

THE NEW TIMES

Registered at the G.P.O., Melbourne, for transmission by Post as a Newspaper.

VOLUME 15, No. 38.

MELBOURNE, FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 1949.

SIXPENCE WEEKLY.

PETROL RATIONING AND THE DOLLAR CRISIS

Just as we predicted, the worsening of the British political and economic situation, as a result of the "dollar crisis" is having its repercussions in Australia. In defending his restrictive policy concerning petrol, Mr. Chifley put forward a most plausible argument, an argument that unfortunately contains a great deal of truth.

Summarised briefly, Mr. Chifley's argument is as follows: In spite of "favourable balances of trade," Australia has only on several occasions over a large number of years had a dollar surplus. Before the war, however, there was no difficulty about obtaining dollar goods because Australia was able to buy adequate dollars from Great Britain. This is no longer possible. Therefore, if Australia wants to purchase more dollar goods, including petrol, she must increase her dollar earnings.

Now, the opponents of Socialism make a very bad mistake when they claim that the British and Australian people can overcome the "dollar crisis" by working harder, increasing efficiency, lowering costs and thus be able to compete more vigorously on the American markets. This argument completely overlooks the basic cause of the "dollar crisis": the tremendous surplus of American exports over imports. In the Melbourne *Age* of September 12, a "Special Correspondent in Washington," writes: "Britain, importing 1,500,000,000 dollars' worth more goods than the dollar zone is exporting to it, is suffering from an acute dollar famine. The United States, exporting all over the world in this year alone some 600,000,000 dollars' worth more than she is importing, has a dollar surfeit. To restore the equilibrium the sterling zone must plainly sell more abroad.

"But, equally plainly, the United States must buy more . . ."

U.S. Restricting Imports

Is there any evidence to suggest the United States is prepared to buy more from Australia and Great Britain, even if prices were reduced? None whatever. As a matter of fact, the U.S.A. has imposed higher tariff barriers than most industrial nations, and at present American business organisations, supported by Republican Members of Congress, are campaigning strongly against any suggestion that American tariffs should be reduced.

Although there has been considerable criticism levelled at the British because they have allegedly not made the most effective use of dollar loans to build up their industrial capacity, it is significant

to note that the proposal to increase British petrol refining capacity was strongly resisted by the American oil companies, who wield considerable influence in America. These companies are actually restricting production and lowering prices, because they contend that there is "over production." It is certain that neither Australia nor Great Britain, irrespective of what type of Government they have, can sell sufficient goods in America to buy the amount of dollar production they have been taking in recent years.

London Report

In explaining the "dollar crisis" last week Mr. Dedman said, "No individual anywhere in the world, whether of the Labour Party, Socialist, or any other political colour, had yet been able to provide a solution to the problem." Mr. Dedman, as is so often the case, is quite wrong. Quite a number of competent people have outlined certain principles necessary to be observed if the problem is to be solved. As we may not be considered competent by the "experts," we quote several pertinent extracts from the London Chamber of Commerce's Report on the "Bretton Woods" International Financial Scheme:

"The fundamental fact of trade is the exchange of one man's or one nation's 'surpluses' for those of another man or another nation so that both are better off. The introduction of a money economy was intended to facilitate these exchanges, not to alter the fundamental fact. The implied contract, therefore, when a nation imports consumers' goods, is that its goods or services will, in due course, be taken in exchange, either directly or through a third party; and the same is true, so far as interest and amortisation are concerned, when it imports goods on capital account. Under a barter economy the settlement of what goods a nation should take in payment for its exports was part of the bargain. Under a money economy, however, the buying nation gives the original selling nation a claim to its goods in the form of money, in order that the selling nation may have a wider freedom of choice or may, if it likes, defer its purchases for a reasonable time. It can also exchange its

claim on that nation for a claim on another. There is nothing in these proceedings of an aggressive or hostile nature calculated to arouse resentment. On the contrary, they appeal to men everywhere as just in principle, friendly, and helpful. Unfortunately, however, in the course of time means have become confused with ends; and instead of nations recognising that they are trading their goods and services for the goods and

(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.

Petrol Rationing and the Dollar Crisis

(Continued from page 1)

services of other nations, and that the acquisition of another nation's money is merely an intermediate step to facilitate their return purchases, they have come to think of the acquisition of foreign money as an end in itself to be used for purposes other than the return purchase of goods and services . . .

"The ultimate test, however, of any new international financial system must be the extent to which it induces nations to observe those fundamental principles of international trade which have already been outlined above. If the nations are unwilling to take goods or services in exchange for their sales of goods and services abroad, any financial system which permits them to profit by this unwillingness and to use the proceeds of their sales to depress the exchange rate and threaten the internal stability of the country to which they have sold, or, alternatively, to invest the proceeds in that country, thereby gradually acquiring control of its fixed assets, must, in the long run, lead not to co-operation, but to chaos."

"The Brokers Are In"

Bearing in mind the above, the following comment concerning the recent Washington Dollar Conference, by the Conservative British *Daily Express*, is significant: —

"The brokers are in . . . The Conference's shameful task is to put the British Empire into receivership. By permitting the conference to take over financial leadership the Labour Government betrays its Imperial trust. The Empire's heart and mind will in future be in Washington. The resources for developing it will be American and the rewards will likewise be American."

If the British Empire is to be saved as a group of sovereign, self-governing peoples, every Empire country must immediately modify its internal financial policies in conformity with realities, while those who desire to sell their goods to Empire countries must be told that they must accept Empire goods in return. Every effort should be made to ensure that the Empire's great resources, including oil and petrol supplies, are developed to such a stage that the Empire can stand on its own feet, and again give the world that leadership which helped considerably towards the comparative stability of last century. As the Socialists of all Parties are unable to deal with the international gangsters strangling the British Empire, they should be swept aside in favour of genuine patriots who know what is required.

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

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

TO THE POINT

Unbiased

Melbourne's new Socialist daily, the Melbourne *Argus*, is now devoting itself vigorously to the totalitarian cause. As part of its contribution, it featured in its issue of September 7 an article extolling the alleged virtues of the British National Health Scheme. The article was written by a British doctor, Dr. Stark Murray. The *Argus* "overlooked" to point out that this doctor could hardly be termed unbiased. He is vice-president of the British Socialist Medical Association, and was an unsuccessful Socialist candidate for Parliament at the last British General Elections,

* * * *

Dr. Evatt and Israel

Israeli's first Consul-General to Australia, Mr. H. Levin, says that Australia — *i.e.*, Dr. Evatt — "acted as 'midwife' at the birth of Israeli in the United Nations Assembly." He also said "Australia's Minister for External Affairs (Dr. Evatt) championed Israeli's cause and was very prominent in the move to make Israeli a sovereign country" (*vide Melbourne Age*, September 13). Mr. Levin's statement provides further confirmation of the power-lusting tendencies of Dr. Evatt. Not once has Dr. Evatt ever as much as mentioned the fact that Israeli was only established as the result of one of the most brutal acts of aggression. The United Nations, allegedly established to outlaw war, condoned war against the Arabs, the taking from the Arabs of their properties and homes, and the creation of hundreds of thousands of Arab refugees.

Dr. Evatt has, ever since 1942, been so active in his acts of aggression against the liberties and rights of the Australian people that perhaps it is not surprising that he aids and condones aggression by the "Chosen People." As Dr. Evatt never pursues any policy unless it advances the interests of Dr. Evatt, it will be interesting to note how the "Chosen People" reward him for services rendered.

* * * *

Civilisation and Private Property

"The right of private property presents the most fundamental of the social problems that vex men's minds in modern times. It forms, as it were, the background to them all. The history of property is the history of mankind, and civilisation has waned or progressed in relation to man's attitude to his right of ownership."

—A. M. Crofts, O.P., M.A., in his *Introduction to Property and Poverty* (1948).

* * * *

Socialism

The following description of Socialism by C. H. Douglas, recently published in the weekly *Bulletin* of the Australian Associated Chambers of Manufacturers, should be carefully studied by every student of politics and economics:

"Socialism, or to give it its correct name, Monopoly, is not a production system, which is exactly what one would expect from its origins. That this is a simple statement of fact is being strikingly demonstrated at this moment. It is a legalistic system based on a power complex supported by a set of abstract slogans which its policies and re-

sults contradict, where these have any concrete meaning.

"The idea so skilfully inculcated that nationalisation of property will assist in the distribution of wealth is, of course, completely without foundation. Socialism is a restriction system, as any examination of Socialistic practice will confirm, and it has two well-defined principles — centralisation of power, both economic and political, and espionage.

"Every advance towards Socialism is an advance towards the Police State.

"Any Englishman will tell you that four years after the end of the war, conditions in Great Britain are much worse than during the war. However, this means, not that Socialism has failed, BUT THAT IT IS SUCCEEDING.

"It is doing what its true authors intended it should do — reduce people to a condition of penury and servitude."

The Export Mania

"Jap trade worries Britain." This is the headline of a news-item in the Melbourne *Argus* of September 13. British textile manufacturers are becoming worried because of increasing Japanese textile exports. If every country in the world had a realistic internal financial and economic policy, all exports would be genuine surpluses designed to pay for required imports. But because of unrealistic financial policies, the more highly industrialised an increasing number of countries become, the more bitter becomes the competition to export more than is imported. Economic warfare helps pave the way for military warfare, a fact well understood by the international gangsters responsible for the present plight of what is left of Western civilisation.

The Melbourne *Herald* of September 12 features statements by American critics who point out that the "dollar crisis" is fundamentally the result of the financial and economic policies being pursued in the U.S.A. The critics rightly point out that the U.S.A. must be prepared to accept more readily production from other countries, if those countries are to earn sufficient dollars to buy American production. They stress the importance of American purchasing power being increased in order that this can be accomplished.

Before becoming too enthusiastic about this admission concerning a fundamental aspect of the "dollar crisis," it is necessary to point out that those advocating the increase in American purchasing power favour centralised Government planning in America in order to further this policy. The "dollar crisis" having been successfully exploited to impose totalitarianism upon the British peoples everywhere, may now be exploited to impose the same totalitarianisms upon the Americans.

Our Sham Democracy

AN OUTSTANDING BOOKLET

By JAMES GUTHRIE, B.Sc.

Price: 1/1d posted

The Price of Gold

The British House of Commons:
July 14, 1949

Mr. Stokes asked the Chancellor of the Exchequer under which clause of the International Monetary Fund it is "laid down that the United States Treasury fixes the selling price of gold.

Mr. Fay: The price of gold in the United States is determined by the gold content of par value of the dollar, which is fixed by United States law. Under Article IV of the Fund's Articles, the par value cannot be altered except after consultation with the Fund.

Mr. Stokes: Yes, but that is not the Question I asked. I asked the Chancellor of the Exchequer if he would say who fixes the price of gold. He said it was the United States Treasury, under the International Monetary Fund. I have searched the International Monetary Fund rules, and I cannot find under which rule this is done. Now I am asking the Economic Secretary if he will tell me.

Mr. Fay: If my hon. Friend is asking who fixes the American price of gold, then I must say I do not think that it is strictly the responsibility of His Majesty's Government to answer. As a matter of fact, however, it is the United States Government who do so.

Mr. Stokes: I asked under what rule of the International Monetary Fund is it laid down that the United States Treasury fixes the price of gold, and I have had no answer.

Mr. Fay: It is by the Gold Reserves Act, 1934, of the United States of America that the United States Government, with the consent of Congress, fix the monthly price of gold. By agreement, at the time of the setting up of the International Monetary Fund, the United States Government also undertook not to alter the price without consulting the Fund. I hope my hon. Friend is satisfied with that.

Mr. Stokes: Does my hon. Friend mean that the United States agrees not to alter it without consulting themselves? That is all it really amounts to.

Mr. Fay: I said, "without consulting the Fund."

Parallel to Communism

"Following the example of the Socialist Government in Great Britain, the Federal Government has openly embarked on a course of socialisation of Australia.

"Although protagonists of Socialism loudly protest their adherence to democracy, the movement towards a socialised community is closely parallel to the movement towards a Communist State.

"The result to the ordinary citizen would be much the same, in both cases; everything would be controlled by central integrated planning and the execution of the planned projects would be carried out under central direction.

"In other words, we would become cogs in the wheels of a machine.

"If free enterprise is stopped, democracy automatically must give way to bureaucracy or oligarchy."

—J. P. TIVEY, President of the N.S.W. Chamber of Manufactures.

We suggest that Mr. Tivey go a step

Professor Bland On Federal System

The community had lived so long under the dominion of dictators — military, political, and industrial — that it was in danger of forgetting the fundamental values of a Federal system, said Professor F. A. Bland in Sydney last week.

Professor Bland said that the most cursory review of the world systems of Government revealed the fatal ease with which all powerful political assemblies threw up dictators.

Australians should be brought to recognise the actions and attitudes of those who for many years had shown by their hostility to federalism how seriously they regarded it as an obstruction to their studied design to reduce all of us to the slave conditions of Communism.

"Persistent attempts have been made, especially within recent years, to destroy or deface the political edifice that the federation fathers so faithfully built," Professor Bland said.

"If we are ever to regain the rights and liberties we have lost, either by voluntary surrender or by expropriation, now is the time when it is essential to arrest, if we cannot wholly reverse, the tendencies of the past 30 years."

Professor Bland said his experience in several European countries during the past year convinced him that popular liberties were never safe when Governments were free to do as they liked.

He had been oppressed by the dangers to popular liberties that lurked in the creation of gargantuan corporations that, in England, had been entrusted with the provision of goods and services, such as coal, transport, aviation, electricity and hospitals.

Comparing these corporations pursuing their confused course, with administrative trends in Australia, Professor Bland said he saw the same reaching out for more power; the same trends towards centralisation; the same cluttering-up of Federal Cabinet with administrative and organisational problems, to the exclusion of matters affecting national survival; the same apoplexy at the centre and anemia at the extremities; and the same persistent and alarming rise in governmental costs to be met from taxpayers' pockets.

—Canberra Letter, Aug. 10.

Mrs. Webster's Books

We have a limited number of the following book by Mrs. Nesta Webster:

The Socialist Network. 7/8.

The above price includes postage.

Order from

NEW TIMES LTD.,

Box 1226L, G.P.O., Melbourne, C.I.

further and examine Liberal Party policy for parallels to Socialism. We can name a few: Uniform taxation, resource planning, marketing boards, centralised power generation, centralised transport, social services, etc., etc.

Just a Coincidence

CANBERRA, Friday. —One of the minor mysteries of the Federal Budget, introduced on Wednesday, has been explained.

Out of the blue the Prime Minister (Mr. Chifley) announced that personal income taxpayers could now claim up to £150 a year as a concessional reduction for life assurance and superannuation payments — instead of up to £100 as before.

For years, the Government had resisted pressure for an increase in this allowance.

The Government, hitherto, had claimed that anybody who could afford to pay more than £100 a year for insurance, or superannuation could afford to pay tax on the margin invested above that amount.

But since the Treasury last rejected a proposal for an increased allowance, a Parliamentary superannuation scheme for Federal members has come into operation.

Under this scheme, politicians pay £3 a week, or £156 a year, into the Parliamentary Superannuation Fund.

The new budgetary exemption is just large enough to cover the Parliamentary superannuation payment. If it had not been extended, members would have had to pay income tax on one-third of their superannuation contribution.—*The Herald*, Sept. 9

A POSSIBLE DANGER TO RESPONSIBLE CRITICISM

According to the provisions of a Bill introduced into the Victorian Legislative Assembly on September 14, "the Police Offences Act would declare obscene any printed matter considered blasphemous or likely to incite abhorrence against any religion or religious denomination or sect.

"Fines or imprisonment would be provided for offenders of this type....

"Mr. Oldham said this would mean that any book, paper, newspaper, pamphlet magazine, periodical letterpress or writing including roneoed sheets put out by the Communist Party, which contained anything blasphemous or likely to incite indignation or abhorrence against any religion or any religious denomination or sect would, prima facie, be an obscene article.

"Printers, publishers, distributors and sellers would all be liable.

"Occupiers of houses or places where such articles were kept would be liable in certain circumstances, and also the owner of such articles.

"Mr. Oldham said that on a number of occasions in recent months members of Parliament had expressed strong indignation at what they described as blasphemous and indecent attacks made in certain news sheets and publications on certain religious groups, institutions and churches.

"Instances included the continual and unjustified attacks in certain journals on people of Jewish faith, and the attacks by the newspaper, *The Rock*, on Roman Catholics and their institutions."

—Report from Melb. *Sun*, Sept. 15.

On the face of it, these provisions appear to imply an unwarranted restriction on free criticism, and could be used to stifle and suppress fair and legitimate comment. We shall report further on this proposed measure when we have seen the full contents of the Bill ourselves.

"New Times," September 23, 1949 — Page 3

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, SEPTEMBER 23, 1949.

PROFESSOR COPLAND AGAIN

It is essential that all liberty-loving Australians pay careful attention to every policy suggested by Professor D. B. Copland. The history of the past nineteen years has made it clear that the policies Professor Copland advocates today are usually implemented tomorrow. Professor Copland might well be compared with Tennyson's brook: Federal Governments may come and go, but the totalitarian Professor goes on as if nothing had happened.

In an address to the Melbourne Junior Chamber of Commerce on September 11, Professor Copland said: "The first thing to consider in evolving a plan for national teamwork is the extent to which agreement can be reached among the several sections of the community on national policy as decided from time to time by the Government and administered by its agents" (vide Melbourne "Age," September 12). An examination of this statement leaves no doubt that Professor Copland is a strong advocate of centralised planning by Governments — i.e., by economic planners like himself. All that the individual members of the community have to do is to try and adjust themselves to the centralised planning.

Professor Copland went on to say that his suggestions were "not pleasant medicine for those who believed that Government action was bound to be less enlightened than that of private enterprise." Under competitive private enterprise, the consumer — providing that he has adequate purchasing power — controls the production system by the discriminatory use of his money "vote." Although we are well aware that Professor Copland and other economic planners believe that they know what is best for millions of other individuals, we have no hesitation in saying that the humblest housewife is far more "enlightened" on the subject of what is best for her family, than are all the economic "experts." If the economic planners have any use at all, which we doubt, it is merely to implement policies, which will enable every individual in the community to do his own planning. The basic issue is not planning versus no planning. It is whether all individual policies are to be subordinated to those of a group of central planners, or whether all planning should merely serve to implement the policies of individuals.

Professor Copland has made it clear that he is not in favour of planning serving the individual. He advocates the totalitarian idea of "an economic advisory council, representative of the Government, and the several major economic interests, to discuss policy on a national plane." National Socialist Germany and Guild Socialist Italy had economic advisory councils operating as Professor Copland suggests.

All Socialists should welcome Professor Copland's suggestion. At the 1921 Trade Union Conference responsible for the Socialist objective being adopted by the Australian Labour Party, Mr. A. C. Willis, later to become Chairman of the Commonwealth Central Coal Authority, said: "The position today in Russia is that, although they have a Soviet form of political government . . . Behind it they are building up what will be the real Government of Russia — the Supreme Economic Council."

The totalitarian intentions of Professor Copland and his fellow economic planners are clear. These intentions must be effectively thwarted by all those who believe in genuine individual independence.

Communist Fronts

The following letter was not published by the Melbourne "Herald": —

Sir,

Your special reporter, in an article on the Peace and Democracy meeting in the Town Hall, was quite correct in branding the Australian Council for Civil Liberties as a Leftist organisation. Its counterparts in other countries have all been recognised as such.

1. Canada. Here, the Council for Civil Liberties was specifically mentioned and exposed in the Canadian Spy Trials as a front for the Communists.

2. United States. The American Civil Liberties Union came into existence in 1920 with Roger Baldwin, "an old hanger-on of the Berkman anarchist gang," as its director. On its committee were found Jane Addams, Rabbi Magnes, Sophonisba P. Kenridge, Morris Hillquitt (of the Soviet Bureau), E. G. Flynn (I.W.W. agitator), William Z. Foster (recent head of the United States Communists).

3. Great Britain. In 1917 the National Council against Conscription was organised in Great Britain by Adrian Stephen and Langdon Davies. Later the name was changed to the National Council for Civil Liberties. Stephen and Davies were two principal organisers in the Union for Democratic Control Office. Prime mover of the U.D.C., which was teeming with leftists, was E. D. Morel, renegade Frenchman who, in 1916, was accused in Parliament of being a paid agent of the German Government. In 1917 he was sentenced to six months' imprisonment for sending information out of the country.

The Council for Civil Liberties in Australia has also unmistakable "Red" connections. It has not been concerned with the civil liberty of the ordinary individual Australian.

Yours, etc.,
(Sgd.) J. G. Weller
Organising Secretary,
Victorian League of Rights.

"AMERICANISM"

"To a certain extent we may rightly say that the United States owe to the Jewish impression what they are, that is their Americanism, for what we call Americanism is but the Jewish spirit having found its definite expression. And because of the enormous influence that America has not ceased to exert ever since its discovery on the economic life of Europe and on general European culture, the part played by the Jews in the building of the American world has become of a capital importance for the whole evolution of our history."

—Werner Sombart, *The Jews in Economic Life*, 1912.

Please note the ultimate result of this influence in Europe today.

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.

Signs of the Times

By "CANUTE"

On 13th May *The Times* devoted a rather peevish leading article to the new State of Israel, expressing the hope that now that the Jews have got more or less what they wanted, they would behave with a little more consideration for others. The acid note rather surprised me from such a fervent supporter of Israeli claims. More submissive in tone was a letter from Lord Halifax in the same journal on 1st June, which must have nauseated a good many people beside myself. The writer pleaded with the Government of Israel to agree to place Jerusalem under International Trusteeship, and concluded with these words: —

"And I can imagine no single act on the part of the Government of Israel that would immediately win them a larger measure of goodwill than if they were prepared in the spirit of large generosity to meet their request."

Rather like a notice in the Agony Column informing Bill Sykes that if he will only be good enough to return the family heirlooms to their rightful owners, he can keep the rest of the swag, and all will be forgiven and forgotten!

Both these literary efforts are very different in tone from the attitude displayed by this same newspaper only twenty-nine years ago, when the management still rested in the independent hands of the highly respected family of Walter. On 8th May 1920, appeared a review of "The Protocols of the Learned Elders of Zion" which had just been published by Eyre and Spottiswoode under the title of "The Jewish Peril." This review expressed the opinion that a thorough investigation into the source of these documents by an impartial authority was eminently desirable. The reviewer mentioned the fact that *The Times* had not yet noticed this "singular little book," which he said would arouse a storm of Anti-Semitism if its contents were not convincingly refuted. He complained that, up to date, the Jewish explanations had been unsatisfactory, and that although the Jewish Press had stated that the Anti-Semitism of "The Jewish Peril" was going to be exposed, only two inadequate articles had since appeared in the *Jewish Guardian* and *The Nation*. He could not know at that date that no convincing repudiation of the Protocols would ever be made, in spite of the phoney attempt in Switzerland to prove them a forgery.

The reviewer stated that the copy in the British Museum bore the date stamp 10th August 1906, and went on to remark: —

"We see, fifteen years later, a government established in Russia of which a high percentage of the leaders are Jews whose *modus operandi* follows the principles quoted, and whose mainstay is a Communist Party, which answers to the last quotation (omitted). We see this, and it seems uncanny. The trouble is that all this fosters indiscriminate Anti-Semitism . . . What are these Protocols? Are they authentic? If so, what malevolent assembly concocted these plans, and gloated over their exposition? Are they a forgery? If so, whence comes the uncanny note of prophecy, prophecy in parts fulfilled, in parts far gone in the way of fulfilment? Have we been strug-

gling these tragic years to blow up and extirpate the secret organisation of German world dominion, only to find beneath it another more dangerous because more secret? Have we, by straining every fibre of our national body, escaped a Tax Germanica' only to fall into a Tax Judeica'?"

No wonder that a more tactful management had to be found for our leading daily paper. This review was obviously written by a thoroughly patriotic Englishman, in no way afflicted by the fell disease known to its authors as Anti-Semitism, but who had the good sense to realise that this book could not be dismissed with a "shrug of the shoulders," and that an impartial investigation of the documents and their history was in every respect desirable. He was perfectly correct to state that a failure to hold such an inquiry was bound to produce a heavy increase in Anti-Semitism, already rife at that time in Eastern Europe.

The passage of time has rendered an investigation even more desirable, for in the interval much more of the policy advocated in the Protocols has become history. People's minds are disturbed at the thought that there exists some world-controlling agency of whose activities they ought to be kept informed in the spirit of true democracy, since these activities would affect intimately not only their own daily lives, but more important still, the daily lives of the generations yet to come. If the course of these lives was liable to be directed by some unknown hand into channels unwelcome to the victims, surely they should be allowed to know what was going on, so that they might register their protests before it was too late. Merely to deny the existence of such an influence is unsatisfactory; if there is nothing to hide, would it not be wiser for the Government to institute an inquiry. Its position would be enormously strengthened if it could show conclusively that the Protocols were "All my eye and Betty Martin." Alternatively it is open to the Government to admit that such an International Jewish Agency does exist, and that its good offices had been invoked for the promotion of international goodwill, which the Government believed to be in the best interests of their own people. The latter course would be the more honest, and would involve less anxious flirtations with the truth. It would then be for the people to decide whether they were prepared to accept the Jews as honest brokers, in view of their past record, whose shortcomings are usually benevolently ascribed to persecution.

That such a plan exists is unquestionable; that it has gone hopelessly awry is equally a matter of certainty.

If, at any future time, the people were to discover that the Guiding Star which they had been invited to follow so painfully in order to reach the Promised Land, turned out to be a Will-o'-the-Wisp and an alien one at that, they might well be pardoned for demanding a thorough investigation, if nothing worse. Moreover a postmortem is never so satisfactory to the patient as an operation on the living organism, already long overdue.

—*The Patriot*, Eng., July 1949.

ERIC BUTLER'S BOOKS

The Enemy Within the Empire, 10d

Over 30,000 copies of this book have been sold in all parts of the English-speaking world. Carefully documented, it is essential for those who desire to understand the background of the present world situation. The policy of the International Financiers in using the Bank of "England" to cripple the British Empire while helping Hitler is dealt with in detail. The origin of what is now known as the "Financier-Socialist" plot is revealed. This book is generally regarded as one of the author's finest works.

The Money Power Versus

Democracy.....10d.

Well worth having if only for the comprehensive selection of statements by various authorities concerning the "Money Power." The main thesis of this book is to show how the "Money Power" has prevented the introduction of genuine political and economic democracy. The author shows how the electors must unite to bring their political institutions under control for the purpose of obtaining the results they desire.

The Truth About Social Credit, 1/1

An excellent introduction to the subject of Social Credit for the beginner. It shows how Social Credit is far more than a "funny money" scheme. The author makes it clear that bank nationalisation and "State control of the issue of credit" has got nothing to do with Social Credit. Social Credit financial proposals are outlined clearly and simply. The 1945 Banking Legislation is revealed as a major part of the policy of totalitarianism being imposed upon Australians. This valuable book must be in the armoury of every Social Credit warrior.

Democracy Flouted 7d.

The full text of a radio script prepared by the author while a member of the Armed Forces. Although the A.B.C. considered the script one of the finest submitted by a member of the Army, a Communist in a key position in Army Education had the talk banned after all arrangements had been made for its broadcast.

A Defence of Free Enterprise and The Profit Motive.... 7d.

A brilliant exposition of the control of the production system by the money "vote."

Constitutional Barriers To Serfdom..... 7d

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



Soil Conservation on the Hume Catchment

Notes of a talk given to members of the Victorian Compost Society by Miss S. G. M. Fawcett, of the Soil Conservation Board and the University of Melbourne.

The whole area of the catchment covers approximately 4,000 square miles, and it was originally intended that the survey should cover the whole of the Victorian section, but, owing to labour shortages and transport difficulties, investigation was carried out only in the Omeo district, the southern half, which, however, includes the head waters of all the main streams.

A Great Variety of Country

There is a very great variety of country, and the range in elevation is from 1,900 ft. to 6,500 ft. at Mt. Bogong. It includes two large areas of undulating country, *viz.*, the Omeo country, which lies at about 2,000 ft., and an area of alpine grassland lying at about 5,500 ft., which is known as the Bogong High Plains. In between there is an expanse of broken steep country, mostly heavily timbered.

The low-level open country, and the bottoms of the river valleys adjoining it forms the bulk of the freehold land, and is used chiefly for sheep raising. Soil erosion here is moderately severe — sheet erosion with very severe gullying. Its causes are overstocking with sheep and rabbits and exploitive cropping. Its cure lies in the hands of the farmers who must be educated in the necessity for rabbit extermination, and for pasture improvement with the adoption of conservative ranks of stocking.

Surrounding this area of freehold country, and extending to the highest points are the lands vested in the Crown and controlled by the Lands Department and the Forests Commission. Except for the High Plain country mentioned earlier, all this area is timbered and is leased by the Crown for grazing. Each particular area leased is known as a run, and most of the run-holders are engaged in cattle raising.

Fire Destruction

In the past the cattle were kept in the bush for the whole of the year — generally below the 4,000 ft. level for the winter, and above it for the summer after the snow had melted. In what is known as the winter country the forests are of mixed type, chiefly red stringy bark and peppermints, and the country is fairly poor and dry. In the summer country the forests are of alpine ash or woollybut, and snow gum occur, and these forests are much

damper than the lower ones. All the forests of the area were originally open and had grassy floors, and in this condition were very useful and attractive to the cattlemen. However, in their efforts to provide fresh green grass for their cattle they adopted a policy of regular burning. In the winter country this has had a disastrous effect, and the result is that the grass has gone from these lower slopes. The situation has been complicated by the fact that the rabbit is well established in this type of country, so that even though it is no longer regularly burnt, its recovery is prevented by the presence of rabbits. The result is that almost all the area is suffering very severe sheet erosion, and the stream courses are badly scoured. The only hope for this country is to exterminate the rabbit and prevent bush fires occurring — but this is much easier said than done.

The country is no longer used for cattle to any extent, as most of the herds are now taken on to freehold country for the winter.

Above the lower slopes of mixed forests there is the alpine ash and snow gum country. The effect of fire here has been the alteration of the open forests to forests for the most part choked with scrub. Where scrub grows the grass does not, so this country has become largely worthless to the cattleman.

The deterioration of the lower country means that the grazing has become very severe on any good country remaining, and this means the alpine grassland itself.

Overstocking

This country is being damaged, chiefly as a result of the failure of the lower country to provide grass for cattle, and it can be damaged in two ways. Firstly, by being required to support too many cattle, and secondly by being required to support them for too long. With a shortage of grass in the low country the cattleman is anxious to take his stock on to the top as soon as possible after the snow melts, and it is known that in some cases cattle have been pushed up just behind the melting snow. The danger in this practice is explained by the fact that any herbage plant is most susceptible to damage by grazing immediately after a period of dormancy. In this snowy country it is most desirable to let the grass grow for a few weeks

before it is grazed. It is also important that the cattle be taken off before the end of the growing season, so that a good mat of vegetation is left to cushion and insulate the shoots against the snow, which lies for six months.

In the old days the cattlemen knew this and took their stock up between Christmas and New Year, and took them back to the low country in early April. Nowadays, if the cattlemen had their own way they would have the cattle up on the tops as early as October, and leave them there until they were driven off by snow. However, they haven't their own way entirely.

The Bogong High Plains is in the news just now because it forms the catchment for the Kiewa H.E.S. Considering the value of this undertaking to the State it is absolutely necessary that the catchment be maintained in first-class order. A good catchment ensures a steady, regulated flow of clear water — but a catchment suffering sheet erosion gives rise to very uneven stream flow and to the deposition of silt in reservoirs.

So for the past few years we have been engaged in experimental work on the High Plains, with a view to determining how the soil erosion in the area may best be remedied, and we are also trying to find out to what extent it is due to grazing by cattle.

Erosion: Small Beginnings

Now we have had a certain amount of trouble with people who look at the High Plains, and, seeing all the grass there is there, ask what are we worried about. In fact, we have been told that there is no erosion on the High Plains. To most people the words soil erosion conjure up a vision of whole hillsides stripped of soil and monstrous gullies. They fail to realise that soil erosion is a process, which has almost imperceptible beginnings, and which increases its rate as it goes on. The first sign of erosion is a drop in fertility in grazing land; the next sign is the opening up of the sward, which allows the entry of rosette herbs, and other weeds, which cannot get a foothold in a strong, pasture. The next sign is the appearance of small patches of bare ground, which enlarge until they coalesce to ruin large patches, and so it goes on until there is enough bare ground for anyone to recognise the presence of erosion.

All these phenomena are easily observed on the High Plains by anyone who cares to look for them.

Without having anything about the early stages of erosion explained to them, the cattlemen knew that there was something wrong with the High Plains.

(Continued on page 7)

Soil Conservation on the Hume Catchment

(Continued from page 6)

Loss of Fertility

Not so many years ago cattle could be taken straight off the high country to the Melbourne market, but nowadays, although they fatten during the summer they lack what is technically known as bloom, and also lose their condition very readily. With horses it is much the same story. They fatten, but do not develop the glossy dappled coats they used to. Further, they cannot now stand up to hard work without hard feed, whereas as late as twenty years ago they would do so.

All this, taken in conjunction with the fact that stocks tend to lose constitution on the Omeo country unless new sires are continually introduced, suggests to me that the readily available mineral resources of the soils have been exhausted. Now, in spite of exploitive grazing and the damage resulting from it, natural processes are at work to repair the damage. Where the grass has been destroyed and soil loss — incidentally, most losses are by wind in this area — has occurred, the grass itself cannot grow because it is the finest expression of the whole soil. Small herbs and shrubs colonise the bare ground, and if left above would build up and prepare the soil so that the grass could again take over.

At this point it is necessary for me to tell you that the extension of the time during which cattle are now on the high country, as compared to years ago, has led to a change in their eating habits. When their entry on the Plains was delayed until about New Year the snow grass which is abundant everywhere was seeding, and the cattle chiefly lived on the seed and flower heads of the grass, and they pulled these out without causing any damage to the plant.

The leaves of the snow grass are quite sharp and pointed, and the leaves themselves are very fibrous. The cattle would rather eat anything else than the leaves of the grass. Once they were taken up before the grass seeded they began to eat the herbs. Now, as the herbs are only common on country, which has already been damaged, you can see the danger. The heavy grazing is now concentrated on precisely those areas least fitted to stand it, and the result is that once a patch of ground begins to erode it tends to keep on doing so.

Natural Reservoirs

There is a further aspect of our work in the High Plains, which may interest you. Around the springs, which form the headwaters of all the streams and along the streams themselves, there are peat bogs, which are locally known as mossbeds. They are like vast sponges, and are capable of holding enormous quantities of water. Their function in nature is to slow down the flow of water, and also to act as filters for the streams. In their original condition these mossbeds were death traps for the unwary. It was impossible to ride a horse through, and cattle going into them to drink were frequently bogged. Even to go across on foot involved resignation to a thorough wetting.

These mossbeds were a nuisance to the cattlemen, and although it was never part

How Sterility Handicaps Production

The Dairy Farmer for June 1948 contains a most interesting article, by E. D. Ashton, based on the Annual Report on Milk Records, published by the Milk Marketing Board (England). The figures, Mr. Ashton points out, refer only to recorded herds, but these are probably managed better than average.'

The records show that the average yield of milk per cow rises gradually from 500 gallons a year in the first lactation to about 650 gallons in the seventh, when most cows reach the peak of their production; indeed, in most cases, it is not until the end of the third lactation, that costs of rearing are paid off and profits begin to emerge. Yet only 7.2 percent of cows reach their seventh lactation; 65 percent have been discarded by the end of the third lactation — the point of profit reaching. Probably half the cows in our herds "die in debt."

This shortness of working life is a big obstacle to increased food production, since every acre that must be used for rearing heifers for replacement purposes means that much less land is available for actual milk production or for growing food crops. Statistics for 1940 showed that England and Wales had 73 uncalved heifers one year old

of their policy to burn the High Plains as a whole, they did attempt to burn out the mossbeds, and in many cases succeeded in doing so.

An Interesting Experiment

Once a fire ran across the top of them the surface became dry, and cattle could walk over the top. This trampling has led to the consolidation of the peat and has prevented the growth of the Sphagnum moss, which forms the bulk of the peat. The result has been that the mossbeds have dried out, and it is rarely now that one sees a mossbed over which it is not perfectly safe to ride a horse. Water tends now to run over the top of the peat rather than to soak in. There is one mossbed, however, which we are sure is becoming wetter, and that is a large one on the Soil Conservation Board enclosure where we are studying the effect of keeping the cattle out. The moss is beginning to grow again, and the bog itself is wetter than those outside — so much so that quite a number of people in our working parties have suffered unexpected baths in black mud. It will be interesting to see just what happens to this mossbed because the mossbeds are or could be very important subsidiary reservoirs. We have calculated that the mossbed on the plot could hold 40 acre-feet of water when saturated, and it is only one of a great number in the whole catchment.

Before I conclude I would like to correct any false impressions you may have gained about the apparently villainous cattlemen. After initial opposition, which was chiefly due to fright — fear that they would be put off the high country — they have become very interested in the work we are doing. They realise that an improvement in the catchment means an improvement in the amount and quality of the pastures, and they are co-operating willingly on committees set up to control grazing on the area. Further, they know that there are more than their own interests at stake in the area, and they have an appreciation of the fact that the grazing of cattle is really of secondary consideration.

and over for every 100 dairy cows, as compared with 38 in Denmark and 26 in the Dutch province of Friesland.

Disease of one kind or another accounts for no less than 47.7 percent of this high rate of wastage, and the biggest single item of all is "failure to breed," which accounts for no less than 23.7 percent of discards. Sterility in cattle can be due to a number of factors, but it is difficult to believe that there is no connection with sterility in soil. Certainly farmers who have built up fertility of their land by organic methods report that the fertility of their livestock has been improved.

In this connection, it is interesting to recall the experience of a New Zealand dairy farmer, Mr. S. M. May, of Tokoroa, Putaruru, as recorded in the New Zealand Compost Magazine some years ago. After top-dressing his pastures for a number of years with superphosphate and basic slag, Mr. May abandoned these in favour of liquid manuring with a mixture of diluted cow urine (cow-bail drainage) and skim milk. This was fermented in a concrete cistern, after which it became sweet smelling and pleasant to handle. It was distributed throughout the season at the rate of approximately 3,000 gallons per acre.

Mr. May reported a much-improved growth of grass and clover, the formation of an inch of black humus on top of the soil, and an abundance of earthworms. Most striking of all, he was able to get almost the whole of his herd of 125 Friesians in-calf; in previous years, about a third had had to be discarded for disease and sterility each season.

An isolated result such as this of course proves nothing. In any case, few British farms are in a position to use skim milk in this way. But Mr. May's experience does strongly suggest that there may be essential substances or properties in liquid; secreted or excreted by the cow; and that these must be returned to her system via the soil and pasture if the cycle of fertility is to be maintained. Clearly the old formula of phosphates and lime is no longer adequate, even if no obvious "deficiency" is revealed by chemical analysis.

—Mother Earth.

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.

How To Sell An Idea

We, the publishers of this journal, and you, the reader, are concerned with selling ideas of fundamental importance to the rebuilding of civilisation on the best traditions of the past. If we are to succeed our methods of approach to our fellows need to be critically examined. Many excellent individuals are needlessly antagonised because of wrong methods of approach.

We republish the article below from *The Reader's Digest*, condensed from *Your Life* by Elmer Wheeler. It contains excellent advice on this matter, and if followed will pay handsome dividends to all of us.

Have you ever approached your boss with a red-hot idea for increasing efficiency — only to have him become resentful instead of enthusiastic? Have you ever offered your wife or the neighbours "good advice"? If you have, you know what I mean when I say that people resent having other people's ideas forced on them.

When someone approaches us with a new idea, our instinctive reaction is to put up a defence against it. We feel that we must protect our individuality; and most of us are egotistical enough to think that our ideas are better than anyone else's.

There are three tested rules for putting your ideas across to other people so as to arouse their enthusiasm. Here they are:

Rule One: Use a fly rod — not a feeding tube. Others won't accept *your* idea until they can accept it as *their* idea.

When you want to sell someone an idea, take a lesson from the fisherman who casts his fly temptingly near the trout. He could never ram the hook into the trout's mouth. But he can entice the trout to come.

Don't appear too anxious to have your ideas accepted. Just bring them out where they can be seen.

"Have you considered this?" is better than "This is the way." "Do you think this would work?" is better than "Here's what we should do."

Let the other fellow sell himself on your idea. Then he'll stay sold.

Rule Two: Let the other fellow argue your case. He instinctively feels called upon to raise some objection to save his face. Give him a chance to disagree with you—by presenting your own objections!

"The way to convince another," said Benjamin Franklin, "is to state your case moderately and accurately. Then say that of course you may be mistaken about it; which causes your listener to receive what you have to say and, like as not, turn about and convince you of it, since you are in doubt. But if you go at him in a tone of positiveness and arrogance you only make an opponent of him."

Franklin used this technique in his sale of the idea of adopting the Constitution of the United States.

"I confess," he began, "that I do not entirely approve of this Constitution; but, Sir, I am not sure I shall never approve it; for, having lived long, I have experienced many instances of being obliged by better information or fuller consideration to change opinions, even on important sub-

jects, which I first thought right. I cannot help expressing a wish that every member of the convention who may still have objections to it would with me on this occasion doubt a little of his own infallibility, and, to make manifest our unanimity, put his name to this instrument."

Abraham Lincoln used the same technique in selling his ideas to a jury. He argued both sides of the case — but there was always the subtle suggestion that his side was the logical one. An opposing lawyer said of him: "He made a better statement of my case to the jury than I could have made myself."

Another technique is to sell the other fellow the idea as his, not yours. "You gave me an idea the other day that started me thinking," you begin.

Tom Reed, for many years Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives, was an adroit persuader. At a committee hearing he would remain silent until everyone had had his say, making notes of all objections. Then, when everyone was argued out, he would say, "Gentlemen, it seems to me that what has been said here can be summarised as follows..." Reed would then present *his* ideas — and sell them.

Dudley Nichols, a Hollywood director, wasn't satisfied with a scene in one of his pictures. To remedy the situation, he said to Rosalind Russell, the star, "Wonderful, wonderful, but I could see, when you hesitated that brief instant, that you were thinking about the possibility of playing the scene down just a trifle more. Shall we try it once the way you were thinking?"

Rule Three: Ask — don't tell. Patrick Henry, great orator of the American Revolution, knew how to sell an idea. Listen to him in his famous "Give me liberty or give me death" speech and see how he uses questions to get his ideas across:

"Our brethren are already in the field — why stand we here idle?"

"Shall we lie supinely on our backs?"

"What is it that gentlemen wish? What would they have? Is life so dear or peace so sweet as to be purchased at the price of chains and slavery?"

Try saying the same thing in positive statements and see how much antagonism it would invoke.

When you put your ideas across with questions, you give the other fellow a share in the idea. You don't tell him — you ask him for the answer. You're giving him a chance to sell himself.

Try these rules the next time you want to put an idea across to your boss, your family or the neighbours.

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

IMPORT CONTROLS

The respirator position was not as bad as had been stated. There had been a hold-up of two months for a permit to import portable respirators from America. The permit had now been arranged and it was expected the respirators would be flown here.

—*The Herald, Melb.*, Aug. 31.
What a society! In the face of a serious epidemic, bureaucratic officialdom has the authority to hold up the importation of life-saving equipment.

CODNER BROS

Builders and Joinery Manufacturers

HOMES AND HOME SITES AVAILABLE

Wheatsheaf Rd, GLENROY