

* * *

4/2/58

Keynes on Lenin

Editor, The Wall Street Journal:

Before he changed from sound economist to visionary dreamer, the late Lord John Maynard Keynes wrote the following about inflation as a Marxist tool for conquest:

"Lenin is said to have declared that the best way to destroy the capitalist system was to debauch the currency. By a continuing process of inflation, governments can confiscate, secretly and unobserved, an important part of the wealth of their citizens...

"Lenin was certainly right. There is no subtler, no surer means of overturning the existing basis of society than to debauch the currency. The process engages all the hidden forces of economic law on the side of destruction, and does it in a manner which not one man in a million is able to diagnose." ("The Economic Consequences of the Peace," pp. 235-236, published 1919.)

In the face of that clear warning, how can our government seriously consider most of the fantastic spending programs now being so noisily advocated?

KENNETH D. ROBERTSON, JR.

Chestnut Hill, Mass.

* * *