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From Week to Week

Sir John Boyd-Orr, just back from Washington, where the standard of living is forty *per cent.* higher than before the war, says the food policy of "Britain" is wondrous, and the admiration of everyone who doesn't live here. Sir John hopes to leave "Britain" again at a very early date. World Planning exceeds his wildest dreams—practically £10,000 a year, and live where you can spend it.

Mr. Strachey, our Minister of Worse Food (for "Britain") is going to America on the "Queen Elizabeth" for Food Talks. The food on the "Queen Elizabeth" is up to pre-war standard, and that in America is considerably above.

Personally, we have always considered that from the middle of February to the middle of March is the worst period of the year in England—an opinion which is probably the only one which we share with Mr. Strachey.

The scourge which has spread over the world since the early nineties originated in the Jewish Ghettoes of Russia, and when it first appeared in these islands was known as Russian Influenza. Curious?

Owing to the fact that we are short of dollars, Mr. Strachey has bought twenty million grapefruit from Texas, which have to be paid for in dollars. There are far more grapefruit grown in the Sterling area than in the dollar area. Anyway, you probably won't get the grapefruit.

We cannot too strongly recommend to our readers an article in the February *Nineteenth Century and After* by D. L. Burn, entitled "Contemporary Conservatism." It would be an injustice to it to attempt a summary; it is written round a review of three recent books, one of which is semi-official and issued by a Conservative group headed by Sir Cuthbert Headlam. This is largely disposed of in comment on the third book by Aubrey Jones, *The Pendulum of Politics* (Faber and Faber), who remarks that its opinions are 'in the line of descent from the Mid-Victorian Radicals'.... 'the average Conservative is half Liberal, and quarter Socialist.' That is to say, it is Whig.

This subject has now become the most vital issue of British politics, because it carries with it, implicitly if not explicitly, the question of sanctions, without the solution of which all the other and subordinate problems are insoluble. The article is 'required' reading.

"We must never forget for a moment that British Communism is part of a world-wide movement, the successes or failures of any part of which quickly react upon the prospects of all its other parts... A working-class dictatorship can alone open the way to Communism... the assumption of

power by the workers can occur by means of revolution alone."—John Strachey, *The Coming Struggle for Power*, Gollancz, 1932.

The Russian Communist Spy Trial in Canada will make a nice background for Mr. John Strachey against which to negotiate with Mr. Mackenzie King, who didn't want to have it. Just what the Western Grain Growers will think of him is something else again. A little further South, he left hurriedly a few years ago, to avoid being pitched out.

One of the most effective Fifth Column activities in North America is that of the syndicated columnist whose articles appear in hundreds of newspapers all over the continent. The technique is that of a gossip writer moving in well-informed circles, and the writing is largely round hand-outs from the Soviet Embassy, the B'nai Brith and similar sources. It invariably implies that "Britain" is of little importance; that the United States is potentially the most important factor in world politics, but only if she composes her differences with Russia.. And, of course, it is the full-blooded champion of d'markrazi and the common-man (Russian model). We notice that British Columbia is being persistently flooded with this material. Whether it has any connection with the activities of Sir Victor Sassoon in the Province we cannot say; but it is alleged that he is spending large sums in that delectable country.

The focus of disruption in the British Columbia Social Credit movement has been located in the person of a Russian-Jewish Agent, Benjamin Israel Gateman, now said to be operating from New York.

The Discredited Government

Over a large section of the population, doubt concerning the *bona fides* of the Government has given way to certainty. This may be the most important direct consequence of the crisis which has reduced a great part of the country to a condition more miserable and disillusioned than at any time during the war. "From now on—and the Government would do well to recognise it—nobody in this country will believe a word he (Mr. Shinwell) says. He has entirely lost the confidence of the public. The noble Lord, Lord Shepherd, in his speech thought, as I understood him, that this loss of confidence ought to be extended to the whole Cabinet: it is unfair that it should only apply to Mr. Shinwell. If that is his view, I do not mind." These were Lord Cranborne's words, and the demand for the dismissal of the Minister was echoed in several speeches. But this is not enough. "No Government spokesman in Monday's debate attempted to answer the great abiding criticism, that, if what has been allowed to happen is not a condemnation of a particular Minister and Cabinet, then it must be a condemnation of the whole theory of planning the production of society." *The Tablet* voices a decision of mind which is extending.

The Constitutional issue grows plainer, and we advise our readers to master its intricacies and to throw what weight they have into the effort for its settlement. This 'token' issue of *The Social Crediter* in an unfamiliar form may serve to remind them that it has always been conducted as a guide, even more than a preparation, and never as a substitute for right action—T.J.

They Know What They're After

The electrical energy situation shows every symptom of detonating something equivalent to a political atomic bomb. The simple facts are these: The three main uses of electrical power are (1) motive power, (2) heating, and (3) lighting, public and private.

The latest pre-war statistics at our disposal give an annual overall consumption of 26,000,000,000 units. During the war, this increased to over 40,000,000,000 units per annum. Where is the 14,000,000,000 units going to in "peace" time? Certainly not in consumer goods production. Certainly not in buying dollars. If some of it in domestic heating, where is the evidence of domestic coal saved?

The power stations complain of bad coal. Who is getting the good coal?

Probably most of us would agree that the humiliating spectacle now offered by once-great Britain to the world, a considerable portion of which is sniggering, is sensibly aggravated by the claims of the Socialist-Financier Administration that it is battling capably with quite unique and unmerited difficulties. To hear Mr. Shinwell, we have never had snow and ice in this country before, and it is quite reasonable that the wonderful centralised electricity system, a concrete embodiment of the kind of society he is commissioned to instal, should break down at the first onslaught of a winter which is milder and shorter than one month of the five months winter in Canada or the Northern United States, where the idea that the whole country should be brought to a standstill by a blizzard would be merely ridiculed.

The writer has a very clear recollection of the British winter of 1893, which began shortly after Christmas and provided continuous skating and snow sports well into March. Trains ran normally; there was, of course, no hint of coal shortage. People assisted their neighbours to overcome temporary difficulties; and a large proportion of the population derived a good deal of amusement out of the general carnival. Of course, everyone's pipes froze and burst, just as they do now, because the British plumber had always put the pipes where they would freeze and burst, and he was not going to be taught his business by outsiders. Bursts were good for business; and he was always ready to mend them. The essence of the situation was that, in the main, everyone attended to his own difficulties with success.

The obsession with largeness, centralisation and standardisation is, of course, fostered from behind by immensely clever people who know exactly what they are after. But to the great body of the Socialists, it is the outcome of sheer incompetence and mental laziness. It takes brains to understand the minutiae of things; it takes no brains at all to assume that things have no minutiae, and can therefore be tabulated on a form, and dealt with as tabulated. Added to that, the more incompetent a man is, the greater the danger that he will excuse his failures by saying that he ought to have larger responsibilities. The British Trades Union

system has never contributed one single novel constructive proposal to industry; its successive wage "victories" have had no realistic basis whatever and are at this moment threatening to bring down in ruins the most potentially useful device ever developed by man, the credit-cost-accountancy-price system (not the Judaic, the-price-of-an-article-is-what-it-will-fetch, or Black Market system). Yet it has for generations asserted its superior competency to deal with world problems. It is dealing with world problems—and how!

Another, though related, aspect of the present situation is the obvious unreliability, not to say lack of common honesty, in the answers given by various Ministers to enquiries in the House of Commons and elsewhere. Mr. Shinwell has implied, not only that coal distribution is paralysed, but that the mines are nearly idle. As a comment on this, Mr. William Reid, of the Scottish Division of the National Coal Board, stated in Edinburgh on February 11: "Very few collieries are out of production in Scotland. The output today is remarkably good in the whole circumstances." On the same day and in the same city, Lord Woolton (whom we are sorry to see invading a subject about which he knows nothing whatever—land tenure) said: "The present trouble is not due to the weather. It is because there is just one coalman, one food man, one transport man, and so on. Is that your idea of the way this country developed to its pre-war position? Is that the sort of life you want? Do you think these people are capable of controlling so much? And think how much they now control!"

Espionage in Canada

According to *The Times* of February 5, Squadron-Leader F. W. Poland, former R.C.A.F. intelligence officer, Eric George Adams, a former Government financial official, and Matt Simons Nightingale, a former R.C.A.F. communications officer, have been acquitted of all charges against them. The Crown has directed a stay in proceedings against Edward Wilfred Mazerall, a former Radar Research engineer, now serving a four-year sentence for conspiracy.

Equations of Revolution

Electricity plus Soviets = Socialism.—Lenin.
Shinwell?—Socialism minus Electricity = Soviets.

Union Des Electeurs and "Vers Demain"

The Social Credit Secretariat has been appointed to be the Representatives of the Union des Electeurs (Quebec) in Europe.

Messrs. K.R.P. Publications, Ltd., have been appointed to act as business representatives of "Vers Demain."

Parliament

The Debate on the world food situation (February 6) dealt largely with the Report of the Food and Agriculture Organisation Preparatory Commission on world food proposals. It was of special if sardonic interest to Social Crediters. No one suggested that falling prices, conveying to the consumer the benefit of improved process, need not impoverish producers, or that the existence of surpluses implies possibility of release from uncongenial employment. The money system as the obvious link between consumption deficiency and production surplus was not mentioned.