

CORRESPONDENCE

The Editor,
B.A.A.S. Bulletin

Dear Sir,

I have read with interest the article in your last issue by Dick Pear on 'The Impact of the New Deal on British Economic and Political Ideas.' The article contains a valuable examination of much of the significant periodical comment of the period, and of the attitudes of the main political parties. But it seems to me that there are three important positive reactions to the New Deal in Britain that Mr. Pear has left out of account; if he had included them, they would have given his essay a rather different conclusion. I refer to (a) the T.U.C., whose Economic Committee, under the influence of Ernest Bevin, was appreciative of the New Deal from 1933 onwards; (b) the group around Lloyd George, who sought to emulate Roosevelt and who advocated something akin to the New Deal at the 1935 General Election; and (c) the Next Five Years Group, largely run by Clifford Allen, and also including Harold Macmillan, whose report, published in 1935, reflected similar ideas. I have already published something about these reactions in an essay on 'The British Left and the New Deal' in my America and the British Left (1956), so I will not say any more about them here.

Yours faithfully,

Henry Pelling

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October 1st, 1962