

# THE SOCIAL CREDITER

## FOR POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC REALISM

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### The Objectives of Total War

by C. H. DOUGLAS

*It is not untimely again to republish this article, originally published in 1946 in SOVEREIGNTY, an English quarterly review, which like many other independent periodicals during the past twenty years, was unable to survive.*

If the general public is not imbued with full consciousness that war is the ultimate problem of civilisation, the responsibility for such lack as there may be does not rest with the organised publicity which provides our syndicated information. We are told of the horrors of the atomic bomb, of which a demonstration was conveniently available as the final episode of Japanese industrialisation; and concurrently, without discussion, and with every evidence of long preparation, world organisations have come into being and are functioning with the ostensible, and obviously laudable aim of dealing with war by making war so one-sided that it becomes a police, rather than a military problem.

It would be wickedly perverse to underestimate the arguments which can be adduced in support of this attitude. Perhaps the fairest material prospect ever opened to human vision, the Promised Land of Plenty and Leisure, appeared towards the close of the nineteenth century to be at hand. The Diamond Jubilee of Queen Victoria marked the perihelion of a British Empire superficially invincible, widely, if not universally, respected and far more united than any organisation of comparable size, either before or since the disintegration of mediaeval Europe; and a Continent of Europe which, if it betrayed disquieting signs to the trained observer, yet remained the unquestioned and unquestionable centre of civilisation and culture. Fifty years later, Europe lies in ruins; its grace and culture rent and torn, the helpless prey of conflicting ideologies and half-crazed fanatics; it and the British Empire, attacked from every quarter and disrupted by internal intrigues, would appear to be mere children of the storm of war, whose only hope of survival is a refuge under the shadow of a World Government which will prevent its repetition. It may be so; but it would be unwise to resign our fate into alien keeping unless we are sure that we know all the facts and that we understand the nature of our policy. And the first fact on which we need clarity is as to the nature and object of war itself, so that we may know what it is we are trying to avoid. A man who regards spots on the skin as the essential evil of smallpox, and keeps out of the sun to avoid freckles in consequence, may easily defeat his own ends.

The material ruin which is the accompaniment of modern war, as well as its heavy casualties in human life and happiness, may easily mislead us into supposing that mere destruction is the primary objective of war. No professional staff officer would agree; he would probably quote the well-known words of Clausewitz, which are as true to-day as when they

were first written: "War is the *pursuit of policy*, by other means." That is to say, war is a culmination, or an expedient, amongst other expedients.

The primary object of war is fear, and one of the most noticeable features of contemporary propaganda is the inculcation of the fear of what will happen to us if we do not resign our affairs into other hands. It has always been axiomatic that courage—resistance to fear—is a cardinal military virtue; and we may observe that world-government propaganda is directly aimed at the neutralisation of such courage as remains to us.

Now the essence of fear is the aberration of judgment, and it is desirable to consider this condition in connection with the revealing statement which appeared in the organ of P.E.P. (Political and Economic Planning) of which Mr. Moses Israel Sieff (most probably only the spokesman of much more important people) was at that time the Chairman—a curious organisation which appears to have been in almost unchallenged control of British internal policy since 1931, closely interlocked with the New Fabian Society as well as other national and international forces. Mr. Sieff's organ remarked: "We have proceeded from the assumption that only in war, or under threat of war, will a British Government embark on large scale Planning." It is a fair deduction from these words that the interests of P.E.P. were vitally bound up with the promotion of war as an agency of compulsion and that "Planning" requires an aberration of judgment to be accepted.

We have just seen that the primary object of war is the aberration of judgment, and it is only a short stage from this to the elimination of judgment. This is inherent. It cannot have escaped the notice that unity of military (in the widest sense) command was a feature, and quite a rational feature of the war which was resumed in 1939. If you have only one desire or objective, judgment of objectives is over for you. Your whole life becomes a mere question of administration and it can be expressed graphically by a triangle with the apex uppermost. At this apex the Commander-in-Chief is told against whom he is to exert pressure. Everyone below the apex relinquishes personal sovereignty over his objective in favour of "discipline."

We know that it is impossible to have war without two opposing sides; and we can say therefore that war is a condition of affairs which both sides are under the strongest

(Continued on page 4).

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## From Week to Week

For any serious student of politics, both national and international, the careful examination of *The Protocols of the Learned Elders of Zion* is mandatory. As a general strategy of world conquest the document is curiously undated, except in the sense that the preliminary part of the plan is seen now to have been accomplished, while current events are evidently leading to the culmination of the plot.

In some details, however, there are changes; and these arise quite clearly from the extraordinary technological advances of the past twenty years, particularly in communications and methods of mass terrorisation. The plan to blow up a city by means of explosives in the sewers as a demonstration of power has been accomplished otherwise, by the wanton explosions of atomic bombs over Japanese cities and by the detonation of the H-bomb. The use of the Press to debase the minds and characters of the 'Goyim' has been powerfully reinforced by television. And the Red Army has clearly emerged as the means of enforcing the ultimate terror. By all the signs the scene is nearly set.

"Bolsheviks and Fascists, Radicals and Conservatives, Communists and British Freemen—what the devil are they all fighting about? I'll tell you. They're fighting to decide whether we shall go to hell by communist express or capitalist racing-car, by individualist 'bus or collectivist tram running on the rails of state control. The destination's the same in every case. . . . The question for the man of sense is: Do we or do we not want to go to hell? And his answer is: No, we don't. And if that's his answer, he won't have anything to do with any of the politicians. . . ."

"For the only thing they're all agreed on—Tories, Liberals, Socialists, Bolsheviks—is the intrinsic excellence of the industrial stink and the necessity of standardising every trace of genuine manhood or womanhood out of the human race. . . ."

—Aldous Huxley: *Point Counter Point*.

"In the United States in 1957, for the first time in history, the 'white collar workers' have outnumbered the

'blue collar workers'; there are now more paper-pushers than tool pushers. . . ."

—Denis Gabor: "Inventing the Future," in *Encounter*, May, 1960.

Professor Gabor attributes our failure to realise a "Folden Age" in part to the failure of the "inspired humanists, of the poets and writers." "And for more than a generation we receive from these quarters little else but more or less published expressions of despair and disgust.

. . . Today we are faced with new treason of the *clerics*—oh, nothing as crude and criminal as the treason of the French intellectuals Barrès and Maurras—no treason by commission, but only by omission: by not giving us a vision by which to live."

There is that too. But it does not explain the positive policy by which finance forces industrialisation, while sabotaging output, to the end of enslaving the whole world, if not into 'tool-pushing', then "paper pushing".

## Affinities

*The following letter has been received by the Editor—*

Dear Sir,

Rereading recently James Guthrie's admirable article of last year on the abuse of science as illustrated by the ever continuing attempts to shut men and women out of their cultural heritage on the grounds that progress is automatic, the quotation for which my unconscious mind had been groping suddenly came into my conscious thought, ". . . . an admirable evasion of whoremaster man, to lay his goatish dispositions to the charge of a star!" The whole passage, so aptly fitting the circumstances, should I feel be quoted. Here it is from *King Lear*, Act I, Scene II.

"This is the excellent foppery of the world, that when we are sick in fortune—often the surfeit of our own behaviour—we make guilty of our disasters the sun, the moon and the stars; as if we were villains by necessity; fools by heavenly compulsion; knaves, thieves and treachers by spherical predominance; drunkards, liars and adulterers by an enforced obedience of planetary influence; and all that we are evil in, by a divine thrusting on; an admirable evasion. . . ."

Then I remembered Douglas's remarks, in *The Brief for the Prosecution*, on the great depression of the 1930's being treated as "an economic blizzard", "a natural phenomenon", "No one to blame" by the late Sir Henry Strakosch and others (pp. 27, 29).

Then I rejoiced to think what excellent company Social Crediters keep.

It is interesting, on the other hand, to note that Gloucester, easily the most gullible of all Shakespeare's characters, whose credulity called forth the above characterisation, and whom Shakespeare represents as seeing quite as well after the loss of his eyesight as he had seen before, shares an intellectual affinity with our present perverters of science and the old astrologers in that all lay the blame for human folly at the door of a natural phenomenon.

Yours, etc.,

ARTHUR V. McNEILL.

Vancouver, B.C.  
April 27, 1960.

## The Meaning of Treason

Although it only repeats an argument put forward by Douglas, and others, in these pages, the following extract from *The Meaning of Treason*\* expresses the point admirably:

"... It was now the claim of the scientists who formed so influential a part of the Communist-Fascist movement that they were endowed with a greater amount of special technical knowledge than the mass of the population: an amount which would enable them to seize that power if it were denied them. There is a similarity between the claims of the Nazi-Fascists and the Communist-Fascists, and no less similarity between the methods of putting them forward. The claims depend on an unsound assumption that the man who possesses a special gift will possess also a universal wisdom, which will enable him to impose an order on the state superior to that contrived by the consultative system known as democracy: which will enable him, in fact, to know other people's business better than they do themselves.

"If this assumption seems less patently absurd when it is applied to a scientist, the reason is simply the dizzy novelty of science. The study of physics and chemistry is no more likely than the study of harmony and counterpoint to develop social omniscience in the student; nor have these or any other branch of science made any contribution to the technique of government which would give them any right to intervene as experts. It frequently happens that the B.B.C. asks certain Communist scientists to speak about the age we live in, and they are all remarkable for the vanity with which they claim that the advance of science has at last made it possible for man to contemplate a planned and abundant economy for the world. But modern science has, in fact, done almost nothing to give man the precognition necessary for planning, and still less to guarantee any kind of useful abundance. It cannot foretell or control the foundation of all economy, which is the weather. It has not yet found a way of providing cheap houses, or a cheap and convenient source of light and heat and energy, or a cheap and reliable food supply. The groundless boasts were, like the equally groundless boasts of the Nazi-Fascists, covers for a threat. Mussolini and Hitler, when they said that they and their followers had enough physical strength and ruthlessness, meant that they and their followers had enough physical strength and ruthlessness to beat and shoot anyone who refused to be governed by them. The Communist scientists, who say that they and their associates could govern because of their technical knowledge, mean that they and their associates play a sufficient part in the development of modern processes used in modern war and industry to be able to blackmail society if it will not accept their dictation. The one demand is as absurd as the other. Obviously any teacher, or any factory hand, or any housewife, is as necessary to the state as any scientists and has as much right to self-government. If it is asked why scientists, who of necessity must have a certain amount of intelligence, should be Communist-Fascist, it can be answered that the British and American scientists come from a group which has been de-

prived of its defences against absurdity, and especially against totalitarian absurdity, by their social origins."

## Great Britain

(Originally published in these pages in 1944.)

It is less than fifty years since the Diamond Jubilee of Queen Victoria—the culmination of an epoch of Imperial influence far exceeding that of Ancient Rome. It has been the fashion to decry the Victorian Era and there is little doubt that certain influences involving decay were at work, and were fostered in high places. Nevertheless, the evidence of genuine greatness remains—in music, in literature, in such pioneer structures as the Forth Bridge, in the memories of maritime pre-eminence and in many other forms.

It is the fashion to place the responsibility for the continuous decline in British affairs from that date upon the South African War—a conscious use of the principle of *post hoc, ergo propter hoc*. The South African War was a victory for the Gold Interests, and their opportunity came as a corollary, but not intrinsically as a consequence.

The really dangerous attack on the Empire, whose destruction or capture had undoubtedly been planned long before, came in the form of an "American" business invasion, primarily directed to the cornering of shipping through the agency of the International Mercantile Marine, an attack financed from Wall Street, but quite probably conceived in Hamburg. The refusal, with Government support, of the Cunard Line to sell its interests, largely defeated the project, and other attempts to corner key industries met at first with only modified success—a situation which the war of 1914-1918 and its subsequent boom period in the United States, converted into victory for the invader.

From 1900 onwards, British business, politics, and social life deteriorated. It is significant that the British theatre has produced little but "revivals" of Victorian and Edwardian music and plays with outstanding success during the past twenty-five years and the note of self-confidence so marked in, for instance, Gilbert and Sullivan has departed. The influence at work has been subtle and pervasive.

## The Consenting is All

"Listen, and do not forget, and I will show you a mystery. It is not the sacrifice, whether it comes in youth or age, or the god remits it; it is not the blood-letting that calls down power. It is the consenting, Theseus. The readiness is all. It washes heart and mind from things of no account, and leaves them open to the god. But one washing does not last a lifetime; we must renew it, or the dust returns to cover us..."

... I had no word to say to him. The seed is still, when first it falls into a furrow.

—*The King Must Die* by Mary Renault, Longmans, Green and Co., 1958.

\**The Meaning of Treason* by Rebecca West (Specially Revised Edition, 1956), Pen Books Ltd., London.

**THE OBJECTIVES OF TOTAL WAR—***(continued from page 1.)*

possible pressure to subordinate, or discipline each and every individual to an objective which is not even understood, but is accepted from above.

The side which "wins" is the side which remains "disciplined," i.e., *functionalised* for the longest time.

But when hostilities cease we invariably find that "functionalism" persists. The victorious armies are not demobilised; food restrictions, building restrictions, travel restrictions, are only relaxed, if at all, with obvious reluctance. Both sides may, on balance, be heavy losers in modern war; but there is always one winner, "functionalisation." War then is not necessarily between nations; it may be between Government and People.

Now, although the normal man refuses "Planning" or functionalisation "except in war, or under threat of war," there are powerful interests with functional objectives which are determined to extend functionalisation to every field of activity. Vertical trusts are one form of such interests and the raw material of them is "employment" or "Labour," and there is, although most Labour politicians may not understand it, the closest connection between "Labour-Socialism" vertical trusts or monopolies, and war. August Bebel in 1892 assured Bismark that "the Imperial Chancellor may rest assured that German Social Democracy (Socialism) is a sort of preparatory school for militarism." The reverse is equally true. Bismark accepted the argument in full, never in any way interfered with the Socialists (who were busily engaged, *inter alia* in debauching British trades unionism) and himself remarked: "We march separately, but we fight together."

Without presuming to define the whole nature of that mysterious creature, man, it is nevertheless possible to say fairly accurately that he "possesses" a number, perhaps an infinite number of functions. Provided that fear can be brought to bear, he can generally be persuaded to surrender any one, and eventually, practically all, of these functions, to external control, so that "he," the independent will, the possessor of initiative, is eliminated. The individual has then lost his sovereignty, and cannot prevent the handing over of his "national" sovereignty any more than he can prevent his material property in land or otherwise being alienated by a Socialist Government. If we imagine the apex of the military hierarchy which is organised to control the fighting function of man to be represented by a dot and a similar dot to represent the apex of an organisation to control each of the functions of the individual—a Ministry of Food, Housing, Transport, Supply, etc.—and place them side by side in a horizontal line, and then draw from each of these dots a line to the individual whose functions are thus taken from his own control, the diagram thus produced is again a triangle, but this time its apex is downward. Perhaps it may be advisable at this point to observe that there is nothing necessarily mystical about this diagram. It is one quite familiar to "Scientific Management" experts, and is used in factory organisation. The link which converts the dots into a line is Finance. If on the top of this inverted triangle we superimpose the diagram of the military organisation (which in "peace-time" is represented by the N.V.D.K. or Gestapo) which supplies the fear-motive, we have the Red Star of Russia, the Seal of Solomon,

the work diagram of the World Socialist Empire. Fear, the objective of war, is to be permanently with us in "peace."

Fanciful, you think? Not very fanciful, if you will observe events and disabuse yourself of the idea that history is just disconnected episodes, rather than, as it is, long term policy crystallised. Theoretical? Yes. But unfortunately the world is in the grasp of theorists to whom misery and death of millions is a grain of dust beside the working out of their designs.

**Hire-Purchase**

New retail hire-purchase agreements in Australia in the eight months ended February last totalled 903,147. This was 41,000 more than the number of agreements made in the eight months ended February, 1959. In the three months ended February this year the increase, compared with the same three months last year, was 23,500, which would represent an increase of 60,000 in eight months.

Hire-purchase debt is now about

Hire-purchase debt is now about 40 per cent. of total bank advances.

**Bureaucracy**

In the eleven years to June 1959, private employment in Australia increased by 20 per cent. while government employment increased by 32 per cent.

**WANTED for the Library**

Could any reader kindly help by lending a copy of "Power", by Bertrand de Jouvenel? (Please write before sending).—The Librarian, 67, Glanmore Rd., Slough, Bucks.

**BOOKS TO READ**

By C. H. Douglas:—

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