestions, which early received the name of Social Credit, excited at first some interest in academic and business circles, but very soon all discussion of the subject in the orthodox press and other organs of publicity ceased, with a suddenness which suggested inspiration from interested quarters.

Pioneers of Social Credit

Meanwhile a small body of people, which had early grasped the significance of the Douglas proposals, exerted itself to spread these ideas as widely as possible. The centre of this propaganda, after Major Douglas himself, was *The New Age*, at first edited by the late Mr. Orage, and later by Mr. Brenton. So well did these pioneers work, and so powerful was the impact of the new ideas on the more enlightened section of public opinion, that a large number of converts was made not only in this country, but also abroad.

The period of propaganda lasted for some fourteen years; to be exact till the beginning of 1933. Up till this time Major Douglas had resisted all attempts to disseminate his ideas by centralised methods, or to establish a headquarters office for the Social Credit movement. In his opinion propaganda was best carried out by individual initiative and responsibility.

By the spring of 1933, however, events had reached a stage at which the whole position had to be reconsidered. The rapidly growing army of Social Crediters was clamouring for some action to give effect to its ideals: Australia, New Zealand and Canada were approaching the point of political experiment, and Major Douglas himself was so overwhelmed with correspondence that he was finding it difficult to concentrate on the larger strategy of the movement. In addition it was becoming obvious that not much time remained if a disaster of the first magnitude was to be avoided.

Formation of the Secretariat

In these circumstances Major Douglas consented to the formation of a small secretariat in London, to relieve himself of routine details and to form a correspondence centre for the various Social Credit groups throughout the world, and ultimately to act as a general staff for putting into action the plan of campaign, which had already formed itself in his mind, and only awaited confirmation by his forthcoming visit to the Antipodes.

A year later, on his return from his world tour, Major Douglas launched his Electoral Campaign before a representative gathering of his followers at Buxton. In effect he said to them: "I believe I am right and you believe I am right in this matter. There only remains the question of how we can put it across. Theoretically there are three ways: force, persuasion of the powers that be, or constitutional pressure through the parliamentary machine. The first is impossible; the second exceedingly improbable in the time at our disposal; there remains only the third. You have asked for leadership, and this is the course I propose to you. Who will support me?"

As a result of the Buxton speech, a referendum of the Social Credit Movement approved the policy. The Secretariat was reconstituted by democratic vote, with the proviso that it should work under the direction of Major Douglas, who had been almost unanimously elected as chairman.

Would that the story ended there with all convinced

Social Crediters concentrated on attaining their objective by the means which the majority, including their elected leader, had approved. Unfortunately the vagaries of human nature too often interfere with the full realisation of an ideal. It soon became apparent that vested interests were not the monopoly of the enemy; the Social Credit Movement had developed some of its own during the long propaganda phase. Energetic persons had developed groups and organisations for the purpose of spreading the gospel according to Douglas. Excellent in their way, so long as they were prepared to co-operate directly or indirectly in the new plan, and their leaders did not unconsciously put their own importance as local oracles before the common cause.

The Esoteric Mystics

Then, too, the phenomenon of the "Parlour Pink" obtruded itself. A "Parlour Pink" is an expressive, if slightly inelegant, Americanism which describes the person who attains his full significance in the study or the drawing-room. It is perhaps inevitable that minds which are quickest to grasp a new idea are not always combined with personalities which are foremost in putting the idea into practice. As the history of all movements shows, there is always the danger of small groups of people forming and becoming mere debating societies, which tend to make an esoteric mystery of the new idea rather than utilising it as a basis for action. Calls to get busy on a straightforward job of work are to such persons an implied slur on their cultured exclusiveness.

The above criticism of a small section of Social Crediters is not intended to mean that all supporters of Douglas should blindly do as the Secretariat bids them. The essence of the Movement is personal responsibility; each man or woman must fill the niche which he or she is best fitted by personal inclination. Experienced workers for the Electoral Campaign are urgently needed, but there is still ample scope for the propagandist and the technician, and even the "Parlour Pink" is harmless and necessary within his or her own cosy little circle.

But what is neither harmless nor necessary is criticism, open or disguised, of those who are busy "sawing wood" under the directions of our leader. Particularly futile at the present time are criticisms of the Secretariat. You do not attack the personal staff of a general in the field; if necessary you attack the general himself, who is responsible both for the plan of campaign and for his assistants. The right to criticise the direction of an elected body arises, not out of a refusal to co-operate due to difference of opinion, however sincerely held, but out of the faithful performance of duties which have not been successful.

Douglas himself is responsible for the Electoral Campaign, and the personnel of the Secretariat is for this purpose under his orders. If anyone knows of a better plan for achieving Social Credit let him speak up. So far as I am aware no such plan exists. Until it does I suggest that every genuine Social Creditor should help or at least refrain from hindering. K.M.

Major Douglas

Major Douglas is on his way back from Alberta where he has left a report with the Government, the contents of which are at present confidential.

Newfoundland

Visitors recently returned laugh at the reports circulated that the Commission has been wildly unpopular and have to be guarded by police with fixed bayonets.—*The Observer*, May 12, 1935.

We should like to hear from one of the visitors who doesn't laugh.

Active Service

Woodford, Essex

The Supervisor reports that as a result of a recent recruiting meeting he is able to launch the campaign. Woodford went "over the top" at 7 a.m. on June 3, when the first volunteers commenced delivering pledge leaflets. If the "early bird" proverb applies in the campaign, Woodford should be record beaters.

Aberdeen

Social Crediters in Aberdeen are now hard at work on the Electoral Campaign, and with most encouraging results. Up to the present signatures obtained have averaged forty per cent. of those canvassed, but in one case two canvassers—both ladies—brought back signatures from ninety-nine per cent. of those approached. This is a record that the English groups will find it hard to beat.

The Campaign Supervisor comments—"Women canvassers are better than the men. They simply scoop in signatures."

It has been found that old valuation rolls provide very useful canvassing lists as, owing to the housing shortage, they are very nearly correct, and they are cheap to buy. The lists are cut into strips, and pasted on to cardboard twice the width of the column of names to leave room for notes. This is a tip other groups may find useful.

At first it was thought that page four of the pledge leaflet No. 5 was useless, but later a number of leaflets have been found over the door, and still more under the mat. It is thought that possibly some pledges have been lost by omitting to look under the mat, and collectors have been warned.

Advantage has been taken of the bye-election to emphasise the proper position of the M.P. at meetings, and in letters to the papers.

The Supervisor concludes his report—"The truth is that people are red rotten ripe for this and desperate for any excuse not to vote *in the present circumstances*. If anyone tells you that the signing of the pledge will have no effect then tell him he is the world's prize goat." (Our italics).

Southampton

The following is extracted from the Supervisor's report:—

"The Shirley fractional team is maintaining its average; for example in twenty-nine-and-a-half working hours it collected 390 signatures, bringing its total up to 1,456 to date. Two other experimental parties went out last week . . . one a party of eight and the other a party of six."

Southampton, having worked for one month in accordance with E.C.D.1., is now making an interesting experiment, which has resulted in help being obtained from some who have been too timid to do canvassing before. The following letter is left with the pledge form, and it is found that it cuts down the amount of talk necessary to get signatures considerably.

THE ONLY DEMOCRATS (Non-Party)

2, London Road,
Southampton.

DEAR SIR OR MADAM,

A National Electoral Campaign is in progress, the object of which is to enable you to use your vote to obtain what you want.

You desire Security and Freedom, and you want Poverty ended.

Now it is quite certain that these wants *can* be satisfied, because we are living in a rich country which could provide plenty for all. We have a great inheritance of culture, invention and all the wonders which we call civilization.

We ought to be drawing a dividend on this inheritance, and if we demand it we *shall* draw a dividend, that is, an independent personal income, additional to

earnings. There is no doubt about the possibility of this; all authorities are agreed that money can be issued if there are goods to be bought, and we know that goods are available and still more could be made.

Remember also that in this Machine Age, your wages and salaries in return for work done are becoming, and must necessarily become, less and less as human beings are displaced by mechanical appliances.

We elect Members of Parliament to do as we tell them, so, if we want National Dividends on our inherited wealth, we must tell our M.P. to see that we get them.

It is not at all necessary for us to know how this is to be done, any more than we need to know how a generating station works before we use electric light. We pay people to find out how to do things; but we must insist that they give us results.

So, we must let the sitting Member of Parliament know that if he does not undertake to carry out our expressed commands, we shall vote against him, no matter what our political leanings may be.

In order to get information as to the number of people who will do this, a form is enclosed, which we ask you and every adult in your house—as free voters—to sign. No names will be divulged.

The purpose is to enable the organisers to approach the present Member, and tell him that if he does not do what all these voters want him to, he will certainly lose his seat in Parliament.

We appeal to you to think this over carefully, sign the form, and hand it to the Campaigner who will be calling upon you shortly.

Yours truly,

THE ONLY DEMOCRATS.

Donations and offers of service urgently needed. Apply at above address for further information.

The letter is addressed as follows:—"To every voter in this house. Important and Urgent."

This is an example of local initiative, which although it increases cost may well pay for itself if it results in many more canvassers being recruited.

Tynemouth Campaign

WAKE UP, WIDNES!

The air of Tynemouth has been very bracing during the month of May. This campaign began in Easter week with only 2.7 signatures per hour. It has progressed steadily as follows:—

Second week	4.8 signatures per hour
Third	"	...	6 " " "
Fourth	"	...	10.7 " " "
Fifth	"	...	15.36 " " "
Sixth	"	...	12 " " "

The fifth week creates a record of 3.9 minutes each, for 507 signatures in thirty-three hours, including delivery and collection, or 15.3 signatures per hour.

[Contributed by the Supervisor in Cullercoats.]

How Restriction Works

"Selling the regulated product at a price less than that determined by the Board," was the charge made against a Campbelltown farmer yesterday, when he appeared before the Scottish Milk Marketing Board, with Lord Stair presiding.

It was stated that the farmer, by the hand of a servant, supplied a customer with two fluid ounces four fluid drachms in excess of the standard pint for which he charged. The excess was stated to be one-twentieth of a pint. It was stated that the seller had not used a measure.

Lord Stair emphasised the seriousness of the offence, and the serious view the Board took of such—and admonished the farmer.—*Glasgow Evening News*, May 11, 1935. (Our italics.)

Yet he let the scoundrel off with an admonition! Society must be protected against these miscreants; and if this misplaced leniency continues it is only too obvious that Judge Lynch will eventually take the place of our present milk and water justices. It is intolerable that British subjects should be exposed to the danger of getting more than they pay for, and that such malefactors as this dishonest farmer should escape with a mere admonition.

CORRESPONDENCE

Popular Appeal of Electoral Campaign.

Your readers may have noticed the rather extensive references made in the press to an attempt "to graft the Douglas Credit Scheme on to the programme of the Post Office Workers' Union." The history of this may be interesting and not a little enlightening to those people who still imagine that it is possible to get over to the mass of people "the whole story of Social Credit and nothing but the whole story."

The branch of the union in Newcastle-upon-Tyne which sponsored the attempt of having the above programme altered to read "Economic Freedom, through the application of the Douglas Social Credit Proposals," has for many years been trying strenuously to get the Executive Council of the union to examine the subject seriously. Attempt after attempt proved abortive, the replies always being of a side-tracking nature.

Vague rumours reached the branch that the Douglas Movement was regarded as Fascism and all the other labels which have from time to time been tagged on. The replies never contained any definite arguments for or against, and it was quite apparent that the Executive Council was deliberately evading the issue.

It was then decided to bring forward the above-quoted resolution in order that the Executive Council should have to state its position one way or the other. That was done, and we now know that Douglas Social Credit as such is not to be countenanced.

The sponsors of the resolution had a good idea of what to expect. The mover was allowed five minutes and three minutes to reply to nearly an hour's discussion. One speaker for the resolution was granted ten to fifteen minutes (because he spilled the beans on the Executive Council). The chief Executive Council speaker was allowed at least half-an-hour, because he said he had after years of study "found the nigger in the wood pile." This was our old friend "private ownership."

Now the lesson to be learnt from this is that Labour and Trade Union gatherings are not prepared to listen patiently to "outside theories." An initial prejudice is immediately set up by the attempt to graft new ideas *together* with new names on existing organisations. From my experience it is fatal for anyone who has been outstandingly connected with Social Credit propaganda to try to get a hearing.

A notable example of the way people will listen to and absorb Social Credit ideas, without their being labelled Social Credit, was to be seen at the Conference of Post Office Workers.

A new sorting machine was the subject of discussion. The Executive Council was pressing for money allowances to be paid to those required to operate the machines. A Newcastle delegate got up and supported the plea which had been made by delegates from the floor that shorter hours should be the reward. One of his sentences was "the dividend we demand from the machine is leisure."* This sentiment was vigorously cheered and repeatedly used throughout the conference proceedings. Yes, the Social Crediters must learn to use this and similar opportunities, but they will be allowed to do so only if they also learn to forget they were ever Social Crediters. Let us retain our knowledge but lose our identity. I am convinced that only by that method shall we achieve our purpose of getting National Dividends established.

Newcastle-on-Tyne.

J. W. COWARD.

*1. The dividend from the machine is leisure; the dividend to be demanded in addition is goods.

2. Social Crediters should not forget they are Social Crediters, but they should remember not to talk Social Credit in the Electoral Campaign.

3. The P.O.W. Union rejected Social Credit—the mistake was to offer Social Credit. The Union should have been asked to demand a National Dividend which must not raise taxes or prices. The Union could agree to that.—Ed.]

A Good Beginning!

I wish to send in my name as one prepared to do work for Social Credit. Kindly let me know how I can be useful.

Please send Electoral Campaign Leaflet (for those

working in offices, etc.), and also copies of SOCIAL CREDIT for the last week in November and the first week in December last.

Enclosed please find cheque for 12s. 6d.—2s. 6d. for cost of papers, etc., and 10s. for funds. I am prepared to guarantee £12 on the same terms as Miss de Castro. Helsby, Warrington.

F. F. SHIVAS.

[Can our correspondent do anything to help!—Ed.]

"Saving Our Bacon"

Your note of the week (page 236, May 24) entitled as above inspires the following:

Why raise £150,000 for an "Eat More Pig Campaign," when "NOT Raising Hogs" is better subsidised than eating bacon.

Clearly you are placing the Director of the Bacon Board in a cleft stick when you advise the people to subscribe to assist the powers that be to "Keep up Prices."

We can't have it both ways—Higher Prices for Producers and Cheaper Rates for Consumers. We producers who (incidentally) often fancy a snack of bacon we can't afford to indulge in, would be glad if sometimes some of the authorities would "let ill alone" for long enough for us to get used to it!

Yours faithfully,

"CHAW BACON."

Abolition of Poverty the Supreme Charity

We feel that Social Credit, as it aims at the abolishment of *all* poverty, is itself the supreme charity and necessarily includes all charities. It is of such extreme importance and urgency that it should take the place of all other charities, however deserving in themselves and however much they enlist our sympathies.

We feel, further, that all other charities, no matter how good their ends, no matter how desirable or needful they may be, are but bolsters to the present financial system, permitting the system to continue by performing for it some of its functions while relieving it of the financial cost of these functions, and as such are merely continuing the conditions under which these charities become necessary.

We therefore are enclosing our cheque for 10s. 6d., being the sum which we should otherwise have donated to a specific charity fund.

Middlesex.

S.P.

The total amount of money given away by most people in small odd sums, such as to beggars in the street, hawkers at the door (often in return for unwanted commodities), and in odd sixpences and half-crowns to numerous charities, including flag days, must be considerable. I should like to suggest that Social Crediters who wish to raise funds for Social Credit should harden their hearts to some of these beneficiaries, and after each refusal should put an equivalent sum to that which they would have given into a money box kept specially for these funds, thus concentrating their charitable donations into a more constructive channel.

Reigate.

MARION C. LEADBETTER.

"Social Credits or Socialism"

Mr. Rands's critique of "Social Credits or Socialism" is kind and informative, but he omits to point out that Mr. Hiskett's book is, as a whole, *not* what he and his introducer, Dr. Dalton, try to pretend it is, i.e., a careful "examination" "based firmly on fact" (page 15) of Major Douglas's "evidence in chief" (page 5) before the Macmillan Committee.

First, the evidence prepared by Major Douglas and submitted to the Committee for examination was a long, highly technical document, suitable for and comprehensible to the experts before whom it was laid,—with possibly one or two exceptions.

Secondly, the "oral evidence," which is "examined" question by question and answer by answer for fifty-seven pages of Mr. Hiskett's book, is, in actual fact, an analysis of only the *cross-examination* OF Major

Douglas BY the various members of the Macmillan Committee ON the evidence laid BEFORE them. This, it can readily be seen, is an entirely different story.

The evidence (with the exception of one sentence, containing an obvious misprint with which Mr. Hiskett permits himself to make considerable play (page 79, chapter IV.), is *not* quoted or commented upon at all!

The inconsecutive and even incomprehensible nature of these questions without their appropriate context, as reproduced by Mr. Hiskett from the verbatim report of the cross-examination, should be sufficient to convince any convincing person of this, as many of the questions were obviously referring to subject matter *not before* the reader; unless they happen to be possessed of the 30s. Report of the Proceedings of the Macmillan Committee, two vols.

Mr. Rands has let Mr. Hiskett down very gently, but in view of the fact that Mr. Hiskett's criticisms rest on such vulnerable foundations perhaps it is as well to be gentle.

Worthing.

M.D.C.

Beauty and the Beast!

No doubt most of us have noted the two modes of spelling "Social Creditors" and "Social Crediters" and have found some difficulty in deciding which is the more or less correct and desirable.

It would be convenient and politic that an official recommendation be made for the general adoption of one or the other term; and as we can hardly expect the B.B.C. to take it on, we look to you for a lead.

Either spelling has disadvantages: "Creditor" is irrefragably tied to its popular meaning and as such is unsuited to our use of the word. "Crediter," a coined word, is linguistically more correct for our purpose, is new and more arresting, but is hideously ugly. Here is a conflict between Beauty and the Beast: on the whole the beast should prevail.

Yours faithfully,

Smarden.

FREDERICK RATHBONE.

[We make it a rule in this paper to use the term "Social Crediter" to describe members of the Social Credit Movement, since it can be argued that everybody is a "Social Creditor" for the share of the cultural inheritance and the increment of association at present withheld.—Ed.]

Orthodox Fears

In one form or another, a general scheme of pensions, on a scale adequate to afford a reasonable standard of life, has got to come in the near future. The industrial situation calls for it imperatively, and the changing age-composition of the population powerfully reinforces the demand. If we fail to do this thing promptly, in at least the orthodox, modest, inadequate way suggested in the P.E.P. report, we are likely to be compelled before long to do it in some far less orthodox financial fashion, and on a far more ambitious scale. If Mr. Chamberlain or Dr. Dalton does not have the doing of it, perhaps ere long the British equivalents of Senator Huey Long, Father Coughlin and Dr. Townsend will get their turn. And assuredly disciples of Major Douglas or Professor Soddy will not stop at pensions at 65, or 60, or even 50, or debate whether the money shall be raised by taxes or contributions levied on existing incomes. The orthodox may reassure themselves that there is *no real danger of the "Social Crediters" ever getting their way*, but if they are not to be given the chance of misleading people on a disastrous scale it would be wise to act promptly on more orthodox lines.—From "The New Statesman and Nation," May 18 (see Note and Comment on page 267.)

An Indication and Warning

It is most decidedly cheering that "orthodox" journals such as *The New Statesman and Nation* should be assuring their readers that "they need not fear that Douglas Social Credit" and suchlike nostrums will replace orthodox economic and financial policy.

This is precisely on a par with the assurances of Mr. MacDonald before the crisis of 1931, that certain conditions and consequences were "unthinkable" a few weeks before they occurred.

It is in this manner that the political ostrich hides its head in the sand of printed matter, when the race becomes exhausting and it is forced against its will to perceive that the pursuer gains on it.

It is quite in line, also, with modern psychological discoveries which indicate that the subconscious always *denies the unwanted*: and that it does to just that degree too emphatically and persistently; thereby disclosing to the wise the exact condition of its complexes and the *true state of affairs*.

On a par with the above effusions are the outbursts in the Fascist press in Italy against "the history of cruelty in British Empire affairs."

The *Daily Herald* and its vis-à-vis *Il Jevere* are busy exchanging typical uncomplimentary remarks, and even cartoons.

Will Dyson's "Mussolinis" are paralleled by a front

page illustration of "a British soldier assaulting women and children."

With these examples to hand, the psychologist has little difficulty in piecing together the jig-saw puzzle of foreign and Empire contemporary events.

"When Greek meets Greek" we are presented with a free positive negative of what is the matter in the other fellow.

Elector's Demand and Undertaking

Electors throughout the country are having the following Demand and Undertaking form placed before them to sign:—

1. I know that there are goods in plenty and therefore that poverty is quite unnecessary.
2. It is my will, therefore, that poverty shall be abolished.
3. I know that more goods would be made if they could be sold, but at present their production is restricted because people lack the money to buy them.
4. Therefore I want a National Dividend paid to me and to every Briton, so that all goods desired that can be made will be made.
5. This Dividend must not increase taxes, or prices, nor deprive owners of their property nor decrease its relative value.
6. As a democrat I say that Parliament exists to "make my will prevail"—not to force on me what it thinks is good for me.
7. So I pledge myself to vote for any candidate who will undertake that this my declared policy shall be carried out before any other legislation.
8. If the present M.P. here won't undertake this I will vote for some other party, and keep on changing until my policy has been achieved.

(Space for elector's signature.)

Desperation

"The world is in a dreadful tangle. Statesmen and politicians are at their wits' end, Governments are almost beaten, nation is being set against nation, and the greatest need to-day is for the things for which Rotary stands—fellowship, service, and understanding."

These statements were made by Mr. Edwin Robinson, the President-elect, in his address to the conference of the Rotary International Association for Great Britain and Ireland at Margate to-day.—*Ipswich Evening Star*, May 15.

And this state of affairs will get worse and worse until the people of this country demand and get a National Dividend.

What to Read

Special Electoral Campaign Number of
"SOCIAL CREDIT" (Postage id.) ... 2d.

Tells you all about the principles underlying the Campaign, what the Campaign will achieve, and how everyone can join in it.

Books by Major C. H. Douglas:—

Economic Democracy 4th Edition, 1934. 3s. 6d.
The original statement of the philosophy and proposals of Major Douglas.

Social Credit ... 3s. 6d.
Contains the philosophical background and includes the Draft Scheme for Scotland.

The Control and Distribution of Production. 2nd Edition, 1934 ... 3s. 6d.

Credit Power and Democracy. 4th Edition, 1934 ... 3s. 6d.

Warning Democracy. 2nd Edition, 1934 ... 3s. 6d.

The Monopoly of Credit ... 3s. 6d.

The Douglas Manual, by Philip Mairet ... 5s. 0d.
A Douglas concordance and a valuable reference book.

Economic Nationalism, by Maurice Colbourne. 3rd Edition, 1935 ... 3s. 6d.

For readers with no previous knowledge of the subject.

The A.B.C. of Social Credit, by E. Sage Holter... 2s. 6d.

Ordeal by Banking, by W. Allen Young ... 2s. 0d.

Books bearing on the subject, but not solely devoted to Social Credit:—

This Age of Plenty, by C. Marshall Hattersley. 3s. 6d. and 6s. 0d.

A very popular exposition of the paradox of Poverty and Plenty.

The Coming of Community, by W. T. Symons ... 7s. 6d.

Life and Money, by Eimar O'Duffy ... 2s. 6d.

The Community's Credit, by C. Marshall Hattersley ... 1s. 0d.

Pamphlets by Major C. H. Douglas:—

The New and the Old Economics ... 1s. 0d.

These Present Discontents: The Labour Party and Social Credit ... 1s. 0d.

The Use of Money ... 6d.

The Nature of Democracy ... 6d.

Money and the Price System (Speech before the King of Norway at Oslo) ... 3d.

Social Credit Principles ... 1d.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS AND MEETINGS

Notices will be accepted for this column at 6d. a line, minimum three lines.

We suggest more extensive use of this column by affiliated groups for making their announcements. At present many groups notify their members by post, which costs both labour and expense that might be greatly reduced by a notice in this column. It would then only be necessary to draw the attention of the members to the fact that they would in future find all announcements concerning them in SOCIAL CREDIT.

Notices must reach the publishing office by the Monday morning before the date of issue.

Belfast Douglas Social Credit Group

Public Meetings. — A meeting will be held at Headquarters, 72, Ann Street, on each Thursday, until further notice, at 7.45 p.m. prompt. Admission free.

The Headquarters—Princes Chambers, 72, Ann Street—are now open each afternoon and evening for the purpose of answering enquiries regarding Literature, Lectures, Meetings, etc. Meetings are being held at the above address as follow:—Tuesdays, at 3 p.m. for Women, especially those unemployed. Public Meetings on Thursdays at 7.45 p.m. Admission free.

Bound Volumes of "Social Credit"

A limited number of bound volumes of SOCIAL CREDIT, Vol. I., are available at 10s. 6d. each, and binding cases at 3s. 6d. each, carriage extra, from SOCIAL CREDIT, 9, Regent Square, W.C.1.

THE LECTURE RECORDER

for MAY, 1935

Contains a report of the Lecture

"What is Social Credit"

by Mr. A. L. GIBSON

Copies may be obtained at 7d. each post free from The Lecture Recorder, 16 Marsham St., London, S.W.1

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All readers who undertook to buy supplies of slogan labels are requested to send in their remittances to the offices of SOCIAL CREDIT, 9, Regent Square, London, W.C.1. The price of the labels has been fixed at 1s. for one dozen sheets of sixteen labels each, post free.

The labels are in the Electoral Campaign colours, orange and purple, are ready gummed, and bear the following inscription:—

**THE ABOLITION OF POVERTY
DEMAND IT!**Clearly
Simultaneously
Singlemindedly**VOTE FOR IT**Unitedly
Consistently
and**PARLIAMENT WILL OBEY YOU**

Groups which have nominated a Supervisor of Revenue to work the Group Revenue Plan G.R.1, can obtain supplies of these labels for re-sale at special reduced prices.

Individuals who are not members of Groups and who wish to obtain supplies of labels at special prices for re-sale, should ask for a copy of the plan drawn up for this purpose—P.R.1.—when placing their initial order.

Spread the Good News!

SOCIAL CREDIT has the greatest message of hope in the world to-day—*everyone* can have plenty without *anyone* having to make sacrifices!

The circulation is steadily mounting. It is already twice what it was at the beginning of the year. But that is not a quick enough increase!

The time is short, and there are millions still who have not heard our message of hope.

We have no money to spend on boosting our sales, so it is up to all sympathisers to do their bit. Will you?

Sell SOCIAL CREDIT in the streets; sell it at theatre queues, or wherever there are crowds; ask your friends to buy it; press your newsagents to stock it and display posters (they can get it in the ordinary way, just like any other paper, through their wholesalers); talk about it; organise the members of your groups, or your personal friends, to help to push the circulation; *support our advertisers.*

Groups can obtain bulk supplies of SOCIAL CREDIT at a reduced price direct from the Publisher, 9, Regent Square, London, W.C.1.

Enquiries should be addressed as follow in regard to:

1. Douglas Social Credit: The Secretary, Social Credit Secretariat, 8-9, Essex Street, London, W.C.2.
2. The Electoral Campaign: The Secretary, The Only Democrats, 8-9, Essex Street, London, W.C.2.
3. The Editorial, Publishing and Advertising Departments of this paper: The Editor, the Manager, and the Advertising Manager, respectively, SOCIAL CREDIT, 9, Regent Square, London, W.C.1.

Please enclose a stamped, addressed envelope with any communication calling for a reply.

A Message to Garcia*

By Elbert Hubbard

WHEN war broke out between Spain and the United States, it was very necessary to communicate quickly with the leader of the Insurgents. Garcia was somewhere in the mountain fastnesses of Cuba—no one knew where. No mail or telegraph message could reach him. The President must secure his co-operation, and quickly.

What to do!

Someone said to the President, "There is a fellow by the name of Rowan will find Garcia for you, if anybody can." Rowan was sent for and given a letter to be delivered to Garcia. How the "fellow by the name of Rowan" took the letter, sealed it up in an oilskin pouch, strapped it over his heart, in four days landed by night off the coast of Cuba from an open boat, disappeared into the jungle, and in three weeks came out on the other side of the Island, having traversed a hostile country on foot, and delivered his letter to Garcia—are things I have no special desire now to tell in detail. The point that I wish to make is this: McKinley gave Rowan a letter to be delivered to Garcia; Rowan took the letter and did not ask, "Where is he at?"

By the Eternal! there is a man whose form should be cast in deathless bronze and the statue placed in every college of the land. It is not book-learning young men need, nor instruction about this and that, but a stiffening of the vertebrae which will cause them to be loyal to a trust, to act promptly, concentrate their energies; do the thing—"Carry a message to Garcia."

General Garcia is dead now, but there are other Garcias. No man who has endeavoured to carry out an enterprise where many hands are needed, but has been well-nigh appalled at times by the imbecility of the average man—the inability or unwillingness to concentrate on a thing and do it.

Slipshod assistance, foolish inattention, dowdy indifference, and half-hearted work seem the rule; and no man succeeds, unless by hook or crook or threat he forces or bribes other men to assist him; or mayhap, God in his goodness performs a miracle, and sends him an Angel of Light for an assistant. You, reader, put this matter to a test: You are sitting now in your office—six clerks are within call. Summon any one and make this request: "Please look in the encyclopedia and make a brief memorandum for me concerning the life of Correggio." Will the clerk quietly say, "Yes, sir," and go do the task?

* With acknowledgments to the author, *The Efficiency Magazine*, and The Roycrofters.

On your life he will not. He will look at you out of a fishy eye and ask one or more of the following questions:

Who was he? Which encyclopedia?

Was I hired for that?

Don't you mean Bismarck?

What's the matter with Charlie doing it?

Is he dead?

Is there any hurry?

Sha'n't I bring you the book and let you look it up yourself?

What do you want to know for?

And I will lay you ten to one that after you have answered the questions, and explained how to find the information, and why you want it, the clerk will go off and get one of the other clerks to help him try to find Correggio—and then come back and tell you there is no such man. Of course I may lose my bet, but according to the Law of Average I will not. . . .

I know one man of really brilliant parts who has not the ability to manage a business of his own, and yet who is absolutely worthless to anyone else because he carries with him constantly the insane suspicion that his employer is oppressing, or intending to oppress him. He cannot give orders, and he will not receive them. Should a message be given him to take to Garcia, his answer would probably be, "Take it yourself!" . . .

Let us drop a tear for the men who are striving to carry on a great enterprise, whose working hours are not limited by the whistle, and whose hair is fast turning white through the struggle to hold in line dowdy indifference, slipshod imbecility. . . .

My heart goes out to the man who does his work when the "boss" is away, as well as when he is at home. And the man who, when given a letter for Garcia, quietly takes the missive, without asking any idiotic questions, and with no lurking intention of chucking it into the nearest sewer, or of doing aught else but deliver it, never gets "laid off," nor has to go on a strike for higher wages. Civilisation is one long, anxious search for just such individuals. Anything such a man asks shall be granted. He is wanted in every city, town and village—in every office, shop, store and factory. The world cries out for such: he is needed and needed badly—the man who can "Carry a Message to Garcia."

Responsibility

THE theory of the British Constitution, which is a democracy, is that the armed forces of the Crown exist to ensure that the will of the people should prevail.

"No conventions or laws can stand up for any length of time against the will of the people, and anybody who is acquainted with the theory of international law will know what I mean when I refer to the 'right of eminent domain,' which is simply that if any law or convention is operating in defiance of the will of the people it will inevitably be modified.

"There is a key-word which forms the solution of this, perhaps the greatest of all problems which confront the world at the present time. That word is RESPONSIBILITY. We have got to make individuals bear the consequences of their actions.

"Instead of electing representatives to inform bankers and industrialists (who understand the technique of their jobs perfectly) how to do them, and to pass a multitude of laws which . . . impede industry, the business of democracy is to elect representatives who will insist upon results. . . .

"It is not the business of the Parliamentary machine to reform, for instance, the financial system. It is the business of the Parliamentary machine to transmit the desires of the people for results, which at present the financial system is not producing. . . .

"From now on . . . the most immediately important task of the Social Credit Movement is the formulation of definite methods for bringing Parliament itself, and consequently the forces of the Crown, which Parliament controls, under popular control in regard to objectives . . . not in regard to mechanics. . . .

"In every part of the country . . . an organisation should be set up at once for the systematic presentation of the situation to every voter. . . . One by one the voters should be asked whether they are in favour of a larger personal income, with absolute security, via the National Dividend; and sufficient information should be placed before them to show that that is possible. . . ."

From Major Douglas's Buxton Speech, reprinted as a 6d. pamphlet entitled "The Nature of Democracy."