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FOR POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC REALISM

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From Week to Week

That the Social Credit movement as at present constructed is not an instrument likely to influence greatly either the present or the future is obvious to anyone. That the existence of a leaven of Douglas's ideas (however communicated) *does* operate in the present as it has done in the past is as evident to every close and unbiassed observer. The immediately pressing fact of our situation is how to ensure that the influence increases instead of waning. The immediacy arises from the developing opportunity *if* those who should take it and those who alone can take it face up to their responsibilities. Little has been lost through past delays; but everything may be lost by present delays. We are inclined, for example, to confirm *The Tablet's* judgment that "the red blood is beginning to course again through limbs long frozen in the grip of State autocracy." If it is to be of much use to us, some nervous control will have to come into play to determine the flow into the right arteries. A nervous system is a delicate matter, which obscure and very tiny influences can derange—not (as is popularly supposed) very *easily*; but that is because they have, in the best instances, been very long prepared and subjected to an incredible number of tests and adjustments.

We don't pretend to be able to forecast the future; but we do undertake to read the present with fair accuracy. *The Tablet's* remark (July 24) had reference to Crichton Down, and we may as well quote the relevant passage in full:—"A Conservative Government has been in office for the best part of three years, and it has been needlessly slow in winding up the war-time economy which it suited the Socialists to perpetuate. The only excuse that can be made for the civil servants, so arrogant in their anonymity, who emerge from history treating the public so high-handedly, is that for fourteen years they have lived in the vitiating atmosphere of excessive authority which the war controls brought in. The trouble is an endemic one in modern States. The notion of the public interest is easily merged with that of a department's policy, and that policy, again, with the wishes and the vanity of individual civil servants who are still protected by a doctrine of ministerial responsibility which is becoming increasingly unreal in the vast departments of today. It originated at a time when a Minister of the Crown had a handful of personal assistants and could really be expected to know what they were doing.

"But if the Government has to carry some blame, it can also claim that the whole Crichton Down episode has only happened at all because the red blood is beginning to course again through limbs long frozen in the grip of State autocracy. The psychological climate is different with the return of freedom in field after field, so that ordinary men and women are recovering from the numb trance in which,

since 1940, they have acquiesced in the idea that the private person has no redress, that by Orders in Council Government departments do what they like. The wind has changed, and Crichton Down is a milestone on the road back to the vigorous tradition under which this country came to such a leading place in the world, that the Executive must be closely and jealously watched, and that, as Cardinal Newman wrote, where other people sought to have a strong State, the English sought to be a strong nation."

• • •

They have succeeded in transferring Social Credit in Canada from the category of black-ink entries to that of 'the red'; and yet the gentry who have brought this about are far from satisfied, and must be for ever 'plugging' some distortion, with the aid of a small vocabulary in which 'bible-punching,' 'impracticability' and 'sound administration' ring the changes. *The Observer* seems particularly liable to these nervous flutters, the latest instance being Patrick O'Donovan's assurance (July 18) that Alberta today has a Social Credit Government in name only. *The Times* runs it a close second:—

"The demagogue is not a new phenomenon in the United States. All nations produce some semi-hysterical citizens: xenophobes, class-haters, patrioteers, writers of anonymous letters, adherents to the latest 'funny money' panacea or to the latest prophet who knows the exact hour at which the world will end. These and their like are the ordained victims of the demagogue: the excitable and the credulous. The United States, a very large nation with a very large population, has its fair share of cranks. Indeed, when they rally noisily behind a Huey Long or send hundreds of thousands of angry messages to the White House at the behest of a Father Coughlin, one wonders whether the American share of cranks is not perhaps outside. Yet in the past the little uproar which they create, each time they are aroused, has always subsided. The new religion disappears; the new monetary plan for making all men rich

SOCIAL CREDIT LIBRARY

A Library for the use of *annual* subscribers to *The Social Crediter* has been formed with assistance from the Social Credit Expansion Fund, and is in regular use. The Library contains, as far as possible, every responsible book and pamphlet which has been published on Social Credit together with a number of volumes of an historical and political character which bear upon social science.

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is forgotten; the new prophet is lost in a great silence. Most of us, for example, know that Huey Long is dead because he died spectacularly; but can anyone remember whether Dr. Townsend and Father Coughlin are still with us?

“Even the ‘red scare’ is not new in the United States: it flourished after the First World War and then mercifully disappeared until after the second. What does seem new and threatening, however, is the sense of fear, almost of respect, with which sane, responsible politicians approach the present demagogue, the present ‘scare.’”

—(*Times Literary Supplement*, July 23.)

The antithesis between demagogues and responsible politicians may ideally be correct enough; but where are the ‘responsible’ politicians?

Applications have been invited for the newly-established P. D. Leake Professorship of Finance and Accounting in the University of Cambridge. The Chair, announced lately by the Institute of Chartered Accountants In England and Wales, is in memory of Mr. P. D. Leake, who left the residue of his estate in trust for the advancement of accounting and political economy. He died in 1949,

The work will be financed by an annual grant of £3,000 from the trust income.

According to the *Daily Express* for June 30, ten representatives of the House of Keys, the Parliament of the Isle of Man, have conferred with the Home Secretary, Sir David Maxwell Fyfe, complaining that since 1866 Whitehall has had the last word on spending by the Manx Government. The House of Keys Speaker said: “We are after greater freedom in money matters.”

Gift to Social Credit Library

Books from the library of the late Major C. H. Douglas to the number of 75 in addition to a large number of Social Credit and other pamphlets have been presented to the Social Credit Expansion Fund Library by Mrs. Douglas. A list is being prepared for attachment to the present library catalogue, and will be available from the Librarian, Mr. R. T. Titcomb, 67, Glanmore Road, Slough, Bucks, when copies are completed.

The nucleus of books from which the library was formed originally was presented by Major Douglas, the number being augmented with assistance from the Social Credit Expansion Fund. Additions from other sources have been made from time to time. The conditions for using the Library are stated in the advertisement on this page.

Forthcoming Pamphlets

As stated, *The New and the Old Economics* by C. H. Douglas will shortly be issued in pamphlet form. Also to be published is the text of Dr. B. W. Monahan’s address last December to the Douglas Social Credit Movement of Victoria, Australia, with his answers to questions and a post-script by the Chairman of the Social Credit Secretariat.

THE SOCIAL CREDITER FOR POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC REALISM

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*Note: The above rates cover subscription to *Voice*, appearing fortnightly in alternate weeks with *The Social Crediter*.

The Communists’ Economic Offensive*

It was recently reported—with satisfaction—in the Australian daily press that Russia has become one of the largest buyers of Australian wool. Butter exports to Russia have also been considerable. There has been no mention of how Australia is to be paid for these exports. Under prevailing financial rules it is regarded as essential that a “favourable balance of trade” be established. This means, of course, that a country sends more production out of the country than it brings in. Regarded realistically, this policy is one of sheer economic madness. Those countries who follow it religiously progressively sabotage their own internal economies while building up the economies of those countries with an unfavourable balance of trade.

The economic facts are, of course, obscured by the temporary prosperity which a “favourable balance of trade” produces. During the recent Federal Election campaign Mr. Menzies had quite a lot to say about inflation. He pointed out that inflation occurs when the volume of money is increased without any increase in the supply of goods for sale. But this is exactly what happens under the “favourable balance of trade” policy which Mr. Menzies has so strongly supported. The more favourable the balance of trade, the less goods available for local sale. But at the same time the local money supply is increased because the producers of the exported goods must be paid. The producers of wool and butter exported to Russia do not receive roubles for their production; they are paid in Australian money created in the form of financial credit by the banking system.

The Communist leaders have made it clear on numerous occasions that they understand the flaws in the Western economies. The recent eagerness of the Communist leaders to increase trade with the Western nations demonstrates an intention to exploit the West’s growing economic problems while at the same time consolidating the Communist regime by a flow of imported consumer goods. In recent times the Soviet has not only imported butter and wool from Australia, but also best quality beef from Kenya. Large quantities of capital goods have also been imported from Great Britain. Much of Russia’s purchases from Great Britain have been probably paid for by gold dug by Russian slave labour. This is not genuine payment because gold is a comparatively useless metal.

It is true, however, that Russia has been exporting considerable production, much of it at prices which appear to be deliberately designed to under-cut American prices. Communist policy appears to be designed to develop closer

*From *The New Times* (Melbourne).

trade relations between all Communist countries, including Communist China, and British Empire countries. This policy must have the affect of making it progressively more difficult for the Americans to make their internal economy work by exporting "surpluses." Stalin said in 1952 that "... Britain, and after her capitalist France, will be compelled to break from the embrace of the United States and enter into conflict with it in order to secure an independent position."

Present internal financial rules in the Western nations make it impossible for them to resist the growing Communist economic offensive. Can our "leaders" not see this while there is time for action?

Balm

We are asked to say a word of comfort to alleged vast bodies of Social Crediters overseas among whom alarm and despondency have been spread by reports which we have had no means of censoring of great trial and tribulation "in England."

We say it with the greatest pleasure. Our roots are fine. Now, please, let us let them function.

Nationalism

"We must realise" said Herbert Hoover in a speech given in Chicago on June 24, "the vitality of a great spiritual force which we call 'nationalism.' The fuzzy intellectuals have sought to brand nationalism as a sin against mankind. They seem to think that infamy is attached to the word 'nationalist.' But that force in the world cannot be obscured by denunciation of it as greed or selfishness—as it sometimes is. The spirit of nationalism springs from the deepest of human emotions. It rises from the yearning of men to be free of foreign domination, to govern themselves. It springs from a thousand rills of race, of history, of sacrifice and pride in national achievement." "Every nation," remarked the former President, "has laid its dead upon the altar of its country. These died with their national flag before their eyes and their national hymn upon their lips. The pride of race has swelled from their suffering and sacrifice. In our own country does not the word America stir something deeper within us than mere geography? Does not the suffering and the sacrifice of our forebears who fought for our independence flush in our minds with every mention of that word?" The former President concludes his eulogy of nationalism: "And equally do these emotions flow wide and deep in all free nations. Within them and their religious faith is their spiritual strength. It sustains their resolution against aggression and domination. 'Nationalism' cannot be abandoned if civilisation is to last among free men."

(*Human Events* (Washington, D.C.) July 7.)

Mr. Ernest Watkinson

We regret to record the death on April 24 last of Mr. Ernest Watkinson of Bower Hinton, Martock, Somerset, at the age of 81. Before the war, and until failing eyesight placed a restraint upon his activities, Mr. Watkinson was an active campaigner on behalf of Social Credit, an ardent disciple of Major Douglas and a student of his writings. His wife, Mrs. Lillas Watkinson, survives her husband and we extend to her our deep sympathy in her loss.

The Guest of Society

The guest is "one who does not belong but is invited."

The story of Philoctetes is the subject of one of the tragedies of Sophocles and of a play by John Bowen recently broadcast and called "The Island" in which Philoctetes is used as the symbol of the Artist in society. As in the Greek tragedy, we are left to draw our own conclusions and teach ourselves the lessons we can learn from it.

Philoctetes was the friend and arms-bearer of Hercules, son of Jupiter by "The Theban," and as we know, not by that goddess of virtuous matrons, Juno. The bow and poisoned arrows of Hercules were bequeathed to Philoctetes, steeped in the gall of the Hydra whom Hercules slew as one of his labours. The arrows as well as the "wound" of Philoctetes are important features of his story. It is interesting to remember that this "wound" was made by the serpent of Juno whose hatred of her husband's natural son extended to his friend who had given the ashes of Hercules secret and ceremonial burial. Men said that he must be accursed of the gods and, his wound being obnoxious to them, they banished him to an island of Greece.

We enjoy as an exercise to think of Philoctetes as the symbol of the Artist and to search for the meaning of the Symbolism.

Though banished by the Greeks, Philoctetes was brought back to help them to subdue the Trojans. Had he not the weapons of Hercules?

Society needs the skill and prowess of a Philoctetes, needs the Artist. What are his weapons? These are his pen and brushes, harps and trumpets; the magic bow and bitter arrows of Comedy, Satire and Tragedy. By these and in his sureness of aim the Artist hits the mark, brings home his lessons. The "wound" of the Artist is in his often difficult nature because of which he is too often despised, banished, wounded anew, cast out, left to die, on Patmos, on Elba, Missolonghi, Rome or Tahiti!

Into their legends, sculptures and plays the Greeks wove the lives of their famous and valorous men and women as well as their worship and beliefs, to make people think; to cause them to penetrate more deeply into life they have used in language the lovely imagery of metaphor and parable; in sculpture the Winged Victory, the Venus, Pegasus, Cupid, Hermes. And they have kept the thoughtful thinking, the listeners listening ever since. And in this language of imagery the pictorial and dramatic may be considered to resemble and merge with music, for the increase of language, learning, and what we know as Culture.

The Light of the World used this same art of imagery throughout His mission, which after two thousand years arrests the attention, fires the imagination, catches the eye, "enchants the mind and comes to life."

And it cannot be imagined that the classic Masters of the Arts wrote, painted, chiselled; fashioned Temples, or played harps without rhyme or reason, without the Canon, for Art's sake without purpose, to cause a sensation, to bargain with customers for higher prices, higher wages, or with patrons for patronage.

It may sound paradoxical but the Artist is and must be a practical person. Douglas recognised the need for the Artist, and used the word "important" in this connection.

Many are the Arts used today in the Industrial world. The Artist is used in the design and construction of machinery of every kind, in shipbuilding and aircraft, guns and instruments—and it is interesting to consider that the nearer we get to Nature's pattern the nearer we approach the right design.

In the world of advertising the Artist is especially used, and not so much in appreciation of his skill and talent as in his ability to depict the products of industrial competition attractively, or to help to make the schemes of the entertainment world pay, or to put over a policy of Government. It is not suggested that these are today or ever were the ends to which Art should be a means; Art nevertheless is employed today for these purposes.

The industrial development which Douglas has called "monstrous" cries for opposition, and in some cases it calls for the pen of a Sophocles or a Milton, a Dante, the "sword" and "arrows" of a Blake, the brush and pencil of a Doré. These artists have their successors, their torches have been handed on; but we are forced to ask, To whom?

The visual arts have been harnessed to the chariot of Industry and Industrialisation under the Work State, whose battle-cry goes up: "Produce! and yet More Production!" Of course there is beauty in good management, in ordered and cleanly things, in machines in particular, and in all necessary work. The visual arts have the widest appeal; not every one can hear or compose a pæan or dirge, write a farce or a comedy or a tragedy of captivity, but to depict a robin in a cage puts all men as well as Heaven in a rage.

Today the Artist has to beg his bread, and Art suffers. In the day of the Patrons of Art the Artist could count on the support of the Lovers of Art. For it was love and faith which raised the Christian cathedrals, and a love of Life the pagan and Hindu temples. Certainly a love inspired the Taj and the palaces of the Chinese, Afghans, and Moghuls who found too for all of them the ideal conditions of scene and materials, and the Artists.

All Art is inspired. And by some One, some Thought, some Scene, some Action. And to these, not necessarily of glory, Art is the answer.

Mr. Ernest Newman, discussing the new musical language says: "the present-day music is beating out a quite new language for itself," that "it will come into full being as the realisation of a necessity, an unconscious urge deep down in the nature of man. So it has always been in music as elsewhere," and that "Nature always has an end in view when it is creating a means." Mr. Newman adds to this "it is only the composers who are failing us."

It is the artist's age-old task to tell the story in whatever form or medium he is skilled.

A new language *has been* created for us, and the end which Nature has in view is social credit!

The artist's bows and arrows, dipped in gall as they may be, his powers of sight and of hearing, of picture and of sound must, for now is the time, be used to penetrate below the surface of our Present-Future. For we are allowing what *The Sunday Times* naively calls "the destructive power of Science" to banish Love, Inspiration

and Insight.

Where is our Philoctetes with his magic weapons? And if not he, who will then help to take the fortress? As did the Greeks, so should we recall him, heal, encourage, and employ.

Did not Apollo the god of all the Fine Arts, of Medicine, Music, Poetry and Eloquence, and knowing Futurity, kill the Cyclops who fabricated the thunderbolt?—Even the Jester may do it! G.S.

Social Credit Secretariat (Lectures and Studies Section)

DIPLOMA OF ASSOCIATE: MARCH, 1954, EXAMINATION.

The following have satisfied the examiners:—

Carter, Oliver William.
Fremlin, Miss Muriel.
McGurgan, William Wallace.

There were four candidates. The successful candidates are all resident in Australia.

Following is the paper set:—

1. What is meant by the phrase 'The Cultural Heritage'? What part does the cultural heritage play in Social Credit economics? (30 marks.)
2. State to the extent of 500-1,000 words the arguments for and against a wide expansion of hydro-electric power production. (25 marks.)
3. What do you understand by the phrase, 'The trinitarian or tripod conception of Society'? (25 marks.)
4. Write brief notes on the following:—
"The negative vote."
"The money vote."
"He is trying to apply pressure politics to a function instead of to a policy."
"Expansion and Hope" (The Right Hon. R. A. Butler).
"All education like all religion is *ultra vires* of the State." (20 marks.)

(Candidates were expected to attempt to answer all the questions.)

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J. Hyatt, Registrar.

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