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SIXPENCE WEEKLY

The War Against Communism

By Eric D. Butler.

In introducing his anti-Communist Bill, Mr. Menzies said that Australians were virtually at war. This is correct. Now wars can only be won by the application of the correct principles of warfare. One of the basic principles of warfare is to identify the enemy clearly and to make an exhaustive study of his methods. A close study of the anti-Communist Bill, and the comments made by both Government and Opposition speakers, discloses the disturbing fact that there is little apparent understanding of the real Communist menace.

It is true that the Menzies anti-Communist Bill may seriously reduce the effectiveness of many of the local agents of the international Communist conspirators, but by itself it will not enable victory to be obtained against the promoters of international Communism. In fact, as pointed out last week, there are certain sections of the Bill, which would permit the introduction of features of the Communist State. These sections are reprinted elsewhere in this journal, and should be carefully pondered over by all genuine anti-totalitarians.

In order to get the whole Communist question into correct perspective, the following analogy may be helpful. If an individual over a long period of time has, by bad eating habits, and abuse of his body in various ways, destroyed or seriously impaired his health, drastic action in the shape of an operation may be essential. There may be differences of opinion amongst experts as to how the operation should be performed. But, important as the operation may be to save the life of the individual, unless the practices, which made the operation necessary are discontinued, it will have no permanent value.

Drastic Action Necessary

Now there is no argument that the Communist conspiracy has been allowed to go unchecked for such a long time that some immediate drastic action is necessary. There may be honest differences of opinion as to how the action should be taken. However, if the impression is created that this action will by itself remove the menace of Communism, nothing but disaster is ahead. Let us assume that the Communist Party has been banned, and that all known Communists removed from certain Trade Unions and Commonwealth Services. Will this be enough?

The Secret Communists

Every competent student of Communism will immediately say that it is not enough. The disclosures in Canada and the U.S.A. prove this beyond all argument. These

disclosures proved that the most effective Communists are those who are secret Communists; who are not Communist Party Members and who are not known as Communists. Both in Canada and in the U.S.A., the secret Communists operated in key Government positions. The banning of the Communist Party in Canada did not prevent the creation of the Communist espionage system in Canada. The banning of the Communist Party in the U.S.A. would not have prevented men like the late Dexter White and Alger Hiss from using the American State Department to further Communist policies. The Communist conspiracy requires a widespread and effective exposure of its methods and technique. Further, it is essential that the Government pursue such policies, which will result in conditions in which the conspirators will find it difficult to operate. But it is most unfortunate that the very Government, which is trying to deal with Communism, is itself pursuing the very policies, which the Communists support. In case any reader thinks this fantastic nonsense, let us examine the matter closely.

Marx Advocated Centralisation

Government members are right when they assert that the objective of Socialism is also that of the Communists; that Socialist Governments have invariably paved the way for Communist Governments. But can they not see that their policies pave the way for the Socialists? The Menzies anti-Communist Bill defines a Communist as follows: "... a person who supports or advocates the objectives, policies, teachings, principles or practices of communism, as expounded by Marx and Lenin..."

If Mr. Menzies and his colleagues will study the ten basic rules laid down by Marx for the communising of a State, they will find that the central theme of these rules is the necessity to centralise all power—transport and electricity being given special mention. The Communists are bitterly opposed to any policies for decentralising power. Writing to his colleague, Engels,

in 1870, Marx expressed the desire that Germany should be centralised because "the centralisation of the power of the State will be useful to the centralisation of the German working class."

In his *Foundations of Leninism*, Stalin points out that "The unprecedented concentration of Russian industry on the verge of the Revolution" made the Bolshevik victory much easier: Lenin stressed the importance of all centralised power—it makes for greater and greater crises. Lenin said "Revolution is impossible without a nation-wide crisis" (affecting both the exploited and the exploiters). Now, if Mr.

(Continued on page 4)

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.

TO THE POINT

What's in a Name?

"Of the difference between socialism and communism I said a good many years ago that a strong dose of either socialism or communism would kill Britannia stone dead, and at the inquest the only question for the jury would be: 'Did she fall or was she pushed?' "—Winston Churchill.

Mr. Menzies and other supporters of Liberal-Socialism might care to comment on the above, and then state how they propose to save Australia from totalitarianism by attacking Communism while at the same time pursuing Socialist policies.

* * * *

A Sham Fight

Mr. Arthur Calwell, M.H.R., writing in the Melbourne *Labor Call* of May 4: "The Commonwealth Bank Bill no longer excites much interest in Canberra or elsewhere. As an excuse for a double dissolution it has little to commend it."

Very true Mr. Calwell. It is very difficult to maintain interest in a sham fight about the best way of administering a Monopoly of Credit. What is required is an attack upon the policy of Credit Monopoly.

* * * *

Dr. Coombs's Record

So whether it is to be Dr. Coombs as the sole Governor, or Dr. Coombs as head of the proposed Board, what really concerns Australia is whether Dr. Coombs will make the right decision when called upon to make it.

His record does not provide much room for optimism on that score. Dr. Coombs first entered the service of the Commonwealth Bank during the Premiers' Plan era under the Lyons Government when he became Assistant Economist to Professor Melville, in 1935.

Professor Melville had assisted Professor Copland in drafting the Premiers' Plan. Dr. Coombs had come direct from the London School of Economics, the nerve centre of deflation at that period.

In 1939 Coombs went to the Treasury in Canberra as an economist, and in 1942 went to Rationing and then became Director of Post-War Reconstruction.

So he was very actively identified with the wartime regimentation of the Australian people.

He was also responsible for Australia's active participation in the Geneva and Havana International Trade Organisation Agreements.

So, as an advocate of economic internationalism, he hardly appeals as a sturdy defender of Australian economic independence if things get tough.

—*Sydney Century*, April 28.

* * * *

Sound Finance?

The New Zealand Nationalist Government's policy of slashing price subsidies must inevitably result in full-scale inflation. In outlining his disastrous policy—one which will play into the hands of the Labour-Socialists—the New Zealand Prime Minister, Mr. Holland, said:

'Removal of subsidies inevitably will

result in some increase in living costs. The government will immediately draw the attention of the Court of Arbitration to the removal of subsidies, so that a cost of living bonus can be declared to compensate for higher costs. All other wage and salary fixing authorities will be invited to do likewise."

Having increased prices by removing subsidies, Mr. Holland then proposes to increase them still further by supporting increased wage costs. No doubt Mr. Holland has been taking notice of some of the economic "experts," all of who appear to be relentlessly opposed to a retention and expansion of the price-subsidy idea.

* * * *

Very Frank

The Melbourne *Argus* of May 4 reports Mr. T. Hollway, Victorian Premier, as having said at an election meeting in the Hawthorn Town Hall: "There are a lot of things which a person says on an election platform which he may not mean."

This is a brutally frank admission, which provides further evidence of the dishonest manner in which politicians trick the electors. Until electors have a more effective method of controlling their paid servants, they can expect all Governments to continue robbing them.

* * * *

The Correct Function of Government

A recent Australia-wide Gallup Poll reveals that the considered opinion of the majority of the Australian people is that, if State Governments really want as many houses as possible built, they should stop all government housing projects, and leave all available resources to private builders.

This does not mean, however, that either Labor or non-Labor Governments will stop obstructing people from getting on with the task of housing themselves as quickly as possible.

It is not the function of Governments to provide houses for the people. Governments should remove all obstacles, which prevent individuals from having their own houses built. This British conception of the correct function of Government does not commend itself to Mr. Casey and other Liberal-Socialists now importing prefabricated dog-boxes into Australia.

* * * *

A Serious Situation

... the State Department has become the Government of the United States. Left-wing infiltration of the State Department alone enables left-wingers to bend and guide, if not to control, the United States of America, to their own purposes. That is how and why the American people have been brought into such peril today.

The State Department has grown beyond any bounds imagined by the Congress itself even ten years ago. It will spend or be responsible for about half the expected 43 billion dollar budget of the fiscal year beginning July 1, 1950. It controls in one way or another our foreign trade under the Reciprocal Trade Agreements Act, the operation of which Act has a direct effect upon much local industry. It controls all of our foreign and much of our domestic agricultural activities. It controls foreign loans. It controls the administration of

Germany and other occupied territories.

The State Department will control operations under the so-called Point 4 programme, if it is ever authorized by the Congress. This programme will take further American funds and use them for the benefit of other countries. The Department will handle directly or indirectly our relations with the International Trade Organization (ITO), should the ITO agreement be approved; and the operation of the threatened agreements proposed by the International Labor Organization (ILO).

The State Department handles all matters connected with the Marshall Plan; the carrying out of the North Atlantic Pact; the operation of the International Refugee Organization (IRO) controlling the entry of refugees into the United States.

It handles all United Nations activities for this country.

And apparently President Truman, lacking experience in international as well as in many domestic affairs, leaves the administration of the State Department to Secretary Acheson and his associates. In fact, he has left its administration in succession to each of the three previous Secretaries of State, Messrs. Stettinius, Byrnes and Marshall.

Therefore, we repeat, the investigation of the State Department is of the highest importance. A really thorough investigation, bringing out the whole truth, could be a turning point in the history of the United States—after which America could regain control of her own destiny. A careless or, worse still, a rigged investigation, could spell disaster for the American Republic.

—*Economic Council Letter* (U.S.A.),

April 1, 1950.

The above information reveals why the Communists and the secret agents have made a special point of infiltrating into the American State Department.

"Acquainted with Hunger"

As Mr. Dillon, the Eire Minister for Agriculture, said in Paris on April 13, "the British are the only people in the world still acquainted with hunger." He was of course referring to the English and Scots, not the British and Mr. Aneurin Bevan. For ourselves, we consider that the English and Scots deserve all they are getting, with more to come. If they had applied the toe of a number nine boot to the British, the Bevans and the Shinwells instead of listening to their half-baked nonsense, the native inhabitants of these islands would almost certainly have saved themselves, and perhaps the rest of the world, fifty years of greater or less misery.

—*The Social Creditor*, April 29.

A Distinction

We draw a sharp distinction between the population, or a considerable minority of it, and the United States as an effective world force. We like the former, but we consider the latter one of the worst afflictions of these tragic days. No international event of importance has been free in this century from their irresponsible interference. We need a Lord Vansittart to expose the history of the Irish question, India, and two Great Wars.

—*The Social Creditor*, Apr. 22.

J. T. Lang Seeks Bill of Rights

Writing in *Truth* of May 6, Mr. J. T. Lang supports *Truth's* campaign for increased constitutional safeguards to protect individual rights and liberties. While not agreeing with all points made by Mr. Lang in his article, we commend the following extracts:

Our present Constitution was based on a compromise. It was designed to suit 19th century conditions. It has served us well, but we are now 50 years older. Our problems are different.

I have opposed practically every referendum. That opposition was not because I believed our Constitution was a perfect instrument.

It was because the referenda were all designed to give the Commonwealth greater powers. They aimed at the centralisation of government. That meant the creation of a Canberra complex in government. It meant the establishment of an official ruling class and the filching of individual liberties.

I believe in the decentralisation of government. The closer government is to the people who are to be governed, the more democratic it must be.

We now have government not by Parliament, but government by regulations. Every bill contains power for the Minister to issue regulations. Those regulations have the force of law. Yet Parliament never considers them.

The Commonwealth Statutory Rules for 1945-46 is a bound volume of 1,330 pages. That does not include the many hundreds of pages of prices regulations, including the famous order fixing the prices of dozens of different brands of birdseed under the cover of the National Security Regulations.

I believe that the first step should be a national convention to consider all phases of the Constitution.

Its primary purpose should be to simplify the work of government. We need fewer laws rather than more. But we do need greater protection for the citizen under those laws.

Such devices as "trial by averment," under which an official asserts an accused is guilty of an offence and the onus is thrown on him to prove that he is innocent, should have no place in any system of justice.

State Rights

That is why an Australian Bill of Rights should be written into the Constitution. I urged that in the House. The American Constitution provides such safeguards as religious, political and individual freedom. We have none.

We must also restore the sovereign rights of the States to control their own financial resources.

The Loan Council was formed in 1924 on a voluntary basis. In 1925 I withdrew on behalf of N.S.W., on the grounds that already it was heading towards Commonwealth domination over the States. I realised that other States could prevent N.S.W. introducing new social services such as endowment.

But in 1927 the Bavin Government supported the financial agreement that made the Loan Council a compulsory body. I was almost alone in my opposition. It was the beginning of the fight that reached its climax in the Financial Enforcement Act of 1932.

But it was Chifley who tightened the noose around the States. He introduced the Uni-

form Taxation Act. He persuaded McKell to agree to it. That established a complete financial dictatorship by the Commonwealth over the States.

A shire council can raise its own taxation, but the government of the State has no taxing authority today. It just has to depend on the whims of the Federal Treasurer.

There must be a complete review of the financial relations between the Commonwealth and States, so that the States will again function as self-governing bodies and not as mendicants.

Decentralise

Instead of concentrating all power in Canberra, the aim should be to transfer as much authority as possible back to local bodies. Much can be said in favor of new States . . .

Another important provision that should be written into the Constitution is power to legislate against monopolies. By that I mean all monopolies. A union monopoly can be as vicious and as anti-democratic as a trade monopoly.

There is real work ahead in designing a new Constitution adapted for our future needs. The first Constitution was handed to us by the British Parliament as a tentative instrument of self-government. That experimental period is now over.

We are an adult nation. We must prepare for a bolder future. We must establish our own independence and provide our people with their full share of constitutional freedom.

That means we must throw off the shackles of international commitments such as entered into by the Chifley Government at Bretton Woods and Geneva. We must think of ourselves not as some nebulous members of a new international order. We must think of ourselves as Australians.

Deport Albert Einstein

This enigmatic figure who poses as a super scientist now develops as a close friend of Klaus Fuchs. Professor Fuchs is the atom bomb scientist who was arrested in England within the past few days upon a tip from J. Edgar Hoover of the F.B.I. Hoover had been working with the British Intelligence for a number of months. It is now the belief of both Hoover's Department and the British investigators that this man Fuchs has been delivering atom bomb and H-bomb information to Russia for a long period of time. He has spent much time in Canada, the United States and England. He was imprisoned by Hitler because of his Communist activities, and later he was imprisoned in Canada because of his Communist activities. Fuchs was released from the Canadian prison upon the recommendation of Albert Einstein. Einstein is also a close and intimate friend of Professor Oppenheimer, the professor from the University of Minnesota, who confessed before a Congressional Committee that he had been a member of the Communist Party for three years.

-The Letter, Washington, U.S.A.

The Works Of C. H. DOUGLAS

In a review of his latest full-length work, *The Brief for The Prosecution*, the *English Truth* states that C. H. Douglas is undoubtedly one of the greatest minds of this century. In his various works he has provided a penetrating analysis of finance, government, philosophy, constitutionalism, &c. Those responsible members of the community who are concerned with the present increasing plight of the world must study Douglas if they desire to know what must be done to save our civilisation.

The following list of Douglas's works are available:

- Social Credit*..... 6/6
Written in 1924, this is one of Douglas's earlier works.
- Credit, Power, and Democracy*, 6/9
An analysis of certain aspects of the credit system.
- The Brief for the Prosecution*, 11/
Douglas's latest full-length work. A brilliant exposure of the international groups, which worked to destroy the British Empire between the two world wars.
- The Big Idea* 3/2
Exposes the forces working towards World Domination.
- The Programme for the Third World War* 2/2
This book is particularly appropriate at the present time.
- The "Land For The (Chosen) People" Racket*, 2/2
Deals with the politics of the land.
- The Tragedy of Human Effort*..... 1/1
One of Douglas's most outstanding addresses on the principles of human association.
- The Policy of a Philosophy*, 11d.
An address dealing with the definition of Social Credit.
- Realistic Constitutionalism* . 1/1
A special address given to the Constitutional Research Association, London. This address must be read by every individual concerned with the protection and extension of constitutional safeguards of individual rights.
- The Realistic Position of the Church of England* . . . 1/2
A "must" for every Christian.

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SENATE REFORM

One of the great weaknesses of the Federal Constitution is the fact that the Senate does not, as was clearly intended by the framers of the Constitution, protect the rights of the States. Little reference has been made to this important fact during the recent discussions on the best method of electing the Senate in order to prevent what has been described as a "political deadlock." The Menzies proposal to prevent such deadlocks merely tends to endorse the prevailing conception of the Senate as a rubber-stamp for the House of Representatives. If the Menzies Government, which has stated that it is interested in protecting the Federal Constitution, is prepared to accept the rubber-stamp role of the Senate, it should immediately endorse the Labor Party's objective for the abolition of the Senate. But, needless to say, no Federal political party is likely to press for this policy; the Senate enables all the parties to find comfortable and remunerative "jobs for the boys."

The central theme of British Constitutional development has been the necessity of always having a division of political power. The totalitarian conception of Government repudiates the necessity for a division of power; it blatantly asserts that once a Government has obtained the majority of votes at an elections—no matter what methods were used to obtain the votes—it should be completely free to do as it likes. An effective Upper House should act as a barrier against a stream of legislation, which affects the rights of individuals. It should ensure that any contentious matter is referred direct to the electors for their endorsement or rejection. But it is claimed, with a degree of justification, that at present there is no guarantee that if the Federal Government went to the electors on some legislation rejected by the Senate, and were successful in being re-elected in the House of Representatives, it would obtain a majority in the Senate. It would be back where it started.

What is required is a constitutional reform, which will permit the Senate to become a genuine House of Review, protecting the sovereignty of the States. A completely new method of electing the Senate would be necessary. In order to ensure that the Senate could not obstruct the House of Representatives indefinitely, there could be a Constitutional provision that, after the Senate had rejected any legislation a certain number of times, the House of Representatives could, if it desired, have a Referendum which, if successful, would immediately become law irrespective of the Senate. This is only a suggestion. No doubt other methods could be suggested for making the Senate what its creators intended. But the principle of the necessity of dividing political power is the point, which must be kept clearly in mind in a proposed Senate Reform.

THE WAR AGAINST COMMUNISM

(Continued from page 1)

Menzies and his Government pursue their policies of centralising power, industrial and other unrest will grow. The great danger then will be repressive legislation to try and deal with the unrest. This will be exactly what the Communists desire.

Centralised Electric Power

Another aspect of Lenin's teachings to

which the Federal Government might direct its attention, is the outlining of centralised State controlled electricity systems for the purpose of bringing small-scale enterprise under centralised control. Socialists all over the world have been strong advocates of centralised electricity schemes. The Labor-Socialists in N.S.W. have been trying to further the idea. But Mr. Casey goes further

(Continued in next column)

Lao Tzu, 604 B.C.

"As restrictions and prohibitions are multiplied in the empire, the people grow poorer. When the people are subjected to over-much government, the land is thrown into confusion. When the people are skilled in many cunning arts, strange are the objects of luxury that appear. The greater the number of laws and enactments, the more thieves and robbers there will be."

"Fair Shares"

Mr. Emanuel (God-with-us) Shinwell is said to be suffering from food poisoning. He feels that this is carrying the policy of "fair shares" to absurd extremes.

—*The Social Crediter*, May 6.

A Way to Help

In a recent letter from one of our old supporters, the suggestion is made that *New Times* supporters in making their wills might care to remember the various organisations like the League of Rights and *The New Times* which "are doing so much to try and make free men of us all." We appreciate the suggestion and pass it on to our readers.

and wants a complete electricity system covering the whole of Eastern Australia. Do Mr. Casey and those who think like him believe that the collectivism the Communists advocate can be averted by centralising all power along the lines suggested by Communists?

It is surely unnecessary to pursue this any further to prove that any Government really determined to defeat Communism—irrespective of what label it bears—must start decentralising power. If the Federal Government is, however, going to continue using the centralised power bequeathed to it by its Labor-Socialist predecessors, it is, on its own admission, paving the way for totalitarianism—and for its own destruction.

Destroy Communists' Main Weapon

It is the duty of the Federal Government to take all necessary steps to curb the Communist traitors, and, providing it ensures that the rights and liberties of the loyal citizen are adequately protected, it will have the wholehearted support of the Australian people in banning the Communist Party and removing from key positions known Communists. But if it maintains that banning the Communists will result in growing industrial stability and reduced prices, while at the same time continuing policies of centralisation, events will prove it so wrong that Mr. Menzies, instead of being regarded as the man who saved his country, will be regarded as an even greater disaster than he was regarded early in the war.

Surely Mr. Menzies is intelligent enough to see the real issues at stake? If the Communists and their Socialist fellow travellers make it clear as they do, that centralising power is their main instrument of warfare, those who would defeat them must obviously attack and destroy centralisation.

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Vital Sections of Anti-Communist Bill

In view of the widespread interest in the Federal Government's Anti-Communist Bill, we publish for the benefit of our readers the sections of the Bill, which the Federal Opposition seeks to have amended.

Declaration of Affiliated Organisations

"5. (1) This section applies to any body of persons, corporate or unincorporated, not being an industrial organisation registered under the law of the Commonwealth or a State—

(a) which is, or purports to be, or, at any time after the specified date and before the date of the commencement of this Act was, or purported to be, affiliated with the Australian Communist Party;

(b) a majority of the members which, or a majority of the members of the committee of management or other governing body of which, were, at any time after the specified date and before the date of commencement of this Act, members of the Australian Communist Party or of the Central Committee or other governing body of the Australian Communist Party;

(c) which supports or advocates, or, at any time after the specified date and before the commencement of this Act, supported or advocated, the objectives, policies, teachings, principles or practices of communism, as expounded by Marx and Lenin, or promotes, or, at any time within that period, promoted, the spread of communism, as so expounded; or,

(d) the policy of which is directed, controlled, shaped or influenced, wholly or substantially, by persons who—

(i) were, at any time after the specified date and before the date of commencement of this Act, members of the Australian Communist Party or of the Central Committee or other governing body of the Australian Communist Party, or are communists; and

(ii) make use of that body as a means of advocating, propagating or carrying out the objectives, policies, teachings, principles or practices of communism, as expounded by Marx and Lenin"

The point has been stressed, as made clear by the very wording of the above clause, that a large number of people who are not Communists, but who are members of organisations controlled or influenced by Communists, can be made declared persons without any specific charge being levelled against them.

Onus of Proof

"9. (2) Where the Governor-General is satisfied that a person is a person to whom this section applies and that that person is engaged, or is likely to engage, in activities prejudicial to the security and defence of the Commonwealth or to the execution or maintenance of the Constitution or of the laws of the Commonwealth, the Governor-General may, by instrument published in the Gazette, make a declaration accordingly.

(3) A person in respect of whom a declaration is made under the last preceding sub-section may, within twenty-eight days after the publication in the Gazette, apply to the High Court to set aside the declaration on the ground that he is not

a person to whom this section applies.

(4) If, upon the hearing, the applicant satisfies the High Court that he is not a person to whom this section applies, the High Court shall set aside the declaration.

(5) If the applicant does not so satisfy the High Court, the High Court shall dismiss the application and the declaration shall remain in force"

This section throws the onus of proof of innocence upon any person declared under the legislation. The Government claims that this reversal of the general principle that the onus of proof is upon the prosecutor is essential for security purposes. The Federal Opposition stresses the importance of ensuring that Courts other than the High Court are open for appeals by declared persons; also that the Commonwealth should pay damages to any declared person subsequently proved innocent.

Drastic Powers of Search and Entry

"20. An authorised person shall at all times have full and free access to, and may, if need be by force and with such assistance as is necessary, break open, enter and search, any house, premises or place in

Australian Bill of Rights Plan

Spurred by *Truth* articles on April 8 and 15 advocating a Bill of Rights to protect individual Australians' rights and liberties, the League of Rights whose headquarters are in Melbourne, has decided to initiate a number of electors' conventions to consider the subject.

Congratulating *Truth* on the articles, Mr. Eric D. Butler, Campaign Director of the League of Rights, 343 Little Collins St., Melbourne, writes:

"Though the Australian electors changed their Federal politicians on December 10, it is becoming increasingly obvious that the present Federal Government like all its predecessors, will not reverse the general policy of centralisation.

A Mockery

"This policy, if continued, must inevitably result in government by regulation, an expanding bureaucracy, destruction of the remaining vestiges of State sovereignties, making the Federal Constitution a mockery.

"Basic problem confronting the people is how to resist the growing momentum of centralisation before it results in the complete Monopoly State.

"It is all too obvious that no Government will, of its own volition, disgorge power.

"We must, therefore, take similar action to that taken by our British forefathers prior to the signing of Magna Charta.

"The electors must draw up their own Bill of Rights and insist that it be incorporated in the Federal Constitution."

Mr. Butler invites *Truth* readers, and especially clergymen, to contact him.

- The Truth (Sydney) May 9.

which he suspects that there is any property of, or documents or papers relating to, an unlawful association and may search any person found in the house, premises or place and may take possession of, remove and impound any property, books (including documents or papers) in the house, premises or place which the authorised person is satisfied belongs to that association."

The Bill states that an "authorised person" means a Peace Officer "or a person declared by the Attorney-General to be an authorised person for the purposes of this Act"

Clause 20 gives an "authorised person" powers of entry, which are contrary to all British conceptions of individual rights. This clause should be drastically amended to ensure that the right of entry is governed by the "authorised person" having to produce a search warrant from an appropriate authority.

HAVE YOU STUDIED THE COMMUNIST MENACE?

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

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

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

Red Glows The Dawn, by Michael Lamb 8d.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



Notes on World Soil Erosion

By C. M. MANNOCK.

Readers will remember Mr. Mannock's challenging article on world over-population, which we recently published. In this article he deals concisely with the very serious problem of soil erosion throughout the world. Our copy is from *The Social Creditor* of April 29.

On the matter of soil erosion and the loss of soil-fertility throughout the world, which is said to be the second limiting factor in the production of sufficient food for the world's population, a serious view must be taken. Here there is a definite problem with no fundamental bluff about it. This wide-spread trouble started thousands of years ago, but has been given prominence lately through its sudden appearance in the United States of America, where vast stretches of agricultural land, robbed, by sheer exploitation, of its vitality, have turned to desert. It is stated authoritatively that in the last fifty years, in that country, well over 113,000,000 acres of rich virgin land have been transformed into arid waste; that another 170,000,000 acres have lost three-quarters of their top-soil and some sub-soil, and are on the verge of complete destruction; and that nearly 800,000,000 acres have lost from a quarter to three-quarters of their top-soil. Losses of such magnitude produced fantastic results in many directions. Between 1930 and 1940, for example, close on a million refugees—mostly farmers and farm-workers, divorced from the land, entered California and the North-Western Territories in search of work. The stories of the Dust Bowls are too real to be doubted; the consequences too grave to be lightly put on one side. Even after twenty years the prime tragedy continues, and the *Daily Telegraph* of March 27 of this year, recorded the following:

Duststorm Sweeps Kansas

Blinding dust storm swept Kansas today, causing at least four deaths in road accidents and extensive damage to crops and land.—A.P.

The reasons for these disasters are at bottom mainly usurious. Between the moneylender and the refugee lay, and still lies, machine-cultivation, monoculture, chemical manures, deforestation to provide more land for exploitation, and, always, the overriding spur of debt. Mixed farming disappeared. No farmer was able by his labours to produce even the food needed for his family and workers; such things had to be bought in the markets. Everywhere he was in the hands of the moneylender. His capital was provided by the banks in conjunction with the machine-makers, on the "Never-Never." Then his debts and the, to him, high world prices for wheat compelled

him to grow wheat and nothing but wheat, and this had to be sold in a market controlled by his creditors. He ceased farming, became a sharecropper, sweating the land, and sinking, ultimately, under unpayable debts to the status of refugee. The market price with which he competed was the figure of similar produce grown on land that was properly cultivated. This included the cost of cultivation, and the maintenance of the soil's fertility. He did no cultivation, and was able to undercut everywhere; but he gave away the fertility of his soil. Everything was taken from the land, and nothing put back. In the end, nature removed the soil by wind and water, leaving him desert to contemplate as his last reward.

The introduction of modern machinery had a marked effect in this tragedy. The fact that in 1935 over 70 percent, of the farms in California reported that they employed *no* paid labour is an indication of the magnitude of the social disease from which American agriculture was then, and still is, suffering. The work of these farms was done entirely by seasonal migratory labour, provided in the main under contract by finance institutions who owned the soil, provided the machinery, paid the farmer to produce, and deducted the interest and other charges before paying him his dues. The magnitude of some of these institutions is stupendous. Carey Williams in *The Land* quotes evidence that one Corporation, the subsidiary of a bank, owned, and worked, 600,000 acres!

The Bureau of Internal Revenue reported as early as 1926 that there were nine-thousand corporation farms in operation; and the United States Chamber of Commerce in a later report, and after careful analysis of these farms, showed that the average acreage of this group was nearly 12,000, with one farm of 3,000,000 acres! Ligutti and Rawe, writing from the Catholic angle, stated in 1940 that in the previous twenty years 600,000 farm owners had lost their holding of land.

The immediate effect upon ordinary labour is shown by the figures relating to the introduction of the Combine-Harvester in the wheat districts. In 1926, the first year of its widespread use, it displaced 33,000 hands; by 1928 it had displaced 50,000; and by 1930 about 100,000, and by 1933 over 150,000.

Farms owned and controlled, with produce marketed, by financial institutions and their subsidiaries is not, of course, a system con-

finied to wheat. It covers every agricultural product in America and included ancillary activities such as canning, packing-case making, winemaking, and so on. The success, or failure, of these institutions is measured entirely by money results.

The thoughtful Briton, cannot help being startled by facts such as these, especially when he can see the same thing taking place in his own country, and when he reflects that what is happening here is the result of policy. That cannot be doubted. Even our Education system in rural areas, it is authoritatively stated, is based upon the disappearance of the village. Everywhere one hears the story of the drift to the towns. Fields grow larger, ditches are filled in, hedges are rooted-up, trees are felled, and labour is replaced by, among other things, the combine-harvester whose seasonal activities can be traced across the countryside by the charred fields left in its wake. It doesn't pay the machine makers to learn from social results already achieved: sales must go on. America's devastation might never have been, for all, the interest shown by the moneylenders. Howard, Mac-Carrison, Wrench, and all their schools have so far been without influence among the usurers or the politicians. Even when in some 60,000 acres of the rich lowlands of Cambridgeshire, thousands of acres "blow" year by year, nothing but a dull wonder seems to stir in the farming world, and among the rest it is a bare paragraph of news sandwiched in between other small items. Whole columns are given to the stories of murder and violence, but the barest mention is sufficient for the worst of all crimes—the destruction of the earth.

The great duststorms in America, however, —which, on occasions have darkened the sky for thousands of miles from the Plains, over the Eastern Cities and right out into the Atlantic—awoke the imagination of people there and in other lands, and appreciation of growing danger resulted. In Australia, New Zealand, and elsewhere, erosion from deforestation, overcropping, overgrazing, and monoculture was recognised, and the problem of dealing with it tackled. Naturally, it was the U.S.A. which first adopted systematic remedial measures, and their authorities have since become recognised throughout the world. Experiments of many different kinds were tried before their efforts showed any lasting results. Simple measures were first tried and are slowly being applied in many places; and great areas of desert land can be brought back to fertility only with great difficulty, and at great cost—or, possibly not at all, in some cases—much can be dealt with successfully and more easily. Whole districts on the verge of ruin have been held, the disease stopped and repair started.

(Continued on page 7)

Notes on World Soil Erosion

(Continued from page 6)

For these reasons it is not necessarily sinister to find that the American Government's Experts are the best known men in this field, and that they have been called in to advise in Africa and elsewhere. Neither is it necessarily sinister to find that in Australia some of the Banks have taken a hand, and have issued free literature on the subject, to interested parties. Well they may. It is in their line to lend money, and money must be borrowed in order that repair work shall be carried on. All the same, the association of loan-finance with every part of this business, in both cure and cause, must be noted.

In Africa, the loss of fertile soil has, for many years, been proceeding at a tremendous pace. Lord Northbourne, before the war said:

In Africa the Sahara Desert is moving southwards at a mean rate of over half-a-mile a year, the Turkara Desert eastwards at 6 to 7 miles a year. But the whole continent is suffering from erosion in every known form. It is well known that Kenya is rapidly becoming infertile and beginning to suffer from locusts—

Since this was written steps have been taken to try to correct the troubles, but the evil progresses unceasingly. R. St. Barbe in the *National Review* of April, 1949, records that north of the Gold Coast in French Equatorial Africa desert conditions are advancing very rapidly as a result of bad native agriculture. The population has shrunk from 20,000,000 in 1911 to 5,000,000 today, and there remains but little land to exploit. So bad is the position said to be that Chiefs have forbidden marriage, and women refuse to bear children, for they will not raise them for starvation. This state of affairs is said to be due to deforestation.

Further evidence was supplied by Mr. G. N. Mallison in a letter to the *Sunday*

Times of February 27, 1949: "In Africa he (the Agricultural Expert) would see tracts of land scorched by bush-fires and exposed to the ravages of wind and rain every year. Forests are disappearing and rivers drying up. Tons of Africa's finest soils are pouring into the Atlantic and Indian Oceans every day. Literally, Africa is bleeding to death. Enlightened farmers are struggling valiantly to stop the rot, practicing strip-cultivation, replanting grasses and trees, planting on the contour, ridging and making drains. But there are still many who are destroying the soil for their own profit or for that of absentee landlords. In South Africa the Kalahari Desert is encroaching on the Karoo at an alarming rate. Central Africa is rapidly going the same way..."

Van Vuren in *Soil Fertility and Sewage* says that earthworms in South Africa are diminishing in numbers to an alarming extent. To what may be in some measure a natural decline must be added the influence of the increasing use of poison sprays, chemical manures, and the like, on the soil and its inhabitants. The vital importance of the earthworm to soil fertility is too well-known to need stressing; but it is worth recording that in the U.S.A. they are now bred and sold to farmers owning derelict lands in all parts of the country, with astonishing results in restored fertility.

In this gloomy African scene there is one bright spot, arising out of the work of the Sir Albert Howard. Van Vuren shows that in the last eight years out of 250 odd urban areas in the Union over 100 have undertaken the manufacture of humus from their town wastes, including nightsoil, which is being sold to farmers. Under the guidance, too, of American Experts the farming of much land has been put in order by regulation ploughing so that the topsoil is conserved. In this small way the first steps towards the control of erosion and the re-establishment of fertility have been taken. But there is a long way to go, and the problem is still not appreciated by many farmers.

China is perhaps the most tragic part of the East. In the plains intensive cultivation is carried on with limitless attention paid to the fertility of the soil; but the continuous destruction of the hill forests for fuel is said to produce floods of so tremendous a nature that the river banks are frequently burst in the wet season, the lowlands are flooded and the fertile soil is carried to the sea. Much the same kind of thing happens—and for the same reasons—in the Mississippi area in the U.S.A.

To what extent China is damaged by these outpourings of outraged Nature cannot be estimated. King describes the Chinese methods of farming, and their outstanding attention to soil fertility, in his book: *Farmers for Forty Centuries*. 4,000 years is a fair span of time and it may be reasonably assumed that the necessity to preserve fertility was understood 4,000 years ago, and correct methods were then evolved to achieve it. It is also interesting and significant that the methods used in the hilly regions of China and Japan to conserve their soil from erosion are precisely those now being advocated by the experts everywhere, namely field and gully terracing. This was the method used, too, in this country, among

many, in days whose story is told only by the remains of the land works that have survived the ravages of time. Like usury soil exploitation seems to have been well known to the ancients, and they devised method of overcoming both: they prohibited the one and prevented the other.

These very brief notes give only a hazy view of the situation with which we in this country are confronted. The following extract from Jacks and Whyte's *The Rape of the Earth*, however, brings it into better focus:

The soils of western Europe have not eroded, in spite of being subject to the most intensive cultivation in history, because the system of cultivation evolved in Europe in the course of centuries, under European conditions, enormously increased soil-fertility—to such an extent that today, the agricultural production even of such a small and industrial country as Britain, equals in value that of Canada... It would be correct to say that Europe owes its immunity to erosion to the adaptation of its agriculture to its climate. The countryside has been desecrated and scarred... but the one inviolable condition on which Man holds the lease of land from Nature—that soil fertility be preserved—has, in the main, been respected...

The earliest stage of erosion is loss of fertility. Whatever the cause of the loss, the result is invariably a corresponding loss of stability; the soil is deprived not only of its productive power but, also, of its capacity for remaining in place. Fertility is a term that should be applied to the soil and vegetation together, for the soil derives its capacity for producing life from the vegetation as much as plants derive their capacity for growth from the soil... The illusion that fertility can always be restored by applying some of huge stocks of artificial fertilisers now available, has been shattered

(Continued on page 8)

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NOTES ON WORLD SOIL EROSION

(Continued from page 7)

by the recognition that fertility is not merely a matter of plant food supply (for even exhausted soils usually contain ample reserves of plant food), but is also closely connected with soil stability. An exhausted soil is an unstable soil. Nature has no further use for it and removes it bodily.

Mr. G. V. Jacks is of the Rothamsted (Herts) soil science bureau,

The published official figures of yields, in bushels per acre, for different countries give an interesting comparison for their relative fertilities, and still further sharpen the picture for us. Those for 1937 were as under:

	Wheat	Barley	Oats
Eire.....	41	45	56
United Kingdom	35	38	46
Germany.....	33	38	43
France.....	21	26	31
Italy	23	26	27
Poland.....	17	22	26
Spain.....	14	19	16
U.S.S.R.....	13	14	23
Australia.....	12	16	11
U.S.A.....	12	22	24
Argentine.....	12	16	20
Canada.....	11	21	24
S. Africa.....	11	16	15
India.....	11	16	

These figures are, of course, no measure of the food supplies of the world. Millions of people never see or use these grains, and there is no means of knowing either the total amount, or the varieties, of food grown. What these records do show, however, is that these islands—the British Isles—have the most fertile soil in the world, and are most nearly approached in this respect by Germany. Germany, though, is no longer in control of her own country, and we stand-alone. It is startling to reflect that out of the first six countries named above, Eire has left the Empire, Germany is in ruins, France hovers on the brink, Italy grows more and more communistic each day that passes, and Poland is occupied by Russia.

The position, then, is that these islands, with their fertile soil and ageing population, provide a most attractive bait for the possibly rising, and, to us, threatening, races of the world. Our problem is to defend ourselves and to prevent even the possibility, under any circumstances, of our people collapsing through shortage of food, a contingency that they have already had to face, and from which they have barely escaped, twice within the last thirty years. To effect this the first steps would appear to be to keep our soil as rich and fertile as possible, and to waste no land, no labour and no time in growing the very maximum amount of food that our bountiful land will give. And time seems to be very important.

The Mystery of the Shrinking Oranges

California is having trouble with its shrinking Valencia oranges. In 1945 it took about 254 oranges to fill a box. In 1946 it required 264 to fill up the same sized box; in 1947, 276; 1948, 277; and it is estimated that in 1949 it will require a bit over 300 Valencias to fill the box. The orange today is not much larger than a golf ball. 149,000 acres of Valencias are threatened. Scientists

Social Credit Secretariat in Canada

Following upon the establishment of the Social Credit Secretariat in Canada, the following statement was issued to the Press on March 30 by Mr. L. D. Byrne, the Chairman:—

"The sole authority on Social Credit which is recognised as such by the world-wide Social Credit Movement is The Social Credit Secretariat through which the advice of Major C. H. Douglas is made available.

"Until two years ago the Social Credit Movement in Canada maintained a liaison with The Social Credit Secretariat and the world Movement through the Alberta Social Credit Board which was abolished by the Alberta Government at that time. Since then the Movement proper in this country—namely those subscribing to the policy of Social Credit as enunciated by Major C. H. Douglas—have progressively dissociated themselves from the field of party politics, thus bringing the Movement in Canada into line with the rest of the world Social Credit Movement.

"In response to the requests of organised sections of the Social Credit Movement in Quebec, Ontario, Manitoba, Alberta and British Columbia, Major C. H. Douglas and The Social Credit Secretariat have approved the establishment of The Social Credit Secretariat in Canada. This will operate through a Chairman and Board of Directors as *the* authoritative channel in Canada for the dissemination of information and advice on all matters of Social Credit policy.

"The Social Credit Secretariat in Canada will be affiliated and work closely with the parent body—The Social Credit Secretariat. It will be a strictly non-party non-sectional organisation neither connected with nor supporting any political party, whether purporting to be Social Credit or otherwise. Its function will be to further Social Credit policy and its services will be available to all.

"The Social Credit Movement in Canada will comprise those organisations, groups and unattached persons who have entered voluntarily into association to further a common policy through affiliation with the Social Credit Secretariat in Canada, thereby being linked with the world Social Credit Movement. Affiliation will not be open to organisations or groups attached to any political party organisation, nor will these be recognised as forming any part of the Social Credit Movement in Canada.

(Signed "L. D. Byrne,

"Chairman,

"Social Credit Secretariat in Canada."

of the Citrus Experimentation Station at Riverside, California, are somewhat confused about the cause. There are dozens of theories, among which are smog, bad Colorado River water, sunspots, and the New Mexico atom bomb explosion. Some even go so far as to state that the soil may be worn out. If the authorities will visit the groves of the few organiculturists in California, they might discover the real solution to their problem.

—*Farm and Garden Digest.*

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