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... When absolute power has been established long enough for the violence of its first origin to be forgotten; when the majority of the men in the prime of life have been born under its yoke, and have never known a better state; the usurper finds himself supported by the inert part of the nation-by those who, incapable of thinking, or of investigating for themselves, must be contented with borrowed ideas, and with blindly assenting to every doctrine which the Government may promulge...in slavish countries, the Prince alone speaks amidst universal silence: he dictates the proclamations of authorities, the sentences of the tribunals; he even inspires the language to be uttered from the pulpit or the confessional: because the disposal of the revenue is at his will, he appears as a dispensing providence; and makes the people believe he gives all that he does not take from them...Slavery, it is said, so debases man as to make him love it; and experience confirms the maxim.—J. C. L. de Sismondi.

From Week to Week

For sheer effrontery, a letter given a primary position in *The Times* of February 12 perhaps reaches high water mark. It was practically a demand that five weekly periodicals, and five only, should be allowed to appear during "the present crisis." These five are *The Economist* (Editor, Geoffrey Crowther, of P.E.P.), *The Spectator* (controlled by the Astors, Lady Astor having close associations with P.E.P.), *The New Statesman* the official organ of state socialism, *Time and Tide* (Lady Rhondda, of the P.E.P. off-shoot, the Next Five Years Group), *Tribune* (popularly attributed to the ownership of Israel Moses Sieff, the first Chairman of P.E.P. and a great supporter of Mr. and Mrs. Aneurin Bevan). "Their value in expressing and *forming* (our emphasis) public opinion is out of all relation to . . . circulation."

This effusion is signed by Messrs, Seymour Cocks, Clement Davies, Anthony Eden, D. R. Grenfell, Sir Arthur Salter (who proclaimed Kreuger, of forged bond fame, as the model business man) and Oliver Stanley.

Since Messrs, Eden and Stanley would probably form part of any "Conservative" Cabinet, the fallacy of supposing that an immediate change of administration would mean a major change of policy ought now to be beyond dispute. Something much more fundamental than the pretty little game of Box and Cox, to which parliamentary institutions have degenerated, is necessary if England is to be saved.

In the course of an admirable speech in the Tasmanian Legislature, Mr. Maher, M.L.A., exposed the devastating effect on Australian agricultural production of state interference and penal taxation. The exportable surplus of dairy produce has fallen from 102,000 tons in 1939 to 45,000 tons in 1945, barley production has fallen from 15.6 million bushels to five million bushels, sugar has decreased by 25%, cotton to one-quarter of the pre-war average. After surveying the whole field of Australian primary industry, Mr. Maher concluded by quoting at some length from a book

entitled *The New Deal in Rome* by H. J. Haskell, which, so far as we are aware, has not appeared in Great Britain, and, from its title is presumably American in origin.

The quotation concludes, "Most of these plans for continued state control, these New Order schemes, are exactly those which ancient Rome adopted when it began to decay ... History repeats itself. Every prosperous nation has to fight for its life against dictators, or against demagogues, officials and parasites ..."

We are intrigued by this statement, because it is obvious, firstly that the puerile attribution of Roman decay to such causes as malaria, immorality and corruption, to the extent that they have any factual basis, were focussing attention on secondary, not primary, origins. But the real agent of collapse we now know to have been financial, inflationary, and there is much evidence which would attribute the use of this agent to Jewish administration. Spain fell in the same manner under the Marranos, and we show signs, and plain ones at that, of having our prosperity transferred to the United States just as that of Spain was transferred to England—and by the same technique.

There is one way to arrest this trend, and one only. The country must be flooded with high quality consumer goods at falling prices. It could easily be done. If the Chancellor of the Exchequer does not know it, and does not understand the consequences of delay, our opinion of his capacity is only equalled by that of D'Israeli for all Englishmen who are allowed to become nominally responsible for national finance.

The "B".B.C. passes from strength to strength. Not content with misrepresenting the so-called Crisis as due almost solely to weather which is little, if any, more severe than might normally be expected in January and early February, it has been pouring out a flood of balderdash about the heroic coal boats, most of them about 2,000 tons, dashing through the North Sea and against the raging tides (about $1\frac{1}{2}$ knots) of the Thames estuary to the rescue of freezing London.

Navigating the North Sea in winter, and not infrequently in summer, is a man's job, even if for only about a thirty-hour trip; but as it has been done for hundreds of years in boats beside which the modern collier is as the "Queen Elizabeth" to a Lowestoft trawler, sob-stuff for political purposes is probably as much resented by those engaged in navigation as by the public who are being served with one lying excuse after another.

Lord Louis Mountbatten, Viceroy-designate of India, is the husband of Sir Ernest Cassel's grand-daughter and co-heiress.

The Marquis de Soveral, at one time a close friend of Edward VII when Prince of Wales, was an incorrigible wit.

Being asked by the Prince whether he had seen Oscar Wilde's latest play, he replied, "No, Sir, but we all know the importance of being ERNEST." He was dropped.

Mr. Winston Churchill as a young man was a favourite of Sir Ernest Cassel, who presented him with a handsome gift on his wedding.

Sir Ernest Cassel was the European correspondent of Jacob Schiff, of Kuhn, Loeb & Co., who negotiated with Rufus Isaacs, afterwards Viceroy of India while Montagu (Messrs. Samuel, Montagu) was Secretary of State for India.

Dear Mr. Strachey hopes to get as far West in Canada as Regina, Saskatchewan. Yes, Clarence, Saskatchewan is the Province where they have a Socialist Government, which was founded all out of his own head by Mr. Coldwell, who dislikes "Britain," at Regina in 1932, when Social Credit in Alberta showed signs of being a menace. You will remember that Mr. Coldwell just happened to meet Mr. Walter Nash of New Zealand, since Finance Minister, in the hotel in Regina, and, to their great joy, they found their ideas were practically identical. Mr. Nash is a great friend of Sir Otto Niemeyer, of the Treasury and Bank of England. Saskatchewan is unfortunately the only Province of Canada where the population is declining.

A Northern newspaper for which in general we have much respect is publishing at short intervals despatches from its "Special Correspondent", Miss Susan Strange. We know nothing whatever about Miss Susan Strange, but we can guess a good deal by the trend of her dispatches, the latest of which is headed "The Socialists of Canada. Increased support for the C.C.F. Saskatchewan Record." This article concludes by observing, "As the party behind the Saskatchewan Government—the first Socialist Government in North America—the C.C.F. naturally (sic!) looks beyond the Atlantic for a certain amount of guidance and inspiration. Mr. Coldwell, the national leader of the C.C.F. has said that his desk is often deluged with enquiries and "complaints" (sic) mostly on British Foreign Policy. Mr. Coldwell thinks there is a great deal to be done in telling Canadians what the Labour Governments of Britain (sic), Australia and New Zealand have done at home in social, economic and labour legislation." Waal, waal, waal!

LIBERTY CANNOT DIE IN ENGLAND, SCOTLAND AND WALES AND SURVIVE LONG IN IRELAND—The Standard, Dublin, which on February 21 gave space to The Catholic Herald, The Catholic Times and The Universe, "prevented by Government Order from publishing," for their comments on "Britain's crisis and its effect on the press."

Three Judgements

The Times for February 21 (page 2) carried reports of three judgements by Mr. Justice Henn Collins:—(1) The Stevenage Scheme: Franklin and Others v. the Minister of Town and Country Planning, (Order made by the Minister quashed); (2) Appeal by Phænix Assurance Company, Limited, against the City of Plymouth (City Centre) Declaratory Order, 1946, approved by the Minister (such part as related to property of appellants quashed); and (3) appeal

by objectors concerning The Crescent, Plymouth (order quashed). Because of its public interest, *The Social Crediter* will publish, if it is obtainable, the first of these Judgements.

The Illegal Ban

The misdating of the first three pages of this issue of *The Social Orediter*, corrected on page 1, despite alternative explanations, may be regarded as confirmation, if any were needed, that we are looking forward to our LEAP year.

The keynote of the conspiracy which has deprived the public of the instruction and guidance (such as it is) of printed commentaries besides those which consume most labour and power is to be found, on the evidential side, in two features, (1) the statement of an anonymous "spokesman" of the Ministry of Fuel on February 21 that there was "no legal prohibition" of duplicated versions of weekly periodicals; and (2) that even the name of the ad hoc body which is alleged to have 'negotiated' with the Ministry in behalf of interests who were not consulted is apparently so unfamiliar, even to the groomed newspapers, that they cannot agree A prohibition which is not a legal prohibition is That for the first point. The an illegal prohibition. second goes to the roots of all that is being done in politics to-day: no one in his senses will allow another over whom he has no control to negotiate for him.

It is presumed that when publication of the banned weeklies begins "in the week beginning Monday, March 3" a deluge of criticism will avenge the mistreated public. We await conviction. The planners may have now reached the point where they dare not lose a battle. If that is so, there is no limit to what they would do, if they could, to win it. No one who neglects to discover the true source of the orders he receives—whether the King's orders or the King's enemies' orders—can, from now on, dissociate himself from the charge of High Treason, if it should be brought against him, for complicity in effecting treasonable acts. How many have you witnessed these last weeks? "I am on the side of the strong" loses it comfort among rogues when strength is seen to wane. The greatest strength is a righteous state.—T.J.

Year of Decision

"The Opposition leader, Mr. Churchill, only mentions the Communists to say that they are so few that they are not worth worrying about. The Entire Press maintains the fiction that 'Communism' in this country means the two lonely Communist Members in the House of Commons! these Communists have brought us, in six months, breadrationing, exchange control, continued forced-labour, attacks on freehold and land tenure; they have come near to overthrowing the Foreign Minister, because he does not yield to Soviet demands; they have brought about strikes, squattings, mutinies and all manner of troubles. They are well on the way to their ambition: the second general strike, for the overthrow of the 'Socialist Government.' And the Government goes blindly on its destructive, and self-destructive way ... The Communist organisation and strategy here are in my opinion superb. The silence of the Government and the Opposition about them is inexplicable... We have come to the edge of a very steep place.—London Tidings: Douglas Reed.

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