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November 14, 2017,

Sir,

Regarding your extensive report on the poor and foodbanks in the latest issue. The real problem for South London, the rest of the country, and in the greater scheme of things the entire world, is the destruction of unskilled jobs, something that is rapidly extending to semi-skilled and in certain fields skilled jobs. A hundred years ago, a man could eke out a living pushing a broom. Fifty years ago, most households could get by with one income. Today, these jobs are no longer there thanks to automation and new technologies.

The responses of governments worldwide to this “problem” is training and in many cases make-work jobs, with the imposition of severe sanctions on those at the bottom of the food chain who are unwilling or unable to find “gainful employment”. Donald Trump rose to power on the promise of creating more jobs, something that will work in the short term, but ultimately a permanent solution is needed. This is universal basic income, what the great Major Douglas called Social Credit. By guaranteeing basic income without means-testing, the poverty trap is eliminated allowing people who no private sector employer in his right mind would pay a “living wage” to supplement it with paid work.

The implication of basic income would virtually pay for itself by allowing the total dismantling of the extraordinarily complex and at times punitive social security system.

Yours Faithfully,
A Baron