

THE NEW TIMES

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SIXPENCE WEEKLY

Communism and Inflation

A Fundamental Issue

In attempting to answer critics who point out that his Government did not honour its 1949 promise to "put the shillings back into the pound," Mr. Menzies is now claiming that he has been unable to deal with rising prices because he has not been able to deal with Communism. He is therefore attempting to win the present election by asking that he be given sufficient power to destroy the Communist Party and its influence in the Trade Unions, as the first step towards defeating inflation. Mr. Menzies' arguments are dishonest, and we find it difficult to believe that Mr. Menzies does not realise that he is engaged in a campaign of misrepresentation for the purpose of retaining political power.

Time and time again we have pointed out that it is true that one aspect (and it is only one aspect) of the Communist conspiracy in Australia has been concerned with wrecking production and holding up transport in order to create shortages and to help force prices higher than would otherwise be the case. But it is a fact which no honest person can deny, that adequate production in other countries has not prevented prices from rising even more so than in Australia. Even Mr. Menzies was recently forced to admit this truth when, in attempting to defend the record of his Government, he said that inflation was not as severe in Australia as it was in several other countries.

Prior to the 1949 Federal Elections, Mr. Menzies and his supporters added no qualifications to their promise that they would prevent prices from rising. Mr. Menzies even indicated that he had some idea of what was required to fulfill this promise. He said that "the burden of Government" must be reduced as one of the first essentials. As a general objective, we agree entirely with this viewpoint. But not only did the Menzies Government not reduce the burden of Government; it actually increased them. And when questioned on this matter, a senior Minister, Mr. Holt, admitted that the burden of Government had increased, was likely to increase still further, and that nothing could be done to prevent the increase. He then went on to say that the Government was "the victim of its own political propaganda." He could have also said that the unfortunate electors were also victims of this untrue propaganda.

Apart from promising a reduction in the burden of Government, Mr. Menzies in his last pre-election speech also promised that Price Subsidies would be used as a mechanism for preventing price rises. Regular readers of this journal are well aware of its support of scientific consumer price subsidies as an essential mechanism for decentralising credit control and preventing inflation, and we do not propose here to deal with the various arguments in sup-

port of this financial policy. But it is necessary to point out that while prior to the last Federal Elections, Mr. Menzies and his associates made it clear that they believed that Prices Subsidies had much merit, as soon as they came under the influence of the Socialist "advisers" like Dr. Coombs, they started to criticise them as an effective means of preventing inflation. In an address in Federal Parliament on November 14 of last year, and subsequently republished in a brochure by the Federal Secretariat of the Liberal Party of Australia, Mr. Menzies criticised Price Subsidies and said they were no answer to the real cause of inflation. But it is interesting to note that the Menzies Government has continued to pay out approximately £40 millions per year in subsidies and claims that these subsidies are essential. At the forthcoming Federal Elections, electors should demand from candidates,

ARE YOU A DIRECT SUBSCRIBER?

In recent issues we have outlined to supporters the present precarious financial position of *The New Times*, pointing out how this position could be strengthened by a large number of readers becoming direct subscribers. A number have acted upon this suggestion, but many more direct subscribers must be obtained immediately.

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For Subscription Form see page 5

particularly Government candidates, a clear-cut statement on the question of Price Subsidies. Written answers to questions should be demanded in order that they may be referred to at a later date.

The basic fact about inflation is that it is inevitable while present financial rules are followed. These rules make it imperative that, in order to prevent depressions, continuous credit expansion is essential. This expansion is controlled by the "experts" who insist that the expansion be used to control the individual. Basic wage increases as granted by the Arbitration Court and adjusted by cost of living statis-

(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.

TO THE POINT

Well Trained

"Students armed with lists of questions on personal savings, among other subjects, were sent out from the London School of Economics, the point being to see how they got on as interviewers compared with professional investigators. Of course, the fledglings met with more refusals, but still, they managed remarkably well securing completed interviews from 70 percent of their calls. This seems to show that, however it may be with the students, the public is already pretty well trained."

—*Liverpool Daily Post* (England),
March 1.

* * * *

"The Burden of Government"

Surely Mr. Menzies will not have the political hide to promise again that he will reduce the "burden of Government"? The latest Commonwealth statistics reveal that the number of Commonwealth public servants continues to grow rapidly. Almost one in every four persons employed in Australia is now a public servant. Just prior to its collapse, the Roman Empire had nearly half its citizens on the public payroll.

* * * *

Snooping in the U.S.A.

The latest American development in the growth of bureaucracy is an army of special investigators, according to the *Washington Star*.

There is hardly a phase of American life not subject to inquiry, it says. The Government is using 90,000 farmers to police 3 million others while 15,000 people are employed full-time snooping for the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Treasury and the Post Office.

A hundred thousand more find employ-

ment from Congressional committee fees in other investigations.

Congressmen blame "big government" for producing big investigations, and point out that as the number of Government activities and the size of budgets increase, fraud, corruption, waste and plain inefficiency increase too.

—*Melbourne Herald*, March 2.

The price of increasing centralism is the same in every country.

* * * *

The Price of Treachery

If, as appears likely, the British are deprived of their vital oil supplies from the Middle East, they will pay yet another heavy price for the past treachery of their Socialist leaders. Having destroyed the friendship of the Arabs in order to further the policies of the International Zionists, the British traitors prepared the way for Communist penetration. Treason trials will be necessary before the British peoples win back their power and prestige. It is most ironic to note that a Socialist Government which has not scrupled to rob British individuals of their assets by nationalisation, objecting to the Persians depriving them of their oil supplies by the nationalisation technique!

* * * *

A British First Policy

Captain Bernard Ackworth, the distinguished naval correspondent, says: "I do congratulate you most heartily on your Defence paragraphs. They are, if I may say so, just right." It is not strange that we are in agreement, for our views in this matter are a reiteration of Captain Ackworth's statement on strategy published by us last year.

Neither of us will have been reassured by what the Prime Minister was pleased to consider a defence programme.

We are not deceived by political appeals for self-sacrifice and hard work; or by the imposition, under threat of war, of Socialism upon America. Defence, in the true sense, is not even considered. Control is the end for which rearmament is the means. England and America are targets of the identical plot.

Defence needs strength, and strength is derived from a flourishing economy. We are an object lesson that an economy cannot flourish under controls. Yet America is to be reduced to our level.

Our concern is with England. As partners in the Eisenhower plan, England is doomed in the event of war. Give us ships, ships and more ships, and we will keep open our lifelines, no matter how closely engaged are the European land forces in battle.

No island race ever survived the withdrawal of their ships from the seas. The Prime Minister who sinks the Royal Navy sinks us all.

—*London Newsletter*, Feb. 1.

* * * *

Planning in the Philippines

For better or for worse the United States is taking responsibility for the Philippines. We make with some reluctance one of the long-range prophecies for which *The London Newsletter* has earned something of a reputation.

More, much more will be heard of the Philippines, and not just through the backlash of the Korean incident. Until the

time comes for these islands to take the spotlight, then, here are some facts.

Mr. William Foster, the American planner, has agreed with President Elpidio Quirino the basis of an economic understanding, which has only to receive the formal consent of the two Governments. First off the unfortunate American taxpayer must find \$250 million; but this will only be paid out on condition that the Philippines do as they are told.

To this end an American technical mission has set up headquarters in Manila. This is to be reinforced with all the administration, production, marketing and health specialists, which are inherent in any scheme of Socialism. What might be termed the "Beveridge Report" for the Philippines was prepared by Mr. Daniel Bell, whom Mr. Truman sent out to Manila last July to investigate and report.

In our quiet corner of Copthall Court we have followed Mr. Bell's work with minute care. From time to time we have passed comment — usually on the activities of the Huks, who lost few opportunities to prove to Washington what a lawless lot the Philippines are! One day they will certainly have to be liberated.

The Bell Report, published in America on 28th of October last, made interesting reading. It was just what P.E.P. might have proposed, shall we say, for Eire; it offered the champions of private enterprise a further opportunity of financing world Socialism at the taxpayers' expense.

Being in accordance with Mr. Truman's policy, the Bell Report met with his approval. Let the five-year plan begin. But let us point out to all who have interests in the Far East that the Philippines far outweigh Formosa in strategic value. Let them ponder the possible results of American interference there.

—*London Newsletter*, February 1.

COMMUNISM AND INFLATION

(Continued from page 1)

tics, require credit expansion which is directly inflationary. Credit expansion for increasing Governmental activities is also inflationary. And while these inflation credit policies continue, the Socialists and the Communists must inevitably win their war against the present "capitalist" society. No government, therefore, can honestly promise that it can arrest the collectivist menace unless it can defeat inflation. And the first step in this direction is a modification of financial rules, which have produced the present situation. Price Subsidies paid out of the expanded credit now being used in an inflationary manner, would be a big step in the right direction. This step can be taken immediately without waiting to discover what action can be taken against the Communists by the Federal Government. We repeat what we have said on a number of occasions: One of the first essentials of a genuine anti-Communist policy is a steady reduction in the price level without a depression.

Hitler's Policy Was a Jewish Policy 1/3

The Mysterious Protocols.2/9

Full text of "The Protocols of the Learned Elders of Zion."

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The Anti-British Conspiracy, III

By James Guthrie

We continue this important article from our issue of February 16th:

The various organisations of the Left have spared no effort to ridicule and undermine British institutions, especially those that gave strength and solidity to British life and character. Patriotism, according to the fraternity of the Left, is a thing of the past, more especially British patriotism. Yet we find, that while the "United Nations" propaganda is used as a very convenient instrument to undermine the loyalty of the British people, every device is used which will instill in the Russian people a fervent patriotism for "Mother Russia." While British children are being taught the evils of "19th Century England" and the wickedness of "British Imperialism," the children of Russia are being taught the glories, ancient as well as modern, of their native land.

Whereas nationalism is considered a sin in England, it is not considered so in India or in Indonesia or in any of the trouble spots of the world; in the latter places every device is used to inflame the national spirit to the utmost.

In U.S.A. loyalty to, and admiration for their native land is carefully instilled in the children, and they are all expected to know the story of their heroes, the virtues of their country's constitution and the honour of living in "God's Own Country."

These facts are very significant and give an insight into the strategy of the Higher Command operating behind the Leftist movements. The mere fact that the Leftist movements have launched such a heavy and prolonged attack on British institutions shows that they look upon the British people as the chief stumbling block to their schemes for an international police state.

It stands out very clearly that fifth column activities are being used by the Internationalists, to destroy the effectiveness of a nation on which they are going to wage war, by first destroying their loyalty and their pride in their country, and conversely, the same Internationalists when they want to build a nation into an effective force capable of giving them assistance, find it necessary to exaggerate and inflame the national spirit.

Some of the more blatant evidences of fifth column activity have been visible to the public, but many of the activities, which have not been so visible, are probably more dangerous in the long run.

Essential to communist successes in British countries are the other organisations of the Left, these are, probably, different departments of the same firm, and all speak the same language. One of the most important of these is the London School of Economics. This organisation was designed and financed to provide socialist administrators for key positions in the British Empire; these appointees stay in power permanently, irrespective of the fact that the government may be called Conservative, Liberal or Labour.

The consistently disastrous and unsavoury results due to governments following the advice of these appointees and the inability of successive governments to dislodge them from power, indicates that a government, more permanent, and obviously more power-

ful, than the titular and elected government, places these appointees in power and maintains them there.

To have men, placed in key positions in every country, who are indoctrinated from abroad, and hostile to the native culture, is something no country, however great can stand for long.

The attempt to impose an alien culture on the Russian people has evidently met with disappointing results. The fact that the rulers of Russia have had to reverse their policy of wiping out the Past and are attempting to induce a spirit of cohesion among the people by reviving the ancient cultural glories of Russia shows they realise the tremendous vitalising force which flows out of the native culture — out of its songs, its literature and its drama. Evidently the songs ("Negroid sex moans") and drama ("Hollywood's version") provided for the British public, is not considered a suitable cultural diet for a country fighting for survival.

The cultural unity of our own country is something we ignore at our peril, it is something that cannot be blue-printed by socialist planners; it is something that grows out of the experiences and reactions of many people over many years, it is an organic growth which takes its shape from things tangible and intangible, it is not the work of a few men or of one generation, above all it is not the result of a rigid plan; rather is it more in the nature of an environment conducive to the growth of a particular plant.

The British people, in their contacts with other races have invariably avoided the grievous mistake of trying to impose the same culture on different peoples, and for this they have been roundly condemned by the intellectuals of the Left.

To install the majority vote in the sub-continent of India and pretend that the people will thus obtain a democracy and freedom is not only nonsense, it is wicked nonsense. To suggest that the people of any country have any say or any power over the United Nations central executive is worse than wicked nonsense, it is foul treachery on a gigantic scale, and all those associated with it should be exposed for what they are.

What we have to realise about the Internationalists is that they do not believe in the voluntary co-operation between nations for their own protection, they want a super state capable of imposing its will on any nation; in other words they are not internationalists at all, they are anti-nationalists and very particularly anti-British.

(To be continued.)

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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.

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The Future of "The New Times"

While a number of individuals have indicated by sending donations that they favour a policy of continuing "The New Times" by a subsidy, insufficient funds have been subscribed to make this policy possible. We do not feel that it would be fair to those who have subscribed to the subsidy fund, to continue for several months using this subsidy to produce the paper as at present without there being any prospect of a comparatively permanent solution of the problem of rising costs. The Board of Directors has therefore decided to take immediate action to try and prevent the growing gap between rising costs and income, by increasing revenue without, for a start, increasing the price of the paper. How can this be done?

In recent weeks we have stressed the fact that the direct subscriber is the most profitable to "The New Times" A detailed analysis of our financial position reveals that total costs of production have now increased so much that we lose money on every copy of the paper sold through agents. This situation must be met immediately. Will all readers now obtaining their "New Times" through newsagents please note that our last issue to be supplied to newsagents will be that of Friday, April 20. If all those now obtaining their paper through newsagents become direct subscribers, it appears probable that we shall be able to continue publishing at the present price. After the final results of this policy of direct subscriptions are clear, we will then be in the position to announce what further steps, if any, are necessary, to maintain the paper.

Needless to say, we shall continue to supply "The New Times" to all Social Credit groups throughout Australia and to any newsagents who are supporters of the paper and have obtained a number of readers. But we must make it clear that in doing so we are actually losing money. More direct subscriptions are, at present, the only method of continuing "The New Times" as at present. We appeal for the maximum co-operation for this policy.

IS DIGGING NECESSARY?

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

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

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

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John Weller in West. Australia

The following report appeared in *The Record*, West Australia, on March 8:

On Tuesday night, March 6th, the members of the Y.C.W. and N.C.G.M. of the Cathedral parish were addressed by Mr. John Weller, a representative of the Victorian League of Rights.

In a splendid and enlightening address on "Communist Methods of Infiltration," the speaker threw a great deal of light on the world situation as it is today, supporting his statements with factual quotations.

Karl Marx, he said, realised that violent revolution was unlikely in English-speaking countries, because the whole political history of these countries was one of endeavour on the part of the people to prevent any one man, or any one political body, gaining too great a control over the lives of free citizens.

But there is such a thing as a silent revolution. The English Fabian society was formed and the avowed purpose of the Fabian Socialists was to permeate *all political parties*, so that this silent revolution could be brought about.

The most enlightening part of this brilliant address came when the speaker, with facts and figures, showed how the policy of the Fabian Socialists was being carried out with extraordinary penetration to high places in England, America and Australia.

Asked about the Victorian League of Rights, Mr. Weller said that it was a non-political, non-sectarian body, of which the aim was to educate the people to a realisation that politics was no longer a battle between one political party and another, but a battle of ideas for the survival or non-survival of freedom.

He added further that a public meeting was to be held at the Assembly Hall, Pier Street, Perth, on Monday, March 12th, and he extended to all present a cordial invitation to that meeting.

Books on Social Credit

AN INTRODUCTION TO SOCIAL CREDIT

By Bryan W. Monahan.....8/9

A satisfactory and comprehensive answer to the question "What is Social Credit."

THE TRUTH ABOUT SOCIAL CREDIT

By Eric D. Butler.....1/-

This Booklet explodes the many misconceptions about Social Credit and serves as an excellent primer for beginners.

THE POLICY OF A PHILOSOPHY

By C. H. Douglas 9d.

ELEMENTS OF SOCIAL CREDIT

9/6

An introductory course of lectures published with the authority of the Social Credit Secretariat.

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

Scots' Housewives Ask Empire Men to Help

The following letter has been sent by the Scottish Housewives' Association to the Prime Ministers or representatives of Canada, Australia, New Zealand, India, Southern Rhodesia, and South Africa who are attending the conference of Commonwealth Ministers in London: —

"Sir,

I write on behalf of the members of this association, a body of ordinary women perturbed and anxious about the trend of world affairs. We are a non-party organisation, but we believe that the British Empire has been an asset to the world, and it may yet be an inspiration for world peace and security. We are, however, alarmed by the following facts: —

1. British exports to Empire countries and our imports from these countries have steadily declined.
2. We have bound ourselves to give no new preferences to our Empire countries.
3. We are threatened with a serious shortage of raw materials necessary for the defence programme, and this notwithstanding the wealth of the Empire resources in raw materials and minerals.
4. The British delegate to United Nations has capitulated to the demand that reports and political information on the administration of the Empire countries be submitted to the scrutiny of United Nations.

We have given much study to the political trend of the world today, and we sincerely believe that the flagrant disregard of Empire is the result of Communist infiltration in high places. The immediate aim of Communism is to engulf the Western World — not by revolution, but by subtle infiltration, resulting in loss of freedom and liberty of the subject, loss of personal

responsibility, and suppression of all individual effort.

We call upon you in your deliberations to help us to be a united Empire, bound by ties of kinship and trade and united by allegiance to our God and our King. Thus in a world of uncertainty we could become a symbol of peace and prosperity. This end can be achieved only by the most firm determination to unmask those who secretly plan for and finance the Communist cause.

Yours sincerely,

HELEN P. MARNE,

President Scottish Housewives' Assn."

The Chairman and Council of the British Housewives' League fully support the above statement and have addressed the Prime Ministers accordingly.

—*Housewives' Today* (England), Feb., 1951.

Britain Not Yet "Tree-Conscious"

"My husband and I have just returned to England after driving through a good part of Normandy and Picardy, and were much impressed by the abundance of well-kept woods in France, and the care and pains taken to keep woodland and wayside trees trimmed, free from ivy, etc. After driving through many miles of tree-lined highways, it is somewhat depressing to observe in Kent, Berkshire and Oxfordshire the unkempt and uncared-for appearance of our English trees. Very many of them are dead or dying, choked by ivy, and are a sad sight for the tree-lover." (*Letter by Mrs. E. M. Hodgson in the "Spectator"*) (England).

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:

<i>Social Credit</i>	6/6
Written in 1924, this is one of Douglas's earlier works.	
<i>Credit, Power, and Democracy</i> ,	6/9
An analysis of certain aspects of the credit system.	
<i>The Brief for the Prosecution</i> ,	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.	
<i>The Big Idea</i>	3/2
Exposes the forces working towards World Domination.	
<i>The Programme for the Third World War</i>	2/2
This book is particularly appropriate at the present time.	
<i>The "Land For The Chosen People" Racket</i> ,	2/2
Deals with the politics of the land.	
<i>The Tragedy of Human Effort</i>	1/1
One of Douglas's most outstanding addresses on the principles of human association.	
<i>The Policy of a Philosophy</i> ,	11d.
An address dealing with the definition of Social Credit.	
<i>Realistic Constitutionalism</i> .	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.	
<i>The Realistic Position of the Church of England</i> . . .	1/2
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Sheet Composting

By REYNOLDS A. MORSE in "Organic Gardening" (U.S.A.)

Several weeks before the revolutionary issue of *The Organic Farmer* arrived in which the pioneer composter, J. I. Rodale, admitted to the fact that on any kind of farm scale, pile composting was very limited, and could be duplicated in effect by sheet or field composting, I had arrived at the same conclusion. My education in this respect was both painful and amusing.

Even with three 5 x 5 starter and one 4 x 4 finisher compost piles going, using the litter and droppings from 75 hens, plus earth and garbage, as well as our green leaves and all other garden waste, I was not able to begin to make enough compost for the one-third acre organic truck garden I am developing.

After a full summer's assiduous attention to my several piles, which I interlarded with wood ashes and limestone powder, and finished up with red English manure worms in good organic fashion, I proudly got out my cart and hitched it up to the tractor to haul away the moist rich humus I had successfully made. But my green and hopeful visions of a truly enriched organic truck garden plot quickly faded; all my season's composting efforts covered only a 30 x 50 ft. area with the thinnest dressing! A whole year's backbreaking efforts at compost making were spread out in a single hour, and then I knew for certain what the term "pile shrinkage" meant. The lonely dark patches of compost made the relatively raw earth look lean and hungry in between, and I realised first hand that composting's chief limitation was definitely going to be one of securing quantities enough of the materials. I could see even in a fully mechanised composting operation only a minute relief for a farm soil.

I thought of the tons of orange peels, lettuce trimmings, meat scraps, coffee grounds, and other garbage wastes whose biochemically-combined minerals are forever lost to mankind in any city. I realised that these elements necessary for life did not enter into the various food residues by a routine chemical process that we could duplicate in the laboratory, but by a complex biochemical process occurring only in nature and which we only dimly understand. And the futility of trying to save this as yet unvalued wealth and to return it to the soil, even on a small scale, overwhelmed me that day, as I raked up the last remnants of brown compost from the ground, to scatter in the new pile just started. If ever an organic gardener surveyed his prospects with dismay — with brown thoughts in a brown shade — it

was myself after I had spread my 1949 compost that sunny autumn afternoon.

But, after reading the recent issues of *Organic Gardening* and *The Organic Farmer*, I took heart again, and arranged to have some 20 loads of village leaves dumped on the garden plot. I first tried a commercial grinder, and then tried one of my own designs, but only saw more work than I could possibly accomplish in processing such a huge mountain of leaves. I then tried bull-dozing the leaves into place and discing them in, but the discs rode the leaf mats, and finally it was too wet to use the tractor any more.

So I next set out to turn the leaves in by hand — a winter-long project, made possible by freak weather, which has not yet frozen the ground. Now even my mountains of leaves are shrinking and being eagerly absorbed by the hungry ground. As I haul them off to the edge of the garden and fork them under, I have plenty of time to mull over methods of handling leaves on a commercial scale; it is not the simple problem that it seems at first. Once the leaves are in place and slightly mixed with soil, however, they disc very nicely.

Prior to the arrival of the leaves, I planted winter rye over my entire garden area, and this, of course, is being turned under with the leaves. Unfortunately, I am thus exposing bare ground to the weather, and in so doing I realise I am not following sound organic principles to the letter. Only by sheet composting, however, can I restore to my plot the "forest floor" soil condition I am after. I see no way out, unless I allow the leaf piles to rot over the winter, and then spread them in the spring. The handling of such huge piles of leaves for proper composting, however, seems far too much work for the results obtained. Furthermore, the shrinkage already is such that I may not even have enough leaves to interlay even one-third of an acre, where a month ago I despaired of ever seeing my garden again for the golden mountains of leaves.

I will supplement the leaf material with ground minerals (limestone and phosphate rock) and occasional compost in the garden rows, but I now feel that I can accomplish much more on a practical level by filled composting.

I have already noted that sheet composting causes a far more rapid growth in the overall worm population than spreading ripe compost, and trying to raise worms on a small but concentrated scale. In fact, on this basis alone, sheet or ground composting will recommend itself to the large-scale gardener or farmer, for worm population is multiplied over a much larger

area than would be possible with previous composting methods. Where I counted only 2-3 worms per cubic foot, within a month of being enriched with a thick leaf mat, I have counted over 30 worms in a comparable cubic foot, and this population increase took place during the calendar month of December!

One of the frequent criticisms of the organic method is that it is applicable only on a small scale, and it is indeed true that to duplicate rich "old-time" soils, compost must be very heavily applied. Another criticism is that the organic method is merely a rallying point for cranks and faddists who would generalise on a farm scale from backyard experiments; amateurs who would tell the experienced farmer how to run his business. Others are suspicious because the organic method has nothing to sell — nothing save the future health of future generations, that is! Modern propaganda has made us indifferent even to our own fate, so how can the exponents of the organic method expect to arouse any interest in future health problems? The water shortage in New York City, the public indifference towards it, the stupid utterances of "public officials" about its causes and cures, will do more to point up the basic principles inherent in organic soils than any amount of editorial proselytizing that can be done. The engineer who remarked that the ideal watershed is a concrete apron, has no concept of how water is stored in organic material in the soil and then gradually released by nature to prevent just such a shortage as New York is now enjoying.

Sheet or field composting will do much to overcome the objections to the organic method I mentioned above. It will cut down on the labour of composting, allow organic material to be handled without special farm machinery, and will cause vast areas to hold more water, both at run-off time and during the drier seasons. But, most important, it will prove that the belittled backyard gardener is right in principle. Non-organic farmers who would never consider the compost pile formerly advocated can be much more easily persuaded to try sheet composting. It will be increasingly interesting to follow the experiences of others who have changed their methods of composting.

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The Biological Effect of Modern Techniques

In the last hundred and fifty years Man has so radically changed the Earth that we have reached a state of affairs which cannot be compared with any earlier period of history.

The machine has captured the Earth and has led to the mechanisation of life. Many have been the warnings against mechanisation on the ground that the result would be a decline in the value of existence.

In the course of many years of observation in his calling as forester, Yiktor Schaabberger recognised that the methods which nature uses in her operations are quite different from those, which modern Man uses in his machines.

We work technically not with the forces of creation but with those of exhaustion; it is for this reason that we fail, and it is for this reason that the machine is the enemy of life. And we shall come to feel that in a way one might call this the decline of man.

The results of unleashed techniques are already spreading a paralysing horror, and we see that the interference with Nature is not to the lasting benefit of Man.

Aldous Huxley, brother of Julian Huxley, President of Unesco, says: "In a few years most of what we are today pleased to call progress will prove to be an orgy of criminal madness."

The unbridled avarice of Man is in nearly every Continent of the Earth destroying the bio-geological balance. An inexhaustible, treasure-laden Earth is slowly but surely becoming a plundered planet.

Let us touch upon this ruthless exploitation of our Earth, so that we may recognise its effects.

Our woods, the indispensable lungs of our Earth-organism are falling in a murderous dance of death. The topsoil is sinking into the oceans. The free animal kingdom is subjected to systematic extermination.

Gigantic areas of the Earth are beginning to dry up, and rivers are polluted by the poisonous sewage of our industrial cities.

Dr. Osborn, President of the New York Zoological Society, says: "We are in the midst of a boundless catastrophe, for the incessant destruction of the life source of Earth set in motion by Man has taken on such dimensions that it amounts to a graver danger than the threatening third world war and the atom bomb."

Mechanisation of agriculture and wheat mining in U.S.A., Argentine, Canada, Australia and Russia signify unparalleled destruction of grass cover in nearly all continents. Gigantic monocultures, such as cane sugar, wheat, cotton, rubber, maize and coffee, planned for profit, have caused immeasurable erosion of the humus layer of the whole Earth.

In America, in consequence of depletive economy before the second world war, according to Dr. Bennett, 250 million acres of farmland have been completely destroyed, and a further 900 million acres of arable was becoming desert. Every year 5,000 million tons of American soil is swept into the ocean by wind or wash.

In the last 150 years America has lost a third of its total farmland.

In China 25 percent of once productive ground is now sterile.

In India the case is worse.

The South African Orange Free State,

which a hundred years ago was the most luxuriant pastureland of that continent, is being devastated by recurrent sandstorms.

In South America erosion of cultivated land is so immense that the present cornlands will be starvation areas before the end of the century, because nothing is being done to save them.

Forests are shrinking; America has cleared half her forests in the last hundred years. East and South Europe have lost a third of their woods since the beginning of this century. Central Europe was deprived of half its tree cover during the Hitler regime.

Man has completely ignored the water regulative power of forests. Felling on the upper reaches of all great rivers releases more and more terrible floods, as is seen every year on the Mississippi in America and the Yellow River in China. These catastrophes wash down to the ocean more of the sadly reduced arable topsoil.

Radical "ameliorations" and large encompassments all help to influence the water economy unfavourably. From all these influences develop incisive climatic changes (drought, aridity and recurring famine.)

The proof of the fateful change of the earth's structure through Man lies in the sinking of the water table, which is observed everywhere. In Berlin and Hamburg the water table has sunk more than 40 inches in the last two years.

In America there are districts, such as Baltimore, where the water table has sunk nearly 200 feet since the beginning of this century. The drying up of the Caspian Sea is a consequence of the plunder of the woods. Even in Austria there are complaints everywhere of the failure of wells and springs.

Just as there is no life without water . . . there is no culture without water.

The Earth is a living being as Man is, and in the long run does not permit disturbances of circulation to go unpunished. By these disturbances global disease processes are brought about.

Leading scientists of the world give clear warning concerning the neglect through which Humanity allows water consumption, erosion cancer and desert jaundice to eat up the earth.

Rapidly growing population is accompanied by incredibly rapid shrinkage of the surface of the earth, for the agricultural depredation has led to exhaustion of cultivated lands previously protected from erosion.

At the present time the daily press steadily brings reports of worsening shortage of water. The phenomena include reduction of rain showers, sinking of the water table. The explanation given is the ruthless deforestation of extensive areas through which catastrophic reduction of precipitation ensues; the smaller rainfall finds it easier to wash away the dried-up and infirm crust of the earth, so that aridity is hastened.

But is the increasing aridity of the earth really a result of plunder of the woods and fields only? Is it not possible that we are plundering the water itself, and not only in the roundabout way of growth phenomena?

In order to answer this question we must try to understand the real nature of water. Let us try to view it through the eyes of

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a man attuned to nature. Let us begin our observations at the cradle of water, the spring.

We notice that the origin of water, the place in which it makes its appearance, lies in the cool shade of the forest or in cool rocky niches. These places are always protected from the direct light of the sun. Water as it issues from the spring has a

(Continued on page 8)

The Biological Effects of Modern Techniques

(Continued from page 7)

low temperature in the region of 4 deg. C. At this temperature it has the greatest density and maximum weight; in short, it is of the greatest concentration and best quality, a generally recognised fact. Is there anything more delicious than spring water in the midst of undisturbed nature?

The measurable degree of the quality of the water is indicated by the concentration of ions as well as by the chemical components, and the concentration of ions is far and away greatest in spring water. By ion concentration is meant the electro-magnetic tension of the atoms. The greater this concentration the higher the value of the water. Let us call this tension the inner strength of the water.

If a glass of good spring water is placed in the sun, i.e., exposed to the heat, the concentration of ions diminishes rapidly, a fact noticeable in stale taste, which cannot be removed by any artificial influence. The influence of heat therefore depreciates the inner strength of water. The highest concentration of ions is reached by water at 4 deg. C. that is to say in the condition of greatest density and weight.

From the foregoing observations at the source of water we can formulate the principle:

To maintain quality, water requires protection from light and heat. (The sun!)

These preliminary conditions Nature tries as far as possible to provide for the water upon its further course. As long as it is moving in the brooks, the woods shade it, and in the field and meadow zones the constantly occurring bank plantations with their canopy of tree crowns protect the stream from the direct rays of the sun, i.e. from the direct influence of heat.

Wise Nature also protects the water from the indirect heat influence arising from friction with the bed of the brook. It gives the water a screw-like in-winding movement along the longitudinal axis so

that stemming pressures on the banks are avoided as far as possible. This inwinding motion, which possesses a visible pulling effect in the longitudinal axis, excludes the pressure of masses of water upon one another and thereby prevents production of heat from this process.

In addition, the course of the stream is lengthened and thereby the declivity is reduced as far as possible by repeated meander formation. And between these curves the water finds its way; it passes on, forming its motion and its rhythm from one shallow stretch to the next.

In this rhythmic play of movement forms almost free from resistance, the water flows on keeping itself fresh and acting as the carrier of high value biological life, the characteristic expression of healthy water as Nature would have it.

On its way downward the quantity of the water is steadily increased by little influxes, which bear in water cooler than the main body, which slowly warms up on the way through the natural conditions already enumerated.

These influxes therefore help to freshen the water and are thus not only augmentation of quantity but also of quality. The improvement is very necessary to the water, as it has a lot of work to do and should not be prematurely exhausted.

The work of the water lies in carrying its burden of rubble, which it must do from start to finish of its course.

The endeavour of the water is to render this work easier; this it does by slowly but steadily pulverising the rubble and depositing the powdered rock on the banks. In this way the bed is at the same time sealed against seepage, whereby untimely deposition of the rubble is avoided.

The broader the stream gets till it becomes a river, the more difficult it is for Nature to keep the water cool by shade from the bank. There is now the danger that strong atmospheric heat influences bring about cross currents on the surface and thereby weaken the pull towards the axis of the river and split the almost frictionless in-winding motion, thus causing additional heating and diminution of quality.

Nature makes another protective effort: the river divides into several branches and the green banks are again in a position to yield shade by spreading cooling vegetation over the water in order to preserve its quality.

We therefore see that nature uses a significant range of conspicuous processes to keep the water cool and fresh. Let us summarise them as follows: —

1. By shading and protecting from the sun's heat.
2. Formation of the channel in such a way that the in-winding progression sets in, whereby a pulling component arises in the direction of the stream, the water starts drawing and in its motion avoids pressure from behind and consequent reactive heat which arises from pressure.

3. In a continual change of right and left curves the volume of water sways along thus providing better mixing and equalisation of differences in temperature due to atmospheric influences.

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So much for Nature! Now what about Man?

This rhythmic alteration of significant movement is willfully disturbed by Man, who makes water work for his purposes without giving thought to the vital needs of water.

With dams he brings the water to a halt and leaves it exposed to the influence of the sun, so that the violent heating process takes away part of the density and of the quality of the water. It is now forced to turn turbines with its weight, whereby it is put under heavy pressure, flung about, heated up, dashed to foam and returned to its course. In the truest sense of the word, the water is worked out, and is now supposed to resume its way in the same rhythm, as it knew in its upper course.

That this does not happen, we all know full well the water is tired, it leaves behind the rubble, which is shot after it through the free race; it cannot again develop its biological life, because the preliminary conditions of such life have been destroyed in the turbines.

In consequence of the increasing deposition it is now necessary to regulate the bed of the river in order to increase its fall and thereby the carrying power of the water. Expensive building is needed in the banks, the vegetation is destroyed, the river plunges down the inclined plane to the valley without rhythmic motion and can no longer take its rubble with it. The rhythm of the water, the river, is destroyed, part of its strength, its vital inner strength, is taken away, and neither the inclined plane nor the sun can restore it. It has become sick at one point, and every hydraulic engineer knows that the sickness spreads both downstream and up, even into the tributaries, like a creeping poison. The water has become so ill that even the subsoil water sinks where there are big hydraulic works, and this means serious damage to agriculture.

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