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SIXPENCE WEEKLY

The Menace of World Monopoly

RADIO TALK BY ERIC D. BUTLER OVER 3CS, COLAC

On more than one occasion we have stressed the fact that the real menace to our *civilization* is Monopoly. We have all noted the evil results of local Monopolies, but what we must now realise is that powerful international groups are seeking to establish a World Monopoly: a Monopoly, which, if realised, would obliterate national sovereignties and all genuine private ownership and free enterprise. There is always Monopoly when the individual has no genuine alternative to any proposal put before him.

Genuine free competitive enterprise permits the consumer to control economic policies; if one business will not serve his policies, he has alternatives.

Not only do we require free enterprise, decentralised economic activity, as a barrier to economic Monopoly; we also need decentralised political units as a barrier to political Monopoly.

All Federal Governments have worked to weaken the powers of State and local governing bodies; they have pursued policies, which, if persisted with, must lead to the establishment of a Canberra political Monopoly.

The coming Prices Referendum is a major attempt to further the centralisation of all political power at Canberra, and for that reason alone should be opposed by every liberty-loving citizen.

As many of the propagandists in favour of centralising all power at Canberra argue that the State Governments can impose totalitarian policies, and that electors cannot therefore have any reasonable fears about Canberra imposing totalitarianism, it is essential to bear in mind that electors of any one State can, in the last resort, go to another State if they cannot bear any policy being pursued in their own State.

Economic Conscription

If complete economic conscription were introduced by one State, citizens who refused to submit to such conscription would have an alternative. But if economic conscription were imposed from Canberra, there would be no escape unless people could leave Australia altogether. And even this last drastic step would only be possible if there were some free countries.

However, when there is a World Monopoly, as some people anticipate,

there will be no alternative whatever. When the Communists are attempting to defend the tyrannies their Moscow masters have established in Eastern Europe, they invariably stress the tyrannies which they claim were prevalent in Eastern European countries prior to the Second World War. *But they completely ignore the fact that Eastern Europeans who did not like the conditions in their own countries had one great freedom; they could contract out and make arrangements to go to another country—America or elsewhere.*

Now it is nearly impossible to escape from behind the Iron Curtain in Europe. *A complete Monopoly has been established.*

The policy underlying Socialism and Communism is Monopoly, although it must be admitted that many sincere Socialists and Communists are misled idealists who do not understand the real nature of the policy they are pursuing.

Independence

A man who owns a block of land has a degree of economic independence. At least he has his own home and he can feed himself.

He is a barrier to complete economic Monopoly and must therefore be eliminated. This can be accomplished by the so-called constitutional procedure of nationalisation under Labour-Socialists, or Communist tactics of direct confiscation can be applied.

As Stalin himself has told us, Socialism and Communism are merely two separate roads to the same objective.

That objective is the Monopoly State.

But it is essential to our survival as a free people that we clearly understand that Socialism and Communism are only one aspect of the drive towards Mono-

poly. The same as the States in Australia and local governing bodies in other parts of the British Empire are a barrier to the creation of Monopoly within the Empire, and must therefore be destroyed, so is the British Empire a barrier to complete World Monopoly.

All the international planning taking place at present is designed to help destroy the British Empire.

A leading British Conservative M.P., the Rt. Hon. L. S. Amery, has written in his book, *The Awakening: The Economic Crisis and The Way Out*, that "We for our part are in less immediate danger

(Continued on page 2)

OUR POLICY

1. The preservation of Australia's sovereignty as a part of the British Empire, and the exposure of all internal and external groups which attack that sovereignty.
2. The preservation and extension of genuine local government.
3. The preservation and strengthening of all Constitutional safeguards for the purpose of protecting fundamental individual rights.
4. The encouragement of all activities designed to bring Governments under more effective control by the electors.
5. The preservation and extension of genuine free, competitive enterprise and private ownership, and opposition to all Monopoly, whether it be "private" or State.
6. The support of a financial policy which will (a) permit free enterprise to make available to all individuals an increasing standard of living and greater leisure for cultural pursuits; (b) result in no further increase in the community's indebtedness and the sound business practice of gradually reducing existing debt.
7. Recognising that the basis of any sound economy is agriculture, the encouragement of agricultural policies which will ensure the preservation and building up of soil fertility by organic farming and gardening; and the prevention of soil erosion and the protection of forests and watersheds.

Now, when our land to ruin's brink is verging,
In God's name, let us speak while there is time!
Now, when the padlocks for our lips are forging,
Silence is crime.

WHITTIER.

The Menace of World Monopoly

(Continued from page 1)

from Communism than from American economic aggression."

The much-boosted Marshall Plan for Europe is designed to further the economic aggression, which Mr. Amery talks about. Communist strategy is based upon the belief that what they refer to as "capitalism" possesses the seeds of its own destruction. Communists point to the depressions of the past and state that another depression is inevitable.

Now, considered as a production system, capitalism has not only not failed; it has been an outstanding success.

Depressions have not occurred because of any flaw in the system of production by free enterprise; they have been the result of faults in the distributive mechanism, that is, the financial system.

Distributive Mechanism

Genuine free enterprise cannot be maintained unless there is a financial system, which assures that the production of free enterprise is adequately distributed. At present the financial system does not ensure that the production of free enterprise can be distributed.

The American economy provides glaring proof of the truth of this statement.

If every other country were submerged beneath the sea, there is no physical reason why the American people should not be able to provide themselves with an increasingly high standard of living. But, it will be asked, how could America carry on without its large export trade. Surely it is obvious that the sole sane objective of an export trade should be to import goods, which cannot be produced locally. The controllers of the American economy, however, are trying to use the faults in the financial policies, which they impose to pursue the "economic aggression" referred to by Mr. Amery.

As free enterprise does not make available sufficient purchasing power to buy its own production, the so-called surpluses are exported. The policy of the powerful international financial groups of Wall Street, New York, is designed to bring the British Empire and Western Europe more firmly under their domination by exporting them large quantities of goods without taking very many imports in exchange.

The result is the great "dollar crisis" that we hear so much about.

Even some of our Members of Parliament are starting to see a little light on this matter. For example, Mr. Archie Cameron, M.H.R., speaking at Canberra on March 3 of this year, said:

America "has a great industrial potential that it wants to use. It wants to invest overseas and then have the surplus production of its great factories overflow on to the market in other countries; but it does not want to be paid for those goods with the goods and services of other countries. Out of that, and nothing else, arises the dollar shortage that confronts the rest of the world. No agree-

ment at Geneva, no trips to Havana or anything else will solve the dollar crisis except the method I have mentioned. The United States of America must accept the goods and services of other countries in payment for the goods it sells to them. . . ."

But this is just what the controllers of the American economy do not want, as this would not solve the problem of the so-called American surpluses.

The American Economy

Well may it be asked, then, how is America to be paid for the large quantities of goods being sent to Europe and elsewhere. If European countries cannot export goods to America to earn dollars, it is obvious that they must borrow dollars. All that happens is that dollar credits are created and made available to Great Britain and other European countries in order that American manufacturers and producers can be paid for the goods being exported. The effect of this is to dispose of so-called American surpluses and increase the purchasing power of the American consumer in order that he can buy the goods left for the home market.

In other words, the American economy can only be saved from a breakdown by a large number of Americans working to produce goods which are virtually given away by exports for which there are no corresponding imports.

Smashing the British Empire

However, this still leaves the question of how Great Britain and the European countries are going to repay the large dollar loans granted to them in order that they can take American exports. A study of the Marshall Plan makes it clear that these unpayable dollar loans are to be used to gain an economic stranglehold upon the rest of the world

outside the domination of Soviet Russia.

The controllers of the international financial system are making a direct bid to smash the British Empire and take over its assets in liquidation of the dollar debt. In a letter to the London *Times* on the activities of the International Trade Organisation, Mr. Amery summed the matter up as follows: *"The real motive, conscious or sub-conscious, is the desire of American exporting and financial interests to maintain a one-sided world hegemony by keeping the rest of the world broken up into small economic units incapable of ever competing on equal terms with American production, and dependent upon American finance to redress a continuously adverse balance of payments. More particularly, it is to be feared, does this ambition extend to the economic, and eventually, political domination of the widely scattered and individually weak members of the British Commonwealth. . . ."*

The open economic warfare being directed against the British Empire from New York and Washington is, of course, exploited to the full by the Communists. *Both the Communists and the Wall Street financial groups are pursuing a policy of World Monopoly.* Both want to eliminate the British Empire.

It is certain, then, that the salvation of European Civilisation depends upon the preservation of the complete sovereignty of the British Empire. But that sovereignty cannot be preserved unless the peoples of the British Empire are prepared to make such internal financial, political, and economic reforms that will permit genuine free enterprise to provide them with an increasing standard of living. Unless this issue is faced, World Monopoly of one description or another will inevitably be forced upon us.

THE RACE FACTOR

"No man will treat with indifference the principle of race. It is the key of history, and why history is so often confused is that it has been written by men who are ignorant of this principle and all the knowledge it involves."—Disraeli, in *Endymion*.

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LIFE IN GT. BRITAIN FIFTY YEARS AGO

(From "The Social Crediter," England, April 17)

GREAT BRITAIN, 1897.

Let us roll back the film of Time to the Diamond Jubilee of Queen Victoria, fifty years ago.

It is a blazing June, and London, the unquestioned Capital of the world, is packed with visitors of every nation and none, as though to mark the apex of the greatest Empire in history, symbolised by The Longest Reign.

Sir Henry Irving and Ellen Terry play to packed houses; George Edwardes is just entering on a long series of musical comedy successes, which mark, if it had been realised, the end of a cultural period. All the great county families, many of them patrons of that sure passport to "Society," country-house cricket, are entertaining lavishly. Hansoms clip-clop down the unwidened Strand, and, in the numerous but soon-resolved traffic blocks, the cabbies, perched well above the crush, bandy caustic witticisms.

Some of the crowds have forsaken the pavements for "the River." Cookham Lock, as seen from its parapet, is a bed of giant, blazing, mushrooms—the silken parasols vital to the preservation of delicate complexions from vulgar tan.

Hampstead Heath is crowded. Costers, effectively publicised by Chevalier, sometimes dressed in "Pearlies," but always

cheerful, drive a roaring trade in cherries at a penny a pound. Beer, real beer, is twopence a quart, whisky is 3/6 a bottle, a first class, six-course dinner, with a bottle of Chianti, can be had anywhere in Soho for 3/6. Passports are curiosities, and hundreds of Lancashire mill-hands spend Friday to Tuesday in Paris for £5.

Down at Spithead, the world's greatest Navy lies at anchor. In the warm June evening, it will be blazing with light, and the bands of the big ships will play-in to dinner the hundreds of guests from the visitors, including the modest German Navy, moored near by. The German Emperor is dining with his grandmother, the Little Old Lady, at Windsor; later, he will fare North to stay at stately Lowther with the Earl of Lonsdale, whose latest exploit has been to administer a sound thrashing to a costermonger who challenged him to fight on the road to Epsom.

The rent of a *good* cottage, which can be had, is £10 *per annum*.

Fabulous Wealth Of The Dead Sea

Henry H. Klein, the New York Jewish Attorney, writes:

"If the chemicals in the Dead Sea should vanish and that body of water become a fresh-water lake, all strife in Palestine would cease. The chemicals there are estimated to be worth five thousand billion (five trillion) dollars. A concession to extract this wealth was granted by the British Government to British and American Zionists and financiers in 1924. It is this concession that is causing world trouble.

"The chemicals in the Dead Sea are the accumulation of millions of years of seepage. They were there before Jews or Arabs came to Palestine. The Dead Sea belongs to the people of the world. So does the oil under the Dead Sea and elsewhere. Is there any sane reason why the people of the world should suffer because of this heritage?

"Until the present generation, the people did not know how to extract this wealth. Should that knowledge cause our destruction or should it be used for our benefit? Scientists knew of this wealth when the Protocols of Zion were written fifty years ago. *These Protocols outline a plan for world control based on the conquest of Palestine. Political Zionism is the agency for its fulfilment.*

"Why not enlighten the people as to the cause of their suffering? Until the people know the truth they will not understand what is happening or why. No daily newspaper, magazine, radio commentator, lecturer, or preacher dares to tell them the truth, and no government will tell them. . . ."—Quoted in *Tomorrow* (Eng), Feb. 1948.

WILL YOU BE SHOT, OR BOILED IN OIL?

It is a weakness of the immature mind, to which world-plotters pander, to regard every problem in the light of "either" and "or." Either Capitalism or Collectivism, either Socialism or Communism, either war or peace. The convenience of this concept is that it can be narrowed to the simple issue: Will you be shot, or boiled in oil?

An instance of this manoeuvre, by which peoples are induced to accept outrageous conditions under the impression that they are the only alternative to those which make life impossible, is the widely held notion that we have to choose between vassalage to Wall Street and Washington, and serfdom under Stalin, with, say, Mr. Aneurin Bevan as the local Kommissar.

In the first place, as usual, the "alternative" itself is imaginary. It may be quite true, and it probably is quite true, that ninety-nine out of every hundred Russians and Americans imagine that their Governments represent irreconcilable policies. But we do not think Mr. Aneurin Bevan and his frequent hosts would think so. Mr. Israel Moses Sieff is, if we are not mistaken, a Russian Jew by descent, but has, or has had, the closest connection with the New Deal in U.S.A. Mr. Aneurin Bevan, a Minister in a Government which, like its predecessor, is rightly attacked for its slavish obedience to Washington, is regarded by those who ought to know as the next step on the road to Moscow.

As usual, however, there is a major, and several minor, policies, which are carefully kept from public discussion.

It is not possible to become conscious of this until we recognise and accept the present conflict as one of cultures.

Once that is understood, and we believe that it is indisputable, we are released

MINISTRY:

Prime Minister, Lord Salisbury; Chancellor of the Exchequer, Sir Michael Hicks-Beach; Home Office, Sir Matthew White-Ridley; Foreign Office, Lord Lansdowne; Secretary of State for the Colonies, Joseph Chamberlain.

*God of our Fathers, known of old,
Lord of our far-flung battle line
Beneath whose awful hand we hold
Dominion over palm and pine.
God of our Fathers, be with us yet,
Lest we forget.*

—R. Kipling, 1897.

"BRITAIN," 1948; FIFTY YEARS ON.

The Cheese ration (cheddar style) has been reduced. Civil war in India and Palestine.

MINISTRY:

Prime Minister, Clement Attlee (Jew); Minister of Food (Rations), J. Strachey (Jew); War Office, Emanuel Shinwell (Jew); Minister of Civil Aviation, Lord Nathan (Jew); Minister of Town and Country Planning, Rt. Hon. Lewis Silkin (Jew); Minister of Supply, G. R. Strauss (Jew); and twenty-five others of Cabinet Rank, including Mr. Aneurin Bevan.

Leader of the Liberal Party, Lord Samuel (Jew); Labour Party, Lord Rothschild (Jew).

TEN YEARS ON

? 1957.

from the thralldom of labels. Communism, Socialism, Hitlerism, can be seen as different approaches to a fundamentally identical end, and we understand without difficulty that a nation under the thrall of P.E.P. or the New Deal cannot *possibly* defeat a national group whose manipulators are actuated by similar motives.

A, by fighting B, simply insures the victory of C.

—*The Social Crediter* (Eng.), April 17.

PRICE CONTROL CREATES BLACK MARKETS

Electors who read the official argument in favour of giving the Commonwealth power over prices and rents will be confused by the argument in the "Yes" case reading: ". . . every black-marketeer . . . will enthusiastically support those who urge you to vote 'No'."

Surely it is obvious that black marketeers cannot exist without price control. If it were certain that Federal price control would be more effective than State price control, it would be logical to expect black-marketeers to urge a vote for "Yes," not "No."—"LOGICAL," Melbourne, in *Melb. Herald*, April 27.

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WHY NO ENQUIRY, DR. EVATT?

The reply by Mr. Chifley to the allegations made by Mr. Blain, Member for the Northern Territory, that no public enquiry would be held to investigate the grave charges made against Dr. Evatt, is a measure of the integrity of a Government which holds more power than any previous Federal Government with apparently less and less responsibility.

If the charges made by a duly elected representative of the Australian people are unfounded then a public enquiry will serve to clear Dr. Evatt's name. There is no excuse for the matter to be ignored. It is obvious that, whatever the full truth of the charges, every attempt to hush the matter up is being made.

It has been admitted that certain breaches of the building regulations were committed by Dr. Evatt — or his wife. Apparently this is to be disregarded as of no consequence. Yet the Attorney-General would be among the first to state that "ignorance of the law is no excuse"; and how many of the ordinary innocent citizens of this country have been caught in the web of these regulations only to be told that, although they may have committed only a technical offence, they must be heavily penalised to set an example to the community? It is very nice for the "architects" of our "planned" State to put themselves above the law while contending vigorously that everyone else must rigidly obey their unending edicts and decrees for their own good.

This is not the way of British justice and Dr. Evatt knows it. Noted for his anti-British bias and personal ambition, Dr. Evatt has risen to a position of such power in this land that he is undoubtedly the most dangerous man in Australian politics today.

A personal acquaintance of the notorious Professor Laski, Dr. Evatt has worked steadily to circumvent and destroy our written Federal Constitution which was such a barrier to his totalitarian plans, undermine the impartiality of the courts, sell-out Australia's sovereign powers to the "international" power gangs, support militant Zionist aims, and hasten in every way the rapid sub-tropical growth of political monopoly in this country.

It is high time some direct and effective action was taken to halt his vicious and dangerous activities. Why no thorough investigations? This is another urgently needed public enquiry at which we would be glad to give material evidence.

THE BATTLE OF FORCES

"A thinker who has the future of Europe at heart, will, in all his perspectives concerning the future, calculate upon the Jews, as he will calculate upon the Russians, as above all the surest and likeliest factors in the great play and battle of forces . . ."—Nietzsche, in *Beyond Good and Evil*.

Why Not "Slave" ?

A *Word*. There is a desire to avoid the use of the word "conscript," for men enrolling under the National Service Scheme. "National service men" is suggested, but no speaker or writer is going to use habitually three words where one will express his meaning. So what is needed is a single-word synonym for "conscript," sensible, apposite, and not too obviously manufactured.

—"Janus," in *The Spectator*,

Wages And The Referendum

When seeking powers at the previous referendum the Government asked for control of prices and rents, both of which can and are already controlled by some States, who have a much better knowledge of local conditions, &c. Certainly nothing could be gained by handing these powers over to remote Canberra.

Price control has prevented neither high prices nor high rents any more than pegged prices has stopped high prices for cars. Now the Government desires control over "rent and prices including charges."

"Charges" is a broad term, and could be interpreted to mean almost anything. The average man thought the war ended when the armistice was signed, but the High Court's interpretation was that the wartime powers are still operative. In the same way the trusting and innocent worker if he votes "yes" will no doubt find he has voted for wage-pegging which caused so much industrial discontent in the war years. All wages are charged into costs so the word "charges" could easily be extended to cover wages.

Leading constitutional lawyers have already expressed this opinion. It is reasonably obvious that the Labour Government will be defeated at the next election. Are ardent Labour supporters prepared to give the Liberals such wide powers at the next election? —H.G.

Who Controls U.S.A.?

"There is abundant evidence that the United States, for all its tremendous physical power, is accomplishing nothing that can be called beneficial to mankind. . . .

"It is not unnatural for a ward politician to be President of the United States. But it becomes grotesque when a man of parochial outlook, inferior training, and deficient ability, attempts to rush a reluctant people down the dangerous road of imperial rule. . . .

" . . . It is a bitter pill for Americans to realise that this country, during the past few years, has led the world in smashing the fabric of civilisation; has accomplished virtually nothing outside its borders towards the rebuilding of something better."

—"Here Let Us Stop," by Felix Morley in *Human Events*.

Comments *The Social Creditor* (England): Who controls the N.Y. Jewish vote controls New York; who controls New York, controls U.S.A.

ATOMIC CONTROLLERS

"These are the men appointed by President Truman to guide the U.S.A. into the Atomic Age: David L. Lilienthal (Jewish Federal Power Expert), Lewis L. Ztrauss (a partner in the international banking firm of Kuhn, Loeb, and Co.), Robert U. Bacher (consultant to Bernard M. Baruch), S. T. Pile (investment banker), W. D. Waynack (Editor, *Des Moines Register*). This Committee is 'boss' of the atomic energy."—*Showers of Blessing*, Denver, Colorado, U.S.A.

I.T.O. WILL DESTROY OUR ECONOMIC SOVEREIGNTY

In our issue of April 16 we published a speech by J. T. Lang, M.H.R., in which the menace of the International Trade Organisation was exposed.

Similar evidence of the manner in which the international "planners" are working to destroy Australia's economic sovereignty is given in the following extracts from an address by Mr. Latham Withall, Fellow of the Royal Economic Society and Director of the Associated Chambers of Manufactures of Australia, to the Institute of Industrial Management in Sydney on February 10, 1948.

On November 19 there were made known the contents of the Charter for an International Trade Organisation, the terms of a general agreement on Tariffs and Trade, and the details of the relative tariff schedules covering some hundreds of reductions in duties and British preference, all of which came into operation that day.

The Charter had been signed at Geneva the previous months by 23 countries. They were: Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Burma, Canada, Ceylon, Chile, China, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, France, India, the Lebanon, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Pakistan, Southern Rhodesia, Syria, South Africa, the United Kingdom, and the United States.

The General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade had been signed by eight of the above countries, namely: United Kingdom, United States, Australia, Belgium, Canada, France, Luxembourg, Netherlands. This agreement and its Tariff schedules were to be brought into operation provisionally and pending ratification before June 30, 1948.

Upon ratification the Agreement and its schedules will continue in force for a three-year minimum period, and thereafter remain on foot until altered or terminated.

Tariffs and Preferences Frozen

As the articles of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade were identical with the Commercial and Tariff sections of the Charter to be reviewed at Havana, it was agreed that any changes made at Havana would be applied also to the related or contingent Agreement.

In the simplest terms, the net effect of the Geneva Agreement and Tariff Schedules together was to reduce and freeze tariffs in general, to reduce a considerable number (about 30%) of British and inter-Dominion preferences and to provide that no new preferences be granted and no new Tariffs be imposed.

In addition, the contracting parties agreed to meet from time to time when required by the International Trade Organisation for the purpose of "furthering the objectives of this Agreement," namely, the reduction of protective Tariffs and to eliminate discriminatory treatment in international commerce,

and the first meeting "shall take place not later than March, 1948."

It is interesting to note that Article 17 of Chapter 4 of the Charter carries this illuminating title, "Reduction of Tariffs and Elimination of Preferences."

So much for a short history of events and a brief indication of some of their implications.

It will be quite impossible in the time at my disposal to review more than some of the most important aspects of the Charter and Agreement. *The documents contain about 120,000 words and include many whole sections, which I defy anyone to understand or elucidate.* Take the following paragraph as a typical example:

"(b) If at any time the Organisation finds that import restrictions are being applied by a Member in a discriminatory manner inconsistent with the exceptions provided for under paragraph I of this Article, the Member shall, within sixty days, remove the discrimination or modify it as specified by the Organisation; PROVIDED that any action under paragraph I of this Article, to the extent that it has been approved by the Organisation under sub-paragraph (a) of this paragraph, or to the extent that it has been approved by the Organisation at the request of a Member under a procedure analogous to that of paragraph 4 (c) of Article 21, shall not be open to challenge under this sub-paragraph or under paragraph 4 (d) of Article 21 on the ground that it is inconsistent with Article 22." (From Page 25 of Charter.)

Obviously this fanfare of words is intended to have some meaning. One prominent barrister to whom I referred the section advised he thought it meant to convey that you could not sell bottled beer in Sydney after 6 o'clock!

Conflict in Trade Theories

In the long run it won't matter much what we think the Charter means; *all that will be done for us by I.T.O. headquarters overseas.*

In the course of my comments some criticism will be made of the American State Department's attitude to trade policies. I know you will realise that my criticism is based on economic grounds. I am a most profound believer in friendship and co-operation between

British countries and the United States, but I am convinced that we should not accept the State Department's economic viewpoints on tariffs and preferences. In my opinion these are based on prejudice rather than logic.

I believe that frankness and plain speaking on economic matters contribute to mutual understanding and good will, and will bring about very much more co-operation between Australia and America than exists at the present time.

The tariff and preference reductions contained in the schedules evolved at Geneva are the thin end of the wedge. The alterations, although numerous, are mostly small, and may have relatively little effect. They are possibly of little significance except for the extent to which they are a weakening of the preferential system and reveal a dangerous willingness to surrender the solid substance of Empire Co-operation for a flitting will o' the wisp. . . .

As you know, at the present time import licences, export permits, quotas, and exchange controls render tariff changes almost wholly ineffective as influencing the course of trade.

Economic Disarmament

The trade Charter principle of non-discrimination is particularly vicious and totally unsuitable to Australia, as it is to many other countries. We have quite recently seen how the thing works out in practice.

The non-discrimination rule was part of the Washington loan agreement, and it has imposed additional and wholly unnecessary hardships upon the people of Britain. *The U.K. is not allowed to save dollars by limiting the import of American films without doing the same to French or Empire films. This has already brought retaliation by France against British films. Britain may not reduce the purchase of American tobacco leaf without doing the same thing to Rhodesian tobacco. She cannot reduce the imports of Californian canned fruits without a corresponding reduction in Australian canned fruits. If Australia decides or is compelled to reduce motor chassis, newsprint, textiles, films, or any other goods from the United States, we can only impose restrictions if the same are applied equally against goods from Britain or elsewhere.*

Thus, while we might have large sterling balances in London, we would not be permitted to use them for the purchase of raw materials or any other goods that we were unable to buy from America.

The future of our primary industries is seriously menaced by the non-discrimination rule, by the elimination of preferences, and by the abolition of subsidies and home consumption prices which assist the producer to carry on in the farce of lower world parity values. Under the Charter the outlook for our Sugar, Canned Fruit, Butter, Dried Fruit,

(Continued on page 6)

Britain's Nationalised Mine Losses

From "The Western Producer" (Canada)

Britain's National Coal Board announced in London last Friday that the country's nationalised coal mines lost £1,745,867 sterling or nearly \$7,000,000 during the first six months of nationalisation.

In the same period of 1946, under private ownership, the mines had a net profit of £16,498,818 sterling, or nearly \$67,000,000, the board said.

The board said the loss under nationalisation during the first six months of 1947 amounted to about fifteen cents a ton. The six-months profit in 1946 amounted to more than sixty cents a ton.

Coal mining is the third government-owned enterprise to show a loss during the first months of nationalisation. British Overseas Airways Corporation announced a loss of more than \$32,000,000 for the year ended March 31, 1947, while British European Airways lost nearly \$12,000,000 in the same period.

Final deficit for the first six months after the coalmines were nationalised January 1, 1947, will be still greater than announced by the coal board.

The board conceded its figure did not allow for unspecified interest to be paid

Murder Will Out

In the not too distant future it will be revealed that certain Jewish Zionists have made themselves immensely wealthy on what is becoming known as the "land for the 'chosen' people" racket.

—Nationalist News Service (U.S.A.), March 18.

TWO PROFESSIONS

"The politician, like the prostitute, has to court the populace; she is a woman of the streets—he is a man of the streets."—G. Pitt-Rivers, *Conscience and Fanaticism*, 1919, p. 80.

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ANZAC ADDRESS BY ERIC BUTLER

On Sunday, April 25, Mr. Butler gave the address at the Anzac Service at Cressy. In a straight-from-the-shoulder talk, he told a large audience that Anzac Services were worse than useless if they merely provided an opportunity for the uttering of platitudes divorced from the grim realities confronting the British Empire and Christian civilisation. After briefly outlining the manner in which the British Empire was being undermined from within and from without, Mr. Butler said that all sections of the community must unite to defeat the common enemy.

The reactions to his address were splendid, many enthusiastically remarking that more addresses of this type were required.

I.T.O. WILL DESTROY OUR ECONOMIC SOVEREIGNTY

(Continued from page 5)

and Wine-growing industries are bleak indeed.

Mr. Clayton, the United States I.T.O. leader, said on Jan. 20th that their preferences are to be "completely dissolved."

Once the pact is ratified Australia loses its fiscal autonomy, and the future of Australian industry becomes a matter for the International Trade Organisation, upon which Australia's voting power and influence will be insignificant.

The acceptance of the doctrines of the I.T.O. constitutes a surrender and capitulation of economic sovereignty that is unique in history.

Not mincing his words when referring to this international charter, Lord Altrincham, in House of Lords a few weeks ago, declared:

"This is a dangerous document because its underlying assumption is treason to the system of British Commonwealth Co-operation."

The rule of non-discrimination or multilateralism eliminates all agreements for mutual benefit. It is restrictive, unimaginative, destructive of stability, and calculated to universalise periods of trade depression. Coupled with a relatively rigid and limited world monetary system it imposes a constant need to restrict imports in order to ensure a favourable trade balance.

A multilateral Tariff policy means that we give the same treatment to the products of, say, Great Britain and New Zealand as to the products of Japan and Germany. . . .

Why is it that the United States Administration, while agreeing in theory that there is no reason why nations should not combine to form actual Customs unions, seems so stubbornly determined to use every instrument of coercion to veto the far more modest and less exclusive form of economic co-operation resulting from British preferential treatment? This question is doubly difficult to answer because the U.S. operates elaborate and almost exclusive preferential Tariff agreements with Cuba, Philippines, Havana, Puerto-

Rico, and other handy places. These preferences are always disregarded by U.S. advocates of the theory of multilateralism.

U.S. Trade Hegemony

Rt. Hon. L. S. Amery, a former Secretary of State for India, has in the columns of the London Times suggested that:

"The real motive, conscious or subconscious, is the desire of American exporting and financial interests to maintain a one-sided world hegemony by keeping the rest of the world broken up into small economic units incapable of ever competing on equal terms with American production, and dependent on American finance to redress a continuously adverse balance of payments.

"More particularly, it is to be feared, does this ambition extend to the economic, and eventually political, domination of the widely scattered and individually weak members of the British Commonwealth; and this accounts for the peculiar virulence and determination of the onslaught on British Empire preference."

Whether Mr. Amery is right or wrong, I don't know; but I submit to you that whatever the U.S. objective may be, the I.T.O. Charter policy is a shortsighted and mistaken one from the point of view of America's own interests. If successful, it can only lead to a repetition of the economic disaster of 1931, from which America suffered more and longer than the rest of the world.

A profound mistake made by Australia has been to endeavour to conciliate America by pretending to agree with the aims of American policy when we know those aims to be undesirable and at the same time impossible to bring about.

With all the good will in the world I cannot regard the tariff agreement and Charter as anything but a dangerous and reactionary experiment. The proposals contained in these documents offer no contribution whatever to an easement of the world's present difficulties, while the consequences to Australia and to every other British country may well prove to be disastrous. .

THE GENUINE ALTERNATIVE TO PERMANENT PRICE CONTROL

The following is the contents of a leaflet to be issued shortly by the Douglas Social Credit Movement of Victoria: —

"Economics is the science which deals with human interests from the standpoint of PRICE."

Rising prices are forcing everyone to realise the truth of the above statement. The value of your income, as a means of living, is determined by the PRICE you have to pay for goods. Ask any housewife what she thinks of present-day conditions. She will surely reply, for one thing, that prices are too high. By this she means that prices are greater than the wages her husband receives. His income is not sufficient to buy the things she needs. She must have more money or prices must come down.

This is a serious state of affairs. In order to pay the high prices everyone strives for higher wages or salaries. Strikes are the common outcome, and agitation has led to several increases in the basic wage. But these increases have not solved the problem. For immediately the basic wage goes up, prices take a further jump, and the position is the same as before. We get a state wherein wages try to catch up with prices and never manage to do so.

The Price Spiral

This circumstance is known as the "price spiral." It has been likened to a dog trying to catch his tail. He goes round and round, with his tail just a little bit away from his mouth all the time. He can never catch it. And the reason is clear; as the head moves, so does the tail; every movement of the head means a movement of the tail; the distance between can never be bridged. So it is with wage increases. Wages go up in order to meet higher prices. But as soon as they do prices move out of reach again.

This is the dilemma facing the world today.

Australia, in common with all countries, is experiencing the problem of the price spiral. Prices keep on rising despite attempts to keep them down. To the man in the street—the wage earner—the man on the salary—the solution seems to be to increase wages and salaries so he can pay the higher prices. But the failure of this step is now apparent to everyone. We see clearly that when wages increase, costs increase, and so must prices. Prices are made up of costs; wages and salaries are costs; and if wages and salaries go up, then prices must go up, too. There can be no solution that way.

Higher Wages and Profits

Some people argue that we should demand that higher wages should not be passed on as higher costs. Higher wages, they say, should come out of profits. It

sounds attractive. But no advocate of this proposal has demonstrated by figures that this can be done.

It has never been shown that profits are big enough to pay wages and salaries that will meet higher prices, without increasing prices.

On the contrary, evidence available definitely disproves it. Recently a large manufacturing firm—Holeproof Ltd.—showed that, of every £1 in turnover, wages and salaries took 6/11, and other manufacturing costs 12/5, a total of 19/4. This left only 4d. for dividends and 3d. for reserves.

Does anyone, therefore, believe that this firm—and it is typical of all industry—could make big wage increases out of 4d?

But suppose the whole of this 4d. were absorbed in higher wages. What incentive and inducement would the company have to go on with production?

There must be incentive and inducement in industry, otherwise production

lags. That is the charge that is levelled against heavy taxation. By grinding both manufacturer and worker and salary earner down to the bare level of existence, taxation has destroyed the incentive necessary to get a bigger output.

Lack of incentive has intensified the shortage of goods, encouraged a rise in prices, and fostered conditions under which the Black Market flourishes. Hence to expect higher wages to come out of profits is simply to delude ourselves. *Higher wages mean higher prices, and we may as well accept the fact.*

Prices Above Incomes

Amidst this welter of rising prices and inadequate incomes there has arisen, naturally, a demand for price control. Now price control has been in operation for some years, and to a certain extent has kept prices from soaring. It is, admittedly, some measure of protection against profiteering in rents and prices whilst houses and goods are in short supply. For example, the States' Fair Rents Court functioned satisfactorily before the wartime Commonwealth

(Continued on page 8)

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The Genuine Alternative to Price Control

(Continued from page 7)

control, and could be re-established by the States if necessary.

But, paradoxically, the point to note about all this is that controls have not succeeded in keeping prices FROM RISING ABOVE INCOMES. That is the vital aspect of the matter. Prices may be controlled, but if they are still above our incomes, we cannot buy the goods. And what consolation is it to know that the Prices Commissioner has approved the increase? What we want is a policy and mechanism, which will bring incomes up to, prices.

C'wealth or State Control

At present, price control is exercised by the Federal Government, and that Government is asking by referendum to have price control powers handed over permanently by the States to the Commonwealth. It is claimed that the price level has not risen so high in Australia as in other countries and control should be a Federal affair. But even in Australia, since 1939, prices have risen in the following manner, as evidence from the Commonwealth Statistician shows:

	Increase
Foodstuffs	from 40% to 90%
Men's clothing	from 50% to 113%
Women's clothing ..	from 50% to 220%
Household drapery ..	from 76% to 246%

Here is indisputable proof that price control, though exercised by the Commonwealth, does not prevent prices from rising. To solve this problem we must get to the root of it. We must ask ourselves: Why is it that our wages or salary will not enable us to buy enough of the necessaries of life at the prices asked? Why is it that prices everywhere exceed incomes and purchasing power and persist in doing so?

Subsidies

In Australia the most responsible factors in keeping prices down have been the price subsidies on foodstuffs and wearing apparel. This is the main reason why Australian prices have not risen as much as overseas. We have cheaper bread, milk, tea, potatoes, woollen goods, to name a few only, because of subsidies. Subsidies are a means, which prevent the whole cost being passed on to consumers. Subsidies enable goods to be sold "below cost."

There is a sound economic reason for paying subsidies. There is an inescapable reason why subsidies *must* be paid if purchasing power is to equal prices. Briefly, the reason is that industry, as the source of both incomes and goods, does not distribute as wages, salaries, and dividends enough money to pay the prices of all the goods produced. This truth was demonstrated by Major Douglas 30 years ago. Economic conditions today abundantly indicate its truth. Otherwise, why the chronic need for wage and salary increases? Why the clamour to find export markets? Why does America admit that the only hope of averting another depression is to export a vast quantity of her production?

Treasury Experts

Despite the attempts of the Treasury "experts" and economists to stop the payment of subsidies, they will continue to be paid. Even in England it has been announced that:

"Food subsidies will be continued at the level of £400,000,000 a year because, although in theory subsidies might be inflationary, in practice they had precisely the opposite effect."

Recently the Australian Prices Commissioner warned the Prime Minister that prices would soar if subsidies were removed, and the Prime Minister allowed them to remain. Had he disregarded this warning, not only would prices have risen, but Australia would have been forced to find overseas markets for more and more of her production. Moreover, the struggle for markets means trade war, and trade war is the forerunner of military war. Wars are the outcome of a faulty financial system, and those who uphold that system must accept the responsibility for war.

Proper Use of Money

Subsidies can be paid, without raising money by taxation, as Mr. Chifley does. We can draw upon the National Credit and issue money, which has not to be recalled, by taxation and debt as at present. Suppose, for example, the recent increase of £120,000,000 in bank advances—new money—bank-created money—which was used largely to pay increases in the basic wage and 40-hour week costs, and meant higher prices, had been used to pay subsidies on foodstuffs and building materials. Goods would have become cheaper, and everyone's income would have bought more, and this without more taxation. This policy would have had "precisely the opposite effect" to inflation, as indicated by the British press report just quoted.

In his book, "The Programme For The Third World War," Major C. H. Douglas makes reference to the fact that the obverse of the American Great Seal" consists of a truncated pyramid, with the headstone bearing a picture of the All-seeing Eye " He goes on to say that it was in 1935 that the Secretary of the U.S. Treasury "announced that in future the obverse of the Great Seal would be printed on the back of all U.S. paper money."

A very interesting article on Henry Wallace by an American writer, Randal Heymanson, published in the Melbourne "Herald" of April 12, 1948, makes reference to this matter of the obverse of the Great Seal being printed on American paper money. Heymanson states that Wallace has studied Judaism and other Eastern cults, and that he consults astrologists. He then goes on to say:

"In 1933, shortly after he became Secretary of Agriculture, he met Nicholas Konstantinovich Roerich, a little Russian who looked like a Buddhist monk.

The basis of any subsidy thus issued would be the evidence of increased productivity in Australian industry. It is but common sense, and the proper use of money, to issue sufficient money to increase purchasing power until it equates prices. It is a case of more goods demanding more money to buy them.

A "No" Vote

This, then, is the answer to the Federal Government's request for a "Yes" vote on the transfer of price control powers from the States. Price control will not stop prices from rising. It will not bring incomes up to prices. Therefore, if the Australian people register a "NO" vote, they will not only record a refusal to transfer more power to the Commonwealth, but will indicate their rejection of the belief that Price Control can keep prices down to incomes. A "NO" vote will force all Governments to investigate other methods of meeting the problem of the price spiral.

Price subsidies scientifically used can do this. We must demand an extension of this policy to cover all goods, including housing. By this means alone will we bring prices down to incomes, and really raise the standard of living. A "YES" vote will but foster the present fallacy and delusion that Price Control can do so. It will prolong the price spiral, for incomes can never equal prices unless we subsidise incomes. *Incomes must be subsidised.* A "NO" vote backed by this demand is the only sane course.

The Commonwealth Constitution already provides for the payment of subsidies; therefore the problem of high and rising prices can be effectively met without any increase to the powers of the Commonwealth Government. Controls mean more power for the bureaucrats, less power for you, and no improvement in the standard of living.

—Issued by The Douglas Social Credit Movement In Victoria, Room 8, 1st Floor, The Block, Elizabeth St., Melbourne, Victoria. Further information and literature on application.

Roerich's followers had built him a £1 million temple in New York to house his paintings, which they believed had divine healing qualities. Wallace, who believes that symbols 'have a power unknown to science,' became interested in his teachings and persuaded Henry Morgenthau, then Secretary of the Treasury, to print the Great Pyramid surmounted by an All-Seeing Eye on the dollar bills of the United States. Morgenthau wrote: 'It was not until later that I learned that the Pyramid had cabalistic significance for members of a small religious sect.'

THE JEWISH TECHNIQUE OF SUBVERSION

The following extract from a private letter written by a distinguished Arab leader is of such general interest and importance that we feel justified, in the urgency of the present situation, in giving it a wider public than that for which it was originally intended: —

Logic is insufficient to predicate action. It is merely a method of combining pure assumption into a sequence of consequences, and by its very nature it is incapable of supplying one with the assumption it uses, for human action requires the adoption of some premises before it can be effected. Therefore arbitrary conviction precedes the logical superstructure.

The Catholics know this, and that is the basic reason why the Jews hate them intensely, and work incessantly for their downfall. The Protestants, on the other hand, are so hopelessly muddled by their inconsistent methods of trying to extract a moral code from logic that they have no strong conviction in any direction. For logic has nothing to do with morality—a criminal can be very logical.

Purpose of Control

The Jews, aware of this, are enabled to discredit and corrupt all existing structures of religious, social, and economic nature. They want this, and effect it by exploiting every discontented group, without shaking their own solidarity in the midst of anarchy, as happened in Russia.

Small groups seek reforms of special interest, and are divided into various sections; only the Jews are always agreed on what they want, and that is control. Everyone else wants to control for some purpose, but they want merely control for its own sake, that is to say, for *their* sake. This is the thing, which appealed to the U.S. Jewry, composed mainly of

Russian Jewish immigration. Therefore they have become ardent purveyors of Communist philosophy, and hailed Marx as the saviour of people everywhere.

They themselves do not love Communism, but rather use it to serve their purpose. *They would love any form of government enthusiastically if they were assured of control at the highest level.*

Contradictions

Every Jew was pro-British in the days when d'Israeli was Prime Minister, but today they find the British are not so easy to control as they did the ignorant masses of Russia. This indicates their adherence to the principle of transvaluation, that is, striking at the most vulnerable point in human behaviour, that of sincerity, for instance: *they pretend to champion the rights of Negroes, object to segregation, and advocate mixed breeding, yet they seek a segregated and separate community in Palestine.*

They wail at being forced to live in a separate district of their own, and yet are rabid for the establishment of a ghetto-like State, where they can hoard without sharing the proceeds they extract from the people of the world. No day passes without presentation of some play, radio sketch, or movie showing the "Great Jew," the "Suffering Jew," or the "Humane Jew," struggling for the betterment of all. Was virtue ever so loud? They affect concern over anti-Catholic prejudice, while spreading lies and prejudice against the very Church they fear because it is strong enough.

Smear Campaign

In New York they purchased a monthly magazine, the *Protestant*, and they have financed it to malign and smear the Catholic Church.

Currently they direct a smear campaign against all Muslims and Muslim nations everywhere; for fear that Muslims will resist their infiltration.

They cry out for freedom of speech in a voice so loud that it drowns out opposition and creates a steady, foul wind, always blowing from one direction, and never ceasing to permit an honest difference of opinion.

That is why they love "democracy" next to Communism, because a "democracy" is a State without conviction, which can be pushed hither and thither, guided solely by the loudest voice.

No wonder Europeans don't understand the American Government; the Americans are not insane (and this may apply to the Canadians as well). *They are merely unable to recognise the trouble into which they can be projected by this wailing minority voice,* and the erratic and indecisive course followed by the democracies' Government is a sign that the democracies have not been completely controlled.

Democracy died with the industrial

revolution and the dependence on centralised coal and steel deposits, and will not again be a feasible form of government until it is possible completely to decentralise industry, when each community will become self-sufficient. Communism insists upon freezing forever the form of society to the age of steel and perpetuating a central control.

—From *The Social Creditor* (Eng.), April 10.

JUSTIFICATION OF DEMOCRACY

"The justification of democracy is not that it destroys authority; for authority which is destroyed only re-creates itself in harsher form. It is that it rests authority on consent. . . ."

—Aubrey Jones, in the June (1947) issue of the English review, *Nineteenth Century and After*.

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CRITICS OF ARTIFICIAL FERTILISERS ATTACKED

The Melbourne "LEADER" of March 31 and April 7 published severe attacks upon critics of artificial fertilisers. In view of the fact that these attacks have been made by Professor G. W. Leeper, associate professor of agricultural chemistry, Melbourne University, and Mr. H. A. Mullett, Director of the Victorian Department of Agriculture, it is appropriate to quote the views of the late Sir Albert Howard, undoubtedly one of the greatest agricultural authorities of all time, who, in dealing with the ideas of the German chemist Liebig said:

"... They enthroned the NPK (Nitrogen, Phosphorus, and Potassium) mentality, on which the artificial manure industry was founded, and they have kept in blinkers such bodies as the Ministry of Agriculture . . . the agricultural colleges, the agricultural press, and the advisory services for the farmer."

As Professor Leeper says that attacks upon artificial fertilisers are "just plain bunk," it might reasonably be asked, "Whose interests is Professor Leeper serving?" It is, of course, well known that the chemical combines are bitterly opposed to the growing revolt against chemical fertilisers by leading agriculturists all over the world.

Aiding Monopoly

In supporting Professor Leeper, Mr. Mullett said that "the strongest support ever accorded artificial fertilisers was given at the Copenhagen conference of the International Federation of Agriculturists last year, when the expert representatives of 46 nations resolved that steps be taken to eliminate 'the fallacy that crops grown with the rational use of chemical fertilisers may be harmful to human beings, live stock, or soil.'"

No doubt this made the controllers of Imperial Chemical Industries very happy indeed! International planners of all descriptions invariably further policies of MONOPOLY.

It is all very well for Professor Leeper and his associates to talk loosely about "bunk," but they make no attempt to answer the first hand results achieved by practical authorities such as the late Sir Albert Howard, whose experience over 40 years took him to many countries and all types of climates.

Howard proved beyond argument that diseases in livestock and crops can be practically eliminated by the use of organic farming methods and the abolition of the use of chemical fertilisers.

Why is it that well-known farmers all over the world are adopting organic

farming methods and enthusiastically giving details of the outstanding results achieved? Why have many company-owned tea plantations given over the use of artificial fertilisers in favour of or-



PROF. LEEPER

Block by courtesy of the "Age"

ganic manuring? These and similar questions are not answered by Professor Leeper and Mr. Mullett.

Compost "Impractical"

Both Professor Leeper and Mr. Mullett allege that composting is impractical except upon a small scale. The question of financial cost is also raised. In his book, *Humus and The Farmer*, Mr. Friend Sykes, one of the greatest farmers in Great Britain, conclusively proves as the result of his own considerable experiences that the application of machinery to composting makes even large-scale farming with compost possible. Sykes, like all other authorities, makes it clear, of course, that there can be no real farming unless the animal is recognised as man's "farming partner."

Even on a strictly financial basis, or-

ganic farmers all over the world are proving that they can more than compete with those who treat "farming" as merely an extension of the mass production industrial system. Mr. Mullett says that the abolition of chemical fertilisers in Southern Australia would lead to a reduced standard of living and to a peasantry similar to that in "the underdeveloped countries." If this is the best that the Victorian Department of Agriculture can suggest, it should be scrapped immediately as a dismal failure.

Use of Town Wastes

It is true, of course, that while many Australian farmers specialise in one type of production year after year, production which is largely exported, such as wheat, there is a strong argument in favour of chemicals to try and keep the soil producing. The insane export policy is, of course, directly connected with financial policy.

However, leaving this matter aside just
(Continued on page 12)

MAN —AND EARTH

But when the motor of a tractor stops, it is as dead as the ore it came from. The heat goes out of it like the living heat leaves a corpse. Then the corrugated iron doors are closed and the tractor man drives home to town, perhaps twenty miles away, and he need not come back for weeks or months, for the tractor is dead.

And this is easy and efficient. So easy that the wonder goes out of work, so efficient that the wonder goes out of land and the working of it, and with the wonder the deep understanding and the relation. And in the tractor man there grows the contempt that comes only to a stranger who has little understanding and no relation. For nitrates are not the land, nor phosphates; and the length of fibre in the cotton is not the land. Carbon is not a man, nor salt nor water nor calcium.

He is all these, but he is much more, much more; and the land is so much more than its analysis.

The man who is more than his chemistry, walking on the earth, turning his plough-point for a stone, dropping his handles to slide over an outcropping, kneeling in the earth to eat his lunch; that man who is more than his elements knows the land that is more than its analysis.

But the machine men, driving a dead tractor on land he does not know and love, understands only chemistry; and he is contemptuous of the land and of himself. When the corrugated iron doors are shut, he goes home, and his home is not the land.

—John Steinbeck, *The Grapes of Wrath*.

IS DIGGING NECESSARY?

By F. C. KING

We continue with extracts from Mr. King's informative booklet, "Is Digging Necessary?"

Horticulturists in many journals refer to the steady increase of disease in both onions and shallots, yet never a word do we see concerning the reduction of the cause of this state of affairs by treating the soil in a more rational manner. Plants are like human beings in that they require nourishment, but it cannot truly be said of either that the more nourishment they receive the better they are. Neither can it be held that an adequate supply of an unbalanced diet is better for either than a less amount if properly balanced.

A certain species of fungi has been studied by me for many years, during which time I have always found it more abundant in soil, which has seldom been disturbed. I have found it to be very selective in its diet, thriving amazingly well where hard, woody compost is used, and, on the other hand, being totally absent where either farmyard manure or peat has taken the place of compost as fertilising agents. Further, I have found that this particular fungi demands the companionship of certain roots if it is to increase rapidly, chief amongst these I would name the roots of the common annual thistle with those of the creeping buttercup and dandelion, in that order; in the arable land of the farmer where farmyard manure and artificials are used I have never found this fungi to be present at the roots of any of these subjects.

Although much disturbance of the soil takes place when growing potatoes, yet I have found that the less I disturb the soil the better the keeping qualities of the tubers. It is nothing unusual for the tubers of potatoes grown in this garden to keep in perfect condition for 15 months when stored in sheds; the same can be said of onions grown in undisturbed soil and with the companionship of weeds; shallot bulbs have been stored in sheds and remained in sound condition for two years; planting sets left over from the spring have been planted in the following autumn or even the following spring; losses of all three, potatoes, onions, and shallots, have been negligible during the time they have been in store.

So sure am I that this practice of resting the spade is better than regular digging that I purpose cropping a two acre garden this year with a variety of crops without first digging or ploughing the soil; whether this will be a success or not I am not prepared to say, but fortunately it is impossible to hide the result, and the hundreds of people who annually visit these gardens will be in a position to judge its value at first hand.

Rightly or wrongly I maintain that organic gardening does not begin or end with the manufacture of humus by way of the compost heap. Like most gardeners I have practised and advocated digging and will repeat that under certain circumstances would still recommend digging in a general way. Regular digging can only cease when there is an adequate supply of the right type of com-

post available at the right time of the year; a compost heap built up during July and containing upwards of 50 per cent, by volume of hard, woody material or sawdust can safely be used as a covering for the soil provided that the soil has previously been dressed with compost for a few years. Perhaps I am fortunate in being able to conduct trials in a garden where some kind of compost has regularly been used for more than 100 years. It would, however, be wrong of me to give the idea that all of this garden has had compost for this length of time, for parts have been denied compost, farmyard manures, artificials, or peat for almost a quarter of a century; crop residues have sufficed to maintain fertility of the soil on such parts where the growing of particular crops imposes little strain upon the resources of the soil.

REAL FOOD

"When you eat real food, you are taking in not only the food but the landscape out of the window and the sun that ripened it and the rain that invigorated it and the air it breathed and the husbandry that fostered it and the creative power of the earth that developed its vitality."

—H. J. Massingham in "This Plot of Earth."

I consider much of the success I have experienced in the growing of potatoes, with the freedom from blight they have always enjoyed, must be credited to factors other than fertilisers or sprays; crop residues and weeds together have supplied the wants of the living organisms in the soil and a balance of all essential elements has been secured at but little cost in labour or imported material.

Rightly or wrongly, I consider that if conditions are suitable for the well being of micro-fungi they will be equally suitable for bacterial life. Because I do not believe that my soil is ever improved by frost I take every care to prevent it getting frozen hard; a little hard woody compost spread upon the surface of vacant ground will prevent a too deep penetration of frost. So long as the soil remains unfrozen the workers in the soil will remain active. Since I believe that all of their actions are beneficial to both the soil and the gardener it behoves me to ensure that the soil is kept relatively warm all through the winter, thus extending the period of their activity. Certain crops are heavily mulched with sawdust during the autumn so that the earthworms can work all through the winter months. In the case of autumn planted cabbages this encourages the abundance of fine, fibrous roots, which lie just beneath the surface of the sawdust. There are no complaints about rank tasting cabbages where this system is adopted, and certainly few plants are killed by

frost. Broad beans appreciate this treatment if the seeds are sown in the autumn.

I believe it is possible to successfully grow a wide range of vegetables without digging the soil, and I also believe that without exception all taste better if encouraged to keep their roots near the surface. I believe that a supply of compost encourages worms to increase at a faster rate than with any other substance.

I believe that the tunnels created by the earthworms aerate the soil better than either the spade or the plough.

I believe that the plant roots can play a very important part in the aeration of the soil, and I think we are wrong in trying to utterly destroy weeds; weeds play an important part in the economy of the garden, and so long as we are content to control them then they can become invaluable.

To practise the art of composting is a very wise thing to do, but we must make sure that we use this when ready to the best possible advantage both to ourselves and the soil. One of the first results of covering the surface with a good compost or with raw sawdust is an immediate darkening of the soil. As most gardeners know, this darkening of the surface allows more of the heat of the sun's rays to be absorbed and retained for quite an appreciable length of time. For the first year it is advisable to apply a generous dressing, but successive coverings can be considerably reduced, for in its natural position on the surface of the soil compost does not tend to disappear as quickly as one might expect. This is partly due to the additional humus brought to the surface of the soil by earthworms and other burrowing animals.

Just as the annual growth made by an apple tree can be traced for a number of years by the tell-tale mark of a previous pruning or the ring left by each terminal bud, so can successive layers of compost be traced over a number of years in undug soil. Even below the depth of the dark colour, which marks the remains of the compost, the soil beneath will in variably be found to be beautifully granular in form with well defined pores. There is none of the stickiness we expect to find in previously dug soil, for the means of creating this is absent; water falling upon compost is filtered as it passes through this substance, therefore only clear water and not sediment finds its way down below. It is the fine mineralised particles carried down by heavy rain falling upon a surface devoid of absorbing properties which ultimately leads to water-logging; even those who believe in digging must grant that this operation brings to the surface much material which is incapable of absorbing and arresting the rapid percolation of rain, and also that this rapidly descending water is more heavily charged with sediment than the purer water which gradually seeps through an inch or so of compost; successive heavy rains transport the fine particles towards the subsoil and leave the coarse on the surface, which is the reverse of good drainage practice.

(To be Continued)



'GARDENING WITH COMPOST'

By F. C. KING (7/6 post free)

This book is a "must" for every vegetable and flower gardener. One of England's most famous gardeners, Mr. F. C. King gives his readers the benefit of years of practical experience. In an excellent introduction to the book, the late Sir Albert Howard writes: "In recording the deleterious effects of artificial manures on some of the plots at Levens Hall, Mr. King has unconsciously indicated a new and promising field for the research worker of tomorrow. His observations point to the need for keeping a careful watch on all land under experiment in order to determine what are the after-effects of chemical fertilisers."

Nowadays the yield is chiefly studied. This is not enough. What is the effect of say annual dressings of an artificial like super-phosphate on the earthworm population and on the way the soil responds to the spade?

Gardeners who have to cultivate the same land year after year are in an excellent position to observe the ultimate consequences of using such manures. All may go well for a year or two, but what happens afterwards?

Arms Disposal

MR. HOWSE asked the Minister representing the Minister for Supply and Shipping, upon notice—

1. How many military rifles (all rifles over .22 calibre) which were used by any of the armed forces of any country have been sold or disposed of by the Disposals Commission (a) in New South Wales, and (b) in the whole of Australia?

2. How much ammunition suitable for the above military rifles has been sold by the commission?

MR. DEDMAN. —*The Minister for Supply and Shipping has supplied the following information:—*

1. (a) 1,739 .303 rifles; (b) 4,143 .310 rifles, and 11,978 .303 rifles. The above figures do not include .303 rifles and .30 carbines sold either to the Department of Munitions or to licensed gunsmiths for conversion under supervision to .22 sporting rifles. In accordance with the agreement reached at the Premiers' Conference in August, 1947, no sales of military rifles have been made in the Commonwealth since that date, except in Western Australia, where the use of fire arms is controlled under the Firearms Act 1931-39.

2. 2,262,200 rounds of .310 ammunition and 7,720,464 rounds of .303 ammunition have been sold in the Commonwealth. — Federal House of Representatives, Mar. 10.

Mr. King has much to say on this point on which the research workers of the future will do well to ponder.

To avoid the pitfalls, which he indicates scientific investigators will have to become practical gardeners and carefully observe the final results on itself of any advice they have to give.

They must also secure the approval of the unseen labour force of the gardener—the soil organisms, including the earthworm—for any innovation they suggest. Had this been done in the case of manures like superphosphate and sulphate of ammonia, it is safe to say that neither of these soil poisons would ever

CRITICS OF ARTIFICIAL FERTILIZERS ATTACKED

(Continued from page 10)

now, there is no denying the fact that an enormous amount of valuable organic material could easily be made available if all sewage from every city and every town in Australia were properly treated and made available in suitable form to farmers.

Surely it is folly of the greatest magnitude for Australians to be wasting thousands of tons of phosphorus and other valuable elements annually by draining all sewage into seas, rivers, and lakes, while phosphate rock is imported, treated with sulphuric acid and then sold as superphosphate to farmers and gardeners!

The Living Soil

Judged strictly on results, chemical fertilisers have failed dismally. Their apparent short-term benefits can now be seen to be similar to opium applied to the human being; there is temporary stimulation, but the after effects are disastrous. Practical farmers and gardeners are, in spite of University Professors of Agricultural Chemistry, Government "experts," and the chemical monopolies—many of them subsidised by Governments, revolting against agricultural

have emerged from the seclusion of the experimental stations.

Mr. King's book is very comprehensive, as witnessed by the following brief selection of some of the chapters: "The Principles of Good Gardening"; "Soils"; "Manures"; "Bad Effects of Artificial Fertilisers"; and "Good Results Obtained by Use of Compost."

Undoubtedly Mr. King's most stimulating chapter is on weeds. So far from fighting weeds, Mr. King relates how he successfully controls them for the purpose of improving his soils. This approach should appeal to all gardeners! Mr. King says that he actually welcomes weeds in the late summer and autumn as green manure.

He writes: "Weeds will prevent the loss of valuable plant food at the periods: (1) while the crops are ripening and do not need much nourishment, and (2) in the late summer and autumn after the crop is removed. At both these periods the soil organisms are still busy converting humus into soluble food materials. If active roots are not there to take up these substances they will be lost in the drainage, or destroyed by certain groups of soil organisms particularly during spells of wet weather. A weed crop is the very thing to prevent these losses."

Mr. King contends that the control of the weed crop as green manure or as use for the compost heap ensures that nitrogen, phosphate, and potash are safely immobilised in organic form, which is then available for the spring. Mr. King certainly gives some very thought-provoking examples of what he has been able to accomplish in growing vegetables along with controlled crops of weeds—always making certain, of course, that the seeds are not allowed to seed.

Gardening With Compost is available from New Times Ltd., Box 1226L., G.P.O., Melbourne.

practices which have "mined" their soil, increased the incidence of disease in both stock and plants, and placed them further and further under the domination of "experts," whose sole aim appears to be to persuade agriculturists that stronger and more deadly serums and sprays, etc., also sold by the chemical monopolies, will solve their problems.

The soil is a living thing, pulsating with life. It can be no more "planned" as a dead, inert substance than can human beings. All life is governed by natural laws, and once these laws are broken problems start to multiply. The philosophy, which conceives of the soil as being susceptible to "planning" a la chemical "experts," is the same philosophy, which conceives of human beings as merely so much raw material to be "planned." It is a philosophy of death.

Responsibility for political comment in this issue is taken by John Weller, 343 Little Collins Street, Melbourne.

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