

THE NEW TIMES

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SIXPENCE WEEKLY

Commissar Chifley Heralds the Servile State

Industrial Conscription Warning

At the "Greater Production" Conference of Federal Trade Unions held in Sydney on Sunday, October 17, Mr. Chifley, in reply to a question, gave a blunt warning of the fate of the wage-earner if the Planners are allowed full rein.

Mr. Chifley said:

"We realise there will have to be transfer of workers and of whole communities to other forms of work.

"The most any Government can do is to see that in every community throughout the country there is work for everybody.

"There will have to be transfers of labour if there is to be expansion.

"It may even involve a plan of movable towns to provide reasonable living conditions and amenities while big projects are in progress.

"In the past there have been transfers of labour, such as from rail transport to motor transport, and then to air transport.

"The Government's policy is to provide jobs for all the people all the time, but no one can say where at any time."

All this and heaven too! Coming from the leader of a so-called "Labour" Government, the freedom-loving wage earner—and there are still hundreds of thousands who are not yet slave-minded—may be incensed to learn that with this blunt threat of industrial conscription his own liberty is being sold down the drain.

THE POLICY OF GOVERNMENT-ENFORCED "FULL EMPLOYMENT" IS A POLICY OF FULL ENSLAVEMENT.

And a policy, which envisages the shifting of whole towns all over the countryside for "big projects" and "expansion", can only be carried out by the use of **COMPULSION - IN OTHER WORDS, BY MAKING INDIVIDUALS LIVE AND WORK WHERE THEY DON'T WANT TO LIVE AND WORK OF THEIR OWN FREE WILL.**

Does the Australian wage earner really want his life organised for him by the Planners, who believe, in their superior wisdom, that they know so much better what is good for the "worker"? Make no mistake: this heralds the servile state. Hitler could not have put it better.

Genuine industrial progress and expansion has always been made in the

past by the application of the voluntary principle—by INDUCEMENT, NOT COMPULSION.

But perhaps the Australian "worker" would prefer to become as the Russian "worker" and do what he is told, **and nothing else.** We could perhaps breed a new class of permanent "Displaced Persons" who would be suitably conditioned so that Mr. Chifley and his planners could displace them at will whenever they felt the urge to try out a Big Project in Timbuktu or Woop Woop West.

And if they object? Well, shoot them—as Stalin had the peasants shot when they protested against the collectivisation of farming in Russia. Don't let them stand in the way of Progress and Expansion.

And if the Big Project is a failure—as Stalin now admits collectivisation of farms in Russia was? Well, that's too bad. Somebody must be prepared to be displaced, and perish, if necessary, so that the Planners can have Progress in Big Chunks.

London-School-of-Economics Professors Coombs, Giblin, Lloyd Ross, and others are just waiting to give their genius full play—and if there still aren't enough jobs to go round Professor Giblin (as he said himself) will have you digging holes in the sand and filling them up again. It will keep you fit, anyway, for the next war.

For those who really want government-enforced "full employment" we suggest that Mr. Chifley might arrange for

Colac Radio Talks

Regular weekly Social Credit talks are given over Station 3CS Colac every Friday night at 8.45 p.m. Eastern standard time. Wavelength, 1,130 k.c. If you are able to tune into this station don't forget to listen to this stimulating session.

them to have a one-way passage to Russia. And take the Planners with them.

We prefer a free society—and although we have many grave problems—which can be overcome—they will not be solved by selling ourselves into slavery.

THE DOCUMENTS OF THE CASE

Owing to shortage of space we have held over the continuation of this extract from Douglas Reed's latest book, "From Smoke to Smother" until next week.

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.

How to Become an Economist

By FOOTLE

You hardly meet anyone who studies economics nowadays except maybe a few professors, and I think that is a great pity. There's a lot more in economics than you might think, and a proper study helps you to realise that it really isn't good business to trust too much to common sense. In fact I have found common sense a serious obstacle in my quest for financial truth.

Many years ago I studied political economy; was able for a while to discourse learnedly on such enthralling subjects as "laissez faire," margins of cultivation, law of diminishing return, and Ricardo's theory of rent. I could forecast the moment when "economic man" would elect to walk instead of taking bus or taxi or help himself to a duck's breakfast instead of devilled kidneys or kedgeree.

The theories were elaborate and intricate and — I was taught — depended for their utility upon the quantity of gold available in a refined condition at the moment of consideration. Sometimes I shuddered to think what might have been our fate had there been no such thing as gold, while almost I regretted this remarkable discovery of geology and metallurgy. It is a daunting thing to realise that but for such a whimsy of creation we might still have been in an era of stone clubs, sabretooth tigers, and woad.

One Big Happy Family

You may not be aware of it, but the world of the political economist is one large happy family whose total income — in some manner not, alas, clear to me — always equates with the value of things for sale. Adjustments are automatic, resulting in the greatest measure of material prosperity and moral satisfaction. Even foreigners are catered for by the device of an exchange rate between currencies, which is designed to ensure worldwide equation of values of similar commodities.

But, alas, foreigners are apt to be somewhat non-understanding, and it was they who conceived the idea of sabotaging our right to toil by presenting us with goods below cost. What could we do in the interest of "progress" but retaliate in like manner.

International Trade

Let me give a simple example of international trade.

Suppose the currencies of countries "A" and "B" are equal in value. "A" exports motorcars to "B" and "B" exports motorcars to "A." Making motorcars for export is their living. The cars are equal in price ex factory, so that the price of the imported car in each country is greater than the price of the home produced car by the amount of freight and handling.

To make sure that the imported car shall not be imported it is usual to put a tax on it, but the darn thing usually gets in through the generosity of the exporting country, which slashes the living standards of its people, either by

rationing or currency depreciation or both.

This is known as "industry," and is much better than just making cars for yourself. Countries that have been well brought up never consider the home population. It is absolutely imperative to produce things and not use them. If you can't understand a simple thing like that you had better give up economics altogether.

The Necessity of Dollars

To continue. Now everybody who has learned to read must know that it is impossible for Western peoples to exist without dollars. What the vitamin is to mammalia so is the dollar to the body politic. And just as there are two ways of achieving happiness there are two ways of achieving dollar satisfaction. You can achieve happiness by either satisfying or eliminating your wants. And you can cope with this dollar business either by bunging everything you have at a dollar area or by refusing to have anything bunged at you from a dollar area.

There is also a third alternative. You can, for instance, cultivate a shortage of sterling. You will then be able to buy from either dollar or sterling areas so long as you re-export your purchase immediately.

Tobacco—For Example

Britain is doing this with tobacco. She converts American tobacco into British cigarettes and sells them in Australia. I consider this a most ingenious solution, and in case you think I am inventing all this I quote Mr. J. B. Chifley, our own "financial wizard," who said this as recently as Sept. 24: "The export of English cigarettes to Australia was helping Britain's economic plight. She purchased American tobacco and exported it in manufactured cigarettes to earn sterling which she needed just as urgently as she needed dollars."

So there you are! Everything arranges itself if you give it a chance. I strongly recommend a study of economics; it's fun when you get used to it, and it isn't as difficult as you might think. You approach your subject with an absolutely open mind; then you close one end of your mind and insert information as directed, having done which you carefully close the other end. And there you are! Nothing can possibly get in or out.

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By Dighton W. Burbidge, LL.B. An excellent reply to Professor Copland's contention that the Social Credit analysis of the costing system is incorrect.

Need We Repudiate? 1/1

By C. B. Da Costa. This is one of the earliest but best outlines of Social Credit technical proposals published in Australia.

All prices listed above include the cost of postage. Order from New Times Ltd., Box 1226L, G.P.O., Melbourne.

BACKGROUND TO DEBATE ON THE "JEWISH QUESTION"

A brief outline of how the debate between Mr. Eric Butler and Mr. Waten, in the Assembly Hall, Melbourne, next Monday, October 25, arose, will no doubt prove of interest to our readers.

During April of this year Mr. Butler gave a talk at the Melbourne University under the auspices of the University Liberal Club. The Communists at the University did not like that address. Several weeks later a Mr. Geoff Masel, with decided Socialist views, attacked Mr. Butler, *The New Times*, and the Social Credit Movement generally in an article in the University journal *Farrago*, which, incidentally, is printed by the Communist printing press. It was declared that Mr. Butler and *The New Times* were anti-Semitic and Fascist in tendencies. *The Protocols* were also attacked.

On June 21 Mr. Butler wrote to Mr. Masel challenging him to substantiate in public debate his allegations in *Farrago*. He suggested that he would affirm either of the following: "That there is a Jewish menace" or "That Zionism is a menace to world peace." If Mr. Masel were unable to debate himself he could nominate a representative.

Mr. Masel eventually replied and said that Mr. Waten, of the Jewish Council against Fascism and anti-Semitism, would be willing to debate. However, the subjects suggested by Mr. Butler could not be accepted. It was therefore agreed to debate the subject of whether "*The New Times* pursues an anti-Semitic policy." Some time elapsed before a chairman suitable to both parties could be obtained.

The debate will be conducted as follows: Both speakers will have 30 minutes each for their opening addresses, Mr. Waten speaking first. It is anticipated that there will then be up to 30 minutes for questions, after which each speaker will have five minutes for his summing up.

A collection will be taken to pay for the cost of the hall. Any surplus will be donated to the Food for Great Britain Fund.

Does The New Times Pursue An Anti-Semitic Policy ?

Hear this vital issue debated at the Assembly Hall, Collins St., Melbourne, on Monday, October 25, 8 p.m.

Affirmative Speaker: Mr. J. L. Waten, Jewish Council Against Fascism and anti-Semitism.

Negative Speaker: Mr. Eric D. Butler.

Chairman: Dr. John Dale.

Because of the great interest that this debate has aroused, those intending to be present are urged to arrive early and make certain of a seat.

The Ghetto Technique

In the spring of 1915, Archangel. . . . He was a Russian Jew, born within the pale. He guided his life by only one motto: "God loves the Rich, and the Rich love God." His waking hours were spent trying to dig himself well within this coterie of God's elect. And he knew how to do it! Wherever Frumkin went he carried with him the germs of corruption. He was like a rat, a large white bubonic rat, gnawing his way through the Russian structure of officialdom, infecting everybody. He could place a bribe with a shrewdness that would make the American variety of Washington lobbyist look like a tyro. Moral decay came in his wake; and it was parasites such as he which eventually brought the

official structure crashing down. —From *The Way of a Transgressor*, by Negly Parson (P161.)

Infiltration of Ideas

Mr. Keon, on Town and Country Planning Bill, Legislative Assembly (Vic.), 6th July:

It is the measure of the effective success of the Australian Labour Party that today the champions of private enterprise, who comprise the Liberal and Country parties, conduct their arguments in Parliaments, not on whether there should be freedom of private enterprise, but on whether measures such as this will be effective in directing and controlling private enterprise.

HAVE YOU STUDIED THE COMMUNIST MENACE!

The following is a complete list of special publications recommended to those who want to study authentic, factual material on the Communist menace:

The Real Communist Menace, by Eric D. Butler. 1/8d.

This is an excellent commentary on the Canadian Report and Soviet policy as laid down by Lenin and Stalin. It also contains the most important part of the Canadian Report.

Red Glows The Dawn, by Michael Lamb 8/-.

A detailed exposure of the history of the Australian Communist Party. The author shows by documentary evidence how the policy of the Australian Communists is dictated by Moscow.

Communism in Australia, by J. T. Lang, M.H.R. 2/2d.

This hard-hitting book gives detailed information concerning the Communist domination of Australian Unions. Communist leader Thornton took unsuccessful legal action against Lang when this book was first published.

20 Questions About Soviet Russia, by H. W. Henderson 7 d.

More Questions About Russia, by H. W. Henderson . 10 d.

What Are Russia's Ultimate Aims? by H. W. Henderson 7 d.

The Red Spider Web, by Bernard Newman 18/6

A famous mystery writer deals with the thrilling story of the Canadian Spy Trials. He shows that truth is stranger than fiction.

Report On The Russians, by W. L. White 17/-

This famous book is the one, which caused considerable consternation amongst the Comrades all over the world. White visited Russia during the war years. A brilliant first-hand account.

Communism — Why Not? by "Advance Australia." . . . 2/8d.

A well-documented book dealing with the Jewish influence in Communism. Strenuous attempts were made to have this book banned during the war years.

Communism in Action. . . . 3/2d.

This detailed factual report was prepared at the instigation of a Member of the American House of Congress.

The Answer to Socialism, by C. Barclay-Smith 2/8d.

This excellent book is a "must" for every student of Communism. All the essential facts and figures are available for those who engage in controversy on the Communist question.

Inside Red Russia, by J. J. Maloney, M.L.C. 4/8d.

In this book, the former Australian* Minister in Moscow, "pulls no punches" about what he saw in Russia. He saw Russia as an Australian Labour man officially visiting a Socialist State, and returned to Australia horrified at what he had seen.

All prices listed above include the cost of postage. Order now from *New Times Ltd.*, Box 1226L, G.P.O., Melbourne.

MORE THAN ESPIONAGE

By EDNA LONIGAN,

Reprinted from "The Social Creditor" (Eng.)

The following article is published here by permission of the Editor of Human Events, where it appeared on September 8. We deem it significant because, in several ways it puts its finger upon the dangerously effective technique, extensively employed, to thwart the human instinct for stable and satisfactory government by representing each attack upon it as something else than it is—something more restricted in its inspiration and essential objectives. ("Limit the problem.") Thus systematic theft of individual credit becomes an abstraction such as "usury," political gangsterism on the widest scale has the shrivelled and insufficient roots of "juth bithneth," an instance of exceptional and individual human frailty; an attack, the essence of which is its cultural objective, which outlasts generations and even centuries in duration, which is, moreover, organised to cover any and every form of resistance, is split into conveniently small fragments and conventionalised as a mere day-to-day routine of a military or diplomatic machine. This journal tries without ceasing to expose this trick, to make its details so familiar that any new instance will be immediately recognised for what it is, and that, in consequence, the enemy will be driven from its use. While we should not ourselves elevate the newcomers to the Kremlin to the position of the arch and original evil genius, in general the exposure cannot be too frequent or from too many angles; and we are grateful to Human Events for this opportunity to extend action along this line. We trust that the moral will be drawn in British (Australian also. Ed. T.N.T.) education circles.

The story of the activities of Communist agents within our Federal Government has been described as another "Canadian spy case." It is more than that. Attempts to force a parallel with the Canadian case only obscure the fact that Congress is on the trail of something more insidious and more important than espionage.

The committees under Senator Ferguson and Representative Thomas have already done one invaluable service. They have made it clear that we are not dealing with the activities of the Communist "Party," but of the Russian NKVD.

The Communist "Party" is not an American political party. Like the Russian Army, it serves the military purposes of the Soviet Government. Control of such an important military instrument could not be left to the ageing, small-bore politicians who seem to head American Communism. This American "Party" is merely one branch of the huge network under control of the NKVD.

Congress is now working toward the real question: What are the aims and activities of the NKVD-MVD on American soil? Mr. Chambers, in a little-noticed statement, said they are not primarily espionage. No one asked what they are. **The answer is that the NKVD is engaged in placing its agents in key positions in American life, in order to direct our policies to our self-destruction.**

NKVD Penetration

NKVD penetration into the Federal Government is part of a larger pattern for penetration into colleges, schools, the armed forces, private business, and the general communication of ideas. The work of the separate arms is synchronised from Moscow, by a few directing heads, into a smooth-working force of political "commandos." **These seek to seize the commanding heights of American Society, and thereby take over**

our country without any serious revolutionary violence.

"It can't be true," say the pseudo-liberals. "The Grand Jury would have indicted. The FBI would have proved them guilty." But guilty of what? Most American followers of the NKVD have committed no crime. They have violated no law. If every statement in the testimony of Miss Bentley and Mr. Chambers is proved true, the Grand Jury will still find it difficult to indict. We have no law compelling Government employees to propose only ideas that are for the good of their country.

II.

The NKVD has been endeavouring to infiltrate the Federal Government since 1933. The first circle was evidently set up in the Department of Agriculture. Dr. Wirt told us about links in the Office of Education.

College Cells

Recruits were obtained from cells in the colleges. Stalin ordered his followers to penetrate the American colleges as far back as 1929, when he saw that the depression was serious. This is documented in the reports of the Rapp-Coudert Committee of the New York Legislature.

Each cell divided and bred others. Directors of the NKVD sat with their maps of the "terrain" of the Federal Government, and moved their followers to one key position after another. Communists in Government and the colleges were ordered to recommend their comrades for all desirable openings.

They were told to locate the key jobs, to know when they would be vacant, and to pull the strings. Their people always had the "Best" recommendations.

First the network placed its economists and lawyers. Then it moved its men into publicity and public relations. As the leaders learned more about the workings of bureaucracy, they put their people into jobs as personnel directors. Assistant directors proved even better for the purpose. These officials were never in the headlines. But they saw the in-

coming applications; they could weed out those with an anti-Communist record in college, or "expedite" those who submitted "recommendations with key names" or had key experience to identify them.

Network Control in Bureaucracy

Administrative Assistants were another important link. Top officials in Government departments make speeches, but are shielded from knowledge of what goes on in their agencies. The administrative assistant decides whom the chief will see, what correspondence he will sign, what reports he will read, and whether or not complaints shall be brought to his attention.

Some of the people who were placed by the network were "innocents"; some were dreamy revolutionists; most were cold, cynical men who noticed that those whom the network favoured advanced rapidly to the highest jobs. Many who were temporarily enmeshed by the network found their way out without much trouble. But the network grew because vacant places were promptly filled by new recruits from the colleges.

Influence on Policy

The duty of the ablest Soviet agents was not espionage. It was to win the confidence of those who directed policy. Their task was to attach themselves to higher officials or to the wives of those officials; to be friendly, charming, alert, intelligent, sympathetic; to be ready, day or night, to take on more responsibility. And, in time, such responsibility was given them.

So, each year, the network moved its men into higher and higher positions. When war came the veterans of eight years of conspiracy reached the highest policy levels. Always an invisible force was pushing the favoured higher. It was easier after Hitler attacked Russia.

III.

When the Wagner Act was pending, an American industrialist rushed back from Europe, and said, "You can't allow this bill to pass. European Communists are waiting at the docks to come here and take over American unions when it passes." His friends laughed indulgently.

Unions Penetrated

The Wagner Act left a broad band of administrative discretion to the Labour Board, for the writing of directives that had the force of law, and could not be reviewed by the courts. That was not accident. The network moved its best people to the places where the directives were written. Communist agents penetrated the unions, took over the funds, the Press, the legal staffs; and industrial bitterness mounted.

Men chosen by the network began to direct American policy on every controversial question. After Farley was dropped, they took over the task of delivering the votes from the key industrial centres. As a reward they gained control of the political conduct of the war.

Our victorious armies halted where Stalin wished. His followers managed Dumbarton Oaks, UN, UNRRA, our Polish and Spanish policies. They gave Manchuria and Northern Korea to Com-

(Continued on page 5).

QUEENSLANDER REVEALS DANGER OF GOVERNMENT PRIVILEGES

The toll of recent traffic accidents should make us think. Valuable lives are lost, people maimed or disfigured. Are we doing enough to eliminate danger spots, that menace the drunken driver, to ensure that vehicles are roadworthy? I don't think we are.

In one direction we are perpetuating a very real injustice. If the Government or a local authority owns the vehicle involved in the accident then the injured person's right of damages is limited, in some cases £1,000, others £2,000.

A few years ago someone was badly injured by a local authority vehicle. The council would not settle, and the injured person had to go to law. He won his case, and the jury awarded him £3,500 damages. Because the law limits such damages to £1,000 the judge had to reduce the judgment to that amount. In doing so he passed some withering com-

ment on the injustice of such a provision.

It's not right that there should be any privilege of Crown or local authorities. If they cause harm to a citizen they should be made to see that the citizen gets real justice — not something that falls short of justice.

There are countless illustrations of the redevelopment of Crown privilege. Fight an appeal against workers' compensation. If you lose, the commissioner collects his full costs. If you win, you are only allowed to recover one guinea in costs from the commissioner.

MORE THAN ESPIONAGE

(Continued from page 4)

munism. They demoted General Patton, and wrote the infamous instructions under which General Marshall was sent to China. They dismantled German industry, ran the Nuremberg trials, and even sought to dictate our economic policy in Japan.

The "Morgenthau Plan"

Their greatest victory was the "Morgenthau Plan." No one who knew Mr. Morgenthau could believe he devised the Plan. It was contrary to everything, which he believed [*]. He could not have been persuaded to urge it on the President unless he had been surrounded by men he trusted, who were obeying the orders of the network: men who, like the wicked uncle in "Hamlet," poured poison in his ears while he was off guard.

The planned destruction of German economy has further weakened Western Europe, and will cost every family in the United States a share of \$18 billion to repair part of the damage through ERP. What more could the heads of the network have done for their masters?

After the war was decided, the network moved the men on the chess-board to UN, UNRRA, the International Bank; then to positions in our colleges, where they teach future Government employees, and to foundations which control the grants the colleges so desperately need.

IV.

Why didn't someone in Government expose this state of affairs? Many tried, but they were silenced, or, if persistent, they were smeared by the branches of the network that worked through the Press.

The "Smear" Technique

The Dies Committee located the carriers of infection, and therefore was given the most vicious smearing of all. Of course the Dies Committee made mis-

[*] We do not know what Mr. Morgenthau's beliefs are. —Editor, T.S.C.

takes. The question is whether the American people should have followed a committee loyal to America, which made mistakes, or the NKVD, which makes no mistakes.

President Truman was given \$26 million to root out "disloyalty," but the hand of the network is all over the "loyalty investigation." There was no good reason for investigating all Government employees. That was the Communist way of "helping" the investigation.

The only proper procedure is to have a board review the evidence in the FBI files, and dismiss every employee who associated with members of the network. No one has a "right" to Federal employment if he has no sense.

Complete Intelligence Reports Required

We do not need more laws; we cannot enforce those we have, because the cold eyes of NKVD officials always find the openings where their agents can penetrate into enforcement agencies, or induce members of the Press to help with propaganda about "red-baiting."

We are not concerned with a judicial problem of the guilt or innocence of individuals—except in the matter of perjury. We do not want any spy trials, which will be lost before they are begun. Our problem is political. How can we get evidence about the top level of the Moscow-directed army, which is within our gates?

The Congress has done excellent work, but we do not yet see the size of task before it. What we need from Congress is a complete set of intelligence reports. We want to know all the links through which Communism works, the "chain of command," the infinite variety of its camouflage and propaganda devices. If Congress gives us the pattern by which infiltration of administration has succeeded, the American people will find the political means to end forever the work of the NKVD on American soil.

As citizens, we go without things that are at present in short supply. We can't get telephones, we can't get motorcars freely, and so on; but we know that governments can freely obtain things that citizens cannot get.

That's the trouble with socialism at work. Under socialism, the State is magnified and the individual citizen forgotten.

Centuries ago, your forefathers and mine fought bitterly to destroy the personal privilege of the kings of England. They made the king subservient to the people's parliament; they destroyed his personal powers to imprison the subject and to administer the law. They put an end to his personal rights to levy and collect taxes.

This privilege the Crown is returning in a nastier and more insidious form. Let's learn the lesson of these recent traffic accidents. If a citizen suffers damage, let him be entitled to justice, whether it is from a fellow-citizen, the State, or a Council.

Let's put an end to this regrowth of Crown privilege.

By T. A. Hiby, leader of the Queensland People's Party, writing in the Brisbane Telegraph, Aug. 2, '48.

Of Interest

Julius Stone, alias Stein, Zionist Jew, Professor of Law at Sydney University, who has been broadcasting political talks every Saturday evening for some time past, is leaving us. No, not for ever—only for 12 months. He is going to the States. While there he will no doubt meet up with Ben Hecht and other co-Zionists. Guess who is taking his place on the A.B.C.? None other than the one and only Professor Douglas Berry Copland. What value we do get for our broadcasting tax!

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Gas Prices and Nationalisation

The widespread concern about the recent increase in gas prices in Melbourne must be making the economic planners at Canberra smile. They and Mr. Chifley were well aware that when after the Prices Referendum they decided to hand Price Control over to the States, they could then pursue a deliberate policy which would force prices still higher and thus discredit the States. For example, they refused to make finance available for the States to continue subsidies.

The recent increase in the price of gas has provided the Socialists and Communists with some of the best propaganda material they have had for some time. The cry for nationalisation of the gas companies has been raised, and it is interesting to note that the Socialists and Communists are being supported on this issue by people who call themselves anti-Socialist. The argument is that the gas companies should be "public utilities" and therefore run by the State without consideration of financial profit.

We hold no special brief for the gas companies, but, as far as we can see, they appear to have little option but to increase their prices while the present inflationary financial rules are maintained. The present financial policies, for which Canberra is mainly responsible, must automatically increase prices. Even if the clamour to nationalise the gas companies were successful, it would not alter the fact that increasing costs would have to be recovered by increasing prices. In fact, bitter experience of all nationalised undertakings indicates that costs would increase much more rapidly than they are now. We venture to predict that nationalisation would not stop prices from increasing, would result in losses instead of profits, and the extension of the dishonest practice of taxing all the taxpayers to subsidise the losses. The advocates of nationalisation might recall that the nationalised Victorian Railways were forced by increasing costs to increase their prices some months back.

The nationalisation argument merely obscures the real issue confronting the people of this and every country who desire to make free enterprise work. As the American economy has surely demonstrated beyond all argument, even efficient and maximum production does not alter the fact that the present financial rules are inflationary. Unless the so-called opponents of Socialism are prepared to examine these rules objectively and urge that they be modified in order that the benefits of free enterprise can be made available to the consumer, they may as well face the fact now that either the Socialists will win or they will be forced to adopt more and more Socialist policies themselves.

The financing of the war in this and other English-speaking countries demonstrated beyond all argument that new financial credits can be used to subsidise prices to the benefit of both producer and consumer. If it is argued that gas is a public utility, then surely the subsidy system should be applied in order that consumers can get gas at a REDUCED price while the gas companies have adequate financial incentive to produce efficiently. The State Government will, of course, argue that the Federal Government will not supply them with the finance to pursue such a policy. The State should make it clear to the public what it proposes to do, and if the Federal Government refuses to co-operate should make the best of the opportunity of demonstrating to the electors where their real enemies are.

Credit Restriction in U.S.A.

The Federal Reserve Board pulled in another notch in the nation's credit belt last week. It ordered its 7,000 member banks to put up some \$1.9 billion in additional reserves. It was the second time F.R.B. had used the new anti-inflation powers granted by the special session. (The first was tightening of instalment credit, which goes into effect next week). As banks lend about \$6 for every dollar they have on deposit, F.R.B.'s order, in effect, cut the lending power of banks to about \$12 billion.

—Time (U.S.A.), Sept. 20.

OUR INTERNATIONALISTS

Our Internationalists have this in common with their Ministerial counterparts in the House of Commons.

They have little confidence in their own country, and practically none at all in the Empire.

On the other hand, they reveal an almost pathetically sublime confidence in any document or proposal that is drawn up by a meeting of bureaucrats assembled at Bretton Woods, Hot Springs, Geneva, Havana, Lake Success. Anywhere so long as it is not on British soil.

—Canberra Letter, June 10.

Another Rev. Gentleman

The Rev. Sir George McLeod—I beg pardon, the Rev. George McLeod; he does not use his title—who is visiting us at the moment, told us on Sunday evening over the A.B.C. that the stresses and strains in Western Europe were the birth pangs of the Co-operative Age.

Comment: Co-operate—or else. . . .

Listening In

To Liberals hotly denying Mr. Calwell's assertion that they favoured private enterprise running the telephone system, railways, T.A.A., and other State-run enterprises. What great protagonists of private enterprise these Liberals are. Is it that they reckon they can run Socialism more efficiently than the Socialists?

Hallucinations

Would we be correct in assuming that the following will be included in the Federal Liberal Party's platform for next year's elections?

(1) Abolishment Of uniform taxation with a 50% reduction in taxation;

(2) A referendum to abolish the 1926 Financial Agreement Act;

(3) Positive encouragement for the formation of new States;

(4) The progressive disposal of Government enterprises, beginning with T.A.A.;

(5) Abolition of compulsory secret vote and institution of voluntary, open, and responsible vote;

(6) Introduce financial arrangements to enable a National Production Bonus to be paid and price subsidies to be reintroduced, thus undermining the Social Service State.

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Communal Life: Jewish Style

The following are significant extracts from an article by Douglas Brass in the Melbourne "Herald" of August 14, 1948. Their significance lies in that they give objective proof of the fact, which we have been hammering at for years, that the Jews have been and are the chief proponents of collectivism. That they have through their international agencies of Finance, Law, Politics, and News so poisoned the intellectual stream of Western European civilisation with the collectivist views that every individual freedom won by our forefathers has been lost or is in jeopardy. (Editor N.T.)

The children of Rumath Hakovesh have a fine nursery, a stiffish day's schooling in Hebrew (and English), and an hour or so with their parents in the evening. Then they troop off to their dormitories to sleep the communal sleep.

It is the same with the children of Negba (on the desert's fringe), of Sarid (in the rich valley of Esdaelon), and of Kesarya, on the Palestine coast.

These are some of the Jewish communal settlements I have recently seen. They are typical of the 150 communities, which have dotted the variable Palestinian landscape with orchards, gardens, and croplands and put into practice the dearest scheme of unconventional social theorists.

Community or Family?

I mention the children because it seems to me that this bold system is going to bear most influentially upon them. Which is going to be their ultimate allegiance, community or family? The emphasis all seems to be upon the former.

The kibbutz (the name of communal settlements) life is no life for the individualist. To a Westerner with strong instincts of property and intellectual freedom I should say it would be unbearable.

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Equality in the Kibbutz

Inside the kibbutz all men—and women—are ostensibly equal. The doctor and the baker are a level. It is assumed that all have equal privileges and should enjoy equal opportunities (if any).

The land, buildings, equipment, livestock; indeed, all the property and good will, are owned by the settlement as a whole, and not by individuals or families.

Each man and woman has an allotted job. If a man doesn't like his allotted job, say of harvesting, he can apply to the central executive committee for another, say of bricklaying. If a woman doesn't like her job in the kitchen she can ask for work in the fields.

All proceeds from the fields and gardens, as from the little industries, which are growing up in many kibbutzim, go into the communal purse. They are used to supply the whole, and for new capital equipment such as tractors and milking machines.

No Money Vote

There are no rich and poor. No money is used within the kibbutz. There isn't any use for it. The settlement provides everyone with what he needs, from beds to cigarettes.

To those going on annual leave (most do not take it) money is doled out. What isn't spent on their return from the wicked outside world goes into the communal kitty once more.

Clothes are no worry—in rural Palestine. Shirts and trousers do men and women alike. The only difference seems to be that the women's trousers are shorter.

The typical kibbutz girl wears a loose blouse and highly abbreviated shorts. Her generous expanse of exposed skin is baked a handsome brown. This is one of the kibbutz ways, which scandalises (and disturbs?) the conventional Arab.

Moral Aspect

Morals in the kibbutz? Who can say? Arthur Koestler, whose recent novel, "Thieves in the Night," purports to be a faithful picture of kibbutz life under stress, and whom I was with in Palestine, leaves it rather open. But possibly this is one aspect of communal life which is governed less by ukase than by individual principle.

Politics in the kibbutz? One would naturally plonk for Communism. The Jews say not. They say Communism is practised economically, but not politically. Politics are not practised as such,

and the only loyalty is to the particular community.

Further editorial comment: What a nice little Communist nest right in the heart of the strategically important Middle East. Further, our Mr. Calwell has a street in Tel-Aviv named after him, and our Dr. Evatt was one of those primarily responsible for the recognition of this set-up.

The Contribution of Subsidies

The Hon. A. G. WARNER:

Subsidies formed one of the most important contributions to the price control structure. They amounted to £40,000,000, and they had two effects.

First of all, they reduced the price of the goods, which were subsidised, and secondly, because the goods, which came under the "C", index series were heavily subsidised, the subsidies had the effect of keeping the basic wage down.

The result was that the element of wages in all goods, including those, which were not subsidised, was also reduced.

Subsidies carried their price-reducing effect into every article manufactured or sold in Australia. The payment of the subsidies of £40,000,000 had the effect of reducing the cost of living as measured by the basic wage.

— From the Debate on the Prices Regulations Bill in the Victorian Legislative Assembly, August 17.

The Degradation of Labour

Bodily labour . . . has everywhere been changed into an instrument of strange perversion; for dead matter leaves the factory ennobled and transformed, where men are corrupted and degraded.

—Pope Pius XI in *Quadragesimo Anno*.

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Paper Rationing Furthers News Blackout in Great Britain

Speaking in the British House of Commons on June 12, 1948, Mr. Lyttelton said:

... The last subject on which I wish to touch is newsprint—and the story is really terrible. At the beginning of the war the newsprint supplies available annually to the newspapers were about 1 1/4 million tons. In 1948 the supplies available were 338,000 tons.

I was surprised to be informed that before the war the consumption of newsprint in this country was 60 lbs. per head against 56 lbs. per head in the U.S.A. Last year British consumption was 15 lbs. per head against 70 lbs. per head in the United States, and the gap is not narrowing but widening.

Furthermore, if one looks at the international figures the picture is still more sombre. I will give the Committee some comparisons with prewar consumption. The U.S.A. are using 137 per cent of their prewar quantities. Canada 142, South Africa 174, Australia 116, and Russia 115. Great Britain is using 28 per cent of its prewar supplies.

What about the defeated enemy and the occupied territories? Germany is using 72 per cent of its prewar quantities of paper, Italy 93, and of the occupied countries Belgium 85, Denmark 67, and France 62. Taking the 21 nations, which account for the bulk of the consumption, we have succeeded in the Olympic Games for newsprint in occupying the 20th place.

Hon. Gentlemen opposite may derive some satisfaction from the fact that we are not last, but they will derive less

satisfaction from knowing that out of the 21 nations responsible for the bulk of the consumption there is only one country—Japan—which has a lower percentage now than ours.

It is unnecessary to stress the very great need for us to conserve dollars whenever we can. I am informed that the total newsprint supplies asked for by the newspapers from Canada and Newfoundland in 1949 would absorb only about £2 1/2 million in dollars. That is a figure, which I will ask the Committee to examine in relation to the fact that we are now importing according to my information £2 million worth of American periodicals and books. Furthermore, as the Committee is well aware, under the recent agreements we are spending £4 1/2 million on American films.

I find it difficult to escape the conclusion that the Government with their Press commission and their greater and greater squeezing of newsprint are either consciously or unconsciously rather more pleased than pained that the British public is rapidly becoming the worst informed people in the world.

A Sure Lesson of History

Unfortunately, power batters on its own success, and its appetite grows with every morsel it swallows: that is one of the surest lessons of history.

—*The Condition of Man* (page 170), by Lewis Mumford.

Was Not Neurotic

Cables dealing with the exposing by the American woman Elizabeth T. Bentley of Soviet spy-ring activities in the U.S. have **curiously dwelt on allegations** that Miss Bentley is "neurotic," the inference of course being that her statements should not be taken seriously.

An aspect of this *not* mentioned in cables is that Eleanor Roosevelt, in her *World-Telegram* column, applied "neurotic" to Miss Bentley, and in the same issue the *World-Telegram* was impelled to disown its columnist, anything but politely, in a leading articles headed "Mrs. Roosevelt Fooled Again?"

Not the Slightest Proof

Some comments from the article: "In her column Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt attempts to discredit as an outrageous smear Elizabeth T. Bentley's testimony of a Communist spy-ring which reached high into Federal departments. Without offering the slightest proof she implies it is all a Republican plot. **Actually, the Department of Justice and F.B.I., under the Truman Administration took 13 months to present Miss Bentley's story to a Federal grand jury.**

Mrs. Roosevelt Did Not Know

"In her sweeping indictment of the Bentley hearings. Mrs. Roosevelt... refers to Miss Bentley as 'this evidently neurotic lady.' Now it so happens, Mrs.

Roosevelt never met Miss Bentley. So far as we know she never heard of the lady before her name was made public in Washington. Here again she gives no proof to back up her psychiatric analysis of Miss Bentley's mental and emotional processes.

Three Years' Investigation

"Had she consulted J. Edgar Hoover, the F.B.I. chief could have assured the former First Lady that Miss Bentley is not a neurotic. **For three years' his staff worked closely with Miss Bentley in an effort to crack the spy case.** We doubt if the F.B.I. was taken in by a neurotic lady. Like any other columnist or reporter, it seems to us, Mrs. Roosevelt can be expected to do a little research of her own before reaching conclusions."

—*Sydney Bulletin*, Sept. 1.

"Social Credit and Catholicism"

By George-Henri Levesque, O.P. Professor of Economics, Laval and Montreal Universities, Dominican House of Studies, Ottawa.

Because of the rapid progress of Social Credit ideas in the French-Canadian Province of Quebec, which Major Douglas has described as having "probably the most genuine Catholic culture under the British flag," this booklet is particularly important. Mr. Eric Butler has written an excellent introduction. There is also an Appendix outlining the structure and methods of the non-Party Union of Electors in Quebec.

The author of *Social Credit and Catholicism* finishes his booklet with the following: "... if you want neither Socialism nor Communism, bring Social Credit in array against them. It will be in your hands a powerful weapon with which to fight these enemies."

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Soil Deficiency and Disease

By G. E. BREEN, M.D., D.P.H. (From "Mother Earth," England) In the days before the atomic bomb, it was a favourite exercise of our more imaginative writers to leap ahead into the future and try to forecast what life would be like five hundred or a thousand years from today.

These flights of fancy, which enabled the author to gallop his hobbies and his prejudices all over the place to his heart's content, were often very stimulating and entertaining.

But they nearly always contained one piece of prophecy that seemed to be based, not on wishful thinking, but on no thinking at all. And that was that our descendants, instead of sitting down to a square and succulent meal, would be quite content to swallow a couple of capsules, wash them down with a glass of water, and be off about their business.

Just what these capsules should contain was naturally not made clear. Perhaps a couple of atoms in a state of impending fission, garnished maybe with a rosette of vitamins; the whole embedded in a pleasantly laxative base? But apart from this conundrum and the unwonted asceticism which *homo sapiens* was suddenly to begin to display, there were a number of other points which these speculations tended to ignore.

One is that such food habits are hardly compatible with our existing physiological structure, especially our alimentary systems, and that to develop new ones more suitable to a capsule age would probably take about a million years.

The Synthetic Attitude

This "synthetic" attitude towards human nutrition has grown considerably of recent years, stimulated no doubt by such discoveries as the vitamins and the triumphs of our chemists in manufacturing them in the laboratory.

In so far as it represents man's natural desire to secure an ever-increasing control over his environment, it is understandable and even laudable: indeed we would not quarrel with it at all were it not for its cocksureness, its arrogance, and the ease with which it lends itself to commercial exploitation.

Thus various people for various motives are only too willing to give us synthetic bread, just as there are others who for quite simple motives are prepared to add a little alcohol and a few chemicals to a flask of water and persuade us that we have a bottle of "British Burgundy." It is easy enough to escape the "Burgundy," but it is not

so easy to avoid the bread which may yet be thrust down all our throats.

What will be its long-term effects on the national health—on our vigour, our stamina, and our fertility? Who can say? But so far have we moved away from fundamentals that the matter has scarcely evoked a ripple of interest among the public generally.

Back to Fundamentals

Let us then get back to fundamentals. The soil on which we stand and by which we live is derived from the parent rock of the earth's crust, immensely modified, it is true, by the action of the multitudinous forms of life, which inhabit it.

These in their several ways are incessantly breaking down and building up organic compounds which are of the first importance in maintaining the soil cycle based on the endless succession of growth and decay.

But whatever compounds they may build up must be formed of the elements present in the soil or in the atmosphere, for an element cannot be synthesised. Some of these elements are scarce and occur only in minute traces in the plant or animal body.

So long as all plant and animal wastes and residues are returned to the soil in Nature's way these trace-elements will always be available to assist the formation of new life, but under the modern system of "fertilising" the soil with a few selected chemicals and disposing of human waste into the sea, it must be clear that in the course of time those which are normally scarce will become rare and rarer. As they are easily detectable by simple chemical analysis and lend themselves readily to experiment, trace elements form a ready index of one simple type of soil deficiency.

All Elements Essential

In the case of plants it used to be thought that nitrogen, phosphorus, and potassium, with sulphur, calcium, magnesium, and iron, met all the elementary requirements of plant physiology.

Recent work, however, shows—as common sense had always suggested—that there is hardly a single element present in the original soil which is not essential to, or highly important in, the life of any given plant growing naturally on

the soil in question. Thus zinc, copper, manganese, and boron are now reported as essential to all higher plants, with molybdenum, titanium, vanadium, chromium, tungsten, cobalt, and nickel as all-but-essential. And the list is continually expanding.

But plants are resourceful things, accustomed to building up many products for themselves and surviving even in the most unpromising conditions.

Not so the herbivorous animal. Whenever there is a soil deficiency the animal shows it first.

Take, for example, chromium. In parts of Southwest Scotland this substance is deficient in the soil. Unless ruminants pastured in these areas are fed chromium they develop severe anemia and wasting, and ultimately die.

Of more interest to us is the disease in sheep known as "swayback." Copper appears to be an essential constituent of the mammalian nervous system. In its absence the nervous system will not develop properly nor will the developed system remain in health. In "swayback," areas of inflammation or degeneration (demyelination) appear in the spinal cord, interrupting the nerve messages from the limbs to the brain so that the animal cannot maintain its balance, hence the name. The disease can be prevented by feeding copper.

Needs of Man

When we come to man, matters are not so simple.

If an animal exhibits a deficiency disease it is reasonable to indict the soil over which it pastures. In man we can arraign his diet; but where did that diet come from?

If he is a modern European or American, the answer may be "from the sea or from the ends of the earth." Moreover, food habits and social status complicate the matter considerably.

Of course, we do know that in certain parts of England—Derbyshire and the Isle of Wight, for example—as well as in Switzerland and in parts of the United States, goitre (an enlargement of the thyroid gland in the neck) occurs, and is restricted fairly sharply to certain areas.

The most conspicuous among the causes of this condition is a shortage of iodine in the diet, and iodine has been given in the form of iodized salt to prevent it, with a good deal of success. But this is an isolated case.

Generally speaking, in human disease we are forced to argue by inference or

(Continued on page 11)

SOIL DEFICIENCY AND DISEASE

(Continued from page 10)

analogy, or to take circumscribed homogeneous population, study their agricultural and dietetic habits and their diseases, and compare them with our own. Since such communities are to be found only where Western civilisation has hardly penetrated, the difficulties of the inquiry are obvious.

Results of Infertile Soil

Historically, of course, we have extreme examples of soil infertility and its malign results. The great city civilisations of the Middle East literally ate themselves off the cultivable soil in their vicinity and passed out of history buried in sand. Rome left its granary, Libya, a desert.

All these societies decayed except one—Egypt—whose river valley is fertilised annually by the deposit brought down by the Nile from the virgin soils of Central Africa.

In the modern world two countries select themselves automatically for contrast. One is Germany, the home of artificial manuring, and the other China, whose peoples—much to the alarm and disgust of visiting Europeans—return all waste, both animal and human, to the soil. Sheer starvation is the commonest disease in China because of the size of the population.

Yet disseminated sclerosis is seventy times as common in Germany as in China. This is a nervous disease in which patches of "demyelination" appear in the spinal cord, just as in "swayback": it occurs all over Europe, but especially in Germany.

Again, syphilis is common in Germany and Europe generally, but ten times more common in China. Yet, whereas in Europe the later stages are usually marked by syphilis of the nervous systems, in China this is exceptional. Evidently the Chinese have very stable nervous systems in more senses than one. Again, degenerative diseases of the blood vessels such as disease of the coronary arteries of the heart—that mounting scourge of Western civilisation—is almost unknown in China. Why is this? Judged by our intake of proteins, carbohydrates, fats, and vitamins, our diet is superior at every point, but weighed in the biological balance we hardly seem to have the best of it.

Are You An Organic Farmer or Gardener?

If so, the Editor of *Rural Review* would be pleased to hear from you at any time. All over Australia increasing numbers of people are applying organic farming and gardening methods. Readers who have any interesting information concerning the results they are achieving are requested to write in so that other readers can obtain the benefit of their experiences.

Effects on Fertility

There is not space to do more than refer to the Hunzas, that race of marvellous physique and stamina described by McCarrison, whose agricultural practices accord in essence with those of the Chinese, and whose vital statistics must be unique in the world today. But there is one final point, which I would like to make.

It is possible to breed fowls in cages and secure a financially satisfactory yield of eggs for human consumption. But if eggs for breeding chicks are required this will not do; the fowls must be allowed into the open fields to scratch and forage for themselves.

Similarly wherever Western civilisation has spread with its industrial and financial systems, its white bread and its artificial manures, the birth rate has fallen steadily.

Judged by the only test that really matters—the biological test—our civilisation stands condemned to pass out of history as completely as the Babylonian.

It is not easy accurately to assess the separate influence of so many factors, but an analogy suggests that our treatment of the soil must play no inconsiderable part in this relentless decline.

Roots in the Earth

In the history of evolution the plant, which alone possesses the power to capture the energy of the sun, necessarily preceded the animal whose food it provides. Man, a parasite on both plant and animal, stands therefore at the apex of a biological pyramid whose foundations rest inevitably in the soil.

He is inescapably the product of his environment, as every cell in his body attests. If the absence of a few trace elements can produce such startling changes, what may not the absence of those higher organic compounds on which the race has evolved be expected to entail? The science of soil health, as of human nutrition, is still in its infancy. But everything that we learn seems to lead up to the emergent truth that the higher our aspirations the more firmly must we maintain our roots in the immemorial soil.

Flight From The City

By Ralph Borsodi

"Men and women who desire to escape from dependence upon the present industrial system and who have no desire to substitute for it dependence upon a state-controlled system are beginning to experiment with a way of life which is neither city life nor farm life, but which is an effort to combine the advantages and to escape the disadvantages of both."

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