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SIXPENCE WEEKLY

Tweedledum and Tweedledee

By J. T. LANG

Now that both major party leaders have delivered their policy speeches, it is even more apparent than ever that there are no clear lines of demarcation between them. They may differ on details, but on fundamental principles they are both clamouring that they believe in exactly the same things . . .

They both protest that they are against the Communists. They differ only in degree, so far as their avowed policies go. In actual practice, Chifley has been a last ditch defender of the Communist Party. He has provided it with a cloak as long as he possibly could.

If Chifley is returned to power, the Communists will get complete immunity. Menzies says that he will deal with them. He has made one attempt that was bungled by his lawyers. Even that attempt was delayed too long.

On Communism, I am satisfied that it is that the only hope for positive action is to see that the initiative comes from some individual who is prepared to act immediately. I firmly believe that such action does not call for unnecessary legal trimmings. The Constitution provides that the Commonwealth Parliament has power to defend this country. The fact that one formula failed does not mean that every formula will fail. The thing is to get on with the job quickly.

On other issues, there is very little essential difference between the major parties. One party makes promises more glibly than the other in some respects. But it is performances, not promises that must count in the long run.

On performances, Menzies is ahead of Chifley. He did many things that Chifley should have done. To that extent he was to the Left of Chifley in the jargon of modern politics. Menzies did pay endowment for the first child, after the Chifley Party had branded his promise an election fraud. He did provide medical benefits that were available to all. . . .

Menzies took over the Chifley Brains Trust, just as Curtin took over the Menzies advisers in 1941. There is no reason to believe that Chifley would disturb them if he won the elections. Professor Copland, Dr. Roland Wilson, and the other experts are just as much at home with Chifley as with Menzies. Their views on economic problems prevail, irrespective of the Government.

It is the same on banking. Chifley now announces that he will repeal his Bank Nationalisation Act. Menzies never even bothered to do that. The Privy Council made it a dead letter in the statute book. But Chifley, in his anxiety

to be even more conservative than Menzies at this stage, proposes to go through the motions of burying the banking ghost from his own past.

At the same time, there could be detected in his speech a critical reference to the Coombs' credit policy. But, if returned Chifley would retain Dr. Coombs as his number one banking expert, just as Menzies retained and relied upon him after denouncing his appointment by the Chifley Government.

On the subject of controls, Menzies at the last elections was loud in his condemnation. Today, he has veered back in Chifley's direction and is installing his own controls. The blueprints remain the same. The experts remain the same. The nostrums in the same.

Menzies believes in conscription. Chifley believes in conscription. Menzies will not revalue the Australian pound. Chifley is opposed to re-valuation. Menzies is in favour of migration. Chifley

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would continue the Calwell scheme, which has now become the Calwell-Holt scheme. Chifley wants Federal control of price-fixing. Menzies wants Federal supervision of price-fixing. So it goes on, right through the gamut of every major political issue.

There is no real distinction between the Liberal policy and the Labor policy. None between Chifley as Prime Minister and Menzies as Prime Minister. To change from one to another is to change from Tweedledum to Tweedledee . . .

—"The Century," Sydney, April 6.

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.

More Treachery by British Socialists

(Continued from issue of April 6th)

Captain Ryder: Before this matter is finally decided, can we have a chance to debate the nature of this appointment? To whom is this man to be responsible? What is to be the extent of his command, and the position of the Commanders-in-Chief of the Home Fleet and Coastal Command? Can we have an assurance that our extensive merchant fleet will not pass out of British control?

The Prime Minister: All these matters will be properly covered when the details of the appointment are announced.

Mr. Thurtle: Has not the Leader of the Opposition, by raising this issue, implied lack of faith in our great American allies—(Hon. Members: "No.")—and is it not deplorable that there should be divisions between America and ourselves over a point like this?

Mr. Collick: May I ask the Prime Minister whether any British admiral was nominated for this position?

Mr. Boothby: The Prime Minister said just now that he understood that the Americans had selected an admiral whom they considered most suitable. (Hon. Members: "No.") I would like an assurance that that answer did not imply that we ourselves had no say in the choice or selection at all, because that implication seemed to give rise to the answer which he gave.

The Prime Minister: Of course, we had our say.

Mr. Chetwynd: In regard to the land Forces, was it not obviously a case of the best man for the job, and will not my right hon. Friend make it clear that the appointment of a naval commander will also be on that principle—the best man for the job, regardless of nationality?

Major Legge-Bourke: Will the Prime Minister bear in mind that his apparent aloofness this afternoon can only give the impression that he has never taken a personal interest in this matter? Will he give an assurance that he will make this his personal business and do his best to ensure that Great Britain is properly represented?

Sir R. Acland: Is it not a little strange that a statesman who so loudly proclaims his belief in European unity should protest so violently when a decision with which he disagrees is reached by a group of nations, many of them European?

House of Commons: February 26, 1951.

Supreme Commander Atlantic

The Prime Minister: With your permission, Mr. Speaker, I desire to make a statement.

I wish to make a short statement on the question of the appointment of a Supreme Commander Atlantic. As I promised when the matter was raised in the House on 22nd February, I have again looked into this matter of the command organisation of the North Atlantic Ocean. The House will appreciate that this matter forms only one part of the general plans which are taking shape within the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation under the direction of the Standing Group, which

comprises representatives of the United States, United Kingdom and France.

One of the most important features of these plans in relation to the North Atlantic Ocean is an agreement on the system of command, which will obtain in war. Preliminary arrangements must, however, necessarily be made in peacetime in order to ensure quick and easy transition to war if the need arises.

The area, which will be under the Supreme Commander, is the North Atlantic Ocean, excluding the Mediterranean and British European coastal waters. This ocean will include an eastern and western area. The eastern area, which for us will be the most vital and crucial, will be under the command of a British admiral, in association with the Coastal Command of the Royal Air Force. This British admiral will be the Commander-in-Chief, Home Fleet — an appointment at present held by Admiral Sir Philip Vian. In his capacity of Commander-in-Chief of the Eastern Atlantic, he would, in time of war, exercise command not only over British Forces, but also over Forces of the United States Navy and those of other North Atlantic Treaty Organisation Powers. Conversely, the American admiral commanding the Western Atlantic would, likewise control British and other North Atlantic Treaty Organisation Forces.

As the House will no doubt realise, the whole problem, embracing both command and areas in the North for some time past been fully discussed in all its details, not only by the British and American Chiefs of Staff, but also by the representatives of the other Powers interested in the Atlantic, namely France, Canada, Norway, Denmark, Belgium, Holland, Portugal and Iceland. In the light of the experience of the last war it has been agreed on both sides of the Atlantic that it is of the utmost importance that an overall Supreme Commander for the North Atlantic ocean should be appointed in order that the naval and Air Forces specifically assigned to him, not only from this country and from the United States, but from the other North Atlantic Treaty Organisation Powers, should be used to the best advantage throughout the whole of these waters.

The outstanding lesson of the Battle of the Atlantic in the late war was that the Atlantic is one battlefield in which the mobile threat represented by the submarine must be matched by an equally flexible system of defence. Too often during the last war, we had to wait until serious losses had been incurred, or great opportunities missed while discussion went on in Washington and London about the re-disposition of naval or Air Forces. Thus all our experience at that time proved that there is a need for a single command in the Atlantic, which can allocate and re-allocate Forces to meet the shifting threat as it develops. One of the principle duties of the Supreme Commander will be to move Forces to the area where the danger is greatest and to make representations when the need arises, for the particular requirements of the Atlantic in a global war.

In considering the nationality of a

Supreme Commander, His Majesty's Government and their Service advisers have had a number of factors to take into account. There is the question of the relative sizes of the various naval and Air Forces that the other Atlantic powers will contribute to the defence of the area. In this connection we have to remember that these Forces are represented not only by the active Forces, but also by potential reserve Forces. We have also to recognise that while the defence of the sea approaches to these islands, and indeed, of the whole of the Eastern Atlantic, is quite literally a matter of life and death to us, our American Allies are also concerned with the defence of the Western Atlantic.

The House should not forget, moreover, that despite our great naval traditions, the defence of the North Atlantic Ocean cannot possibly, in a future war, be undertaken by this country alone. The defence of this great sea area, like the defence of the whole western world, can only be successfully maintained by all the North Atlantic Powers acting in close concert.

Taking these factors into consideration, the Chiefs of Staff submitted recommendations to His Majesty's Government on the command system in the North Atlantic ocean — and I refer now not only to the Supreme Commander, but to the area commanders serving under him — which would best meet the overall needs of Atlantic defence. The arrangements which were recommended will ensure not only that responsibility for the home defence of these islands, including British coastal waters, will remain firmly in British hands, but that a British admiral will be responsible under the overall command of the American Supreme Commander, for the command of the Eastern Atlantic. The Commander-in-Chief, Portsmouth, has been designated as Commander-in-Chief, Home Station, and will be in sole command of all naval operations in British home waters. The present Commander-in-Chief is Admiral Sir Arthur Power.

His Majesty's Government are satisfied, that, in time of war, the proposed arrangements, not only for command, but also for the division of responsibility, will ensure both the defence of these islands and the fullest participation of all the North Atlantic powers over the whole of the North Atlantic ocean.

In peace, there is no question of our placing any of our naval or air forces in the Atlantic under the Command of the proposed Supreme Commander. If, however, these Forces are to be fully ready for their wartime role, they will necessarily have to undergo a measure of combined training in time of peace. For this purpose, the Supreme Commander will assume command for the period of exercises needed to carry out this combined training. He will be served both in peace and war by a fully integrated staff, in which we will be represented at all levels. The Deputy Supreme Commander will be British.

For these reasons, I am entirely satisfied that the Government were right in giving their approval to the proposed appointment of an American admiral as Supreme Commander.

Mr. Churchill: The very complicated statement, which has just been read to us, will, as I am sure the Prime Minister will

(Continued on page 5)

The following Memorandum is by Captain Arthur Rogers, certain of whose earlier memoranda on the Russian question have been published by "The New Times" — our copy from "The Social Crediter," March 3.

Can the British Empire seize the initiative in international affairs, which is now held by the Soviet dictators? This question transcends in importance all other political and military issues. The answer is: Yes, but only if the facts are understood.

British, American and other allied resources are being mobilised to oppose a world menace, which is centred and organised in Moscow. This great effort is being made for defence only. It is to continue on an ever-increasing scale, but with no end in sight. Even so, the dispositions for defence are incomplete because they do not cover the Middle Eastern oil-fields, which are in jeopardy although now vital to Britain, both militarily and economically. Moreover, there is no assurance that these defence measures, if prolonged indefinitely, will not lead to economic exhaustion and a situation well suited to the promoters of revolutionary Communism.

Soviet policy, with world revolution as its aim, operates on two planes. The Soviet dictators are now able to confront Western Powers with a military threat. They may plan to maintain that threat passively where their own resources are concerned until their end is gained by means of the political technique in which they have already shown their skill. The British Empire and the Powers associated with her cannot afford to overlook this danger. It is evident that, to withdraw huge numbers of men from normal production and to employ them solely, and for an unlimited time, in inadequate defence preparations might, in actual practice, prove favourable to the Soviets' revolutionary plans. At the best, no final decision can be reached merely by sending forces to Western Europe, however necessary that move may be.

The over-riding need of the Western Powers is to be able to stop the Soviet dictators from proceeding with their schemes. By nothing short of this can peace be assured. The first step must be to gain the initiative.

Examination of the means of obtaining the initiative calls for consideration of any weaknesses in the Soviet dictators' position. They must be opposed where they are weakest, and nothing must be done to help them to overcome a weakness. They have one great weakness, which is the detestation of their rule by an overwhelming majority of the Russian people, even including most of those who are employed by the Soviet State itself. It must not be forgotten, however, that this attitude of the Russian people to their present rulers is not their only characteristic. They are very patriotic and very brave. Their valour during the last two great wars, as in previous wars, has shown what they are prepared to do in the defence of Russia, their own native land.

The Western Powers can repeat Hitler's mistake in his Russian policy, which

brought him to ruin, only at the peril of what remains of civilisation.

It is now known that the plan of the German General Staff was that the German forces should enter the Soviet Union in the role of liberators from Soviet tyranny. They believed that if such a pretence were maintained, the Soviet regime would be doomed; and events have shown that the General Staff would have been proved right had they not been over-ruled. Countless Russian and German eyewitnesses have testified that, when the German forces crossed the frontier in June 1941, they were greeted as liberators by an enthusiastic people, and were able to advance along the roads without opposition. The Russians did not believe that an army from the west would enter Russia, except as the enemies of Soviet dictatorship, which is their own great enemy. Hitler, however, rejecting the advice of the General Staff, had said that he intended to be a conqueror. Thus, when it was realised that Germans were the invading enemies of their native land, the Russian people offered resistance, and it became possible to bring the army into action to play a leading part in Hitler's defeat.

Although Russian hostility to Germany had sprung to life through Hitler's blunder, the Soviet dictators found themselves forced to depart from their own fundamental policy in order to maintain the unnatural union that had developed between themselves and the patriotic victims of their oppression. Soviet wartime propaganda was nationalist and patriotic—not internationalist and Communist. Soldiers and people were told about the heroic episodes of Russian history. Films were made to show the victories of Russian Emperors and the great thanksgiving services that followed. New military decorations were named after Russian leaders of old. An elaborate pretence was made of restoring the Orthodox Church to its ancient status.

The Red dictators have been compelled to maintain similar methods in their strained relations with the Western Powers, which cannot be concealed. They make every effort to convince the Russian people that the people of the West are the enemies of Russia and not the enemies of Communism. In this, they have received great help from certain western publicists and politicians, who seriously believe themselves engaged in propaganda against the Soviet Union. In the utterances of these people "the Russians" are perpetually abused for the actions of the Politbureau. There is self-righteous boasting about the perfection of conditions in the west, as compared with the horrors within the Soviet Union, about which the Russians know, expressed in a manner that makes the Russians believe that they are being mocked in their miseries. There is discussion of schemes for a partition of Russia, which arouses patriotic resentment.

Russians are sneered at as orientals, although Russia, as a great Christian country, was for centuries Europe's first line of defence against the hordes of Central Asia. In Great Britain alone, not a few people of influence, whose words are reported in the newspapers, have been so wrong-headed as to assert, without a shadow of truth, that the present danger is due not so much to Communist designs, as to a revival of "Russian imperialism." Such utterances are often reproduced without comment in the official publications of the Soviet Union, so great is their value in helping the dictators to overcome their greatest weakness.

The time is overdue for these mischief-makers to be silenced by declarations of policy in all His Majesty's possessions which make it plain that, whatever British relations with the Soviet rulers may be, there can be no question of desiring anything but sincere friendship with the people of Russia. To state that policy would not, however, achieve all that is required. The Russians, after their experience of the last ten years, cannot be expected to place great confidence in what they are told by foreigners; but this presents no serious difficulties.

(To be concluded)

On the Hustings

"All Western countries are doomed to some form of Communism unless Christians and church leaders face the fact that all types of governments are progressively increasing their materialistic powers at the expense of the sovereignty of the individual."—Mr. E. D. Butler, Independent Deakin.

—"The Herald," Melb. April 12.

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FRIDAY, APRIL 20, 1951.

No. 16.

The "Sacking" of General MacArthur

President Truman's removal of General MacArthur from his commands in the Far East provides further evidence of our contention that the international Communist conspiracy can never be defeated until it is understood how that conspiracy reaches right into the very heart of the American administration. The charge has been made that MacArthur had to be removed because he wanted to extend the Korean War into a war against Communist China. Ironically enough, this charge has been made by people who were responsible for the betrayal of Nationalist China to the Communists, who, by various policies, created the Korean incident, and who still refuse to accept the fact that there can be no genuine compromise anywhere with the Communists and their Zionist backers.

In his recently published booklet, "The Truth About Communist China" Mr. Eric D. Butler reveals how the conquest of China has always been regarded by the Communists as vitally essential to their strategy for worldwide conquest. It was Lenin who said that the shortest route to Paris and London was through Peking. This explains why Communist espionage agents in the American State Department, men like the notorious Alger Hiss, devoted so much of their efforts towards ensuring that "American" foreign policy in the Far East made a Communist victory in China possible. We do not know how much General MacArthur knows about the real Communist conspiracy, but he did touch a most vital point when he stressed the fact that it was essential that America give all possible aid to Chiang Kai-shek and his Chinese Nationalist forces, in order that they could prevent the Chinese Communists from consolidating their position. There is plenty of factual evidence to support the viewpoint that there is widespread opposition to the Communist regime in China, and that practical aid to Chiang Kai-shek immediately might be a decisive act in stemming the Communist advance everywhere.

It appears that it was General MacArthur's insistence that everything possible should be done to prevent the Communists consolidating their position in China, which brought to a head his many clashes with Mr. Alger Hiss's former colleague, Mr. Dean Acheson, American Secretary for State, and his puppet, President Truman. As we have reported for some time past, American public opinion has increasingly become more and more restive about charges by responsible Americans that Communist agents were influencing the policies of the American State Department. Even the Australian daily press, with its persistent boycott of important news from America, has been forced to admit that responsible American leaders have openly attacked the Zionist-Communist conspirators manipulating the Truman Administration. For example, the Melbourne press of April 13 reported Republican Senator Jenner as having demanded that Truman be impeached for "sacking" General MacArthur, and as having said that, "The United States is in the hands of a secret inner coterie which is directed by agents of Soviet Union." If the MacArthur incident leads in America to a further exposure of the secret agents of the Zionist-Communist conspirators, it may yet prove a big step forward in the struggle to save Western Christian Civilisation.

Roosevelt and Communism

"We discovered that 2,500 agents, stooges and minions of a foreign dictator were on the Government pay roll, occupying, in many instances, key positions in the State Department, the Justice Department, and the Interior Department.

"I went down to the White House. I said:

"Mr. President (Roosevelt), here is a list of these people. We have raided the organisation and we have their membership records. There can't be any doubt about it. If you understand the Communists as I understand them, you will know that they are in the Government for one purpose alone, to steal important secrets and transmit them to Moscow."

"The President was furious. I was amazed at his anger.

"'Well,' he said, 'I have never seen a man that had such ideas. There is nothing wrong with the Communists. Some of the best friends I have got are Communists.'"

(Report of the Dies Committee to Congress, U.S.A.)

Who?

We quote from "The Freeman," New York:

"Who made the shocking agreements at Yalta, Teheran and Potsdam? Who vetoed the wartime proposal to send British and American troops into the Balkans?"

"Who gave the order for our troops not to push on to Berlin? Who permitted and encouraged Stalin to take over Latvia, Lithuania, Rumania, Bulgaria, Hungary, Czechoslovakia, and Poland?"

"Who — both by omission and commission — helped to turn China over to the Communists?"

"Who tried to force Chiang Kai-shek to take into his government the very Communists who were determined to destroy him?"

"Who was so eager to 'share' the secret of the atomic bomb with Stalin?"

"Who proposed that we pour still more billions of the American taxpayers' money into Russia, on the argument that it would appease Stalin, if we enabled him to build up his military machine still further?"

"Who ridiculed as a 'red herring' all serious efforts to uncover Russian spies?"

"What rational ground is there for trusting the very people who led us into this great danger to lead us out of it?"

The un-named accused in the article is the Truman Administration.

D.S.C.M. Meeting

Room 8, 1st Floor, The Block,
Elizabeth Street.

Annual Meeting of Members,
Thursday, April 26th, 7.45 p.m.
Election of Office-bearers, etc.

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More Treachery by British Socialists

(Continued from page 2)

agree, require study and consideration, and it may well be that we shall find it necessary to raise the matter in debate, in which case it would be a subject for further discussion through the usual channels. I do not propose to embark on any comment upon it today . . .

. . . *Captain Ryder*: It seems to me that the Admiralty will, in fact, lose operational control over the Home Fleet. Could the Prime Minister say whether I am right or wrong?

The Prime Minister: I think the hon. and gallant Member is wrong. I read an interesting letter, which I think he wrote on the question of convoys, and so on. They will be under the operational control of the Fleet and of our own British admiral. It is the general co-ordination, which is taken by the Supreme Commander. The operational control, in home waters and in the Eastern Atlantic, as I pointed out, will be under a British admiral.

Mr. Emrys Hughes: In view of the very wide experience which the Germans have had of submarine warfare, will the Prime Minister bear in mind that the Germans, in view of the fact that we are re-arming them, are equally entitled to a say? Will he consider the claims of a German admiral now under lock and key?

. . . *Mr. Eden*: Could I ask for some clarification of the question asked by my hon. and gallant Friend the Member for Merton and Morden (Captain Ryder), which is important? As I understood the statement of the Prime Minister, the complete control of the movement of all the Forces under the Supreme Commander will rest with the Supreme Commander; that being so, how can it be true to say that we have complete operational control over our own Fleet?

The Prime Minister: First of all, the general control of Forces will, naturally, be decided by the Chiefs of Staff of whatever the organisation is at the time of war. At the moment it is by the representatives on the Standing Group. Then there is the admiral who is in command of the Atlantic area. His main business is to carry out the main strategic decisions. The actual operations are under the admirals in command of the particular areas—the Western Atlantic and the Eastern Atlantic. As I said, the coastal areas are under a separate control. Therefore, I think the right hon. Gentleman will realise that while the overall strategic command is under the admiral of the Atlantic Command, the actual operational control will be under the commander of the particular part of the Atlantic.

Mr. Churchill: But the Admiral of the Atlantic can transfer Forces from one of these area commands to another?

The Prime Minister: Yes, I think that is quite essential. (Hon. Members: "Oh!"). The right hon. Gentleman will remember that in the last war there were very heavy submarine attacks in the Caribbean, and that Forces were transferred from our commands here to assist. Then the situation changed and we did not at that time, I think, get back our Forces in time because of the rather elaborate machinery. The whole purpose of this is to facilitate the switching of Forces where necessary. It will be recalled that the Forces with

which we are dealing are not an exclusive British Fleet in the Eastern Atlantic and an exclusive American Fleet in the Western Atlantic; they are composite Forces drawn from all the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation Powers.

Mr. Churchill: In the late war all these matters were regulated by discussions between Governments after careful consideration by the combined Chiefs of Staff. I am not aware that any very great difficulty occurred, except the difficulty inherent in the disposition of Forces, which were not equal to the many needs and demands made upon them. But now the right hon. Gentleman, if I understood him right — and I had not intended to develop this now — intends to support a policy which would give an American Supreme Commander the power to transfer powerful Forces from this coast to the other side of the Atlantic or make other dispositions of that character. Nothing like that ever existed in the late war and never could have been accepted, I think, in view of the fact that our life depends upon the maintenance of the sea approaches whereas, though the United States may suffer a great deal, her life is unaffected by them.

The Prime Minister: This will take place under the general direction of the Standing Group, which is, in effect, the equivalent of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. But it is proposed to give power to a Supreme Commander. As I am advised, the experience is that in these matters a Supreme Commander needs to, and always does consult, but it has been put up to us by all our advisers that there is need for this essential power, in wartime, of being able to transfer Forces.

. . . *Mr. Churchill*: But this Standing Group has now apparently replaced the combined Chiefs of Staff, who were in such close and intimate relation and enabled these matters to be transacted. Is not that so?

The Prime Minister: No, the Standing Group are in intimate touch with the combined Chiefs of Staff.

Mr. Churchill: There are no combined Chiefs of Staff. (*Interruption.*) Be quiet, hold your tongue. Go and talk to the Italians. It is all you are fit to do. (*Interruption.*) Does not the right hon. Gentleman think that it was a great disaster when the combined Chiefs of Staff organisation was terminated?

The Prime Minister: I quite agree. The right hon. Gentleman knows that that was not due to our action. We are trying to build this up . . .

. . . *Mr. Harrison*: Is my right hon. Friend aware that the manner in which this question was raised last week has caused more anti-American feeling in this country than anything the Communists have done for the last three years?

Commander Noble: Could the Prime Minister say whether the British Chiefs of Staff put forward the proposal he has just told us about before or after the decision had actually been made?

The Prime Minister: I really do not understand what the hon. and gallant Gentleman means. What does he mean? Is he suggesting that this was imposed upon us? This was a matter fully discussed by the Chiefs of Staff, by our technical

advisers, on both sides, and this was the proposal put up to us. I resent the kind of suggestion made by the hon. and Gallant Member.

Mr. Paton: Would it be consistent with any scheme of integrated defence for every country to claim the right to do what it likes with its own?

Mr. Henry Strauss: Did His Majesty's Government ever put forward the name of a British Admiral for this post; and, if so, on what date?

The Prime Minister: The matter was considered first as one of general principle

Air Commodore Harvey: Answer the question.

The Prime Minister: That was decided first of all, before any question of personalities. I should like to appeal to the House—(Hon. Members: "Answer.") I am answering.

Mr. Braine: The country wants an answer.

The Prime Minister: I quite agree that the country wants an answer. I do not know whether hon. Members opposite heard my reply. The question was first of all discussed from the point of view of arriving at certain general principles with regard to the commands, and that question of names came up afterwards. If I might, I would ask everybody in the House to realise that we do not, I imagine, want to create rifts between allies, but I must say that some of the questions from all parts of the House seem to be directed to trying to make the greatest amount of trouble and the greatest divisions.

Mr. Wyatt: Is it not a fact that there will be more American ships than British ships under the command of the Supreme Commander Atlantic; and is it not therefore deplorable to make political capital out of this appointment, particularly as we may be expecting ourselves to get the command in the Mediterranean?

Sir Ian Fraser: To avoid any possibility of misunderstanding, which, I think would be hurtful, can the right hon. Gentleman make clear one sentence in the statement which he read out, where he attributed some part of the responsibility for the choice of Supreme Commander to the British Chiefs of Staff? Were they called in to advise as to disposition to be made under the Supreme Commander, or were they called in to advise who should be the Supreme Commander?

Mr. Attlee: The Government take full responsibility for their actions and I am never willing to shelter myself behind my official advisers, but I think it right to say in this matter I have throughout acted on the recommendations of the Chiefs of Staff.

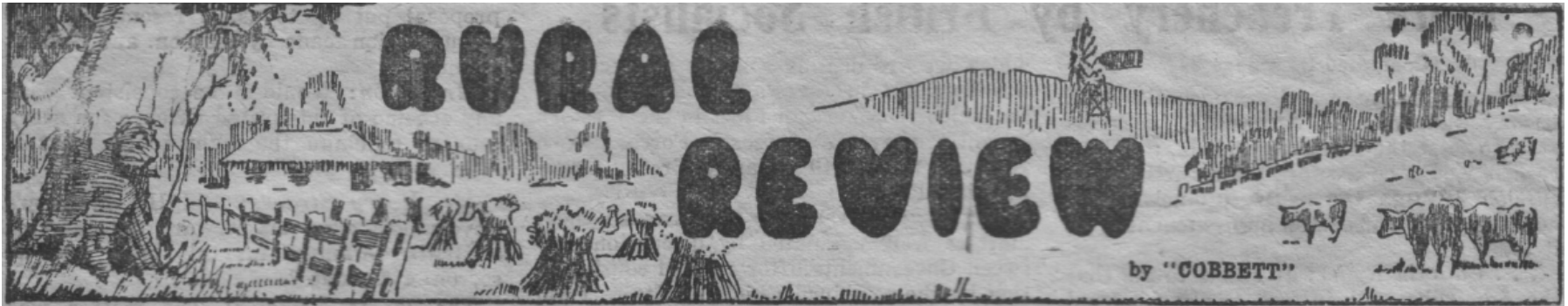
Several Hon. Members rose ----

Mr. Speaker: I think it would be better if, before asking all these supplementary questions, hon. Members read the statement. Then we might know more about it than hon. Members obviously do now.

Mr. Glenvil Hall: I beg to give notice that at a convenient opportunity I shall raise this matter on the Adjournment . . .

(Concluded)

"New Times," April 20, 1951 — Page 5



Minerals from the Sea

By J. H. DAUGHTRY, D.C.

For several years I have been greatly interested in the organic method of agriculture, and have puzzled over one problem—how to restore the necessary minerals to the soil. Of course, the standard advice has been to use compost, but I felt that, if the compost was made from vegetation that was grown on minerally deficient soil, and the manure from animals fed on such vegetation, then the compost had, of necessity, to be also deficient in those minerals.

Knowing that the sea was a vast storehouse of such minerals, and that these minerals had in great measure been leached from the soil, I felt that we should be able to take them from the sea and restore them to the soil, but, as everyone considered that salt was detrimental to plant growth, was afraid to use it for fear of killing the vegetation. Then it dawned on me that the salt in the ocean also came in part from the land and that, as animals needed salt in the diet, perhaps a small percentage of salt might improve instead of hinder the growth of plants.

I purchased fifty pots, filled half with a mixture of soil, compost, and mixed in a breeder box of earthworms. The other half was filled with the soil and compost mixture, but I allowed the worms to escape from another breeder box and used the contents of the box in the mix.

Cabbage seed was planted in the centre of each pot, and radish seed on the side in half the pots, after the pots were treated with varying amounts of seawater. Holding four pots without seawater, and adding measured amounts to the rest in groups of four, the pots were numbered according to the amount of seawater contained, 0-1-2-3-4-5-6-8-10-12-14-16.

The seeds planted in pots No. 14-16 were about a week later in coming up, but, at the end of seven weeks, had caught up in size with those in the pots that contained no seawater, and, after about ten weeks, were the largest in the group. They are all the healthiest looking plants that I have ever seen, and everyone that sees them comments on their rich dark green colour. No poison has been used, of course, and they are almost free from any insect damage, only four or five of the plants have holes in the leaves where something took a bite.

I have been very careful not to use too much water, as I wanted to avoid any chance of leaching. If anything, I have used too little instead of enough, but even in the hottest weather, when I was unable

to water them on time, they showed less wilting than other plants in the garden.

We ate a few of the radishes at the end of the fifth week, found them plump, crisp, tender, and having a flavour, or perhaps I should say savour, that did not call for dipping in salt, as usual; but the best part was that they didn't "talk back." Not a burn in a carload. First time in years that I could eat a radish without tasting it for hours. I have made arrangements to have a spectroscopic analysis of the mineral content at the proper time, but will have to pass up a complete vitamin test, as the nearest lab. that does that work wants two hundred dollars per plant, and that is too much to spend on amusement. Anyway, they would probably lose a lot of the vitamin content in shipping so far. (Sour grapes.)

While I am certain that the mineral and vitamin content are higher than that in plants grown the usual way, I feel that it will take several years to grow plants, compost them, and return them to the soil for further growth and composting before I get those minerals in the organic form in amounts necessary for optimum human nutrition. I have been cramped for space here, but own a large tract of land in the Ozark mountains that I intend to develop into a health and summer resort in the near future, and will have land enough to go into this on a large scale.

While I am sure that most, if not all, of the "Organic Gardening" magazines are sold on the use of compost versus chemicals, I feel that only a small percentage really knows the WHY of the matter, so, to make clear the reasons behind this experiment, I will go into a bit of body chemistry.

The human body is composed of about eighteen elements, fifteen of them in measurable quantities, and the others in trace amounts. Some of them, such as oxygen and hydrogen, may be utilised in their inorganic form, but others, such as iron, iodine, etc., must be changed from the inorganic to the organic form by the plants we eat before they can be used to build flesh, blood and bone. Only plants have the power or ability to make this change, the animal body does not. To put it plainer, the iron in a nail is different from the iron in a leaf of spinach. The iodine that is sold in the drug store is different from the iodine in seaweed, or from fish that have obtained their supply from sea vegetation. The health of plants depends upon the percentage of these organic minerals available in the soil, and our health depends upon the supply in the plants, and thus goes back to the supply in the soil.

Seawater is said to contain all these

essential elements in the same proportions as found in our blood, so, if applied in proper quantities to the soil, should result in being taken up by the plants, changed in form, and made available to us in our food.

This helps explain why land that has been composted with sea-weed produces plants that are capable of reseeding themselves on the same land for hundreds of years, and why seeds "run out" in a few years when grown under "chemical" fertilising.

It is true that plants and animals will take up the inorganic minerals in the absence of the organic form, but they are used as "fillers" and produce weakness, hardening of the tissues (and, in the case of humans—hardening of the arteries and organs), and lead to disease and death.

What I have done so far is just a start. I am saving part of these plants for seed, and believe that they will be healthier, and will adapt themselves to the ability to stand greater quantities of salt so that greater quantities of the other minerals may be made available. Also, that they will have a natural savour that will make the use of table salt unnecessary as a seasoning. This alone should benefit the health of the consumers, as salt is another of the inorganic minerals that we use to excess.

—"Organic Gardening" (U.S.A.).

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Government Marketing of Primary Production Attacked

In the following letter to "The West Australian" of April 6, one of West Australia's best known graziers, Mr. Harry Butcher, presents a splendid case against the proposition now being backed by powerful propaganda, that the individual farmer will benefit from Government marketing of primary production:

In spite of the disastrous results of government-to-government marketing, it is tragic to see such socialist economic principles still being pursued and extended. The practice of government marketing of a product is part and parcel of the socialist theory of a centrally planned economy.

This theory is based on the contention that the central planner has an "overall" view and can therefore dictate production and distribution more "efficiently." It is claimed that, as the modern economy becomes increasingly complex, this control is increasingly essential. There is not one whit of factual data to support this theory.

The function of all industry is to satisfy consumer demand, limited only by physical capacity. To put it another way: The object of production is consumption. Now consumer demand is made effective as a monetary demand; and genuine, free competitive enterprise, being flexible and decentralised, can react to this demand—which is not standardised, but infinitely variable and changeable—and satisfy it in the quickest and most efficient manner. The complexity of the modern economy means that, more than ever before, the extension of the decentralised and flexible free enterprise system is the only satisfactory way of meeting the complex and varied requirements of consumers.

This system may be termed "ball-valve economics." Observe how the ball valve operates in a sheep-trough. Automatically it replenishes whatever quantity of water is consumed by the thirsty sheep. Note that the number of sheep and their thirst are unknown until they exercise their "demand" by drinking at the trough. No central planner or statistician can forecast accurately how many sheep will drink at that

trough, nor can he measure their collective thirst, which may vary according to many factors (such as the weather). Without that exact data the planner is lost. He cannot plan the "production" and "marketing" of the water supply, nor can he dictate to which troughs the water should go. But the simple little ball-valve mechanism automatically and without fuss ensures that the trough keeps up the supply according to the demand.

The British Socialist Government has operated bulk buying of meat since the end of the war. One of the main authors of that policy was the leading socialist theorist and former Minister for Food, Mr. John Strachey. Today, Britons are still only getting 8 oz. of meat a person per week, although it is reported that the meat refrigeration stores have never been so full. The whole gimcrack system is so unwieldy and top-heavy that the only actual result to the British consumer has been practically no meat, and that at a fantastic price.

Bulk buying and selling necessitates the making of long-term contracts — contracts that are binding on a whole industry. With the current rapidly accelerating inflation this often means that the producer has to market his product at an uneconomic price. The ultimate result is to drive men from the industry, eventually forcing the prices of the product up still further as it becomes increasingly scarce. The consumer suffers.

Only a free market which can continuously and immediately react to the supply and demand factors will really stabilise an industry so that it is able to produce the goods at a price which the consumer is prepared to pay. If a Federal Government committed to an anti-Socialist policy is elected at the forthcoming elections, it is hoped that it will take immediate steps to discontinue Australia's participation in socialistic practices, which, if persisted with, must lead inevitably to the complete Monopoly State.

The Post-J.O. Scheme

A lively meeting took place at Katanning on Friday night, when opposition to the proposed post-Joint Organisation wool scheme was expressed by speakers from the West Australian League of Rights.

The speakers on behalf of the league were Messrs. J. Weller and V. James. Mr. Weller said last night that they had addressed the meeting on "The World Communist Conspiracy," and had spoken against the post-J.O. wool scheme as a step towards socialisation.

After they had spoken, he said, the meeting was thrown open to questions, and for nearly 1½ hours he and Mr. James were questioned, principally on the wool scheme. Among members of the audience who took part in the questioning were the president of the Australian Wool and Meat Producers' Federation (Mr. F. E. Hitchens), the president of the wool section of the Farmers' Union, (Mr. C. B. Ball), and Mr. H. L. Roche, M.L.C.

—"West Australian," April 2.

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Mr. Menzies and Mr. Fadden Questioned on Price Subsidies

The Decentralising Anti-Bureaucrat Association, Sydney, has forwarded to Mr. Menzies and Mr. Fadden the following letter on Price Subsidies and the coming Federal Elections:

Dear Sir,

(1) In relation to the forth-coming elections, this Association is desirous that it may be in a position to advise its members and supporters (who are scattered over the whole of Australia), how best they may cast their votes so as to promote the objectives of this Association.

(2) We are deeply concerned with the failure of the out-going Government to make any effective move to honour its pre-election promise "To put the shillings back into the pound". But we are more particularly concerned with its failure to apply PRICE SUBSIDIES to attain this end, again in accordance with its pre-election promise.

(3) The impression has, unfortunately, gained ground among our members, rightly or wrongly, that your pre-election policy of PRICE SUBSIDY, was frowned upon by certain Bureaucrats and Government "Advisers", and that these frowns chilled your ardour for this technique to stabilise prices — a technique practised with the greatest success, and on the widest scale, both by Australia and by Great Britain, during the war.

(4) If you have any matter to communicate to this Association which will help us to dissipate this unfortunate impression, we will be glad to receive it, so that we may early inform our members and supporters, of any renewed hope we may have of yet seeing PRICE SUBSIDY applied by your hand; or, on the other hand, that

you have no intention of honouring your previous promise re the application of PRICE SUBSIDIES.

(5) We would prefer that any reply you care to make will be brief and to the point, as we do not propose to communicate lengthy statements to our members and supporters. We would, therefore, appreciate it if you would specifically exclude from such communication, reference to the following, i.e.:

(a) Frustration your Government has suffered at the hands of the Senate;

(b) Industrial sabotage.

For our part, we find it difficult to believe that these have any relation to your failure to establish PRICE SUBSIDIES.

(6) Will you permit me to add that members of this Association generally, were gratified to note your strong endeavour to destroy the Communist Organisation in Australia. But we cannot help feeling that the overt Organisation, though it has been most destructive in achieving industrial disruption, is not nearly so potent for our undoing as are UNDER-COVER Communists, who operate from places of influence. In this connection we have only to recall the experiences of U.S.A.

(7) It would appear to be fair to inform you that in the absence of an early and satisfactory reply from you, many of our members and supporters will find themselves in a difficult position as to casting of their votes, for the following reasons, i.e.:

(a) Having in mind the action of the Labour Government in drastically reducing PRICE SUBSIDIES, they will find themselves unable to vote for Labour Candidates (unless there is a complete reversal of form in this matter).

(b) If the unfortunate impression remains that the last Government disregarded its pre-election promise re PRICE SUBSIDIES, and subordinated itself to certain bureaucrats, then they will be very unwilling again to support candidates who failed to articulate themselves, and continued their support for such Government.

(8) Faced with such an impasse, many of our members and supporters will have no other option than to make a DELIBERATE INFORMAL VOTE. By such negative action they will at least refuse to accept responsibility for men who fail to fulfill their true office, that of REPRESENTATIVE.

(9) Hoping that you will be able to give us a satisfactory reply, and that the next administration will give us PRICE SUBSIDIES,

Yours faithfully,

K. MARLOW, Hon. Sec.

P.S.: I am proposing to give wide circulation to this letter, together with any letters received in reply.

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