

THE NEW TIMES

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MELBOURNE, FRIDAY, MAY 21, 1948

SIXPENCE WEEKLY

This Inflation Racket

By H.R.

The second "war to end wars" demanded from industry the maximum possible output with the least delay, even to the extent of tackling tasks previously considered beyond all possibility of accomplishment, and gave rise to the belief in many minds that never again would financiers, economists, and politicians, be able to delude the people that what was physically possible was not always financially possible.

The pipe line laid beneath the English Channel in double quick time, to provide a steady flow of liquid fuel to the forces in France, without the inconvenience and risk of using ships, is a typical example of what a nation can achieve when the demands of war are so insistent as to cause it to forget the hocus pocus fostered by so-called "experts" in peacetime.

To achieve this feat of transferring millions of gallons of liquid fuel from England to France all that was necessary was for some active and informed mind to conceive a plan, then tests were made, the necessary raw materials obtained, and plant and manpower allocated to the task. The function of the Treasury in that gigantic task was to provide the necessary finance as fast, as it was required, and that is the proper function of the Treasury in wartime, if the invader is to be repelled and ultimately defeated.

Peace-time Shortage

If money can be made to flow so freely in wartime, why must it invariably dwindle in time of peace, often to the merest trickle? It dwindles in peacetime because the false practice of mortgaging the country to financial institutions to save it from the enemy leaves behind a burden of debt and interest for posterity to bear; also because control of financial policy in peacetime is the close preserve of the international financier.

Through the economist, Treasury official, and politician, the financier directs financial policy, not towards making financially possible that which is physically possible, but towards making all people dependent upon loans from himself, and thus conscious of the power of finance.

Of course, the policy of the Treasury and of the Commonwealth Bank is subject to approval from the Treasurer of the day, but hasn't Mr. Chifley displayed an extremely marked eagerness to make his own will subject to a policy dictated

from outside Australia? His ready acceptance of the Bretton Woods Agreement, the international trade agreement, and his unquestioning acceptance of the "dollar" shortage, are more than sufficient evidence of his capacity to be influenced from outside sources.

Inflation and Depression

In wartime fear of the enemy causes people to forget the financiers' propaganda of before the war. When peace returns, fear of the twin evils of inflation and depression drives people back once again to acceptance of the old untruths and half-truths. Instead of being spurred to action by their fear as they were in war, they become frozen to inaction by fear of financial disaster.

Superimposed on this fear is the international financiers' plan for world government, expressed through the various world "agreements" and controls, which are a prominent feature of the present setup.

The more remote the source of government from the individual citizen, the less able he is to control it and the easier it is for control to be exercised by the financiers who influence world organisations and their plans.

Big plans call for finance on a big scale, and thus require the approval of the big financier before they can be put into operation.

Mr. Chifley's Philosophy

The success of this policy of the destruction of individual and national sovereignty is dependent upon concealment of the source of the policy. Effects must be kept unrelated to their underlying causes, and the public gulled into acceptance of the effects as inevitable and inescapable. At this point the financier is thrown upon the services of the "expert," the journalist, the radio commentator, and, above all, the "statesman." Mr. Chifley, as Prime Minister, possesses practically everything high finance desires from a political leader under present conditions.

He is ultra-cautious in finance, readily

responsive to overseas financial influences, has the Socialist's love for controls and restrictions, holds the confidence of moderate Labour, and, in addition, in common with Labour in general, his political philosophy was born in the bad days of English capitalism and nurtured in financial depression. Hence his desire to be the big dictator in Australia, not for the purpose of making Australia prosperous or Australians happy, but to prevent a recurrence of the financial evils he fears. In other words, his aim is to make the system work. This negative and blind preoccupation

(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

THIS INFLATION RACKET

(Continued from page 1)

with inflation and depression *must lead to the shackling of industry with restrictive controls and a vast non-productive and stifling bureaucracy.* The prevention of something of which one lives in continual fear and accepts as inevitable, but nevertheless desires to resist, necessarily calls for restrictive controls. A leader opposing the floodtide of inflation and the ebb of depression, armed only with negative controls, is as helpless as a housewife opposing floodwaters with a straw broom.

Mr. Chifley's wartime wage pegging, as was to be expected, was beaten down by opposition from the trade unions, and his bureaucratic Prices Commissioner has been compelled to retreat consistently in face of the advance in production costs, which arose as the inevitable consequence of the increase in wages. This policy of Mr. Chifley's, for which his opponents at Canberra apparently have no workable alternative, produces a preoccupation with effects rather than causes, and with a day-to-day existence for the average citizen rather than a future with hope and promise.

Fear of Depression

There is really no reason, other than the inadequacy of our system of finance, why we should not rise to the heights of industrial production, which we achieved in wartime, or go even higher. But political parties, which live in fear of financial depression and shun all attempts to find a cure, cannot be expected to help us achieve them. These people fear expenditure on large-scale industrial expansion because they associate the accompanying credit expansion with financial depression.

Their fear of financial depression might even lead them to a sneaking favour for any hindrance to the development of so-called "boom" conditions, including possibly the quite obvious plot on the part of the Communists to sabotage production and prevent any semblance of prosperity under private enterprise. That might be one reason why the Communists continue their destructive work, without opposition from Canberra and with scarcely a word of criticism or reproach from that quarter.

At first glance the vast expenditure on social services by the Federal Government might appear to give the lie to what has been said above about financial policy, but closer examination will show that these social services are designed to patch up the existing system and make it tolerable to the worker and not to lead him to independence and plenty.

Every one of these services helps destroy the independence of the worker by making him dependent upon hand-outs from Government officials. Not one of them helps to advance his standard of living, because all have to be paid from

direct or indirect taxation, plus the cost of the bureaucracy, which administers them, and the inefficiency which follows



Mr. Chifley

distant, all-powerful, and self-satisfied control.

Escape From Tyranny

Being financed from taxation, they must in turn be influenced by financial policy, which is more under the control of the international financier than ever before.

Freedom Means Something

By FRANK BROWN in "THINGS I HEAR"

In the first week of the New Year, a dozen desperate men broke out of the Colorado State Prison. They escaped into a raging blizzard. They had no hideouts, no adequate clothes to keep out the freezing cold. They faced the fate of Ishmael's—unarmed in a below zero waste.

They left behind the jail that offered warmth, food, security. Their chances of making good their escape was something better than none, but not much.

Two days later, one was dead, ten were recaptured wounded, and one was in the jail hospital with frostbite.

They'd taken the long chance, and left their blood on the snow. A grim little story about grim people. The men who broke jail were murderers, kidnapers, thugs. Their mentality was low.

Yet, in their futile bid for freedom, with all the cards stacked against them, there's a lesson to be learned.

They proved how good freedom looks to those who have lost it. The prison offered security. The blizzard offered death, with terrors of the hunted . . . an infinitesimal chance of freedom.

They took the chance.

The escape from financial tyranny depends upon severance of the domination of finance—Socialist international authorities over internal policy, and the adoption of a financial policy designed to distribute to the people of Australia the products of their industries and imports received in exchange for genuine surpluses.

It is ridiculous to claim, as even the Socialists claim, that such a policy cannot be pursued without danger of financial inflation and depression. A financial system which is so far divorced from reality that it hinders or prevents that which is physically possible is palpably a wrong system. In their support of that system, by endeavouring to patch it up and make it work, Mr. Chifley and his Socialists ally themselves with the Communists as saboteurs of plenty. To claim that the discovery of a scientific financial system capable of expanding with our needs is beyond the ability of man is to insult human intelligence and to place ourselves at the mercy of those who exploit the faults of the present system for the extension of their own power.

This journal has always claimed, and will never cease to claim, that a solution to the financial muddle is possible and has been found. We have made little headway with the Socialists because the present system suits better their policy of restrictions and controls and of Government handouts to industrial serfs. Bitter experience of Socialist domination is steadily breeding distrust and suspicion of their totalitarian "pipe dreams" and providing fertile ground for the development of something more in keeping with our principles of individual freedom and national independence.

It wasn't so long ago that our ancestors took similar chances. They chose freedom, and paid the price in blood.

In our lifetime, we'll see that freedom go. It will go because our will to keep it has gone. That is a majority of it. The crowd, who did nothing towards winning freedom, won't do much to keep it. They cheer, and cheer loudly every time somebody replaces a piece of liberty with a piece of security.

One day we'll wake up to find that it's all security, and no liberty. Then, somebody will have to lead an attempt to break out.

There'll be blood on the snow again.

THE OBJECTIVE OF CIVILISATION

... While all these world policies derive support from half-baked dupes to whom they are commended as the salvation of mankind, as for instance the League of Nations which ensured the Second World War, only ordinary powers of observation are required to see that, always and without exception, they are devices to ensure the enslavement of those they pretend to save.

Why anyone should suppose that the steady drain of initiative and power from the individual to the institution should be for the benefit of humanity made up of individuals, we have never been able to understand. Every atom of evidence goes to prove the opposite; we have more institutionalism, less safety, less satisfaction and less future than at any time in recorded history.

Social Crediters at least ought to know the answer. The slogan of "All Power to the Soviets" in whatever disguise it may be propounded, and whatever name may be given to the Parliament, Cabinet, or State being propagandised is, and always has been, a trick, a trap, and a delusion.

The whole objective of civilisation is that a man shall be able to choose or refuse one thing at a time.

Eric Butler's Successful Country Tour

Last weekend Mr. Butler concluded a short pre-Referendum tour through some Victorian country centres. The following is a brief report of his recent meetings and lectures:

After his very successful meeting at Horsham on May 3, Mr. Eric Butler went on to Woomelang for a meeting on May 5. Cold, wet weather undoubtedly affected the attendance, but this did not prevent a good meeting.

On May 6, Mr. Butler spoke in the Mildura Town Hall to the biggest meeting he has yet had in this centre, which is notoriously bad for meetings. The Mildura *Sunraysia Daily* gave Mr. Butler's address excellent publicity, and thus helped swell the attendance at the Red Cliffs meeting on May 7. This meeting was Mr. Butler's biggest and best meeting, and local supporters of *The New Times* are to be congratulated on the excellent work they have been doing.

On Monday, May 10, Mr. Butler broke new ground with a good meeting at Donald. In spite of many important counter attractions, approximately 40 people attended. The Shire President took the Chair.

The only opposition came from the leading local Communist, an able enthusiast who has had some impact in this centre. In the course of answering some of his questions, Mr. Butler said that it was an interesting fact that leading Socialist and Communist advocates were not very keen to debate him in Melbourne. As the local Communist had some of his local youthful admirers present, he, no doubt, felt that the prestige of "The Cause" was at stake, and that something would have to be done. He, therefore, challenged Mr. Butler to meet him in a public debate in Donald at some future date. It is expected that this debate will take place before a large audience early in July.

The Colac meeting on Wednesday, May 12, was not as well attended as had been expected. However, it was a 75 percent

larger meeting than that held by the Labour Party the night before. Both Colac papers published adequate reports of Mr. Butler's address.

In spite of solid work by Mr. W. C. Manifold, the Camperdown meeting on May 13 did not come up to expectations. However, approximately 20 people listened attentively to Mr. Butler on a very cold night. The chair was taken by Cr. A. Blythe, Shire President.

At the above meetings, Mr. Butler sold a large amount of literature and signed up new readers for *The New Times*.

—*The Social Crediter* (Eng.), May 8.

Until he can do that, he is a determinist, and ought to resign himself to the idea that he cannot have atomic energy to free him from "full-employment" without having atomic bombs to render his further employment unnecessary.

There are dozens of instances in which the fundamental principles, which ought to limit organisation, have been embodied, such as the cricket or golf club. In every case, their essential character depends on the freedom to contract out.

The Trades' Unions, which began by being a tyranny on the craftsman, have now become a tyranny on the general population, because they have made it nearly impossible to contract-out of their monopoly, Labour.

—*The Social Crediter* (Eng.), May 8.

Many took supplies of anti-Referendum material for distribution.

On Friday evening, May 14, Mr. Butler gave the opening address at Geelong Grammar to a gathering of Old Boys associated to hear lectures on various aspects of Australia's resources. Mr. Butler was introduced by Mr. W. G. Manifold, who said that Mr. Butler was going to approach the question of finance in relationship to the utilisation of resources from the Social Credit point of view.

Mr. Butler's central thesis was that members of the community had to decide between the utilisation of the credit system to permit the individual increasing economic sovereignty or the continuation of a policy, which necessitates greater control of the individual by the "State."

Mr. Butler said that the Social Credit viewpoint was that increasing technological development must result in increasing dividends for the members of the community. He went on to show how the policy of "Full Employment" and Favourable Export Trade" was designed to ensure that no individual obtained access to credit power unless he worked under direction.

Mr. Butler's address provoked a lot of keen questioning and discussion. Mr. Butler remained at Geelong Grammar on Saturday, May 15, and took part in the discussions following the lectures given that day.

On last Monday morning, May 17, he left by plane for Adelaide to open his South Australian tour under the auspices of the South Australian League of Rights.

HOW TO VOTE NO

ON MAY 29

Place the number 1 in the square opposite the word NO on the ballot paper, and the number 2 in the square opposite the word YES.

A Night You Will Remember! New Times Annual Dinner

Arrangements have been made for a number of notable Social Crediters to be present at the New Times Annual Dinner, including Eric Butler, Bruce H. Brown and Dr. John Dale.

Mr. Butler will propose the toast to Major C. H. Douglas and also give a short off-the-record address on the "inside" developments in *The New Times*, and allied activities. Readers who wish to keep in touch with what is happening behind the scenes must not miss this.

Mr. Bruce Brown will propose the toast to *The New Times*, seconded by Dr. John Dale.

It has also been arranged to have some top-flight entertainers there to make the evening a really big success. They will include a pianist, singer, comedian, and instrumentalists.

Others present will include Mr. W. J. Carruthers, Chairman of the New Times Board; Mr. N. E. White, President of the Douglas Social Credit Movement of Vic-

toria; and Mr. R. H. Weller, Treasurer of the Victorian Compost Society.

Tickets are selling well and a number of readers from as far afield as Northern Victoria have signified their intention of being present. All those readers who intend coming but have not yet purchased their tickets are urged to do so without delay, so that our catering arrangements can be finalised.

Order Now From: The
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DEVELOPMENTS IN CANADIAN SOCIAL CREDIT MOVEMENT

For some months past we have been aware of a series of disquieting developments in Alberta, and of the now open rift between the supporters of Mr. Manning and the Quebec Social Crediters. We have, however, refrained from commenting upon this matter until we could gather more first-hand information and accurately assess the situation. The following review of the Canadian situation is only presented after careful consideration of all the available information:

With the steady progress of the Social Credit Movement in Canada, it is not surprising that moves have been made to disrupt the Movement internally. We are sorry to report that it appears that the enemies of Social Credit have been at least partially successful in creating dissension amongst Canadian Social Crediters.

For some time there has been an open breach between Mr. Manning, Premier of Alberta, and his associates, and the leaders of the powerful French-Canadian Quebec Movement.

In Alberta, Mr. Ansley, Minister for Education, and Mr. L. D. Byrne, Deputy Minister of Economic Affairs, have been forced to resign from the Cabinet because of their disagreement with the policies of Mr. Manning.

Neglecting Provincial Sphere

The administration of the Canadian Social Creditor has been changed, and a policy of so-called "anti-Semitism" introduced. Not only are the anti-Zionist speeches of Mr. Norman Jaques, prominent Social Credit M.P. at Ottawa, banned, but we understand that even Major C. H. Douglas himself is to have his "anti-Semitic" statements censored.

Although delegates at the annual meeting of the Alberta Social Credit League late in 1945 made it clear that they wanted the fight to introduce Social Credit financial principles continued on a provincial basis in Alberta, it is now obvious that Mr. Manning and his associates propose to neglect the provincial sphere for the Federal sphere.

Mr. Ansley and Mr. Byrne disagree with this strategy, which has also been criticised by the leaders of the Quebec Social Credit Movement, who claim that the Manning Government was elected to get certain results in Alberta, and that it should continue to do as instructed by their electors.

Electoral Campaign

The Quebec leaders point to the excellent results achieved by the system of Treasury Branches and claim that, in spite of all the constitutional and other obstacles which have been raised against the Social Credit Government in Alberta, a bookkeeping system can surely be devised to permit the people of Alberta to get complete access to their own production.

The Quebec Social Credit journal, *Vers*

Demain, also draws attention to the fact that Mr. Manning has never fully endorsed the electoral campaign principle, and that he has had conflicts with the Quebec Social Crediters on this matter.

The Quebec Social Crediters have been making excellent progress with their non-Party Union of Electors, which works to encourage electors to unite to demand results and make individual

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Members of Parliament responsible for those results. It is very encouraging to note that the Union of Electors' idea is now growing in other parts of Canada, including Alberta.

Zionist Influence

To what extent, if any, Zionist intrigue has played in the unfortunate disruption in the Canadian Social Credit Movement we do not venture to say. In the course of criticism of Mr. Manning over the past five months, our English contemporary, *The Social Creditor*, has drawn attention to a visit by Stella Marchioness of Reading (Isaacs) to Alberta, where, it is alleged, she had contact with Mr. and Mrs. Manning. *The Social Creditor* further alleges that it was after this visit that Mr. Manning "became a Zionist."

The Canadian *Jewish Chronicle* of January 9, 1948, published the following: "Leaders of the Social Credit Party have finally announced a ban on the publication of anti-Semitic articles in the organisation's official organ, following conferences with Joseph H. Fine, Chairman of the Public Relations Committee of the Canadian Jewish Congress. . . ." However, we must in all fairness point out that an editorial in *The Canadian Social Creditor* of March 4, 1948, the following appears: ". . . We wish to inform our readers that we know nothing of the above-alleged meeting." However, if this

is so, it is strange that neither Mr. Manning nor *The Canadian Social Creditor* has, as far as we are aware, demanded from *The Jewish Chronicle* a public apology for having made a false statement obviously designed to create dissension amongst Canadian Social Crediters.

First-hand Information

Although we have been aware of the differences of opinion amongst Canadian Social Crediters for some time, we have refrained from comment until we had obtained as much first-hand information as possible from Canada.

For example, we thought it proper that we should obtain Mr. Manning's views on the Zionist question by asking him a number of questions. In a letter dated March 15, Mr. Manning replies to our questions as follows:

"1. Are you a Zionist?"

ANSWER: "Most emphatically, no."

"2. Are you in favour of any Zionist-policies? If so, which ones?"

ANSWER: "This statement does not permit a categorical answer in that no man can say that he is fully conversant with all the policies of an organisation with which he is in no way associated. Within the policies of most groups with which we disagree there can frequently be found subordinate aspects with which few would disagree."

World Dictatorship

"3. Do you subscribe to the view that Zionist Jews are working to establish a World Dictatorship?"

ANSWER: "I am convinced that the ruthless forces which are striving to establish a World Dictatorship embrace many other segments of society besides Zionist Jews. A number of Jews are most certainly allied with those forces, and the majority of such Jews are undoubtedly political Zionists. It is my conviction, however, that effective efforts to block the establishment of World Dictatorship are retarded rather than assisted by the practice of singling out any one particular racial or religious group for special mention. The effect of such practice is to confuse the real issue of united action to prevent World Dictatorship by diverting public attention into channels of racial prejudices which crowd into obscurity the real and fundamental issues involved."

"4. Do you feel that the U.N.O. solution of the Palestine question is just to the Arabs?"

ANSWER: "I do not agree that the U.N.O. proposal to partition Palestine is a solution at all. It is rather a compromise proposal savouring of the thoroughly discredited policy of appeasement."

Communism and Zionism

"5. Do you believe that there is any connection between International Communism and International Zionism?"

ANSWER: "I believe that International Communism uses each and every agency which it can influence to accomplish its ultimate end of a supreme World Dictatorship. Communism has undoubtedly infiltrated into the International Zionist organisation in the same manner that it has a goodly number of other organisations, both national and international. The fact that Communism consistently

(Continued on page 5)

Developments in Canadian S.C. Movement

(Continued from page 4)

advances its own ends by exploiting the real or imaginary grievances of individuals and organisations makes it only natural that it would capitalize on the situation with respect to the Jewish people to win the maximum measure of support possible from an organisation international in scope."

Identity of "Ruthless Forces"

In referring to the criticism of *The Social Crediter* (England), Mr. Manning writes: "... I assure you that the criticisms in question are grossly unfair and have no foundation in fact."

One point clearly emerges from Mr. Manning's answers to our questions; he specifically repudiates *The Social Crediters* statement that he "became a Zionist." He further states that International Zionism is "an organization with which he is in no way associated." This appears to us to be convincing and definite as far as it goes, but there are fundamental aspects of the Zionist-Communist question, which Mr. Manning appears to be dangerously confused about. Mr. Manning admits that there are "ruthless forces" striving to create a World Dictatorship. If an intelligent fight is to be made against these "forces," it is surely obvious that the identity of those working to enslave the world should be known. *They must be named.* If there are others apart from the Zionists striving for World Dictatorship, then Mr. Manning should also name them.

"Chosen People" Myth

Intelligent public opinion can never be mobilised against our enemies unless we know who those enemies are. People cannot fight shadows. Further, we must know what methods those grasping for power are using to achieve their ends. *And we must understand their motives.*

If, as the evidence undoubtedly shows, the Zionists are playing a predominant role in using for their own ends the various movements centralising power on a world scale, then special mention must be made of the Zionists.

If the Zionists believe that the Jews are the "Chosen People," destined to rule the world, then it is merely common sense that we pay careful attention to the matter.

If we don't, then it is possible that many sincere people will find themselves being unconsciously used to further objectives with which they do not agree. The obvious "tolerance" which Mr. Manning and his associates are trying to display may yet prove their undoing.

Issues at Stake

Mr. Manning is wide of the mark when he infers that the Communists are merely using Zionism for their own ends. The reverse is nearer the truth of the matter. Is not Mr. Manning aware that Communism has always been predominantly Jewish? The Russian Revolution was virtually a Jewish Revolution. We are disturbed to learn that Mr. Manning is apparently so poorly informed on well-established history.

We are sorry to have to draw our readers' attention to this matter, but big

issues are at stake in Alberta, and the policies of Mr. Manning and his associates are of direct concern to Social Crediters in all parts of the world.

One of the most alarming aspects of the dissension amongst Canadian Social Crediters at present is the open breach between Social Crediters in Alberta and Quebec. Professor J. E. Gregoire, brilliant French-Canadian, outlines in the following letter (published in *Vers Demain* of February 15, 1948) why he resigned from his position as Vice-President of the Canadian Social Credit Association:

Professor Gregoire's Letter

"Quebec, January 30, 1948.

"Mr. Solon Low, President of the Social Credit Association of Canada.

"Major A. H. Jukes, Vice-President.

"Dr. J. N. Haldeman, Chairman of the National Council.

"Since at the moment a faction is leading the Social Credit Association of Canada along lines of conduct contrary to those adopted at the last National Convention:

Widows Fleeced While Federal Government Benefits

The following is an extract from a speech by Mr. Mutton, member for Coburg, delivered during the Debate on Adjournment in the Legislative Assembly of Victoria on April 27th.

On the 9th of December last Parliament passed an amendment of the Superannuation Act to give widows of public servants an increase of 25 percent in their pensions, but that exceeded the permissible amount allowed by the Commonwealth Government to the recipient of a widow's pension and the excess was deducted.

The result is that in many instances widows have suffered financial loss. I ask the Government to consider the case of these unfortunate persons. The 25 percent was granted as a gesture to offset the high cost of living, and it should be treated in that way by the Commonwealth Government. The Premier knows all about this matter, and he should take steps to rectify a glaring anomaly.

In one case a widow was receiving £3/15/ a fortnight from the Federal Government and £4 from the State, but when the increase was granted by the State Government, the Commonwealth reduced its payment to £3/2/6. The amount paid by the State was increased to £4/12/6. That is ridiculous. This woman has three children, but unfortunately the Government did not increase the amount paid to them. If that had been done, the woman would have benefited by 7/6 a week.

She has been informed officially that as a result of the increase in her State superannuation it has been necessary to reduce her Commonwealth pension from 75/ to 62/6 a fortnight. *This Parliament in its wisdom gave unfortunate widows something extra as a Christmas gesture*

"Since this is being done without direction from the National Executive, of which, as Vice-President, I am a member:

"Since *The Canadian Social Crediter*, supposed to be the official organ of the Association, is giving space to harmful matter, which I cannot accept, directed against the leaders of the movement of the Province of Quebec:

"Since the same paper has published a letter from the Chairman condemning the ways and methods of the Institute of Political Action and of the Union of Electors of Quebec:

"I wish to dissociate myself entirely from this action and from these lines of conduct, and hereby resign my office of Vice-President of the Social Credit Association of Canada, this dissociation and resignation to take effect immediately. "J. E. Gregoire."

Unfortunate Dissension

In our next issue we propose to publish a well-balanced and tolerant review of the Canadian Social Credit situation as given by a non-Social Credit journal, *The Western Producer* (Alberta). Australian Social Crediters can learn much from what is happening in Canada, where, in spite of unfortunate dissension, there is no doubt that Social Credit continues to make excellent progress.

to offset the increase in the cost of living, but we find that Ben Chifley, through his Departments, has taken it off.

In other words, the State Government gave a 25 percent increase to the Commonwealth Government.

The Premier and the Leader of the Opposition must agree that this is an anomaly; I know that they would not support the fleecing of unfortunate widows. We should ensure that these women receive the benefit of the legislation passed on the 9th of December.

Socialist Criticises Socialism

Recently an attack on socialisation was made by the Socialist M.P. Mr. Alfred Edwards, member for East Middlesborough, who said: *"To put the British steel industry into the hands of the civil service is suicide, and treachery to the country. The civil service and efficiency are a contradiction in terms: The Government has no plans for steel."*

Mr. Edwards is a steel expert, who started in blast furnaces and became managing director of a steel-making concern.

Like many other Socialists and Communists, Mr. Edwards is disillusioned by socialism in practice.

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THE PRICE OF MARSHALL

"AID"

It is now, somewhat belatedly, being openly admitted that the strings attached to Marshall "Aid" reveal an over-all control which would allow the Washington-cum-Wall Street groups to effectively complete their task of eliminating the British Empire as a sovereign entity. Even now it is regarded as a sort of outpost of the new American Empire; or, as Mrs. Roosevelt so charmingly put it, "Britain is the first line of defence of the United States."

An influential American business journal, "The United States News," for February of this year, in a special article on the Marshall Plan, makes the following pertinent remarks: —

"The Administrator of the programme actually is to become a director of world business. He will be in a position to tell France, for example, whether to rebuild railroads or to improve highways. He can decide whether farms are to be mechanised. He will determine whether Britain or the Ruhr gets first call on coal-mining machinery. And he can stop the dollar flow altogether if countries do not abide by his terms.

"World trade patterns will be influenced by the Administrator's decisions. He has power to decide whether timber shall be purchased from Finland, Sweden, or Canada; whether U.S. wheat or Canadian wheat should get priority in dollar sales; whether Brazil or the U.S. should supply cotton to European textile mills.

"When it comes to purely relief operations, the Administrator, on the basis of Senate plans, is to have almost absolute powers."

It is interesting to note that the Sydney "Bulletin", which hitherto supported Marshall "Aid", is now seriously concerned about the strings which, as it points out, were "not formerly publicised."

"It appears," says the Bulletin, "that Britain has signed a 'letter of intent.' This lays it down that Britain: (1) Will adhere to the policy of the U.S. Economic Co-operation Act; (2) Will conclude a bilateral agreement with the United States; (3) Will take necessary steps to make sterling deposits commensurate with the amount of dollar assistance; and (4) Has signed the convention for the organisation of European economic co-operation....."

"It did come out over the week-end that the 'sterling-deposits' condition in the letter of intent meant that Britain had agreed to deposit in a special account 'the sterling equivalent of every dollar received under the Marshall Plan in the form of grants,' and that this sterling would be available for administrative expenses incurred by the United States in the United Kingdom under the Economic Co-operation Act, or for such purposes as may be agreed to between the two Governments."

Our predictions that the Marshall Plan (which perhaps it would be more accurate to call the Baruch Plan) was merely another agency through which the policy of world control and economic aggression would operate have been proved accurate. Let us hope that a few more Britishers will be stirred to investigate and unmask such measures before it is too late.

Communists Confiscate Workers' Bank Accounts

When, after the first few months of occupation, the German Banks obtained permission to re-open their offices, all had to be altered in the most profound manner. In the four Zones bank work was regulated differently, according to the different orders and regulations of the four occupying Powers. IN THE RUSSIAN ZONE ALL ACCOUNTS AND CREDITS WERE SEQUESTERED AND HAVE SINCE BEEN KEPT FROZEN, banks and insurance companies being almost entirely socialised. In the other Zones credits and accounts were freed so long as they did not belong to former members of the various Nazi organisations; in case of the latter exceptions, all funds are administered and controlled under special orders and laws. All payment of interest and dividends was stopped. The vast expansion of circulating money and bills, the complete uncertainty of future monetary reforms, such as devaluation, have limited if not absolutely put a stop to all proper and solid banking business, and consequently, bank incomes have declined. The large "D-Banks" have been decentralised into separate provincial banks, losing all former connection. In each Zone, and within the Zones, these banks have started again under different names. — *Bankers' Journal*, quoted in *The Railways Officer*, April 1948.

The Modern (Robot) State

The following is an extract from a review of the book *La France Contre Les Robots* in *The Tablet* (Eng.), of February 21, 1948:

"He (the author, Georges Bernanos) sets out to show how the modern State took its first fatal step towards the suppression of individual rights when universal conscription for war was admitted after the French Revolution. There was an enormous retrogression towards the Roman conception of the rights of the State implied in this seizure of power, contrasted with the barriers of protective privileges built up during the long history of the Christian monarchy in France.

"Once this novel view of the citizen's duty was admitted, the increasing demands of technocracy made it inevitable that the criterion of efficient organization would over-ride the spiritual view of individual liberties.

"It has been a long process, but we are able to see now the end to which it has tended.

"The State, whose role the fools of moderns believe is to feed them, educate them, tend them in their illnesses, support them in their old age and finally to bury them—the State has all rights. . . . If our species finally disappears from this planet, it will not be cruelty which will be responsible for our extinction, but the docility, the lack of responsibility of modern man, his abject complaisance to everything willed by the collectivity."

SOCIALISM AND INHERITANCE

The real difference between the Socialists and their opponents is in the meaning to be given to the expression "working for the community." Through all earlier centuries men have understood this expression in the broadest way, and it is for Socialists to demonstrate that the broadest were not also the profoundest terms.

It used to be generally conceded that, as the homely phrase went, "it took all sorts to make a world," that hereditary classes were necessary to maintain a wide differentiation of human types and aptitudes and tastes, and that if the people in the nation did not differ very much there would be much less excellence, because excellence is the fruit of sustained differentiation and specialised living; it is seldom unconnected with what has gone before.

The great majority of good writers, for example, have always come from homes where letters are valued.

"Working for the community" can be seen in a completely superficial way, a nation of directed managers and workers, creating a product and dividing it up, and making little or no place for the truth that the national life is extended in time, and across more than one generation.

The temptation to look only at current production appeals particularly to two types; there are materialists to whom material things are of such overriding importance that nothing can reconcile them to seeing them very unequally owned, and there are Puritans who are not really very much interested in getting more for everybody; what they are interested in is stripping those who have too much.

What is quite certain is that the frontal Socialist attack on inheritance and incomes does not really promote equality; it merely displaces one kind of rich person and creates the opportunities for another type.

It destroys established families and fixed homes, and all that stratum of society in which the wealth is held with a sense of local and national responsibility and among people whose tastes have been refined through the generations. Because these people live in the

LEISURE TO THINK

"Then again there is the baneful effect of Hollywood in lowering the taste of the masses, and, in fact, in lowering the whole standard of thought throughout the world. Crowds flock to the picture theatres, and producers revel in producing the kind of film that tickles the taste of the masses. Crowds also flock to the museums to see exhibitions of outlandish paintings, and some people argue from this that the masses are becoming art conscious. This is not true—the masses are now merely what they always have been, namely stunt conscious. I am not a great believer of art for the masses—even to appreciate art and to understand art much prayer and fasting is required, and the habit of deep and prolonged thought is only acquired by those who are supposed to belong to a leisured class. If leisure means having the time to think, then there *must* be a leisured class, for without thought no human progress is possible."

—Lord Lytton in *The National Review*.

full light of day and are honest, they are very easily stripped of their possessions.

But an infinitely less desirable class—men of no known origins and of no local or other loyalties, who do not feel that anything is expected from them by

THE MONEY-POWER BEHIND SOCIALISM

We have the fact, to begin with, that the system of debt manufacture by the lending, or pretended lending, of non-existent money—which is the basis of banking—has necessarily and inevitably led to an enormous compounding of debt. . . . A great pile of debt goes snowballing up.

Every ten years or so this load becomes so great as to be unpayable. What is known as a commercial crisis then takes place. The situation is cleaned up by lenders taking possession of property pledged by borrowers against their debt. The result is that all the true ownership is concentrated in fewer and fewer hands. Great businesses swallow up little businesses, for it is the small man who keeps going under all the time and the trusts and combines which keep growing greater and greater. If the system were continued long enough a few money lords would own everything on earth.

Such is the inevitable end of the sham-money system of debt multiplication. As we have seen, the Jews claim that this bank credit system was their invention. As we have also seen, away up at the top of it are a small number of Jewish international financiers. If these financiers presently appeared as the owners of everything on earth they would undoubtedly be most unpopular men . . . the financiers pay away a lot of money to have boards of directors of highly respectable Gentiles sitting on many of the great combines they run. It would seem as if the system must reach a point far too dangerous to proceed further.

Continuation of trust and monopoly making would result in one gigantic trust owning everything. Now, it is a very curious thing that this is exactly the Socialist programme, the programme of the Jew, Karl Marx. The ownership of everything is to be taken over by one great trust, in the name of the proletariat, of the people. In theory, the people will own everything. Actually the people, individually, under full-fledged Socialism will own nothing at all. But everything will be owned in their name and will be controlled and operated in

society, and who regard themselves, quite justly, as successful beasts of prey—accumulate fortunes the more easily the longer the new frontier of illegal trading becomes.

When men debate the pros and cons of controls, even of such simple control as a tariff, they must reflect that every control automatically brings into existence a profitable black market in circumventing it. The French and Belgians understand this much more clearly than the English, who have only had a few years' experience, though our eighteenth-century ancestors with their excise men, knew all about it.

The political contrast today will be increasingly between two different kinds of call to national unity, and that party will deserve best of the nation which learns to make its appeal in the truest terms and in the terms which do most to preserve all that is best in the national past.

—*The Tablet*, Dec. 20, 1947.

their name. The actual controllers of everything will necessarily be a very few men. They will give the orders and the people will have to obey—that is, so long as a majority of the people is willing to obey, or the controllers have the means of enforcing obedience.

—Extract from *All These Things*, by A. N. Field (1936), page 222.

Pensions For Politicians

The danger of giving politicians of any label too much power is instanced in the recent salary grab and the Bigger Parliament Bill. Without being consulted, we are now to have the Pensions for Politicians Plan which proposes pensions of £10-£12 per week for defeated politicians after 6 years' service, plus, of course, the right to take another job as well.

At the same time, these same "servants" of the people are reluctant to consider a meagre increase of 5/ per week in the old-age pension, and refuse to abolish the means test.

Electors are only asking for further trouble if they are prepared to give these "representatives" still further power on May 29.

Volunteers Required

Volunteers are needed to distribute the leaflet *Genuine Alternative to Permanent Price Control*. Social Credit is the answer to Australia's Problems. Apply to Douglas Social Credit Movement of Victoria, Room 8, The Block, Elizabeth Street, Melbourne.

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

"New Times," May 21, 1948 — Page 7

The Science of Life Books

The following Science of Life Books are now ready:

1. One Hundred Secrets of Good Health..... 2/-
2. Eat and be Well..... 2/-
3. Vitamins Work Wonders..... 2/-
4. Be Your Own Doctor!..... 2/-
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6. Stomach Troubles—Cause and Cure..... 2/-
7. Heart Ailments -- Cause and Cure..... 2/-
8. Appendicitis - - Cause, Prevention, and Cure..... 2/-
9. Rheumatism — Cause and Cure 2/-
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11. Cancer—How Caused and Prevented..... 2/-
12. Catarrh — How Caused and Cured..... 2/-
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17. Nerve Troubles — How Caused and Cured..... 2/-
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22. How to Keep Young After Forty..... 2/-
23. How to Lose Weight and Gain Health..... 2/-
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26. Child Ailments — How Caused, Cured, and Prevented..... 2/-
- Hemorrhoids -- How Caused and Cured..... 3/6
- Anemia - - How Caused and Cured..... 3/6
- Diabetes - - How Caused and Prevented..... 3/6

It should be noted that Hemorrhoids, Anemia, and Diabetes are all dealt with on the Chart of Good Health.

Add 1d. postage when ordering a booklet. Order by number.

In addition to the booklets, every home should possess the Science of Life Charts, which are as follows:

- The Chart of Good Health..... 3/6
 The Science of Life Meal Chart .. 3/6
 Woman's Chart of Beauty..... 3/6

These are large wall charts, printed in colour.

Obtainable from
 NEW TIMES,
 Box 1226L, G.P.O.,
 Melbourne,

or
 SCIENCE OF LIFE BOOKS,
 Box 4397, G.P.O.,
 Sydney.

THE SABOTAGE OF PRODUCTION

It must be obvious that our system of education, whether by intention or not, blinds the intelligence of the average sufferer from it so that events do not produce a normal reaction. In no plane of activity is this more startling than in that which is supposed to be the primary interest of the population—goods and services.

So far as we are aware, there has been no general reaction to the virtual disappearance of immense war surpluses, far exceeding those, which were available to the domestic consumer for at least ten years after the First Armistice. We have made reference to this matter on at least five occasions; no one is interested.

A correspondence has been proceeding in *The Scotsman* from actual eyewitnesses who report that, e.g., at Lisbon and at East African ports hundreds of new and unused British cars are lying in the open to rust and rot. Presumably these are "paid for" by Export Credits, since they are clearly not paid for by the countries on which they are dumped. Nobody cares, and almost nobody takes the trouble to understand the results.

The fact that wages are generally more than eighty percent of the cost of production and are rising, and that profits are generally less than five percent, of the cost of production and are falling, does not prevent the T.U.C. from pretending that the "worker" is being defrauded of higher wages by such profits as are distributed, and that lower prices can be combined with higher wages without higher unit production.

We have never agreed that the "democratic" parliamentary system was even a

sane method of selecting individuals to control business; but even we never believed that it could be so startlingly disastrous.

—*The Social Creditor* (Eng), May 8.

"Democracy" in Great Britain

"You cannot drive the British, but you can often kid them to do things they don't like and get them to like them later. That is what is happening now."

—Mr. George Isaacs, Minister of Labour, addressing a "vocational service forum" organised by No. 5 district of the Rotary International, British Isles, reported by the *Manchester Guardian* of April 26.

Mr. Mutton Does Not Understand

Mr. Mutton: If ever there was a time in the history of Australia of conflict between the Commonwealth and the States it is today. I have said before that I am a Federalist; I would get rid of State Parliaments tomorrow if that were possible.

Mr. Hollway: Then you cannot be a Federalist, because the whole essence of Federalism is built upon the States.

—From the debate on the Landlord and Tenant Bill on April 27th in the Legislative Assembly of Victoria.

Milk Production Clothing, Food Costs

MR. BOWDEN asked the Treasurer, upon notice—

1. How much milk was produced in Australia in 1938-39, 1940-41, 1945-46, and 1946-47?

2. Can he supply any information regarding the progressive increases in the cost of (a) clothing, (b) food, and (c) farm machinery between 1938-39 and 1946-47?

MR. CHIFLEY. —The answers to the honorable member's questions are as follows:—

1. *Production of whole milk in Australia—*

Year.	Million Gallons
1938-39	1,189.2
1940-41.....	1,190.3
1945-46.....	1,077.5
1946-47.....	1,061.4

2. *Progressive increases in cost of (a) clothing, and (b) food and groceries (six capital cities) —*

Year.	Clothing.	Food and Groceries.
1938-39 (base.....)	100.0 ..	100.0
1940-41	124.8 ..	103.4
1945-46.....	174.5 ..	113.2
1946-47.....	184.0 ..	115.3

No particulars of (c) farm machinery are available.

—Federal House of Representatives, Mar. 10.

Caucus And The Commonwealth Bank

Mr. Chifley (House of Representatives, 10th March): Let me first make this point clear: The instructions relating to bank advances have been issued at the instance of the Commonwealth Bank, but I say at once that they have the endorsement of the Government.

Mr. Holt: Were they considered by Cabinet?

Mr. Chifley: I remind the honourable member for Fawkner (Mr. Holt), as I have reminded other members of the Opposition who have made charges against the Government, that Cabinet and caucus do not interfere with the policy of the Commonwealth Bank.

Mr. Holt: But the right honourable gentleman said that the instructions had been endorsed by the Government.

Mr. Chifley: When the Governor of the Commonwealth Bank put the position to me, and explained how inflationary trends were being accentuated by excessive advances, I, as Treasurer, intimated on behalf of the Government that I endorsed the proposal.

For the information of the honourable member for Reid (Mr. Lang), therefore, I say that the instructions were issued with the full approval of the Governor of the Commonwealth Bank; that they were discussed with him; and that on behalf of the Government I agreed with the bank's decision.

—Extract from Federal *Hansard*.



INTENSIVE GARDENING IN P.O. W. CAMP

We conclude this interesting and informative article taken from the pages of "The Malayan Agricultural Journal" for January 1947, which is the official organ of the Department of Agriculture, Malaya. The article is written by F. C. Cooke, canning officer and formerly camp compost officer, P.O. W. Camp, Changi.

It is essential to be able to distinguish between the larvae of the fruit fly, which is harmless from a hygienic point of view, and those of the housefly, because fruit-fly larvae are usually to be found in the finished compost in considerable numbers. This is owing to the fact that they seek warm conditions, may remain inactive and dormant for long periods, and are not easily destroyed by heat. The larvae of the two are similar, but whereas the fruit-fly larvae are round at one end and pointed at the other, the housefly larvae are round at both ends. The former have scarcely any visible markings or corrugations, whereas housefly larvae are ribbed like Michelin men. Fruit-fly larvae have a jumping habit, and, when exposed to light, will roll themselves up, spring open suddenly, and so shoot themselves considerable distances in their efforts to escape. It is considered that these heat-resisting larvae were useful in effecting additional aeration of the compost heaps.

Grubs of the rhinoceros or coconut beetle would often be found in the cold sodden ground round the base of, but not underneath, the heaps. The beetles attack coconut palms, so the grubs were collected and fed to poultry.

The Manufacture of Compost

The standard procedure was to build up the heap by daily additions for 9 days, turn it on the 10th, 20th, and 30th day, and issue it after 45 days. On the first turning the material was very raw, sour, and evil-smelling, and the work was very heavy; on the next occasion the material was still stringy and difficult to handle, and on the last the compost was almost ready, but not quite uniform in texture; and finally, when issued, it was dark brown, friable, and fibreless, possessed a pleasant earthy smell, and was no longer of much interest to flies.

Forty-five days is exactly half the time required by the standard process, and the explanation of this much more speedy production would appear to be that the cold outer shell of lalang, which constitutes about one-half of the heap, is not composted, whereas, in the ordinary way, the cold shell and the hot core are mixed every time a heap is turned.

Except for cattle manure, normally re-

quired to inoculate the heaps and reduce the C/N ratio, materials were in plentiful supply. The most important ingredient was undoubtedly human urine. Only a little was required for composting, the remainder was used for watering the gardens after dilution with water of 1 : 4. It was fortunate that, although flies are attracted by the smell of urinals, they do not lay their eggs there, and when urine is diluted it ceases to attract flies. In composting, urine was added with a slurry of wood ash after each fresh charge of kitchen waste, and it was also sprinkled, in the form of urinated earth, over layers of very soft wet material.

Wood Ash and Vegetable Waste

Another ingredient of almost equal importance was wood ash, obtained from unit kitchens, where rubber wood was used as fuel. Unfortunately, it was necessary to reserve the whole of the available supply for soap making during the final year, and it became necessary to collect and burn coconut fronds, husks, shells, twigs, and roots to remedy the deficiency.

Though it was found possible to make compost without ash by substituting urinated earth, decomposition was slower. Besides acting as an anti-acid and deodorant, wood ash is rich in the essential mineral, potash.

The vegetable waste, which was composted, ranged from fruit skins, vegetable peelings, and rotten fruit to drier material, such as, leaves, stalks, vines, garden weeds, and lalang. Rotten fruit and vegetables, and the juicy trunk of the banana needed to be chopped and crushed in order to accelerate decomposition, and pineapple skins, which are difficult to compost, were successfully reduced in contact with drier material by the liberal use of wood ash.

Woody and resistant matter, such as coconut husks, shell and roots, twigs, and rotting wood, were omitted, as these require much longer treatment. It is perhaps hardly necessary to add that spoiled rice and cooking pot scrapings were fed to poultry. In any case, rice breaks down completely to water and gas, and merely increases the difficulties of composting.

By careful sorting of all waste into appropriate bins, as previously described,

it was possible to arrange a proper sequence of wet and dry, hard and soft, open and close textured material. Close material, such as tealeaves and fresh grass clippings, which tend to seal a heap, were evenly sprinkled in thin layers, in the same way as the droppings from the poultry runs and rabbit hutches.

The temperatures attained within the heaps were a measure of the microbiological activity. Wooden testing rods were used to prove the heaps. If they emerged cold and wet either the reaction had not started or there was too much moisture; if only slightly warm, dry, and showing traces of white mould, the heap needed more moisture; and if the conditions were just right the stick emerged hot, moist, and stained dark brown. Conversely, if the stick was free from slime and rank smell, and could be pushed back easily, the compost was ready to be used; but if there was any resistance the material was not ready.

Compost Production and Application

The addition of urinated water was a matter of judgment and experience. It was usually added each day after the final layer of waste had been liberally sprinkled with ash, the amount depending on the quantity of succulent material present, care being taken not to add too much and not to wet the lalang walls. The heaps were usually watered again on turning if visible white mycelial strands of fungi indicated an insufficiency of moisture.

The inner gardens, made up of a vast number of small plots, totalled about 12 acres, being divided into four groups, each with a composting depot.

In fourteen months the total production of compost by one group amounted to 132 tons, which, applied to 3 acres, was equivalent to an application of 21b. Per square foot. In addition, a considerable quantity of diluted urine was also added to the soil in the form of twice-daily waterings. It is estimated that out of an annual production of urine of about 500 tons, about 300 tons was applied to the soil in this way; only about 10 tons were required to make compost, and the remainder was wasted.

It is further estimated that, in addition to this quantity of urine, about 200 tons of kitchen waste, 50 tons of lalang, 4 tons of wood ash, and 8 tons of poultry

(Continued on page 11)

HUMUS: ESSENTIAL TO THE SOIL

An Answer To Professor G. W. Leeper

By R. H. T. WELLER, Editor "Victorian Compost News" Specially Written
For Our Rural Review.

Professor G. W. Leeper, Associate Professor of Agricultural Chemistry, Melbourne University, who recently described attacks on artificial fertilisers as "just plain bunk," in a further article published in the Melbourne "Leader" on April 28th summarised his belief in artificial fertilisers as follows:

"To restate briefly what I talked about. In the first place we know that plants build up their tissue from water, the carbon dioxide from the air, and simple inorganic salts. This was realised during the early years of the last century, and can be verified by anyone with enough skill to grow plants in pure sand to which the necessary salts are added. Liebig did not discover this; many earlier workers share the credit, as is usual in scientific work; and what Liebig did was to write so as to convince the remaining believers in the medieval idea that plants feed on humus." (My emphasis.)

He further supports this extraordinary belief by the statement that of the last 500 articles contributed to *Soil Science*, which, in his opinion, is the leading journal on the subject, not one rejected the inorganic nutrition of plants.

In spite of this apparent overwhelming evidence, it is refreshing to note that two lecturers at the Auckland University do not subscribe to this view. This is what Professor V. J. Chapman, professor of botany, said before a select committee of the New Zealand House of Representatives, in September, 1946.

Humus Essential

"I am also going to accept the view, approved, I think, by all of us, that humus is removed from the soil; and it is my purpose to show that it is essential to replace that humus by compost or other means, and that artificial fertilisers are inadequate in this respect."

He described the properties of humus, and showed that many of the beneficial effects of humus on the soil are due to its colloidal character. He said artificial inorganic fertilisers are not colloidal, and hence cannot have certain very desirable effects upon soil properties.

In detailing the action of humus on the soil, he said that it opens up heavy soils and tightens sandy soils; it is essential for tilth, it is blackish in colour, and humus-laden soil will promote germination of seeds in springtime because of the increase in temperature in the seed bed.

Humus is the principal source of nitrogen for most plants, and the various substances present in it promote growth. It increases the moisture-holding capacity of the soil, and prevents its drying out and cracking, and the consequent loss of mineral salts.

It improves soil aeration, and stimulates the growth of micro-organisms in the soil.

The above is a very condensed report of Professor Chapman's statement, but is sufficient to indicate the vital importance of humus.

Effects of Soil Erosion

His colleague, Dr. K. B. Cumberland, Head of Department of Geography, in dealing with the soil erosion problem, made these significant remarks before the same committee.

"My own reconnaissance studies of soil erosion in New Zealand indicate that 28,000,000 acres of our countryside are affected by soil erosion to some degree, and in one or more different forms. This is two-fifths of the total area of the Dominion, and more than two-thirds of the occupied area. The detailed soil surveys conducted by the D.S.I.R. do not contradict this claim. Detailed measurements made by the pedologists of this department in the high country of the South Island show that already 80% (6,750,000 acres) of the grazing lands are partially destroyed by the accelerated erosion, and that in one hundred years this area has been stripped of 1,500,000,000 tons of soil. . . . Now we must discover what part the destruction of organic matter has played in bringing about this unhappy situation. Organic matter in the form of colloidal humus is not only significant for the part it plays in maintaining soil fertility; it is not merely the conserver of mineral plant nutrients and regulator of their liberation by the soil fauna and flora. Humus has a wider role and significance.

Decreased Fertility

Dr. Cumberland went on to say that the volume of agricultural production continues to rise, but that the rate of increase is decreasing, and this is in spite of the enormously increased use of artificial fertilisers, improved methods of cultivation and pasture management, and the introduction of improved strains of grass, crop, and animal. He maintained that the settlement and utilisation of the soils of New Zealand in the last hundred years had resulted in a decline in the overall humic content, which has brought about increased erodibility and decreased fertility.

G. J. Fowler, in his book on nitrogen conservation,* writes as follows:—

"Warnings from Modern Germany. — The extreme importance of the maintenance of what has come to be termed the humus capital of the land is being

(*) *Biochemistry of Nitrogen Conservation*, Gilbert J. Fowler, D.Sc., F.I.C., Professor (retired) of Biochemistry, Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore.

stressed in the modern literature of scientific agriculture in Germany." In a review of recent literature on organic manure by Dr. G. Ruschmann, published in July, 1931, in *Biedermann's Central Blatt*, the following statements are made:—

"*The Humus Question*: — The humus economy is not only for Germany, but for all European States with their extensive agriculture an ever-burning question. The evils of one-sided measures for manuring assume continually more obvious forms. However much mineral manures serve to increase the yield for the moment, so much the less can they safely maintain their position. This knowledge is spreading, both among scientists and practical men. In spite of constant or increasing use of mineral manures, yields are decreasing.

Mineral Manures Detrimental

"The increase of soil fertility which is the aim of all modern scientific and practical effort cannot be maintained by mineral manures. These, by accelerating the breaking down of humus, are actually detrimental. Increase of crop by improving the soil properties, and greater returns by addition of plant foods, are two different things, which are often confused. The latter can be effected by mineral manures, which act immediately. On the other hand, to build up a good soil is a more lengthy process. While it is relatively simple to maintain a soil rich in humus, it is difficult in a soil, which is mainly mineral to build up the necessary humus.

"*Arable soil is a living thing. The complaints of insufficient or completely negative results with mineral manure are rapidly increasing.*

"The humus capital of German soil has, according to Lohnis, a value of 30 milliards of Reich-marks (German mark currency), although Germany possesses mainly sandy soil. To increase this capital by skill is the important part of both the agricultural and business community. Humus capital puts every other kind of soil wealth on one side. Directly or indirectly, all plant or animal life is made possible by the soil humus. To its increase may be systematically employed all those organic materials which are virtually wasted. The greatest attention should be devoted to the albuminous or nitrogen containing organic dejects and residues of human and animal life which are admirably suitable for increasing the formation of humus in the soil. Unfortunately, we are today still far from the general knowledge of what great importance attaches to all organics and the energy contained in them which comes to us through the sun's rays, and which is set free by the decomposition of these substances in the soil."

Secret of Healthy Crops

These statements are made by men who have devoted their energies to an extensive study of the soil, and cannot be dis-

(Continued on page 11)

INTENSIVE GARDENING IN P.O.W. CAMP

(Continued from page 9)

droppings were required to produce this 132 tons of compost, estimated on the basis of 641b. per cubic foot. The total yield of vegetables was 144 tons, estimated on the basis of the yield from a measured area of 3/4acre, which was at the rate of 48 tons per acre.

Costs of Production

In brief, 2 tons of raw materials produced 1 ton of compost, which, together with 2 tons of urine, yielded 1 ton of vegetables. This leads one to the question of cost of production. In a prison camp this was to be measured in terms of man-hours of work, and the itemised account for the group referred to above was as follows: —

	Labour per Week, Man-hours.
Collection of bins	35
Cutting and collection of lalang.....	10
Building compost heaps	5
Turning the heaps	36
Delivery of compost to the.....	3
gardens	3
Total.....	89

Thus, in 14 months, 5,400 man-hours were required to produce 132 tons of compost, without which it would have been quite impossible to obtain 144 tons of extra vegetables for 1,200 men.

The compost was not applied heavily to a piece of ground in a single application, but was spread thinly and evenly over the ground, and confined to the top spit of soil by shallow digging, so as to bring the whole of the land into effective cultivation as quickly as possible. In the course of a year the land was manured four times, on each occasion just prior to replanting. This system of gradual incorporation was found to be much more effective than a single heavy application.

High Yielding Amaranth

As the needs of the camp became more urgent the gardeners concentrated on the very high-yielding green amaranth and tapioca, and for many months the diet of the prisoners consisted of "greens," rice, and tapioca root, variously made up, and flavoured with sugar, sea water, garlic, chillies, pepper, or curry powder, and with a trace of odoriferous "blachan" (shrimp paste), dried fish, or palm oil.

The amaranth was not harvested young and tender as a two weeks old seedling, as is the usual custom, but was left in order to obtain the maximum yield, as the leaves become larger and coarser as the plant matures. The plant was trimmed once every three weeks, four crops being taken in all, before the plant reached the seeding stage and had to be pulled up.

It was found that the peeled stalk was edible, and could be eaten as "asparagus," incorporated in soup, or used as pulp for "jam." In this way about 75 percent of this plant was consumable,

the remainder going back to compost. Ceylon spinach was only 50 percent consumable, because the vines are inedible, and, furthermore, the crop of leaf was much smaller and the plant required a longer period to reach full development.

It was found that amaranth was a useful indicator of soil conditions. Without compost the crop succeeding the first weedy harvest was a failure. The surviving plants were stunted, irregular, and unhealthy, and only between 12 and 18 inches in height. With successive dressings of compost five successive plantings on the same piece of land became steadily healthier and more productive, even though there was no crop rotation or resting of the soil. The last crop, collected just before release, consisted of plants between 5 and 6 feet in height, with large leaves and sturdy trunks, and a 2ft. root system, as compared with the 9-inch root system of the initial crop on uncomposted soil. It almost appeared as if it were possible to go on planting this crop indefinitely. Urine alone, added without compost, did not give satisfactory results, as only a quarter of the crop was obtained.

While a single analysis does not provide conclusive evidence of the effect of composting, nor does it indicate the

physical changes in the texture of the soil, nevertheless the result of a comparative analysis of two samples of soil is submitted. These samples were examined in the laboratories of the Department of Agriculture, Ceylon, shortly after the conclusion of hostilities.

Two Immediately Adjacent Soils

	(a)	(b)
	Untreated Yellow Lateritic Loam, percent	Treated Grey-brown Lateritic Loam, percent
Soil type.		
Stones and gravel	3.84	1.85
Reaction (pH) . . .	4.8" (acid)	5.8 (slightly acid)
Carbon (Walkley) .	0.417	1.29
Nitrogen	0.027	0.076
C/N ratio.....	15.4	17.0

The treated soil had received five successive plantings of amaranth without resting, the untreated soil had not been cultivated at all.

Summary

It has been shown that: —

1. An infertile and unproductive soil can be made to give high yields of "greens" by incorporating compost made from kitchen waste.
2. Compost can be produced in 45 days in the tropics by covering the heaps with a jacket of lalang.
3. It can also be produced without flies, and at a cost of 40 man-hours per ton.

HUMUS ESSENTIAL TO SOIL

(Continued from page 10)

missed by Professor Leeper as compost "cranks." Even the manufacturers of artificial fertilisers in England and America do not support the Professor's contention that plants do not require humus. In their recent publications, while they advocate the use of their products, *they stress the necessity of the return of organic matter to the soil in order to maintain fertility.*

The simple fact is that, while it has been found practicable to grow healthy crops on soils rich in humus *without artificials*, it has never been demonstrated that they can be grown with artificials on soils lacking humus.

Chemical fertilisers have only been introduced within the last 100 years, and yet for millions of years prior to this the cycle of life on Earth has been continuous: birth, growth, reproduction, death, and decay.

We have too long ignored the importance of decay, for out of decaying matter has come the nourishment for the new life.

The Law of Return

In Nature reproduction is the strongest urge — the carrying on of the Life Force both below and above the ground. With every new generation fertility has been increased slowly but surely, until the Earth, which was originally molten rock, was covered with immense forests and grassy plains, enabling vast herds of wild animals to perpetuate their species without the aid of artificial fertilisers or

poisonous sprays for the elimination of disease.

Let us understand this clearly. Under natural conditions, as fertility increased so the volume of life increased, and fertility increased still further because all dead organic matter was returned to the soil, where it provided the food supply for soil organisms, which in turn converted it into humus.

Man, particularly civilised man, has been the despoiler. He has ignored the Law of Return, which has been functioning for millions of years. He drew on the store of fertility for his food and other needs without replacing humus. The mountains were robbed of their forest cover to provide timber and fuel, grassy plains were ploughed to supply grain.

Large areas of the Old World on the shores of the Mediterranean were turned into deserts. In the nineteenth century the New World was exploited. As industrialism in Europe expanded the population increased, and more and more of the people left the land for the towns and cities. The virgin lands of America, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, and Africa were brought into production to supply food for the industrialised millions in Europe.

The story of the Old World was repeated. Man had not learnt the lesson

(Continued on page 12)

HUMUS ESSENTIAL TO SOIL

(Continued from page 11)

of what happens when Nature's Laws are flouted. As the pioneers crossed these vast continents with their axes, fire-sticks, and ploughs they were concerned only with wresting a living from the land.

They did not understand that the vast areas of fertile land they cleared could ever be exhausted, but as generation succeeded generation, as the demands for food and raw materials for European industry increased, the tempo of agriculture was speeded up; large-scale implements and tractors were introduced, more and more artificial fertilisers were used, and during the last thirty years, due largely to the world wars of 1914-1919 and 1939-1945, with the attendant high prices for agricultural produce, the loss of fertility was still further accelerated. The new world was using up its soil capital-humus.

Damage Not Irreparable

Today, in every one of those countries, there are millions of acres, which have gone completely out of production, and millions more have been depleted to a great extent of their original humus.

The descendants of these pioneers not only face decreased yields, but are also forced to wage a ceaseless war against disease in crops, livestock, and human beings. Stronger and more potent mineral chemical compounds are being placed on the market in an endless stream. Sprays, vaccines, serums, and drugs have come to be a necessity of the modern farm and household.

Fortunately, although the damage has

been great, it is not irreparable. Many farmers were never entirely converted from their traditional methods of manuring their lands with organic matter. Others have seen the red light, and are rebelling against the ideas promulgated by Professor Leeper at the head of this article, and are changing over from chemical to organic farming.

Soil conservation is being tackled on a large scale, and derelict land is being reclaimed.

Further, due to the work of men like Sir Robert McCarrison, Director of Nutrition in India, more and more people are realising the relationship between the health of the soil and the health of the animals and people who live off it. He clearly demonstrates that disease, by whatever name it is known, has a common origin—malnutrition.

Man can only enjoy abundant health when he can obtain a sufficiency of fresh vital foods grown in soils rich in humus.

The whole problem of man's health and well being, in fact his very existence, is wrapped up in the maintenance and improvement in the fertility of the soil.

The replenishment of humus on our worn-out soils must be carried out by

all possible means. Our present agricultural methods need revision. Straw and plant residues, which are often burnt, should be ploughed under; rotational cropping, including temporary pastures (ley farming) should be substituted for the crop and bare fallow; mixed farming should be introduced wherever possible.

Way of Life

Agriculture generally must be brought back as a way of life, and cease to be an extension of the factory system of food production.

Organic matter which today is wantonly wasted in town and country, to the extent of millions of tons a year, must be conserved and made into compost for distribution to the primary producers. There is no valid reason, why the composting of garbage, factory wastes, and sewage should not be carried out universally, as is already being done successfully in some parts of the world.

It is to be hoped that the students at the Melbourne University, who will play a large part in the future agriculture of Victoria, will be given every opportunity to think for themselves on this all-important question of humus and the soil. The maintenance of *real fertility* in the soil, to enable the production of disease-resistant crops and livestock, is of vital importance to every man, woman, and child.

Strategy of Treachery in India

We have no doubt that the powers behind the "B" B.C. performance on the occasion of the death of Mohan Das Karam Chand, popularly referred to as Ghandi, suppose that the matter of his canonisation is now closed, a fait accompli. If so, we would disabuse them of that idea.

Ghandi himself is dead, but the works of which he was a tool, live after him, and his connection with them, and the strategy of which he was an instrument, require, and so far as we are able, will receive, attention and explanation. Events in India are integral with the treachery to the British everywhere. Anything we can do to unmask traitors will be done.

It may or may not be significant that *Ghandi*, which is neither an hereditary nor a "baptismal" name, means in Hindustani, "a green bug"; *gandidan*, "to stink, to have a foul smell", and *gandhila*, "stinking, foetid." Both these latter words are derivatives of *Ghandi*.

It may or may not be a coincidence that Mr. Edgar Snow, an Associate Editor of the *Saturday Evening Post*, and generally considered to be, if not a Communist, a "fellow-traveller," was present in Birla House, New Delhi, when Ghandi died. The *Post* carries an article, much on "B" B.C. lines, by him, in its issue of March 27, but there is an undertone of uncertainty in it, which our local "fellow-travellers" were able to exclude.

In order to clear the ground from a common misunderstanding, it should be realised that the austere disciplines which are confused with virtue by so many as a proof of saintliness are as amoral as physical gymnastics. *They are as useful to a murderer as to an explorer, and the significance of Ghandi was not in his fasts, but in his fealties.*

We hope in the near future to publish

a lecture, given some years ago by a Political Officer of thirty years' experience in India, which illuminates one of the most sinister plots in history. Its major significance at this time is in its clear connection with the attack on British culture, power and influence, everywhere.

—*The Social Creditor* (Eng.), April 24.

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