

## THE SOCIAL CREDITER FOR POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC REALISM

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

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### From Week to Week

Attention to the public statements of political and military experts concerning the possible use of the various atomic bombs at present at their disposal (or presumed to be at their disposal) evokes a prospect of warfare of the familiar pattern though on what may be termed a 'grand' scale. This is to say, the deployment of antagonistic forces in accordance with a consistent if variable strategy, under centralised direction (two centres) effective to secure two distinct war-machines complete with subordinate services under two distinct jurisdictions. The disappearance of 'fronts' as they were understood in the first phase of the world war was a feature of the second. The perspective has since changed, and the current notion of attack and defence in 'depth' will admittedly undergo further development, leading to a situation which is not easily imaginable in any but abstract terms.

But what happens if the presumed distinctness of the opposing forces is seriously impaired—the central direction, the jurisdiction? In the past it has been assumed (correctly) that psychological factors in alliance with judicious propaganda and a dash of compulsion suffice to convert a not-so-hesitant people into a closely-knit homogeneous force effective in the common interest. Now the environment in which this occurs is palpably altered. The homogeneity has vanished—the material homogeneity more evidently than the social and psychological: the power, the petrol, the material factors of the metaphysical 'economy.' A little sabotage goes a long way, a longer way than before. In the totality of civil war which the new strike technique foretells, it is hard to imagine a troupe of 'maquis' coming upon a 'stock-pile' of atomic weapons and beginning to just 'throw it about.' Is this, perhaps, one of the calculations of the Sanhedrin?

Now that Mr. Churchill has had the courage to revoke the constitution of a small country unreasonably resistant to industrial expansion, what about some attention to the constitution of a great country reasonably resistant to suicidal industrial over-expansion? If the late Mr. Montagu Norman were still with us, would he now receive consolation from his masters that they "have the situation well in hand"? If so, it is the only one which is.

The widow of the famed General Wingate has 'dedicated herself to the cause of Zionism' since her husband's death in 1944. She and Mrs. Israel Moses Sieff, world-president

of the Women's International Zionist organisation, will speak at the Canadian Hadassah to be held in Montreal from October 30 to November 2.

A reader of this journal writes angrily from Switzerland to say:

"So Hattersley never mastered Douglas didn't he? Perhaps also Douglas never mastered Hattersley. I don't know what earthly right Douglas cd. have had to set himself up as the final undisputed authority in all matters connected with monetary reform, or whether in fact he ever did so. . . . One very bad mistake D. has made is in presenting his arguments in the form of algebraic equations thus limiting his appeal to those who have studied that branch of mathematics (a very severe limitation)."

We have formed a habit of looking at least twice at any piece of writing which contains the word 'authority.' Douglas did not 'set himself up' as an authority on anything excepting the class of things to which *the text* of his books belongs. In his books he *appealed* to the authority of *facts*, among them the fact that the name 'money' is the name of a mathematical concept (*ratio*) and is not the name of a physical concept (substance). The proof of this fact is not provided by argument but by experience. The statement of the fact may be made in ordinary language (as above) or in mathematical language (as is generally more convenient and useful, because it is then easier to develop the implications arising from it without making mistakes). In fact, Douglas did not resort (in print in any case) to the forms of (very elementary) mathematics until after his proposals had gained wide enough currency for Mr. Hattersley (among others) to have some acquaintance with them. Unfortunately, in Mr. Hattersley's case, the acquaintance was not extensive enough for him to perceive the importance of the distinction between 'money' as a physical and 'money' as a mathematical entity, with the result (which is all-important) that his popularisation of what, perhaps, he thought to be Social Credit was dominated by the notion that savings (abstention from consumption) for the purpose of reinvestment of the sum 'saved' in a new programme of production was the main reason for chronic shortage of purchasing power and mounting debt to the banking system.

Douglas published the essentials of his analysis in 1918. Hattersley's *The Community's Credit* published five years later was hailed not as an original work but as a summary of Douglas's views. *Men, Money and Machines*, the pamphlet mentioned by *The Times* recently, appeared in 1927, and although Douglas's name does not appear until page 28, it too was accepted as a popularisation of Social Credit. The author follows his 'crib' so faithfully that it is only when he departs from it that his own confusion is apparent. Then, it is seen that, quite naturally, he envisages 'money' as something which can be put into a container (which he was in the habit, whenever he was parted from his 'crib,' of calling the 'Fund.' This and the associated conviction that "the State should assert its position as the sole controller of the nation's money supplies" (*M.M. & M.*, page 30), made Mr. Hattersley's association with Social Credit a nuisance (like the late Duke of Bedford's.) This nuisance value was fully exploited in both cases by those who would prefer to

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## THE SOCIAL CREDIT SECRETARIAT

On July 2, 1949, *The Social Crediter* published a "comprehensive statement" drawn up for public information concerning the constitution of the Social Credit Secretariat. The Statement was later reprinted in pamphlet form and has been widely distributed. When occasion arose, Major Douglas referred to it in correspondence as 'basic' for any approach to the Secretariat or explicit association with it by individuals or public bodies, and emphasised the "great care" which had been taken in its preparation.

The general effect of the document is evidently thoroughly understood by most Social Crediters. On the death of Major Douglas last year, it was stated that no material alteration or adjustment of our constitution was called for, nor, as Social Crediters well appreciate, can there be any. Just as Douglas's own name as it appears in the Statement, ceases to be that of a living Advisor, so, in the course of time, other names will appear among the personnel of the Secretariat. If continuity of policy *cannot* be secured by the continuous operation of such a constitution as that presented, we are satisfied that it cannot be secured by variation from it. Explicitly, it repudiates as fallible in experience all other modes of association known to us, which display their inherent defects in the customary modes practised elsewhere in the community—committee-management, corporate responsibility for individual decisions, and so on.

Continuous reference to our Constitution is desirable, and close study of its provisions by any not acquainted with them is just as greatly to be fostered. We propose, therefore, to reprint them, placing in square brackets any words which it is necessary to delete, and printing as footnotes, where necessary any words substituted, with the date of substitution. The original, as stated above, was compiled in the summer of 1949:—

### STATEMENT

The SOCIAL CREDIT SECRETARIAT was first instituted in 1933\* as a Secretariat to assist Major C. H. Douglas by relieving him of as much secretarial work as possible, *vis-a-vis* the growth of a movement to make his ideas in economics and politics effective, and to act as a channel through which information and advice affecting Social Credit and organisations working for Social Credit might be distributed to members of the public. It has acted continuously since its inception, and most of those individuals who are closely associated with it were connected with it then, and a high proportion of its earlier supporters form a valuable nucleus of the body of its supporters now.

The construction and Constitution of the Secretariat are at once a reflection of the situation in which its work has to be carried out and the nature and Policy of Social Credit. Support, both active and financial, is voluntary. Its first officers, termed Directors, were chosen in accordance with advice tendered by a panel of Social Crediters selected from among the then existing supporters of Groups of Social Crediters in the British Isles, by election for this purpose. In 1938, Major Douglas appointed a Deputy Chairman, while he himself continued to act in an advisory capacity as Advisory Chairman of the Secretariat. The organisation

\*The Social Credit movement may justly be said to date its public origin from the appearance of the article "The Delusion of Super-production," by Major Douglas, in the *English Review* for December, 1918.

is hierarchal (*vide*, *The Tragedy of Human Effort*, by Major Douglas, 1936). There have been few changes in the personnel since that time. The officers of the Secretariat are still called its Directors, who number five, including the Registrar of the Department of Studies, additionally to a [Secretary and a] Treasurer. Individually, the Directors of the Secretariat maintain a correspondence with Social Credit Organisations, chiefly but not entirely those affiliated to it, with individual Social Crediters in all parts of the world and with outside bodies and individuals. *Mutatis mutandis*, they communicate the advice of the Secretariat on various aspects of Social Credit opinion and action, and on matters which have any relation to these, on request. The officers of the Secretariat are unpaid.

A special work of the Secretariat is the control, supervision and preparation of its weekly organ, *The Social Crediter*, edited, at present, by the [Deputy] Chairman. [An announcement concerning *The Social Crediter* is attached to this statement.] For the avoidance of some at least of the difficulties incidental to interaction between the general public and a community of persons within it, as much as possible of the routine work of the Secretariat (*i.e.*, matters of business *etc.*) as well as all contractual obligations is handled, on a contractual basis, by a Company, K.R.P. Publications, Ltd., formed by Social Crediters and incorporated under the Companies Act, 1929, on April 17, 1939. The primary function of the Company is that of a publishing business, as its name implies. The property, *The Social Crediter*, is in its ownership; but control of the policy of the paper is in the hands of the Secretariat in the persons of the Company Directorate. So far as possible, the remuneration of the Company for services rendered to the Secretariat is an annual sum estimated to be the equivalent of the remuneration of one relatively junior person employed by the Company.\* The Directors are unpaid, and in this as in other respects the rule is absolute that no financial benefit to any individual shall arise from the exploitation of his services to the general body of Social Crediters. (The just source of financial support for such activities as those of Social Crediters should be the National Dividend, for an account of which the reader is referred, if necessary, to Social Credit literature. Political agitation—at least as a profession—would disappear from a properly constituted political society. Technical instruction and research, as well as the enrichment of society by the spread of original ideas *e.g.*, science and literature and the fine arts, are not envisaged under this heading.)

(*To be continued.*)

\*The Company does not make a profit. If at some future time it should do so, the position *vis-a-vis* the Secretariat would be reviewed.

### FROM WEEK TO WEEK— (*continued from page 1.*)

see Douglas's ideas anywhere but firmly in the minds of the populations of the world or those of their most effective representatives.

Lastly, it is untrue that Hattersley avoided the "very severe limitation" detected by our correspondent. On page 34 of *Men, Money and Machines* he himself resorts to a discussion of the c/p ratio, in endeavouring to expound the Just Price (with "the State" as a gratuitous contribution from the fund of Hattersleyian originality).