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SIXPENCE WEEKLY.

REVIEW OF THE CRISIS

By B. Jensen

As we enter the month of August — so fateful in the history of International Affairs— there is a general feeling that a decisive "show-down" may not be long delayed, and a hope, amongst some, that the long period of perpetual British withdrawal from world leadership which began in 1917, is coming to an end.

The U.S.-directed U.N.O. war in Korea, which was conclusively to vindicate the doctrine that Collective Action involving surrender of National Sovereignty alone can deal with the menace of aggression by Collectivised States, has lasted a year and cost a million lives. "Korea" is beginning to fade away from the headlines but the word and fact of aggression is as topical as ever.

The dangers of peace are clearly perceived by all the politicians — and all the editors — who agree with Mr. Eden that "Korea" has been a "most valuable experiment," and for more than a year all our politicians have agreed with all our economists that rearmament must have priority "owing to events in Korea."

When Mr. R. R. Stokes (now of the Labour Front Bench) the other day held out hopes that a cease-fire in Korea might lessen the importance of the "rearmament programme," and allowed his audience to draw the conclusion that the day might come when the desires of the individual consumers would again be considered, he was promptly rebuked by the leading politicians and the National Press, who deemed such sentiments to be entirely premature. For more than thirty years, it has been premature in Soviet Russia to hope for an easing of the armament burden, and in Hitler's Germany no one was so foolish as publicly to express a desire for more butter and less heavy industry.

But, fortunately for our rearmament enthusiasts in the parties and editorial chairs, there is "Persia," there is "Egypt," to say nothing of "Israel."

In Persia there would seem to be two (if indeed they are separate) powers, which are likely to benefit from another British withdrawal. From a recent Debate on the Persian crisis in the House of Commons, it emerged that our troubles there had been if not engineered, at least helped along by the intrigues of the emissaries of certain U.S. oil interests and by the activities of a local secret murder-society. At the same time we learn from the Jewish Chronicle that a liquidation of the British-created Abadan oil fields and refineries would tend to en-

hance the importance of the "Israel"-controlled Haifa refineries which have been idle since 1948, when the British withdrew and left the field open for the Russo-American-Jewish conquest of Palestine.

It is interesting that Mr. Truman should have chosen Mr. Averell Harriman to smooth out the difficulties which have arisen between the British and the Persians, for Mr. Harriman, Sen., was the "Gentile front" of Kuhn Loeb and Co., the Wall Street firm which was instrumental in financing the Jewish conquest of Russia (1917) and of America (from 1933 onwards). It is reported (July 23) that certain U.S. oil companies are prepared to fill the vacuum that may be created by a complete withdrawal of British directors and technicians.

Equally revealing was the report in the early part of July that the news of Mr. Harriman's departure for Persia had the immediate effect of making the leaders of the British Conservative Party withdraw their demand for another Debate on the Persian Oil question. Mr. Bernard Mannes Baruch of Washington and Wall Street is in Europe for talks with Mr. McCloy (formerly of the U.S. Treasury, and the U.N. world bank, and at the moment U.S. High Commissioner for Germany); with General "Ike" Eisenhower (who believes in a world government "backed by a police force stronger than any nation or combination of nations") and, last but not least, with Mr. Winston Churchill (whose Party is "prepared to consider and if convinced, to concede abrogation of National Sovereignty").

Considering all these things there can be little doubt that Mr. Harriman's efforts will be crowned with the success which the British National Press prophesy for them, and that the word "Persia" may also, in its turn, disappear from the headlines. . . But then there is Egypt. Our contretemps in the Suez zone and our difficulties with the Egyptians generally may also have more to do with oil and Israel than appears on the surface. Egypt, though not strictly an Arab country, is a leading member of the Arab League, which organised the military resistance to the Russo-American-Jewish invasion of Palestine in 1948, and directs the present economic blockade against "Israel." That the modern Israelis who saw the Egyptian armies take the field against them in 1948 and who are constantly told of oil tankers en route for Haifa being stopped by the Egyptian authorities should have come to regard the King of Egypt and his government as their

chief enemy (another example of how "history" repeats itself) is understandable enough.

Egypt is perhaps the most important link in the chain of enemies, which, according to the Hebrew Press in Israel, the Yiddish Press in the U.S.A. and the Zionist-controlled world press, everywhere surround the "youngest democracy" in the Middle East.

It is therefore with some surprise that a special correspondent of the Jewish Chronicle (July 6, 1951) in an article entitled Egyptian Enigma has to admit that for the Jews of Egypt life seems to go on

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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,

REVIEW OF THE CRISIS

(Continued from page 1)

much as always. Not only are there no visible signs of persecution but His Eminence, the Chief Rabbi of Egypt, Haim Nahoum Effendi "who has held that important office for some thirty years since relinquishing the Chief Rabbinate of the Ottoman Empire, will assure the visitor that the Jewish Community is getting along nicely."

We learn that the worldly leader of the Jewish Community is the owner of a flourishing department-store; that the leading Jewish bankers and lawyers pursue their avocations unmolested, and that the Jew, Mizrahi Pasha, who is legal adviser to the Royal Household, was recently decorated with the highest honour in the land. Amongst the intimate friends and gambling partners of Pharaoh there are several Jews "who are active in the community."

If to this we add that the Egyptian import-export trade is largely in the hands of the leading Sephardi families of Cairo and Alexandria, and remember that Cairo for thousands of years has been the centre of secret societies and schismatic sects while Alexandria in the first centuries of our era played the same part as a clearing house of currencies and cultures as does New York of the 20th century, we are in a better position to take a detached view of the Egyptian phase of the continuous and spreading world crisis. As always, a perusal of the Zionist (for Jews only) Press furnishes facets of the political picture lacking in our popular (for Gentiles chiefly) National Press according to which modern Egypt is a young upstart cheekily twisting the tail of the ageing British lion. The Diplomatic Correspondent of the Jewish Chronicle writes in an article, Britain and Egypt (July 6, 1951) as follows:—

"The Egyptian Foreign Minister has told the Senate that under the newly ratified Arab League Pact, Egypt's neighbours would be bound to support that country should a state of war with Britain be proclaimed....

"It is evident from the newly concluded sterling agreement with Egypt that the Government sticks obstinately to its own course of appeasing Cairo by financial concessions. If it were intended to apply financial pressure, this would have been the moment. In fact, Egypt was granted a further large amount, without any political conditions whatever. The Egyptian threat to abrogate the treaty and proclaim a state of war if Britain does not evacuate the Canal Zone is not as hollow as it sounds. There is of course no question of open clashes, but the Egyptians calculate that they can make things so uncomfortable for the British that the Americans will feel compelled to step in — as they have done in Persia—with compromise proposals amounting to a partial acceptance of the Egyptian demands.

"At the very least, it is reckoned, this will curtail any British action designed to overawe Egypt. In due course, thereafter, the Persian maneuver would be repeated

and the British forced to leave by an accumulation of threats and provocations — possibly including terrorist acts — leading to a state of tension with the Americans all the time counselling patience.

"Subsequently Egypt could afford to offer military facilities to the West on her own terms. These would certainly include complete control of the Suez Canal by Egypt. The present blockade, though ostensibly directed against Israel, is of course primarily designed to assert Egypt's Sovereignty over the Canal, and to lead to the eventual abrogation of the Canal Convention.

"All this depends upon how far the British Government is prepared to give way. The evidence suggests that Mr. Morrison and his advisers, after their experience in Persia, are even less inclined to be firm with Egypt . . ."

Thus we see that Mr. Morrison who has always paid suitable tribute to Zionist aims and ideals (and never, like his robust predecessor, Mr. Bevin, done anything to incur the hatred of organised World Jewry) and his more or less hidden "advisers" are pursuing the now traditional "Labour" policy of appeasement of Britain's enemies, withdrawal from British spheres of influence and liquidation of British prestige.

We are soon, however, to be offered the "Conservative" Party as an alternative to Mr. Morrison and his colleagues. But to all intents and purposes we have been subjected to a "bipartisan" foreign policy since 1940 when Messrs. Churchill and Eden came to power with the assistance of their "Labour" colleagues. It is difficult to see what difference the occupation by the Zionist Mr. Eden ("Korea has been a wonderful experiment") of the ministerial desk in the Foreign Office in lieu of the Zionist Mr. Morrison ("Socialist Britain will show the way to world peace") would have made to the series of well-planned crises described above. Can anybody imagine Mr. Eden, the perfect Etonian and our notorious Soviet Foreign Minister from 1940-45, would be capable of giving a true British bias to the Egyptian developments adumbrated in the illuminating passage quoted above? Is there any member of either Front Bench possessed of the backbone necessary to upset the Zionist time-table discernible in the following extracts:—

Firstly, there is the Zionist Jew, Mr. T. R. Fyvel, dealing with events of 1935 in No Ease in Zion:—"The prevailing optimism found its voice in the new Zionist leader, Ben Gurion, the Chairman of the Jewish Agency Executive. Ben Gurion . . . grew messianic. His office room in the Jewish Agency became filled with maps not only of Palestine, but of the whole Middle East, from the Red Sea to the Persian Gulf."

At the Zionist Congress in 1935, Mr. Ben Gurion laid down a ten-year plan for the immigration of one million Jewish families. Mr. Ben Gurion is today Prime Minister of Israel and his government pursues the so-called policy of the "ingathering of the exiles" which is fast transforming Jewish Palestine into a Monster Ghetto teeming with the revolutionary proletarians of the Ghettos of Europe, Asia and the Middle East.

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Secondly—"Maybe the Israelis may have to give the Arabs another lesson and cut through their forces again like a knife through hot butter. Only this time the pleas of the United Nations will not deter them. They will shoot their way clear into Beirut, Amman and Alexandria." The words are those of Mr. Emmanuel Celler, doyen of U.S. Congressmen and a veteran Zionist. Thirdly:—(Douglas Reed: Somewhere South of Suez, p. 301):—"In 'Colonial Office policy,' however, the workings of those stealthy and invisible influences may be traced which operate through the apparent wielders of political power. Under

(Continued on page 5)

The People's Union and Communism

Mr. L. S. Bull's Resignation

Mr. L. S. Bull, ex-Chairman of the People's Union of N.S.W., has asked us to publish the following letter in order that Sydney "New Times" readers who have followed his work over the years will understand that he is not associating himself with a "Yes" vote as advocated by the People's Union at the Referendum!

The Administrator,
The People's Union,
SYDNEY.

Dear Mr. Hebblewhite,

I was greatly shocked to learn in our recent telephone conversation that you decided to proceed with a "yes" campaign without further reference to the Management Committee. I am strongly opposed to a "yes" vote because the powers sought—

1. are wrong in principle,
2. will not advance the People's Union objective of defeating Communism,
3. will further Communist policy,
4. will increase the powers of the central government at the expense of the sovereignty of the States,
5. weaken the constitutional safeguards to individual freedom and thereby endanger the liberty of the subject.

It is axiomatic that "right objectives cannot be achieved by wrong methods." The most that could be achieved by carrying the referendum would be to prevent a few known Communists from being officers in trade unions. The individuals concerned may not enjoy the procedure but from the point of view of high Communist policy, it is surely a bargain price for such major assistance in their policy towards complete centralisation of power in Australia.

Why is it that the only referenda ever submitted to the Australian people is for increasing the powers of the Central Government at the expense of the States? By carrying the 1928 referendum the people surrendered their powers to raise loans in their respective States. Ever since we have witnessed the annual humiliating pilgrimage of the State Governments to the Loan Council for a "hand-out" of loan money generally inadequate for State development. In 1942

Dr. Evatt carried the process a stage further by introducing the Uniform Tax measure. Since the passing of that Act by the Labour Government our once proud and sovereign State has had to go cap in hand to an invariably stingy Federal Treasurer and beg for enough of its own tax money to carry on the functions of the State. These observations are not new. You have used them yourself in support of every "No" campaign since the inauguration of the People's Union.

Under the slogan "Hands off the Constitution" both you and I have, in the past, lustily proclaimed the Constitution to "be the bulwark of Australian Freedom — the stumbling block of Socialists and Communists alike"—why make a volte-face now?

Had it not been for the Australian Constitution our Municipalities would have lost the right to choose their own bankers. Indeed, had it not been for the Australian Constitution, the banks would have been completely socialised. Time and again the sovereignty of the State, the survival of Institutions and the freedom and fortune of persons has been preserved by the Federal nature of our Australian Constitution — Then why tamper with such a priceless vehicle for preserving freedom?

After all you don't need to change the Constitution to deal with Communists or anybody else who commits treason or offends against the laws of the land. Sharkey and Healy know that now. It did not require a constitutional amendment to put those two Communists into jail.

But if you want to make a special law to prohibit a particular group of people from engaging in a stated form of activity then the power to do that resides in the States. Mr. Menzies has said, in effect, to the States, "you must give that power to me and if you don't I shall ask the people to give it to me over your heads." It was wrong of Mr. Menzies to make that request and doubly remiss to make it under what comes dangerously close to duress. The States, quite rightly, have refused to refer that power and I am confident the people will not be so foolish as to cede it, not merely to Mr. Menzies but to every Prime Minister that follows him.

Only a socialist would ask for these powers. But Mr. Menzies forewarned the people in plain words that they will find he is "an amazingly practical socialist" and he is certainly keeping his word.

The People's Union has done a good job to date in its opposition to Communism. In the process it has contributed notably to the preservation of Federalism in Australia. It could add further to that contribution and

give impetus to its anti-Communist campaign by campaigning for appropriate State Government action.

The effect of such action would be to reverse the points enumerated at the beginning of this letter, namely to—

1. Conform to correct principles,
2. Advance the People's Union objective of defeating Communism—without ceding any ground to the "enemy,"
3. Strengthen the State Government in its sovereignty if it acts against the Communists or to contribute to its defeat if it fails so to act,
4. Preserve the constitutional safeguards to personal freedom.

However, as I have been unsuccessful in my endeavours to induce you to abandon what I am convinced is gravely mistaken policy I am left with no alternative than to resign from the People's Union.

It is with deep regret that I thus sever political relationships with you and our mutual colleagues but you will appreciate that failure on my part to dissociate myself completely from the "yes" campaign may be misleading to a not inconsiderable personal following and for that reason this letter will be released for publication.

Yours sincerely,

(Sgd.) L. S. BULL.

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THE REFERENDUM

There should be no need to stress this journal's strong opposition to Communism. But it is because we are opposed to the collectivist philosophy that we find ourselves opposed to increasing the powers of the Federal Government at the coming Referendum. For some time past we have felt that too many leading Members of the Federal Government have been more interested in Communism as a political issue to be exploited in attempting to cover up their failures and broken promises, than in genuinely opposing the collectivist philosophy underlying Communism. One cynic has remarked that the only reason he can put forward for a "Yes" vote, is that it would deprive the Government of its principal alibi for not dealing with inflation and associated problems. But it is interesting to note that Mr. Menzies is now blaming the Communists less than previously for inflation, which he now claims is "world wide" and it is therefore "inevitable."

In our last issue we published an article by a contributor drawing attention to the fact that wording of the proposed constitutional amendment suggests that the Commonwealth is seeking a blanket power which could be used to weaken other portions of the Constitution. Dr. Evatt attempted this very thing early in his campaign for increased powers during the war years. We are not constitutional lawyers, but we can state it as a fact that a number of Liberal Party Members are privately gravely concerned about advice they have received from constitutional authorities. We can also state that a number of Liberal Members of Parliament are privately advocating a "No" vote.

We have not seen one sound reason advanced by the Federal Constitution, which should be weakened in order to deal with the Communist conspiracy. The Government has not even made one genuine attempt to use any of the powers it has to curb the activities of the Communist conspirators. Worse still, it is at the very time it claims it is concerned about Communism, intensifying policies, which further the collectivist menace. It talks about defence while it actively undermines the basic defences of the community against Communist ideology. It is in the hands of the Socialist planners, and we are not prepared to accept their direction in any campaign to defeat Communism.

A "No" vote at the Referendum will not mean, as some shallow and slightly hysterical people claim that the Communists can go ahead with their treasonable activities without the Commonwealth and the State Governments being able to take action against them. A "No" vote at the Referendum will be a specific instruction to Mr. Menzies that, while the electors are desirous that Communism shall be defeated, they do not propose to permit their constitutional safeguards to be weakened in the process. We believe that a "Yes" vote will encourage the Government to continue with its totalitarian "Defence" Preparations Act, its proposed higher taxation, and other acts of aggression against the independence of the individual.

Communism can only be defeated by a genuinely free and independent people. There are far too many who claim they are anti-Communist while they actively assist in pro-Communist activities.

Taxation by Stealth

In all the circumstances is it to be expected that employees of today will accept a reduction from the contents of their weekly envelopes?

If not, it would appear that increased wages will be necessary to set off against increased taxation. This, together with the proposed increase in company tax, would add further to the costs of production and assist the progress of inflation.

Under the present deceptive and almost painless method of taxation by proxy, the average employee is not encouraged to budget for payment of taxes with which he is not directly concerned.

It is understandable therefore that he should reckon his income as being the amount actually received, particularly as the employer has the responsibility of calculating and recording weekly deductions and affixing the required tax stamps.

Thus, the locus of tax obligation is artfully hidden, and it follows that the net contents of pay envelopes become the main consideration in determining a remuneration, which will satisfy employees. Consequently, as taxes increase, employing business must absorb the costs of higher wages, and higher prices are the inevitable result.

—"D.B." in Melbourne Age, July 24.

SOCIAL CREDIT VERSUS COMMUNISM

As events force more and more responsible members of the community to turn to Social Crediters for advice concerning Communism, it is appropriate to recall that some years ago, Dr. Hewlett Johnston, Dean of Canterbury, said that Molotov had told him personally that he and his fellow Communists knew all about Social Credit and that it was the only thing they feared.

"NEW TIMES" ANNUAL DINNER

We draw our readers' attention to the fact that the "New Times" Annual Dinner for this year will be held on Friday, September 21, at the Victoria Palace, Little Collins Street, Melbourne. As the Dinner is being held during Show Week, we anticipate that our country friends who are down for the Show will avail themselves of the opportunity of meeting one another and their Melbourne colleagues. Last year's Dinner was an outstanding success, with "New Times" supporters from nearly all States present. We anticipate that this year's Dinner will be even better.

In order that catering and other important arrangements can be made well in advance, all those desirous of attending the Dinner are urged to communicate with Mr. R. H. Weller, c/o Box 1226L., immediately. Please help us to make this important event a success by booking a seat early. If any supporters desire to sit together as a party at the Dinner, appropriate arrangements can be made.

REVIEW OF THE CRISIS

(Continued from page 2)

Socialism, 'Colonial Office policy' is a product of the mysterious Fabian Society in London, in which Communist, Political Zionist and alien influences generally are strong; that is to say it is not a body qualified to uphold British interests in Africa or anywhere. The Fabians . . . are zealous for 'African freedom and self-expression' . . . and in effect their work would lead to the self-surrender or exclusion of the white man in or from Africa. That would be something in the line of the expansion of the Communist Empire, and erection of the Zionist State."

Fourthly (Truth, June 1, 1951):—"Colonel Israel Somen, M.B.E., has been on a recent visit to London on behalf of the Nairobi City Council. Colonel Somen, besides being the Chairman of that Body's Finance Committee, is Chairman of the Board for Kenya Jewry and Honorary Consul for the East African territories. He said (to a Press Conference)—

"Kenya is most important to the Jewish State, for not only is Nairobi a transit station on the air-route, Lydda-Johannesburg, but Kenya can become the emporium for Israel . . ."

To sum up: if and when the King of Egypt ("Pharaoh" to "Israel") once again as in 1948, decides to march against the turbulent sons of Israel and the "Israeli" armies begin to shoot their way through the forces of Egypt "like hot butter" there will be no British force in the Canal Zone to prevent them from pursuing "the enemy" down through the African continent, swelling their cadres with the most promising recruits from the ghettos they pass, and liberating the black majorities suffering under White European supremacy. If past revolutionary history is anything to go by, there will be impromptu executions of the white leaders (which will be duly regretted as inevitable excesses connected with democratic expansion by our politicians at home), there will be unaccountable surrenders of "enemy" strongholds (which will prove to our parliamentarians the inherent strength of democratic revolutionary movements), there will be helpful mayors advised by Zionist experts and co-operative chieftains and potentates served by Jewish legalists, doctors and financiers, and as the frontiers of the Kingdom of Judah ("democracy" to Westminster) expand and the Shield of David everywhere (as in the U.S. Sixth Army) becomes the official badge of power and glory, the members of His Majesty's Government and Opposition will talk loudly about inevitable historical trends, and the British genius for compromise and decentralisation.

But there are, fortunately, still the backbenches. There is the honourable and gallant gentleman (Major Legge-Bourke, M.P.) whose statesmanlike speeches will be quoted long after the verbiage of the one-world-peace-government men will have been forgotten, and who, when he found that words of warning had no effect on the talkers-in-chief, tossed a coin to Mr. Morrison with the implicit request that he change his tune, and who then had the gratification of being sent out of the House by Mr. Speaker. And

That Defence Preparations Bill

Below is a typical letter received by A.C.M.A. following the passage of the "Defence Preparations" Bill and the economic policy it foreshadowed:

"The high-handed attitude of the Government in its attempt to introduce what amounts to wholesale prohibition of so-called "unessential" goods will cause ruination of manufacturers and retailers as well. This type of ruthless discrimination of manufacturers of cultural goods, which have taken colossal sums of money to develop, as well as time to perfect, will not only cause ruination and chaos to manufacturers and retail selling and servicing organisations, but will throw thousands of employers and employees in these industries out of work. This result will inevitably precipitate a depression which once started will run its course.

"For your own information I would advise you that in company with our factory manager I arranged to call at Garden Island to see what defence work was available, so that we might immediately swing over part of our factory to Naval contracts. Our appointment was between eleven and twelve o'clock in the morning, and not only were no defence contracts available, but no work of any consequence was going on by men on the Island. I never heard any noise or noticed any activity whatever in the blacksmith or sheet metal shops, as far as I could see no machinery was in use at all. There were many men standing about but there was no effort on anyone's part to shake off the languor from which the majority of Australian workmen employed by the Government seem to suffer.

"I propose that a suggestion be put to the Government that instead of stifling industry of any description, that a request should be made that a minimum of 25% of every factory's capacity be given over to defence work. If industry is not behind the Government, which, after all it has no reason to be, when eliminating controls are introduced by it, there seems little hope of a satisfactory defence programme being carried out. Under this suggestion some firms would, no doubt, be prepared to take more defence contracts up to probably 75 or 100% of their capacity, but there are hundreds and thousands of men and women

there are others, less bold perhaps, but equally rebellious, one of whom has suggested that the legal machinery for dealing with High Treason be examined and made up-to-date. Another may one day point to the fact that the House of Commons is only a part (and not the most important) of the British Constitution, and a third make bold to demand an Inquiry into the effect on this same ancient Constitution of the all-pervasive modernistic-materialist influences centering in the U.S.A., which may be read as Universal Administration of the Synagogues.

—The Social Creditor (England), August 11, 1951.

employed in the manufacturing and retail industries of so-called "unessential" goods, which in fact are labour-saving appliances. Any strangulation of these industries will cause a resentment that will not augur well for a defence programme.

"If manufacturers knew that they are required to take on defence contracts, I am sure they would be quite prepared to do so, but as far as I can gather there is no defence work available, which means that after the Government has succeeded in closing down factories that produce these so-called "unessential" goods, they must go out of business, as they could not retain their employees without work for them to do. I suggest that a good place for the Government to start on would be their own defence establishments and concentrate more on making defence work available to manufacturers before taking any action that will put them out of business in the meantime. If employees are paid off by manufacturers they will not vacate their homes in search of so-called more essential industries elsewhere. They probably will engage in totally unproductive occupations within reach of their homes."

—Canberra Letter, August 15.

Contracting Out

The following letter to the Editor appeared in "The Sydney Morning Herald," July 17, 1951:—

Sir, —On Friday, July 13th, I resigned from the Liberal Party.

Six years ago I joined it to fight Socialism and government by regimentation. After the happenings in Canberra over the last few days, I can no longer have confidence in the party's leadership. They are acting in a manner contrary to my deepest convictions.

That we should prepare ourselves for war I sincerely believe. I believe, in addition, that a free people can arm themselves and fight better than a nation of slaves. Without liberty, there is little to fight for. I believe that, with a free economy and a free people, we can have butter, guns, and liberty. A regimented society offers us only guns.

I oppose government by civil servants and Ministers. Such methods strike at the taproots of our parliamentary institutions. To Mr. Menzies's advocacy, I answer in the words of a greater parliamentary leader: "Necessity is the plea for every infringement of human freedom; it is the argument of tyrants, the creed of slaves." England had been fighting Napoleon alone for ten years when the Prime Minister said these words. But Pitt was a Tory, not a Liberal.

—J. G. PATERSON,

Past-President, Mosman Branch,
Mosman.

Liberal Party.

"New Times," August 31, 1951-Page 5



By J. T. McCONACHIE, Horticultural Inspector, Department of Agriculture, Auckland.

In 1943, when organic fertilisers were in short supply, Mr. D. D. Gill, of Te Atatu, some three miles from Henderson, Auckland, began the collection of a very small proportion of the organic waste products available in Auckland City, and established a composting project.

That a wide range of organic materials can be successfully composted is shown by the following list of waste products now collected from various parts of Auckland City to form the basis of the project described in this article.

From breweries: Spent hops, sweepings from floors of malt houses, and used filter pads that are used in filtering liquor. From flour mills: The variety of waste products is considerable and comprises the residue that remains after the processing of wheat and oats in the production of flour, oatmeal, bran, pollard, etc., together with used and damaged bags and sacks, cartons, and general floor sweepings.

From condiment and fruit-processing firms: Peanut husks and sweepings and the residue of ginger, cloves, garlic, tomato, and other vegetables after processing.

From coffee manufacturers: Spent coffee beans and chicory.

From fish merchants: Fish bones, heads, tails, and offal.

From sawmills: Sawdust and shavings from all classes of timber, both native and imported.

Handling Material:

The method of composting adopted is similar in principle to that employed in the garden compost heap; the various types of materials are placed in a series of layers, the depth of which is regulated in accordance with nature of the materials used. The more bulky and open-textured materials are placed in layers varying in depth from 12 to 18 in., while those which are more compact and have a higher moisture content are placed in layers of 2 in. or less deep.

Despite the huge quantities of materials used, every endeavour has been made to provide throughout the essential features necessary for the successful functioning of the fungi and bacteria that work upon the materials used, and in doing so, transform them from their raw condition into one that, when applied to soils, becomes a first-rate source of humus in a suitable state for

assimilation by plants. Essentials are air, moisture, and heat.

Air is provided by ensuring that bulky materials form the base of the heaps, and during the process of heap construction, no pressure is applied that would restrict the movement of air throughout the materials. Upon the completion of heaps, open vents are provided to allow the escape of gases that are generated during the process. Careful consideration is given to the order in which the various materials are used, so that the correct moisture content is obtained in the heaps, as no suitable water supply is available for moistening dry materials as could be done with home garden compost heaps.

The combination of materials results in fermentation and this is accompanied by heat of varying degrees. It is now known that the many species of fungi and bacteria present in compost heaps require varying degrees of temperature for their development, some forms being present fairly early in the process of decomposition (when temperatures are highest), to be followed later by those existing during the later stages of decomposition, when temperatures are considerably lower.

First Heaps:

The first heap was built on the ground after the turf had been removed and consisted solely of farm wastes, comprising gorse, hedge clippings, stack bottoms, animal manure, and dead animals. This heap, when completed, was 60 cu. yds. The success of it led to the building of a second one, which was comprised of materials similar to those in the original heap with the addition of poultry manure and wastes from an Auckland brewery. The poultry manure was obtained from poultry farmers in the Henderson district, whose practice it was for many years, to use straw as litter in their poultry houses. Within a few weeks this straw litter would become heavily impregnated with poultry manure, which, because of its nitrogen content, is recognised as an excellent form of manure. In recent years a considerable number of poultry keepers have substituted sawdust or wood shavings for straw.

The poultry manure, when added to the heaps, provided the activator, which initiated the process of fermentation, with its accompanying rise in temperature, but it was noted that varying results were obtained, according to the nature of the litter used in the poultry houses. The strawy material

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LARGE-SCALE COMPOSTING

(Continued from page 6)

proved a rather poor activator, because it contained fewer poultry droppings and tended to pack down into a defined layer when other materials were added, thus impeding the free passage of air throughout the heaps. Although the sawdust litter was considered superior to the straw litter, best results were obtained when wood shavings had been used, as this material contained a higher content of poultry manure, having remained for a longer period in the poultry houses, and, because of its more open texture, it provided better aeration.

Demand for Compost:

As the demand for home gardeners for the finished compost increased, so did the size of the heaps built during 1944, and the range of waste products collected from the city was widened to include those from breweries, flour mills, sawmills, condiment factories, coffee manufacturers, and fish merchants.

Gorse as Base:

A feature of these heaps was gorse, obtained from roadsides and farm properties, some of the gorse waving stood 15 ft. high and with main stems as thick as a man's wrist. Gorse was used invariably to form the base of the heaps, having been placed to a depth of from 18 in. to 2 ft., to provide aeration to subsequent layers of materials, thus facilitating their decomposition. In forming the heaps care was taken to ensure that an even consistency of materials was maintained and dry materials such as sawdust and wheat and oat husks, were applied immediately following additions of moist materials such as spent hops or the moist residues obtained from condiment and fruit-processing firms.

No soil has been applied to any of the heaps constructed to date. Because of the huge quantities of soil that would be required for compost heaps of the dimensions

being built, it was impracticable to include soil in the list of materials used, but the omission of it was not considered to be of great significance owing to the wide range of other materials employed.

The dimensions of the largest heap upon completion were 250 ft. long, 30 ft. wide, and 10 ft. high.

Experimental Use of Night soil:

During the course of construction of this heap, 600 gallons of crude night-soil, which formed the collection made by a neighbouring local body, was added twice weekly for a period of 14 weeks during midsummer. Provision was made to prevent any fly nuisance or offensive odour arising from the use of this material, by covering it immediately with a deep layer of sawdust or other similar wastes arriving daily from the city. The addition of night-soil was an experiment, and was not continued after 14 weeks, as it was found impracticable to handle continuously the quantity arriving because of the inability to obtain, in the time available, sufficient quantities of sawdust or other suitable wastes to cover the night-soil satisfactorily.

It has been established that under normal conditions 1 cu. ft. of dry sawdust or similar material, is required to absorb 1 gallon of night soil satisfactorily for composting.

Trouble with Birds:

In the greater part of the largest heap, poultry manure was used as an activator, and within a short period the temperature within the heap was raised to a condition favourable for bacterial development in the breaking-down process. As this process advanced and a lowering of temperatures took place, large numbers of worms appeared in the heap, to which were then attracted sparrows and other birds which, in their efforts to find worms, broke down the top and sides of the heap to such an extent that some protection had to be given. For this purpose large gorse was spread over the top and sides of the heap, but the brush shelter proved only a temporary expedient. Because of this it was necessary later to introduce the pit system of composting with great success.

Turning the Heaps:

Within approximately six months from the time of completion of the heaps, they reached the stage for turning, and for this purpose a bulldozer was employed, but this method proved unsatisfactory, as it did not give the desired effect of permitting sufficient oxygen from the air to reach the bulk of the materials during turning, which is essential if the beneficial aerobic bacteria are to function successfully. Apart from turning, nothing was done to accelerate the maturing process, as time was not considered to be the major factor in the scheme, in which decomposition was allowed to operate naturally. (It is now the practice at some large-scale composting plants overseas, to introduce into heaps herbal extracts or bacterial cultures that set up an accelerated rate of decomposition, thus considerably reducing the time for the composting process.)

However, within about another three months from the turning operation, the compost had reached a condition suitable for

sale and, as a means of pulverising it to bring it into a fine granular condition to facilitate handling, a 5 h.p. tractor with rotary plough attachment was used. This was done by operating the tractor along the sides of the heaps, throwing the compost outwards, and eventually splitting each heap lengthwise into two heaps.

Pit Method:

By the end of 1946 the impracticability for large-scale composting of heaps built on ground level, largely because of the difficulty of successfully maintaining the sides of the heaps and also because of the bird nuisance, was realised. It was at this stage that a changeover to the pit system was made.

The size of the first two pits formed, were each 150 ft. long, 30 ft. wide, and 7 ft. deep. They were excavated by a bulldozer, and the soil removed was used to form built-up roadways between pits. From these roadways the raw composting materials arriving by lorry, are tipped directly into the pits. The floors of the pits have been formed so that access to the centre of the heaps is provided from either end, the purpose of which is described later. Each of the two pits when completely filled above the level of the roadway holds approximately 1,500 c. yds. of compost.

A similar process of decomposition to that of the surface heaps, has taken place within the pits, although it would have been accelerated had the contents been turned. Suitable machinery for this operation was not available until recently.

A third pit, 150 ft. long, 40 ft. wide, and 7 ft. deep, was formed later. It holds approximately 2,500 cu. yds. of compost. One of its notable ingredients is the garbage collected from householders in the New Lynn district, situated approximately 5 miles from Te Atatu. Approximately 10 cu. yds. of garbage is collected by the New Lynn Council and is delivered to the composting pits twice weekly, but with the closer settlement now taking place in the district the quantity of garbage collected is rapidly increasing. The types of ingredients that form the collection are varied and comprise household garbage, floor sweepings, garden weeds, and wastes, old clothing and footwear, together with inert bodies unsuitable for composting. Tins, bottles, etc., have to be extracted by hand, and as these accumulate they are dumped well away from the composting site, as their presence in the compost would lead to damage to turning and grinding machinery.

The presence of foreign bodies in household garbage deserves consideration by those local bodies that make or intend to make collections of household garbage for composting. Householders also should remember that only materials of an organic nature are acceptable.

Unless careful attention is given to the provision of adequate covering on surface heaps, it is difficult to control evaporation, fly breeding, and other nuisances, and for this reason, where large quantities of materials are employed, the pit system of composting is superior to surface heaps.

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Large - Scale Composting

(Continued from page 7)

Improved Method of Turning:

In 1949 a mobile crane was purchased to turn the surface heaps and to load the mature compost on to lorries when bulk orders are supplied. During loading, turning, and unloading, the compost is exposed to the air for a short time, thus permitting the oxygen in the air to enter it and to stimulate the aerobic bacteria, which results in acceleration of the decomposition of the materials. For turning the compost in the pits, the crane enters at one end of a pit and works with a half-circle movement, progressively along the full length of the pit until all the contents are turned. The width of the pits (30 and 40 ft.) allows operation of a turning crane within them.

Pulverising Matured Compost:

A grinder was purchased for pulverising the matured compost in preparation for bagging or distribution in bulk lots; the grinder is driven by a 10 h.p. petrol motor turning at 1,750 revolutions per minute, and

consists of a series of revolving cutters which mills the compost into fine particles and throws it outward into a container from which it is bagged or loaded on to lorries.

To avoid having to fill the bags by the use of shovels, as at present, it is intended to fit an attachment to the grinder from which all bags will be filled directly; this will speed up the rate of filling considerably. Although it is recognised that dead animals form valuable ingredients in large compost heaps, trouble was experienced through the large animal bones clogging the jaws of the crane bucket, and also the cutters of the grinder, and because of this only small dead animals are now placed in the pits.

Storage and Distribution:

A large shed (30 ft. long, 40 ft. wide, with 12 ft. studs) with a 10 ft. wide roadway down the centre has been erected for the storage of some of the matured compost. On both sides of the shed, compost is stored as high as the roof, only sufficient space being reserved at one end for the grinder, which can be operated during fine or wet weather to keep a steady supply of finished compost on hand ready for distribution at short notice. The mature compost may be described as a friable, deep chocolate coloured, sweet-smelling earthy substance which, when applied to soils aids considerably in keeping them in good heart. Compost should be considered of value more as a soil conditioner than as a fertiliser, which is always considered in terms of its chemical analysis. A few of the principal qualities of good compost are that, following its use the general fertility of soils is increased, it assists cultivation because the mechanical and physical conditions of soils are improved, aeration and drainage are improved, and the moisture-holding capacity of soils is increased and soil erosion checked. Essentials for Large-scale Composting:

Considerable improvements could be made upon the present methods of large-scale composting. The essentials are: —

1. Necessity for planning the layout to suit the locality as well as quantity and types of materials to be used.

2. Mechanisation wherever possible,
3. Facilities for drying matured compost before pulverising and bagging it.
4. Provision of suitable buildings for storage of matured compost awaiting distribution.

The composting system described, clearly demonstrates how animal and vegetable wastes have been successfully employed to produce a product of value to the horticultural and farming industry. The principles of this project have been adopted by other individuals and a few local bodies for the composting of town wastes and garbage. As time proceeds and more suitable machinery is designed for this class of work, greater improvements in methods of large-scale composting will, no doubt, be made.

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