

THE NEW TIMES

Registered at the G.P.O. Melbourne, for transmission by Post as A NEWSPAPER.

VOLUME 15, No. 13.

MELBOURNE, FRIDAY. APRIL 1, 1949.

SIXPENCE WEEKLY.

Mr. Fadden Attacks Taxation Policies

Speaking at Canberra on February 22, 1949, Mr. A. Fadden, Leader of the Federal Country Party, gave the following interesting information concerning Mr. Chifley's taxation policies:

The Government, despite the buoyancy of its revenues, has given no indication of providing relief in the field of indirect taxation excepting a small reduction of entertainments tax amounting to £50,000 in the current financial year. It has given no indication of reducing the present high customs and excise duties, pay-roll tax, sales tax, petrol tax and other miscellaneous imposts, all of which, of course, tend to keep up living costs and costs of production, and the prices of food, and such luxury necessities as tobacco, liquor and matches, and to increase the costs of clothing and housing which are now soaring.

The many glaring sales tax anomalies that have been consistently pointed out by honorable members on this side of the House have been totally ignored.

Obviously, the pay-roll tax adds to the cost of living, and, together with the sales tax on nails, fittings and the like, increases the price of every house that is built. The Treasurer does not promise relief in any of those instances, although the eight different sorts of indirect tax that he has levied will, according to his own admission, exceed his estimate of £185,000,000 for this financial year.

The Treasurer has claimed repeatedly that during his term of office he has made considerable tax concessions, which aggregate hundreds of millions of pounds. Even before the latest alleged reduction of £36,500,000, the Treasurer claimed that tax concessions since 1948 amounted to £138,000,000.

On the contrary, however, in the four years commencing 1944-45, revenue from taxes has increased annually, the respective yields being £336,000,000, £351,000,000, £374,000,000 and £414,000,000. The estimate for this year, which is likely to be exceeded, is the record figure of £431,000,000. This experience, I submit, is a direct vindication of the taxation policy, which the Opposition parties have advocated when successive budgets have been presented to the chamber.

With every reduction of rate, the yield to the Treasury has improved. A reduction of rates has been followed by an increased volume of production, and, consequently, of taxable capacity. Our financial history in the post-war period has proved that the withholding of tax cuts until the latest possible time has robbed Australia of many millions of pounds worth

of production, a speedier post-war recovery, and a lower cost of living.

The contention that tax concessions confer upon taxpayers great benefits amounting to many millions of pounds is, in all the circumstances, utterly unsound. The earnings of a taxpayer do not belong to the Treasurer as of right. How, then, can he by the mere act of repaying what he should never have received, or refraining from collecting what he has never owned, or assisted to earn, claim with such self-justification that he has thereby conferred substantial tax concessions? Consequently, it is ridiculous to argue that he confers tremendous monetary benefits every time there is a reduction of tax rates.

If a footpad fails to find a roll of notes in my wallet for the very good reason that I left them at home, how can he successfully plead for clemency at his trial by urging that he saved me a considerable sum of money? In like manner, the latest proposed concession of £36,500,000 per annum, even when, after a long delay, it comes into full operation, a year or two hence, is purely a myth, because the money never belonged to the Treasurer and he never will have any moral claim to it. . . .

The basis of the Treasurer's policy seems to be that taxes had been so reduced, so many concessions had been granted, and incomes had risen so greatly that the net income, after taxes have been deducted, has substantially increased. That is alleged to be the real test of the weight of taxation, and of the Government's taxation policy. Such contentions are far from sound in an inflationary economy. The taxpayer is far more concerned with this question: Does the amount that is left to me now enable me to buy as much, value for value, as the net amount left to me before the war allowed me to purchase? If it does not, then heavy taxes, instead of saving the taxpayer from inflation, have contributed to a lower standard of living for his family, and the general community. In the United States of America, a worker has to spend two and a quarter hours at his job in order to earn sufficient money with which to purchase a shirt. In Australia a worker requires four and three-quarter hours to do so. The American worker has to be on the job for nine minutes in order to earn sufficient money with which to buy a packet of cigarettes,

but the Australian worker has to be engaged for 34 minutes.

In order to earn the price of a sedan car, an Australian must work 560 days, whereas his American counterpart needs to work the equivalent of only 155 days.

For every 1/- increase of the basic wage, the Treasurer reaps at least an extra £1,000,000 in direct and indirect taxes. That amount of £1,000,000 lowers the standard of living by being paid to the Treasury instead of being spent, as was intended by the High Court, to com-

(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.

MR. FADDEN ATTACKS TAX POLICIES

(Continued from page 1)

compensate for the higher prices of goods caused by inflation. At the 30th June 1948, the loaded average basic wage for Australia was £5/14/- a week. In August it had increased to £5/16/- a week, by November it had risen to £5/19/- a week, and now, according to the information supplied to me, it has reached the level of £6/2/- a week.

With every increase of wages there is an increase of payroll tax and sales tax. One government source has estimated that indirect taxes increase by 10 per cent, of the amount of any wage increase. Thus the wage earner is not only worse off than he was before the war, but he also becomes progressively worse off with every increase of the basic wage. The Treasurer is directly and specifically to blame for that condition.

The White Paper goes on to deal with concessions. We were informed by the Treasurer in his financial statement that entertainments tax is to be lifted from amusement park entrance-fees where the charge is less than 1/-.

The tax on blankets has been lifted, and tax on ice creams, aniseed balls and other confections has come down from 5/- to 2/- in the £1. But there is still a federal marriage tax of 10/- on a £2 wedding ring. A concessional allowance is granted for a *de facto* wife who looks after a taxpayer's children even if she has other sources of income. Such concessions naturally apply only to a very limited number of people. A taxpayer may have no use for wedding rings, sweets or ice creams, but if he asks for a concessional allowance for his legal wife who has other sources of income he meets with a blank refusal.

According to the White Paper, a man earning £6 a week, with a wife and two children, would have paid a total of £4 in income tax for the year 1938-39. Today, the Treasurer states, a man in that position pays no tax and is better off as a consequence. Would the remission of a mere £4 a year income tax compensate such a man, comparatively well off in 1938-39, for the increases of over 100 per cent in clothing costs and over 40 per cent in the general cost of living, as well as for the deliberate withdrawal, for purely political reasons, of subsidies that were formerly paid on necessities such as potatoes, milk and clothing, and the fantastic increase of housing costs?

Such a man, I submit, would prefer to go back to the 1939 standards, even though he had to pay £4 a year income tax. How he is in a far better position than is the poor fellow with a wife and two children who is alleged in *Taxation and the Economy* to be getting £4 a week. That man pays no tax, according to the Treasurer. If he existed in fact, he would have nothing with which to pay taxation! He pays no taxation even if he earns an additional £1 a week in overtime, the Government claims. If anybody needed an extra £1 a week that man would need it to support four people in these days.

The truth is that the examples chosen to bolster up the Government's case are completely unrealistic, and exist mostly in the imagination of the Treasurer.

The Commonwealth Statistician is realistic, for he says that in November, 1948, there were 2,408,200 wage-earners whose average wage was £8/6/8 a week. Incidentally, in June 1948, there were 2,374,000 wage earners whose average wage was £7/19/10 a week. Those figures show that nearly a quarter of a million wage earners gained a wage increase averaging 6/10 a week.

I come now to the subject of indirect taxes. The only indirect tax concession announced by the Treasurer in his latest statement is £135,000 for a full year in entertainments tax, which will affect the current budget by only £50,000.

However, he has claimed that tremendous sales tax cuts have already been made at a cost of £28,000,000 annually. What are the receipts from sales tax? To the nearest £1,000,000, they amounted to £30,000,000 in 1944-45, the last war year, and £34,000,000 in the first post-war year. Last year, 1947-48, they amounted to £35,000,000, and the estimate for the current year is £38,000,000. Those figures illustrate the well-known game of giving with one hand and taking away with the other. The fact is that goods cost more to buy and that consequently more tax in the aggregate flows into the Treasury. "You shall have more and bigger concessions," says the Treasurer, "provided that I get bigger and better tax returns!" I have pointed out, for every reduction of the individual rate of tax there has been an increase of the question of tax received. The situation in relation to customs and excise duties is similar. In that field, the large sum of £4,000,000 was given away by the Treasurer for this financial year "to reduce costs and encourage enterprise."

We find that, in order to get the benefit of the reduction, we have to use torches, buy soft drinks, or cook our meals on primus stoves because the concessions "to encourage enterprise" consist in the abolition of excise on dry batteries, carbonic acid gas and methylated spirits.

Let us examine the only sales tax concessions that have been granted during the present financial year notwithstanding the buoyant revenue from the tax. We no longer pay any sales tax on mittens, muffs, puggarees, puttees, spats, turbans, kilts, elastic pants and waders. That should afford great relief to the family man's budget!

There are still heavy sales tax impositions on wedding rings, toilet soap, toothpaste, soap washing powders, matches, toys, electric irons, mattresses, pillows, ice and thousands of other household items.

No specific relief has yet been promised by the Treasurer in respect of these items in the new financial year.

No attempt has been made to remedy the glaring anomalies in connection with the incidence of sales tax that have been pointed out from time to time.

Important Books And Pamphlets

Reconstruction on Christian Principles 7d.

R. G. Menzies and the Socialist Menace..... 1/6 per dozen

The Frustration of Production of Motor Fuel in Australia.. .. 7d.

By A. W. Noakes. This informative booklet is particularly important because of the "dollar crisis," which allegedly affects petrol supplies.

Poverty Amidst Plenty.. .. 10d.
By the Earl of Tankerville.

A Never Again Booklet 1/1
Contains special articles by such writers as Douglas Reed.

Aberhart-Manning 1/1

A contemporary account of the life of the late Premier of Alberta, leader of the world's first Social Credit Government, with a public declaration of policy by his successor in office, the Hon. Ernest Manning.

Alberta—Now! 7d.

A survey of the first ten years of the Albertan Social Credit Government.

The Story of the Commonwealth Bank..... 1/7
By D. J. Amos.

The Life of a Policeman 2/2
By A. W. Noakes. A first-hand story of condition in the Inland. Plenty of good humour. Also much factual information.

Water For The Inland .. 1/1
By A. W. Noakes. - A vivid outline of conditions in the out-back of Queensland in which is embodied the Reid and Dr. Bradfield water schemes.

Fancies and Delusions 1/1
By Dighton W. Burbridge. 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 best outlines of Social Credit proposals published in Australia.

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

HOW THE SOCIALIST-COMMUNIST WORLD CONSPIRACY WORKS IN AUSTRALIA

The two prongs to the Communist-Socialist world conspiracy, as it affects Australia, are here outlined.

The object is the Monopoly State — State ownership and operation of all the means of production. The legislative structure and administrative machinery required are identical.

The first is the Communist-Socialist plot directed by the Cominform (late Internationale) with its headquarters behind the Iron Curtain. The second is the London and Continental Socialist groups with the same objective, differing only in the means to achieve the desired end.

The instructional headquarters in England is the London School of Economics, presided over by the notorious Communist, Professor Laski, who, after visiting Stalin, confirmed the view of a "single objective." The Fabian Society takes care of graduates of the "School," infiltrating them into strategic official positions in the democracies.

Prime Minister Attlee, Sir Stafford Cripps, and many other members of the British Cabinet and Government are graduates of the London "School." Members of the Communist Party transfer readily as they do in Australia. Membership of a group or party is a formality only.

Professor Laski recently resented being termed a Communist, but judge and jury did not agree with him. The Socialist-Communist "line" might be to "disown" the Soviet until full control of the industrial structure in Great Britain is realised. Laski's belated condemnation of the Soviet hardly rings true, in the light of earlier pronouncements.

Dr. H. C. Coombs and graduates of London and other schools of Economics work at Canberra. These men constitute a "brains trust" of planners and operatives.

Dr. Coombs' appointment as Governor of the Commonwealth Bank conforms to the Socialist plan of appointing "School" graduates to administer the "instrument of power"—in this instance, credit.

Dr. Lloyd Ross and other prominent Communist trainees or "ex-Communists" are strategically stationed in the various departments as civil servants.

Communist chief is Lance Sharkey, with headquarters at Marx House, Sydney, staffed by career-Communists, many with specialised training in Moscow. From this "prong" of the plot radiate infiltrators on to the payrolls of the unions.

To oppose successfully the Socialist plot, our people must understand that Communism is Socialism. Stalin seldom uses the term "Communism," and the "Union of Soviet Socialist Republics" (U.S.S.R.) confirms it. All forms of Socialism require the same legislative structure.

The principles they work to must be understood and the technique in what is the "Great Deception" recognised. A Socialist will think and act as a militant Communist and yet not be in possession of a Party ticket. He can deny Communist affiliation. A minister of religion or medical man having a Party ticket may be

an ineffective idealist. A Socialist Minister of the Crown without a ticket is far more dangerous because he is "pledged" to follow the Socialist line in administration.

Confusion can be avoided if we realise that, ideologically, all Communists are Socialists, and Socialists team with Communists in any crisis. The merging of Socialist groups in Europe with Communists after a "take-over" of power by force of arms supports the view that the Communist State, as in Russia, automatically emerges from Socialism.

"Labor" Should Be Socialist

Our Socialist Governments are ideologically on side with both organisations through the Nationalisation plank in the A.L.P. platform. For all practical purposes, therefore, two coordinated forces are working to a common ideal as a single Socialist unit.

The term "Labour," correctly speaking, should be "Socialist." The Marx House group are the militant activists and leaders of Socialist thought and action in union and social affairs.

Pressure Tactics

The Industrial Movement is the strength politically and financially of the A.L.P. Inevitably, therefore, the selection ballots of all members of Parliament pledged to the Nationalisation plank, are heavily charged with militants armed with money-power and influence.

The Prime Minister's rail-sitting in dealing with and playing down the actions of Communist-controlled Unions and weakness in disciplining industrial law-breakers are due to the presence in his own electorate of Macquarie of a strong militant section directed from Marx House who could, if occasion arose, prejudice his selection. Militant "stand-over" groups are a constant threat to all Ministers and Members who are also unionists.

Money Pressure

Uniform Taxation is a major accomplishment for the conspirators, and Mr. Chifley's refusal to discuss its discontinuance is because it is an important instrument designed to bring the States into line.

Bank Nationalisation is being pushed through in defiance of the people's expressed objections to it, because it is the logical sequence to Uniform Taxation, viz., centralised power to impose the will of the junta on the individual.

Dr. Coombs, as Governor of the Commonwealth Bank, assures that powers conferred on the Bank through the Treasurer will be used to further the Socialist State. The instruments for administration of Lenin's No. 1 priority in Communist procedure are complete.

Mr. Chifley's persistence in appealing to the Privy Council to override the High Court and the refusal to grant a Referendum denote supreme confidence in the Government's ability to force its plan to completion before the public are awake to their peril.

The Master Plan

The plan behind the Nationalisation plank to replace Parliament by a Committee of

Union Officials leaves no reasonable doubt that the Sovietising of Australia is intended. Repeated NO majority votes at referendums alone have saved Australia—given us respite and time to think.

The Communist Party claims full credit for the "plank" and the detailed Master Plan to implement it. It is standard practice the world over, and has been successfully installed in all countries behind the Iron Curtain with Socialist groups operating. It is the dominating factor in Australian politics today since its unanimous confirmation by the A.L.P.

Caucus — which, for all practical purposes, is Parliament—ensures minority control of the nation and is an instrument in the plan. The motivating force behind the modus operandi is the intelligentsia or trained staff charged with the responsibility of fitting into the Australian legislative structure the component parts of the Monopoly State so far as the Federal Constitution will permit.

Strategy and Tactics

Before we can successfully oppose these successive legislative steps to the Monopoly State, we must be able to identify them as such. Having identified them, we can now examine strategy and tactics, and finally develop an opposing campaign to provide correctives.

It will be seen that the State monopoly structure is supported by a number of political groups professing Socialism, and, to a lesser extent, by parties supposedly in opposition, when they so far forget the principles of the Free Enterprise State, and advocate State-owned instrumentalities and Boards of Control in perpetuity, as did the Stevens Government in New South Wales in regard to Metropolitan Bus Transport.

More recent attempts to invade the field of Free Enterprise in Victoria are equally disturbing and give clear indication that constitutional safeguards against State Monopoly are vitally necessary to curb all politicians, irrespective of groupings.

Modern Socialism

The pyramid of fear and intimidation painstakingly built up from the depression years makes cowards of all men and women in the industrial and political picture. Having acquired control and with it confidence, Socialists of all shades of pink to red find intimidation their most effective weapon. Incidentally, it is also their greatest weakness, because, once aware of peril, Anglo-Saxons will not be intimidated.

The direction of the Socialist Movement comes from the Brains Trust at the top down through Parliaments to the people, which is in direct contradiction to our concept of democracy — from people to Parliament.

—A *Free People*, official organ of the PEOPLE'S UNION, Sydney.

H. N. SMITH

WATCHMAKER AND JEWELLER.

Inspection of Stock Invited. All Work Guaranteed. 1st Floor, McEwan House, 343 Little Collins street, Melbourne. Phone MU2115.

THE NEW TIMES

Established 1935

Published every Friday by New Times Limited, McEwan House,
343 Little Collins Street, Melbourne, C.I.

Postal Address: Box 1226L, G.P.O., Melbourne. Telephone: MU 2834.

VOL.15

FRIDAY, APRIL 1, 1949.

No. 13.

A TOTALITARIAN VIEWPOINT

In the Melbourne *Herald* of March 19 Professor Higgins, Professor of Economics at the Melbourne University, is reported at length on taxation policies. Like his fellow economist, Professor Copland, Professor Higgins claims that high taxation is necessary in order to defeat inflation. He attacks the tax-cuts recently promised by the Chifley Government, and suggests that taxation, particularly direct taxation, should actually be increased.

Professor Higgins looks and talks like a typical fanatical Socialist. We shudder to think of the disastrous effects his teachings must have upon Melbourne University students studying economics.

It would be interesting to know more about Professor Higgins background. He recently came to Australia from Canada, where he was on the Staff of the notorious McGill University. It will be recalled how during the Canadian Spy Trials considerable interest was created by the fact that many of those charged with espionage on behalf of the Soviet were either associated with or had been educated at the McGill University. The Principal of this hotbed of Red intrigue is Dr. Cyril James, a product of the London School of Economics. Dr. James is an associate of the pro-Communist Zionist, Professor Harold Laski, who has also instructed at the McGill University.

Whatever Professor Higgins' political sympathies may be his reported views indicate that he is a typical totalitarian. He feels that he knows just what the individual should do with his money. The Government—acting on behalf of the learned economists, of course! — should compulsorily take more of the individual's money off him. Why? So that "too much money won't be chasing too few goods." Professor Higgins discreetly ignores the major causes of the shortage of goods one of which is high taxation. However, like his fellow economists, he does hold out hope of the individual, eventually getting some of his money back. When a "recession develops," the Government planners will put the individual to work on some of the big pyramids — sorry, "public works" — for which they are now preparing the blueprints. Apparently the individual is expected to overlook the fact that this policy means that he has to submit to Government-imposed work in order to get returned to him some of his own money — money that he has already worked for once. This is a vicious policy of exploitation, which should be exposed whenever it is advanced. And, without wishing our Canadian friends any harm, we would feel happier if Professor Higgins were to return immediately to the McGill University. We already have far too many of his type poisoning the minds of Australian University students with their alien and totalitarian philosophy.

A JEWISH FIFTH COLUMN

Today Israel is aggressively, stridently even, national. Russia and her satellites, therefore, have had to change their tune. Instead of exporting their Jews, they prefer to keep them at home. Cominform policy now is that Jews at home are more valuable than in Palestine. With their international contacts and outlook, they are, or could become, valuable carriers of the Cominform's message. In a few cases the Central European authorities are actually directing local Jews westwards.

But in all cases, Moscow seems to be hoping that the Jews will furnish Russia with a really deadly fifth column. If this statement seems extravagant, let me say that the nucleus of such a column exists in Melbourne right now.

Bruce Kneale, European correspondent, *The Argus*, Melb. Jan. 24, 1949.

"BRITISH" RECOVERY

It may now be told that "Britain" has made a marvellous recovery, thanks to the wondrous self-denial and steadfastness of the peepul. A suit of clothes which in 1939 cost £4 now costs thirty, coal is four pounds a ton, and is mostly stones, food is much scarcer, worse in quality, and more troublesome to obtain than in the invaded countries; a cottage which cost 300 to build in 1938 now costs 1,500 and you can't have it; juvenile delinquency has reached an all-time high, the railways are worse than they were a hundred years ago and our representative great man is Mr. Sydney Stanley. The Party an go to the country, gents, with a proud record of progress achieved.

—The Social Crediter Mar. 12, 1949.

MORE "DEMOCRACY"

With the fall of nationalist China, the road to Singapore is open. We cannot but view the situation with concern. What is now important is the trend of political events in Malaya, and in Singapore itself. The following report has just reached us: —To encourage the polyglot population of Singapore to become democratically minded, the new Board of Municipal Commissioners is to be elected, instead of nominated as hitherto. The qualifications for the franchise are that the voter must have lived here for three years or more, and must be paying assessment on a house having an annual value of £14 or over, or must be paying for board and lodging amounting to a specified sum per month. It is not known just how many people are eligible to vote, but out of a population according to the census last year of 769,000, a conservative estimate would be 60,000 persons. The Registration Centres were open for several weeks, and finally a mere 8,685 persons registered; this after the Supervisor had used press, radio and every other method of propaganda in order to induce people to come and register. The aid of one Indian priest was even enlisted, who ordered 500 Sikhs to come down to their temple and register, which they duly did. Of the 8,685 who registered possibly 500 will vote when the election time comes, these few persons thus becoming responsible for appointing the Commissioners who are, for the next three years, responsible for the control of the local administration of a city of 769,000 inhabitants.

This is not all. Within a week of the closing date for the registration centres a mere 1,500 persons had registered. The Indian Regional Congress (*i.e.*, the local Indian Society), quick to see the position, decided to create an absolute Indian majority on the Municipal Board, and pressure was brought upon all eligible Indians to register their votes. The movement, if it did not emanate from, was actively supported by, the Indian Government's official representative in Singapore, and it is the intention to run Indian candidates for all or most of the wards. The point I want to make is this, these people are neither desirous of, nor ready for, democracy, as the British know it. The vote of ignorant masses has done enough harm to Great Britain itself; yet *we* are now sowing the seeds of untold future trouble, by fostering Western institutions, which have evolved over a period of centuries upon a mixed and politically ignorant people, the bulk of whom are not even faintly interested.

London *Tidings*, Jan. 27, 1949.

Printed by W. and J. Barr, 105-7 Brunswick Street Fitzroy. N.6., for New Times, Ltd., McEwan House Melbourne, on whose authority these articles appear.

TO THE POINT

Dangerous Nonsense

In his address to the annual conference of the Australian Natives' Association, held recently in Bendigo, Victoria, the chief President, Mr. R. J. Joseph, lined up with the many other totalitarians we unfortunately have in this country. Mr. Joseph was reported in the *Melbourne Age* of March 22 as follows: "Only when the National Parliament is equipped with complete authority will Australia be in a position to discharge her national duties and responsibilities in a proper and fitting manner . . . Surely it is time to change the whole basis of State Parliaments and their functions.

I personally believe that perhaps a system of provinces, having power to legislate in regard to matters of local significance could be evolved, subdividing and replacing the States as such with tremendous advantage to the nation as a whole."

Mr. Joseph was also reported as saying that "Australia was faced with the spectacle of various States obtruding their parochial interests, truculently maintaining their sovereign rights, their puny pomp and ceremony, and their village pump political activities at the expense of solving broad national problems."

So far as truculence is concerned, we have already had far too much of this from the Canberra Government. We want more "parochial interests," the type of interests which serve, and are controlled by, the individual. Not only must the present States insist upon their independence against the aggression from Canberra; we want several new States to ensure that the power of Canberra is weakened.

The Federal system was evolved for the purpose of ensuring that the Federal Government had the powers to "discharge national duties" which Mr. Joseph is so concerned about. Why, then, does not the Federal Government confine itself to genuine national matters, such as defence — this includes defence against Communist infiltrators from other countries — instead of trying to run local affairs which can be best run by local people.

The subtle suggestion that a system of provinces for local legislation would mean genuine decentralisation will not stand the slightest investigation. We don't want a totalitarian central government formulating all policies and compelling local bodies merely to administer these policies. We want local governing bodies to have far more control over policy making. It is only when control of policy is kept local that the individual can effectively control his own affairs. But apparently Mr. Joseph is not very interested in the individual controlling his own policies; he wants those policies to be subordinated to some vague abstraction. The astonishing thing is how many people accept this dangerous nonsense as wisdom.

* * *

Socialism in Britain

Wholesale clothiers of Leeds fined £5,096 with £52/10/- costs for exceeding permitted profits on manufactured goods, Directors charged with aiding and abetting. Firm pleaded guilty and submitted there was no deliberate evasion of regulations; staff were paid more than 50 per cent.

above trade-union rates, and the firm charged less than ceiling prices because of its efficiency.

A farmer of Kent, who was fined £10 with two guineas costs for selling three gallons of a special allocation of milk for workers on his farm to a confectioner to make ice-cream, stated in evidence that the workers did not always want their full ration, and he was often left with a surplus which went bad. He had since asked a food inspector what to do with the surplus and had been told to do anything except sell it, so he gave it to the dogs. Confectioner also fined the same amount with same costs.

Dairy farmer fined £30 for employing 15-year-old youth who wanted to do overtime on Bank Holiday weekend.

An expectant mother in Scotland applied for permission to transfer her registration for milk to a shop nearer home. Permission granted on the strength of a medical certificate, but refused for transfer of husband's registration to same shop. The woman now has to go to both shops.

* * * *

A Communist

A note on Matyas Rakosi, the Communist, Deputy Prime Minister of Hungary, by John Gunther in the *Melbourne Argus* of March 11, 1949: "Mr. Rakosi was born in 1892, in a Hungarian village called Ada; he is of Jewish origin, and the family name was Rosenkranz."

* * * *

Sound Advice

The following very pertinent letter appeared in the *Melbourne Herald* of February 16: —

"The State Government continues to lose support from many who elected them because they thought there were prospects of being free from humbugging controls telling them what they had to do or not to do. It is left to the Labour Government in Queensland to 'beat the gun' by decontrolling commercial rents, commercial sale prices and blocks of land, and also properties valued at more than £3000. The Government would be well advised to give the freedom promised at the elections by ceasing to carry on Labour's socialistic discarded unpopular stuff and have it buried before the Federal election."

—"ELECTOR," Collins St., Melbourne.

* * *

"Unity"

While the Victorian Liberals are urging that only a Liberal and Country Party Government can provide "unity" against the Socialists, it is reported that the West Australian Liberals do not subscribe to this point of view. The West Australian Liberals have rejected a merger proposal put forward by the West Australian Country Democratic League.

The only unity worth worrying about in the fight against Socialism is unity on a constructive and genuine alternative policy to that being imposed by the Socialists. As yet, there is unfortunately little evidence that this type of unity is about to be achieved.

* * * *

In a brochure recently issued by the N.S.W. Constitutional League, Professor

Bland, of the Sydney university, makes the following points, which should be commended to Mr. Joseph: —

Australia is too big for one Government to manage. Local problems will be solved satisfactorily only by local people thoroughly familiar with them.

A centralised government is necessarily a remote government. Everyone knows the farther away things are from us, the less interest we have in them.

Remoteness makes it difficult to know what distant officials are doing. There are so many tens of thousands of Commonwealth officials that no Minister can know more than a trifle of what is going on.

If officials tend to act without regard to the rights of citizens, then we have a system of bureaucracy. The further officials are away from Ministers, and the more they have to do, the more inevitable it is that we shall be bureaucratically and not popularly governed.

Popular government is not merely the right of the people to elect their chosen representatives. It must provide means to allow the people to influence what politicians and officials are doing in the name of the people.

Mr. Eric Butler at Horsham

Mr. Eric Butler had two successful meetings at Horsham (Vic.) last week. Both were under the auspices of the Horsham Voters' Policy Association, an organisation that is growing in members and in influence.

On Tuesday, March 22, Mr. Butler addressed a public meeting in the Town Hall supper room. Between 60 and 70 people attended, and gave Mr. Butler a most attentive hearing as he dealt with the question of whether there will be another depression. Mr. Butler showed how the fear of another depression was being played upon to drive the peoples of the world further towards the complete Monopoly State. He exposed the powerful international financial groups using the Socialist and Communist movements for their own ends. He emphasised the fact that the Federal Elections this year must be used to elect to the Federal Parliament members pledged to reverse the present centralising policies.

Mr. Butler was asked many questions after his address, all of which were answered to the satisfaction of those present.

On Wednesday, March 23, Mr. Butler spoke on the 1949 Federal Elections to the Study Group of the Voters' Policy Association. A most stimulating discussion took place after his talk. Next month the Horsham Voters' Policy Association hopes to have the local State member at a meeting, also to be addressed by Mr. Butler. The local member will be asked questions concerning his activities on behalf of his electors; also his views on certain basic policies.

The Horsham Voters' Policy Association is to be congratulated on the excellent work it is doing.



NITROGEN BY NATURE'S METHODS

J. M. MOUBRAY, O.B.E.

In this country (Southern Rhodesia) the native has from time immemorial, as far as we can find out, interplanted beans with his maize and other crops. He, like nature, does not like clean cultivation or bare patches. In the East it is the same. Why is this so, and what principles is he applying that we, with our so-called superior knowledge, have neglected or not properly understood?

It is now realised that the legume from a very early stage in its growth excretes nitrogen, probably in the form of amino acids, and that this nitrogen is readily taken up by interplanted non-leguminous crops. We looked upon the nodules on the roots of the legume as a good sign; it is possible they are the reverse, and that when they are forming the legume is not excreting nitrogen. It is starving for nitrogen and is fixing nitrogen for its own use. If the crops with these nodules are ploughed in, then the soil probably gets the benefits of such nitrogen; but what happens in the case of a biennial such as American sweet clover or a perennial such as lucerne? We want data on the amount of nitrogen excreted by a particular legume and under what conditions it can be induced to excrete a maximum. I would suggest lucerne for the experiment, as its use is almost universal.

Years ago the Imperial Tobacco Company sent to Rhodesia Dr. Nierenstein, from Bristol University. He propounded what were considered new and far-fetched theories to which little attention was paid. He told me that the mistake we made was to grow our tobacco chemically, and not biologically, and he got me to interplant my tobacco with soya bean. This at that time was treated as a joke. This year a group of tobacco farms suffered from a heavy hailstorm; this stripped the plants to bare stems. The farmers cut back the stems to ground level and from the stump raised a new stem. One farmer at the same time planted kidney beans round the old stumps. The result was that he reaped 50,000 lbs. of good tobacco from 60 acres. Those who failed to plant anything round the stumps reared a very poor crop. What better proof is required of the ability of the beans to supply the intergrowing tobacco crop with a continual supply of nitrogen, and that biologically, and so to include a vigorous growth and bring the tobacco to maturity?

Dr. Nierenstein was right.

By using nature's methods, both with legume-associated nitrogen-fixing bacteria and with those not associated with the legume, chiefly belonging to the Azotobacter group, I have been able, for the past ten

to fifteen years, to dispense with artificial nitrogen in all forms in my citrus grove. I now, among some of my trees, use the mowing machine instead of the plough.

It is dawning on me that the condition known as nitrogen starvation when a heavy straw or green crop is ploughed in, is not accounted for by the well-known explanation. In a healthy soil we have two main groups of non-legume-associated nitrogen-fixing bacteria, Clostridium the anaerobic one and Azotobacter the aerobic one. When you invert the soil by ploughing in your straw or cover crop with a mould-board plough you exactly reverse the position of these bacteria. How can you expect the surface-bred and surface-working bacteria to work at a depth of seven or eight inches, completely excluded from the air? And how are those from the lower horizontal layers, where they were completely or almost excluded from the atmosphere, to become at once used to continual contact with the air and get to work. It is much more likely that both sets of bacteria become more or less useless for their changed purpose, or are killed, and that we have to wait for a new bacterial population to become available.

Clostridium, we now know, fixes nitrogen in direct proportion to the amount of glucose it breaks down in its anaerobic environment. Do we imagine it does this under entirely new conditions when brought to the surface? Probably not.

I am not prepared to go too far, but it looks as if the ideal orchard condition is now to keep a continual mulch from cut legumes through which they again grow; to cut again and spread some of the material under the trees; to go back to forest conditions and discard the plough; to dress now and then with raw rock phosphate. The legume has the property of dissolving or making available more phosphorus than it needs, and this is then used by the trees.

—*Mother Earth*, England.

D.S.C.M. WOMEN'S GROUP (VIC.)

Now Meets on
THE THIRD THURSDAY
of Every Month.
All Interested are invited.

SICK SOIL AND SICK PEOPLE

Disease preys most surely and most viciously on the under-nourished and unfit plants, animals and human beings alike, and when the importance of the obscure mineral elements is fully realised, the chemistry of life will have to be rewritten. No man knows his mental or bodily capacity, how well he can feel or how long he can live, for we are all cripples and weaklings. It is a disgrace to Science. Happily that chemistry is being re-written and we are on our way to better health by returning to the soil the things we have stolen from it.

It is simpler to cure sick soils than sick people — which shall we choose?

—Edmond Szekely, *Medicine To-morrow*.

THE FARM EXCHANGE

(J. E. Harding & A. E. Webb)

If you should think of coming to Central Queensland to live, we shall be glad to advise upon, and assist you to find, Farming, Grazing, Business or House Property. We are Farm Specialists, both having had extensive practical farm experience. Write to us about your needs. Social Crediters will be very welcome. Central Queensland has much to commend it.

THE FARM EXCHANGE

Real Estate Agents, Auctioneers, Valuers.

DEN HAM ST., ROCKHAMPTON, C.Q.

Phone 3768.

After Hours 3199 and 2161.

ROOM 8, THE BLOCK,
Elizabeth Street, Melbourne.
Books, Pamphlets, Periodicals on Social Credit Available. Send for List. Enquiries Invited.

BIO-CHEMISTRY EXPLAINS DISEASE RESISTANCE

By LEONARD WICKENDEN.

There are, I believe, many users of compost who are still seeking a wholly satisfying explanation of the remarkable resistance to disease shown by their plants. I believe biochemistry now offers such an explanation.

In 1945 the Commonwealth Fund of New York published a book by Dr. Selman A. Waksman entitled *Microbial Antagonisms and Antibiotic Substances*. Dr. Waksman is the discoverer of streptomycin, which, with Fleming's penicillin, has already worked miracles in the curing of human diseases and promises to work many more. In his book he writes of the war ceaselessly waged in the soil between microorganisms of different types. He points out that, since plants and animals have existed on this planet for millions of years, the number of disease-producing microbes which have found their way to the soil must be beyond surmise. Through countless ages human and animal excrement has been deposited in or on the surface. Corpses, human and animal, have been buried in it, many of them swarming with disease bacteria. Plants, dying from all kinds of diseases, have deposited their remains in the earth. If the bacteria from all this death and corruption had survived, the whole world would now be a foul and festering horror. What, Dr. Waksman asks, has become of them?

He tells us that it has been found that disease-producing bacteria do not long survive in the soil; they are destroyed by other organisms. Let the soil be invaded by pathogens (organisms that cause disease) and at once a defensive army springs to the attack, increases in numbers as it feeds upon its victims, devours them, or otherwise destroys them. Here is an interesting and significant fact: if soil is sterilised, so that all living organisms are destroyed, and is then inoculated with pathogens, these harmful bacteria will live for months and even multiply. The defending armies have been destroyed, so that invaders are safe from attack.

Dr. Waksman and others have taken advantage of these discoveries, and have extracted from soil organisms certain chemical bodies, which have proved to be of great potency for curing many human diseases. To these substances they have given the name "antibiotic." Are we to suppose that the antagonists from which the antibiotics are extracted exist primarily to supply a cure for human diseases, and have been waiting in the soil for untold centuries until Dr. Waksman and other geniuses came along and found out how to make use of them? Surely not. All through the ages, they have been doing their job of keeping the soil healthy, and it is a logical assumption that they play an important part in keeping plants free from disease.

Is there any direct evidence of the correctness of that assumption? Indeed there is. Dr. Waksman writes of a host of investigators who have controlled plant diseases by using inoculations of beneficial bacteria extracted from healthy soil. He states, however, that "the application to

the soil of organic materials which favour the development of antagonists has given much more favourable results than the use of pure cultures" (p. 263).

It is interesting to note how neatly these newer discoveries fit in with some of the older observations of agricultural scientists. For more than half a century has been known that many trees and plants form an association with fungi. It is now found that fungi are an important source of antibiotics. It is known that the roots of plants and the filaments of fungi interpenetrate one another and that the roots finally consume the fungi. Is it not reasonable to suppose that the plant absorbs into its structure the antibiotics which are known to exist in the fungi, thus protecting itself from disease or curing itself of a disease which it may have contracted? Is it going too far into the realm of speculation to suppose that when a human being or animal consumes the plant, these antibiotics are introduced into the animal organisms thus carrying the protective influence one step further?

If these suppositions are correct, how do they affect the arguments for and against compost and chemical fertilisers? Dr. Waksman states that the best results are obtained by application to the soil of materials, which favour the development of antagonists. What are these materials? The natural food of fungi is decaying vegetable matter, and the same is true for other microorganisms from which antibiotics have been isolated. The need for organic matter, therefore, is clear and obvious.

Let us next consider the effect of adding mineral fertilisers to the soil. What happens when the mineral fertiliser, which was intended for the space between two rows of lettuces, is sprinkled, through carelessness or accident, on to the leaves of the lettuces themselves? Every gardener knows the answer. The lettuces shrivel up and die. If these fertilisers are so deadly on relatively large coarse plants like lettuces, what will be the effect on the delicate filaments of fungi and on other microscopical plants in the soil? Surely it is likely that these minute plants will be seriously damaged, if not destroyed.

By adding chemical fertilisers to the soil, therefore, we destroy the very organisms from which the larger plants obtain the substances, which protect them from disease.

Need one wonder, any longer, why plants fed on mineral fertilisers are susceptible, while plants fed on compost are resistant to disease?

—*Soil and Health.*

A. DUNN'S DETECTIVE AGENCY (Regd.).

Estb. 1884. The Old Original Firm.

Known all over the world. Successful business firm with good reputation. Strictly confidential. Advice Free. Cent. 5302, Talma Bldgs. 119 Swanston st., Melbourne. —[Advt.]

GENERAL BOOKS

That Hideous Strength.. 11/3

By C. S. Lewis. We specially recommend this book by one of the most penetrating of English writers. "A fairy story for grown-ups," which shows how the weaknesses of the human being are exploited to further the policy of creating the Supreme State. One of the most important books of recent times.

A Chesterton Omnibus.. 17/2

Contains three of G. K. Chesterton's famous novels: "The Napoleon of Notting Hill," "The Man Who Was Thursday," and "The Flying Inn."

Australian Journey 14/-

One of the most successful books of recent times covering the whole Australian scene. This book has proved a best seller overseas. It contains some very penetrating comment on social and economic developments in Australia. An outstanding feature of the book is the 33 fine half-tone plates.

Bradman 11/6

By A. G. Moves. This book is the most intimate study of Don Bradman yet published.

The Man Born To Be King 15/3

By Dorothy L. Sayers. This great book contains the text of Miss Sayers' famous series of broadcast plays on the life of Christ and associated material.

Orientations..... 13/3

By Sir Ronald Storrs. The author of this important book was at one time Governor of Jerusalem. A most authoritative work on Palestine and the Middle East, which is of particular interest at the present time.

Years of Victory..... 5/6

By Arthur Bryant. Available at a specially reduced price, this book, by a great master of English, covers one of the most important periods in British history—1803-1813.

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

"SOCIAL CREDIT AND CATHOLICISM"

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

Introduction by Eric D. Butler.

Price 1/1 (post free). Order now from:

New Times Ltd., Box 1226L, G.P.O., Melbourne.

WELL PLACED

The two most powerful committees in the Lower House of Congress are the Rules Committee and the Foreign Affairs Committee. Under Truman, the Rules Committee will be headed by Congressman Sabath, the pro-Communist Jew of Chicago. Many citizens do not realise that no bill can come before Congress for consideration without the consent of the Rules Committee, of which the Jew Sabath is chairman. Heading the Foreign Affairs Committee is Sol Bloom. Bloom got his start in St. Louis, Missouri, at the World's Fair, owning, running and managing the notorious hoochie-kootchie show, which was a vile burlesque demonstration. Later, he went to New York and continued in the field of burlesque entertainment. He was sent to Congress, and, under Roosevelt, became the head of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the Lower House. He helped to set up the United Nations in San Francisco. He will head the same committee after the first of the year.

—*The Letter*, Washington, D.C.

Sol Bloom has died since the above was published in the U.S.A. It will be interesting to note who fills his position (Ed., "N.T.").

PURCHASING POWER: STATE VERSION

By FOOTLE.

According to my morning newspaper of March 10, I quote, "Under the powers conferred by the new Abattoir Bill, the State Meat Board can buy established meat works in any part of the State, if necessary."

I am often bowled out by my newspaper, but not usually with the first ball of the first over. The announcement brought unwonted corrugations to the old brow. This appeared to be a case for Pongo Pike, who, as I often told you, is up to the neck in business and surveys the world from that uncomfortable position.

"Excuse me, Pongo, old boy! When is it necessary to buy an abattoir?" I asked.

"Don't you have anything to do with 'em," advised Pongo, "they're noisome affairs; especially the blood and bone manure department. Haven't you ever read Upton Sinclair's 'Jungle'?"

"I don't want a beastly abattoir," I replied. "I only want to know when it is necessary to buy one."

"Can't imagine," replied Pongo, stifling a yawn, "unless one is afraid of a meat shortage, or is too dumb to think of a better investment. You get the stuffiest ideas."

"It isn't my idea at all," I pointed out. "The idea belongs to the State Meat Board."

"They might know," suggested Pongo. "Ask 'em."

Evidently Pongo wasn't going to be a great help, but, after all, if a thing is necessary, it ought to be possible to find out why. A necessity is something imperative. Necessity is the mother of invention, the pea and thimble, the burglar's jemmy, and what not. But I'm darned if I can see what makes imperative the purchase of a butchering business by an accessory after the fact. The State has, until our time, been reluctant to go into business. We can disregard the occasion, which prompted Richard III to offer to swap his kingdom for a horse. Even when that Henry died of a surfeit of lampreys, it didn't occur to anyone to take over the fisheries. As a matter of fact, business has always been regarded by the best people as *infra dig*: something quite incompatible with "noblesse oblige," and you'd think that even our State would shy off blood and bone manure.

I am therefore reduced to speculation. The answer is possibly to be found in the State's hatred of abundance. Unbridled enterprise invariably results in superabundance. And civilised peoples, unlike primitive ones, are always rendered poverty-stricken by having lots and lots of everything. That, at any rate, is a possible motive. The State may even be afraid we

may all get cancer through over-indulgence in meat. At all events, whether the State goes into business for health reasons or not, it would be most unlikely, even revolutionary, if it did so for profit.

Really this newspaper report is most unsatisfactory. It proceeds, in answer to Mr. Sparkes (C.P., Aubigny) . . . "Power will be there, not to acquire, but to purchase them (meat works)." (Mr. Collins, Minister for Agriculture and Stock.)

D'you know, these chappies make me feel very odd. With me, purchase and ownership are inseparable ideas. Almost the first thing I do if I want anything, is to see if I have the wherewithal, though I have always been aware, of course, that there is a class of person whose first reaction is to see if the policeman is looking. But all classes are the same, inasmuch as acquisition is the thing, with or without purchase.

I wonder do the State Meat Board live ordinary lives, have ordinary cares and normal womenfolk. Or do their wives rush home in an ecstasy and exclaim, "Darling, there were such lots of things I didn't want, I just had to buy them!" Or repudiate possession by some such disclaimer as, "No, no, my dear! That isn't mine; I've just bought it"?

I have always been led to believe that the Queensland Government is socialistic in outlook that it believed—past failures notwithstanding—in State ownership. But obviously, an injustice has been done. They don't want to own things: they only want to pay for them. Which mightn't be so bad. I, myself, have a little business, which would benefit from timely infusions of money so long as I was left in possession.

I intend to keep an eye on the government, which can sponsor such benevolent ideas, for I feel there must be a catch somewhere. For one thing, knowing the financial outlook of governments, and their insistence that the less money everyone has, the better off everyone is, I feel moved to ask where is the money to come from. Suppose, for instance, the Government should be seized with squandermania, and

insist upon paying for everybody's business without acquisition, of course—it seems to me that everybody's money will be required for this peculiar transaction.

Just what the position would be by the time the last form had been filled in and witnessed, is something, which at present eludes me. But I feel reasonably certain that, when a concern has been paid for, the idea would be almost sure to occur to someone to be allowed to run the show "just for ever such a little while"—like they did with the National Security Regulations. And are still doing.

—FOOTLE.

Another ENWITE Speciality

[Regd.]

SOLVIT

For Clean, Easy Stripping

of

PAINT, LACQUER,
VARNISH

Etc., from Any Surface

NO DIFFICULT NEUTRALISATION
WILL NOT HARM FABRIC OR WOOD

ASK YOUR HARDWARE STORE
FOR IT

CODNER BROS.

**Builders and
Joinery
Manufacturers**

**HOMES AND
HOME SITES
AVAILABLE**

**Wheatsheaf Rd.
GLENROY**

IS DIGGING NECESSARY?

This important booklet must be in the hands of every organic farmer and gardener. The author, one of England's most famous gardeners, has proved over a long period that better and healthier vegetables can be grown without digging. He outlines the methods he has used.

Mr. King also demonstrates how weeds can be effectively controlled to assist in building soil fertility.

Is Digging Necessary? Contains an excellent section on compost making, and a complete list of literature dealing with soil fertility as the basis of high-level health in plant, animal and man.

Order now from *New Times Ltd.*, Box 1226 L., G.P.O., Melbourne, C.I.
Price, 1/4 (Post Free)