

THE NEW TIMES

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SIXPENCE WEEKLY

An Important Letter to Sir Edmund Herring A Comment on "The Call"

We recommend to the close study of all Australians concerned about the preservation of their Christian and British heritage, the following letter by our Sydney contributor, Mr. John Macara, to Sir Edmund Herring, one of the principal sponsors of "The Call":

Eminent Sir,

As one who is deeply concerned as a witness of the rapid decay of moral values, It is with deep gratification that I note from your remarks, as reported in "The Sydney Sun" of yesterday's date, that you are prepared to throw the great weight of prestige which accrues to you from the occupation of your high office, against the continued social disintegration of which the decay of moral values is one symptom.

As one who has thought long and deeply about this matter, will you, sir, permit me humbly to submit the following: —

A nation is an ORGANIC structure. Like the family, it is not homogeneous. In the family there is graded capacity, and graded responsibility. So is it in the nation —in society; there are seniors and juniors —there are those of high intelligence, and there are those of lesser; there are those of outstanding integrity, with high moral values and unflinching rectitude of conduct —and there are those of lesser.

In a family, where there is moral turpitude, we hold the parents primarily responsible.

A high and compelling sense of moral values does not spring spontaneously from a vacuum; it is the fruit of a long line of cultural development. Where it is found in a family, we may assuredly look for its developing roots in a long line of parental succession. Moral values are like water, in that they flow from higher levels to lower levels.

Hence, in the family, moral values are inculcated by example and by training, from the TOP, and percolate downwards; and in society there is no exception to this rule. Therefore, we cannot reasonably expect of the so-called lower orders, that they maintain a higher level of morality than those placed in position of power and authority.

Moral health originates at higher levels, as also does moral decay. If, therefore, we find moral decay seeping into our lower levels, and we are genuinely concerned in the arresting of its progress, we must attack such decay at its source, i.e., among

those exercising power and authority in our community,

If the foregoing principles be sound (and I believe they are unassailable), they must form the foundation of any genuine effort to ameliorate our woeful condition.

If our moral decay is to be arrested, it will be by ACTION — action at the higher levels—action, which is bold and courageous.

The rank-and-file are sick unto death of the disorder and frustration, which inevitably follow moral decay, and they can be utterly relied upon to give the fullest support to true leadership, when it emerges.

But those who aspire to lead must have something more to give than words and exhortations. The rank and file has had their fill of these. If the sponsors of the "CALL" lack the zeal which inspires courageous action, then it were better that they had held their peace; for words without action will only the more rapidly promote the forces of disintegration.

The sponsors must be of the calibre of the prophets of old, fearless in their exposure of corruption — the higher the office, the more uncompromising must be

Balance

Personally, I believe in Balance, for ours is a Trinitarian and balanced faith. The matchless beauty of this faith has never been fully realised — the Kingdom on Earth has never quite come — but the alternative to Balance is not pleasant. It is tyranny. But our partial success was noted by Montesquieu, who called the British constitution "The Mirror of Liberty"; Blackstone was an uncompromising Trinitarian; and the U.S.A. owes much to Britain. The destruction of the balance between town and country is still more reprehensible when the theological facts are not obscured. Otherwise, Christianity tends to lose the contrast with Judaism, and the very different faiths are merged in "Liberal Judaism" or "Liberal Christianity." Such is the result of blaming dogma instead of applying it.

— Rev. H. S. Swabey, in "The Social Creditor" (England), November 24,

their demand for flawless integrity.

They must fearlessly denounce the politician, who retains office, and fails to see a new mandate after it becomes obvious that he cannot redeem the promises by which he gained office.

It is the earnest prayer of the writer that such men be forthcoming, and, being weighed in the balance of ACTION, they may be found NOT WANTING.

With every sincere wish that "THE CALL" may prove to be the means of our delivery,

I remain at your service,

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 a greater leisure for cultural pursuits; (b) result in no further increase in the community's indebtedness and the sound business practice of gradually reducing existing debt.
7. Recognising that the basis of any sound economy is agriculture, the encouragement of agricultural policies which will ensure the preservation and building up of soil fertility by organic farming and gardening; and the prevention of soil erosion and the protection of forests and watersheds.

Now, when our land to ruin's brink is verging,
In God's name, let us speak while there is time!
Now, when the padlocks for our lips are forging,
Silence is crime.

WHITTIER

TO THE POINT

Henry Morgenthau, Jnr.

Testimony under oath by important expert witnesses appearing before Congressional committees now reveals that Henry Morgenthau, Jnr. while Secretary of the Treasury, was a part of the Communist underground apparatus. Mrs. Elizabeth Bentley, the expert witness and former Communist, who had contact with the Hiss machine, covered her testimony by assuming that Morgenthau was an "unconscious" part of the underground machine. The editors of this Letter have interviewed many people who do not believe that he was "unconscious." In fact, Mr. Walter Trohan, chief Washington editor for the Chicago "Tribune," names Morgenthau as one of the three manipulators of the secret political machine operating behind the curtain of intrigue.

—"The Washington Letter."

More Inflation Ahead

"The next few months should prove whether the Government's anti-inflation devices are root attacks, as described by the Treasurer, or whether their value is to be offset by continuing costs inflation of the wages-prices spiral."—Melbourne "Age" editorial on November 27.

One does not need to be an economic genius to predict that the "root attack" is doomed to failure. For example, there are 20 items in the C Series Index, which are subject to increased sales tax. Increased prices for these 20 items must automatically help intensify inflation, a fact that even the Government leader in the Senate, Senator O'Sullivan, has been forced to admit. Are we to believe that the "experts" who imposed these price increases did not know what they were doing? Or are they deliberately intensifying inflation to further their totalitarian policy of central planning?

A Socialist Budget

Speaking at Canberra on October 24, Labor Senator Fraser said: "Today the Treasurer is budgeting for a surplus of £114,000,000. He is the great financier who bitterly criticised Labor's financial policy when he was in Opposition, and even suggested during the war that we should have compulsory loans. Today, he proposes to extend the financial policy of the Chifley Administration."

SOMEWHERE SOUTH OF SUEZ

By DOUGLAS REED—14/5

We have a limited number of this book, the latest work of this important writer, in which he gives more evidence of the Communist-Zionist conspiracy.

General MacArthur Warns

In an address at Cleveland, Ohio, General MacArthur said that there was a "steady drift towards totalitarian rule" in the United States. Under "the threat of war," which the Communists conveniently maintain, the non-Communist countries are surrendering to Communist policies without even firing a shot in their own defence. An American report states that General MacArthur's Cleveland address was boycotted by all West Coast radio stations until after the evening session of the Japanese Peace Treaty Conference. Pressure was applied to the radio stations from Washington.

Common Objections to Social Credit

The most grotesque objections have been raised to issues of credit in the manner I have recently outlined; in fact, it is a remarkable thing that large numbers of persons, who cannot be suspected of direct connection with the banking system, seem feverishly anxious to ridicule it. The first objection raised is that it would raise prices, a really remarkable statement in view of the fact that the suggested use of credit is absolutely contingent on a fall in prices.

If cornered in regard to this objection, these persons say it would result in a queue of the type familiar during the latter years of the First World War. The answer to this is, of course, that again the suggested credit issue is contingent on the ascertained fact that potential production is always in excess of consumption.

It will usually be found that, when the quasi-practical objections have thus been disposed of, the objector discloses his real position, which is what he calls a moral objection, that he hates the very idea that anyone should be comfortable in this world without being made uncomfortable in the process.

Some years ago I had the experience of discussing these proposals with Mr. and Mrs. Sydney Webb, and, after disposing, one after the other, of the objections raised to the feasibility of the scheme, I was met with an objection with which, I confess, I found myself wholly unable to deal, and I recognise that objection in the Labor Party on the Douglas proposals. The words in which it was made to me are worth putting on record.

They were: "I don't care whether the scheme is sound or not; I don't like its object."

That is a clear-cut issue; it is an issue which goes right down to the bedrock of human philosophy. It claims that human nature is essentially vile, and can only be kept within bounds by being kept so busy that it has no time to get into mischief.

—Major Douglas, in "The Breakdown of the Employment System," pp. 11-12,

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Government Member Critical of Credit Restriction

The following are extracts from the Budget address of Government Member J. Cramer on October 25:

... I disagree with the Government on one matter of policy. I refer to its restriction of credit for prospective homeowners. I am afraid that in this matter the Government has been ill advised by some of our long-haired professors or economists, who think only in terms of figures and like to sit at desks and work out economic problems merely on paper. They forget the social implications of home ownership. I say quite frankly that, from my standpoint, those social implications are a most important factor and are equally as important as is the provision of food for our people. Some persons cannot grasp that fact. They always look upon homes as shelter. In my opinion that is not so. I feel that the Government could do more in this matter, and could make it possible for people to acquire their own homes.

The policy of credit restriction has been introduced because the Government believes, as is perfectly true, that the building trade is a highly inflationary industry. I am prepared to admit that it is inflationary, but to the degree that it is inflationary in its effect on home ownership, I prefer to have the inflation to not having homes.

Defence, immigration, and many other activities are also inflationary. I believe that the Government erred in the early stages when restrictions were placed on bank credit. Honourable members will recall that those restrictions were introduced prior to the re-imposition of the control of capital issues. The effect of the restriction of bank credit is that insurance companies have been forced into the position of carrying out a function that normally belongs to the banking business. As a result of that policy, funds, which normally are available in the insurance companies, have not been made available to the building trade, to building societies and to private individuals who desire to borrow money to enable them to acquire their own

homes. In my opinion, that policy is a fatal error. It has had a devastating effect upon the people who desire to buy houses in the various cities, and has dealt a vital blow to the building societies, which have dealings with those persons...

Another effect of credit restriction is to destroy the small builder, who is really the life-blood of the building industry. More homes are provided for the people of Australia by small builders than are erected by big building organisations. The restriction of credit is affecting the small builder as much as it is affecting the man who desires to borrow money so that he may acquire his own home. I believe that home building is essential to our defence industries.

"Taxes Which . . . Destroy the Nation"

By M.B.

"And the whole multitude of them arose and led Him unto Pilate. "And they began to accuse him, saying, 'We found this fellow perverting the nation, and forbidding to give tribute to Caesar, saying that He Himself is Christ a king.'

"And Pilate asked Him, saying, 'Art thou the King of the Jews?' And He answered him and said, 'Thou sayest it.'"

St. Luke XXIII, 1-3.

It was a letter in the daily press on November 17 that prompted us to look up this text. How the letter came to be printed we cannot imagine. It is apparently one of life's great mysteries. We can only surmise (a) it was put in by mistake; (b) someone was asleep; (c) it was inserted as a gesture of contempt on the grounds that it would not register anyway.

However, that is not very important. The important thing is that here is a person who appears to know most of the answers, and in the light of a recent "Call" that has gone forth, it makes refreshingly realistic reading.

Here is the letter. It was inserted in all editions of the Melbourne "Herald" on the date mentioned: —

" 'Small Punter' is alarmed that the betting tax will wipe out the racing clubs, horse breeders, jockeys, bookmakers and punters. This would be a calamity, but I imagine the nation would survive. It is the taxes, which batten on industry, and thrift, which should immediately be revoked. These are the taxes which rot the morale and destroy the nation."

Some time ago, about the time of the outbreak of World War II, this magazine published a report to the effect that certain archaeological discoveries had been made at a place called Fayoum in North Africa. The report went on to say that these discoveries consisted of stone or clay tablets which, when deciphered, confirmed the fact that one of the principal causes of the Sahara (which was once the granary of the world) becoming a desert, was... taxation.

It appears that in those far-off days the farmer was viciously taxed by a vindictive crackpot bureaucracy, just as he is today, and, in order to meet his taxes in coin of the realm, he had to overstock and overwork his land. Then the inevitable happened, namely the formation of the dust-bowl, which spread until the whole of the

Northern part of Africa and the best part of Asia Minor became a desert.

If the truth were known, it is quite possible that all the other deserts of the world were formed by the same process, and the consequent disappearance of the former inhabitants. Geologists assert that, once upon a time, the whole of this planet was well timbered.

Yes we know what you are thinking. The dead heart of Australia. Fantastic, Well, what is more fantastic than the present crazy economic system of "rob and cadge" (if it can be called a system) under which we live today?

First of all you rob Peter to pay Paul, in order that government may function. Then, when you find government does NOT function, you launch appeals (?), which, if carried out by an individual without government permit, are called by another name, and land the unfortunate person in gaol.

All of this, of course, is highly legal, and highly immoral, not to say hypocritical, but to clothe it with an air of respectability, it is euphemistically termed "sound finance."

Well, there finally comes a time when Peter hasn't a feather to fly with. The "State" has grabbed the lot, and the international pawnbrokers then take over the government finances. In the meantime, the moral rot, engendered by this eternal "Gimnee, gimnee" of the government in every human activity, has got in it's dirty work, and the nation or the empire, or the country, or whatever it is, just folds up and expires.

We are informed that twenty-one former civilisations have fallen because of "intellectual and moral apathy"; in plain language "taxation." And, if sufficient people haven't sufficient intellect and integrity, there will soon be twenty-two.

What are you going to do about it?

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THE KOREAN DEBACLE

If there are any genuine patriots on the Federal Parliament, it is time they started asking some appropriate questions concerning a campaign in which Australian lives are being lost. From the very start of the Korean War, which has now been going for eighteen months, we expressed the opinion that the real purpose of this wasteful military episode was not the "containment" of Communism, but the furtherance of a policy of international controls exercised by a World Government. Although the non-Communist forces in Korea are allegedly those of the "United" Nations, it is important to remember that many members of the "United" Nations have no forces in Korea. Also, that it was on the advice of President Truman's pro-Communist advisers that America decided to enter the war. Men like Mr. Dean Acheson have persistently sought to use the Korean War to further the idea of an international armed force controlled by World Government.

If the Korean War was to be a genuine military effort to stem Communist aggression, then obviously every possible effort should have been made to apply the necessary military strategy to achieve this objective. But, after nearly twelve months of fighting, General Mac Arthur, while still Supreme Commander of the "United" Nations forces, said that he had no definite knowledge of the objectives of the campaign he was waging. Strangely enough, his request that he be permitted to use battle-trained Chinese Nationalist forces offered by the Chinese Nationalist Government, was refused by the American Government.

When General Mac Arthur proclaimed the necessity of bombing the bases of the Chinese Communists if the war was to be ended successfully and with the minimum loss of human life, he was bitterly attacked and soon after relieved of his command by President Truman, no doubt acting on the advice of men like Mr. Dean Acheson, the public defender of Alger Hiss, the Communist traitor. General MacArthur has since revealed, as witnessed by the article, "General MacArthur Attacks Truman's Pro-Communist Policies," in our issue of November 23, that not only was he required "in the midst of a deadly war to soften our blows and send into battle men with neither promises nor hope of victory," but that there was a secret conspiracy seeking to have the Chinese Communist Government accepted as the official Chinese Government at the "United" Nations, and to hand them control of Formosa. Are Australians fighting in Korea merely pawns in a corrupt game being played by international crooks prepared to make a deal with their Communist "opponents"? This question and others demand an honest answer before any more Australians are sent to engage in what General Robertson has recently termed a military "stalemate."

If it is claimed that the Australian Government has no say in policy decisions concerning the Korean War, then let it be admitted that this nation's sovereignty has been surrendered to an external authority. And if, in the process of fighting a war to defend ourselves against Communist assaults upon our sovereignty, that sovereignty is surrendered to an international organisation we cannot control, then, surely, we have been defeated. This fundamental issue cannot be shirked by every individual who claims to be a loyal subject of His Majesty the King.

Inflation and Prosperity

Once there was a farmer who raised corn, and a man who raised hens but no corn. The hens said, "no corn, no eggs." So the man agreed to work for the farmer one day a week for 5 dollars a day. And the farmer agreed to sell corn to the man for 1 dollar a bushel.

They paid each other off every time with the "long green." The farmer paid the man 5 dollars and the man paid 5 dollars back to the farmer for five bushels of corn, which he wheeled home in his wheelbarrow. After a while, the man said to the farmer, "Everything's gone up, and I regret intensely to inform you that I can't work for less than 6 dollars a day."

The farmer said, "I understand. But you must understand that everything's going up with me, too, and I regret intensely to inform you that I can't sell you my corn for less than 1 dollar 20 cents a bushel." The man said he understood. So, the man got 6 dollars a day and at 1 dollar 20 cents a bushel paid the farmer the 6 dollars for five bushels of corn. Both of them said, "Happy days are here again."

By and by, the man said to the farmer, "Things have gone up still more, and I can't work for less than 7 dollars 50 cents a day." The farmer agreed that was fair, but told the man that things were going up still higher with him. He would have to get 1 dollar 50 cents a bushel for the corn. The man agreed that was fair, and both said, "Prosperity is here." After all, the man was getting 7 dollars 50 cents a day. The farmer was getting 1 dollar 50 cents a bushel for corn, and the hens were getting five bushels, as always.

And so things went until the man was getting 10 dollars a day, and the farmer got 2 dollars a bushel, and the man gave the farmer 10 dollars for five bushels. And the hens kept right on laying, even on Thursdays, and the man told his wife, "Ain't it wonderful? ... 10 dollars a day."

And the farmer told his wife, "Ain't it wonderful ... 2 dollars a bushel." And the hens kept clucking away on five bushels of corn.

And the statisticians down Ottawa way said "Ain't it wonderful? National income at record levels." And the politicians said, "Ain't it wonderful," and bragged that they had done it. And everybody felt so good and prosperous that the man and the farmer voted for the politicians; and that is how it was "eggsactly."

The man got three times as much for the eggs, but paid three times as much for his shoes, "and the music went round and round."

—"South Edmonton Weekly
News" (Canada).

Does It Fit The Facts? .. 5/-

C. H. Douglas's correspondence with the Rev. Dr. Sallis Daiches concerning the "authenticity" of The Protocols.

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Sound Advice to Social Crediters

The following contributed article to "The Social Crediter" (England) of November 24 is most appropriate at a time when Social Crediters may tend to become cynical or defeatist because the forces of "The Enemy" are, apparently, meeting with one success after another:

In the German language, we do not merely find words which are almost the equivalent of our English expressions, but, we may discover some which open up fresh facets of thought. The word *Lebensbejahung* is one of these exclusively German words; it is as indigenous to Germany as the ever-popular and unique *Gemutlichkeit*. In general, it means saying, "yes" to life or being life-affirmative, which is a very clumsy English Way of putting it. Germans speak of a *lebensbejahende Person*—a person who is affirmative or positive to life. They speak also of *lebensbejahende Begriffe*—conceptions which look upon life positively or affirmatively.

It is not easy at first to appreciate fully the meaning and application of this word, but, if by experience we do, we shall impress an important aspect of life on our mental and spiritual make-up.

It is of the greatest importance, without in any sense becoming "yes-men," to be able to say, "yes" to life in all events and circumstances, even if they appear unfavourable, even if they give us pain, and even if they are brought about by enemies.

There is unquestionably a great need for a better and clearer appreciation of the conception *Lebensbejahung*, but also a still greater need for its practice. In spite of the fact that the idea has its origin in the German language, its realization is still somewhat rare in Germany. I have, however, a good German friend, who has suffered much since the war by the loss of his home in the Eastern Zone, by the difficulties of getting established in the Western Zone, and by old age creeping along, yet, although I have known him during the whole of my six years' stay in Germany, through bad times before the Currency Reform, the severe winter of 1946/47, and through all the food shortages and housing difficulties, I have never known my friend

grumble once; throughout the years, he has always remained cheerful, optimistic and positive under all circumstances and—indeed a rare quality in Germany. My friend can well be described as a *lebensbejahender Mensch*, and is loved by all.

To be life-affirmative is to make flesh the inner conviction that nothing stands between man and his highest ideal; it embraces the optimistic and positive person, who under all circumstances endeavours to get the best out of life. The life-affirmant gives every event the same name, whether it is apparently positive or negative, and determines immediately to turn the event or circumstance into a success, and, if he fails, he learns from his failures.

Social Crediters will do well to pay attention to this conception, *Lebensbejahung*. Much of their time is spent in recognising the Enemy, but this important, essential activity should not be allowed to darken their outlook. During my twenty years' association with the movement, I have known unfortunately too many self-styled Social Crediters, who are almost wholly negative in their attitude to the enemy, continually dwelling, as they do, on the aims of the evil forces and on the omnipotence of their machinations. "Such persons will never make progress, neither in their personal lives, nor on behalf of the movement. Although, intellectually, they are well informed, they will certainly never induce others to take steps in the right direction, if they ever do themselves; their attitude to life is quite opposed to *Lebensbejahung*."

On the one hand, we must be wise and recognise the Enemy, and, on the other hand, we must be convinced by complete belief in truth that his evil works can be overcome, if not immediately on a world-wide scale, at least in small individual victories. We must attack and denounce the Enemy on all occasions, but we must not let him get the better of us by making major mistakes in the manner of our attacks. Although he may inflict occasional flesh wounds, we should make sure that he can never deal us a mortal blow as a result of a faulty attitude towards him.

We agree that the powers of darkness control the Press, but, even if we read the papers for information and to know what the enemy is doing and conniving—thus turning our reading into our "intelligence service"—we need not, if we will, become soured and pessimistic as a result of reading the "National" Press.

We know that the enemy is endeavouring to weaken us by undermining our health through the medium of inoculations, injections, by adulterating our food, by disintegrating the soil on which our food is grown, and by other methods. We can circumvent these dangers fairly easily by refusing to be inoculated and by eating only fresh and unadulterated foods.

Financially and materially, we must ever
(Continued on page 8)

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by Dr. V B. Wigglesworth, F.R.S.

Dr. Wigglesworth is the author of the standard textbook "insect Physiology." The version, which follows, is as reprinted in the "Annapolis Valley Post Road," published at Kentville, Nova Scotia:

The growing of plants in the form of a crop is not a natural state of affairs. When large areas of land are occupied by a single kind of plant the fauna is immediately simplified and that very simplification creates an increased tendency to fluctuation. The trouble naturally grows with the size of the area under one crop and with the extent to which the crop is grown exclusively on the same land. In these islands we suffer far less from insect pests of growing crops than they do in the United States, for example. And one probable reason for this is that we have small fields with plenty of hedgerows, which provide food and shelter for a large complex of insect predators and parasites; and the crop that is grown in one field is regularly changed from year to year.

The reaction of the biologist to this situation is to aim at restoring and maintaining the natural balance among insect populations, as part of normal agricultural practice. There can be little doubt that traditional methods of farming have been influenced and shaped unwittingly in just this way by the need for adopting practices that will diminish insect attack. And in recent years many such methods have been deliberately developed, based upon a scientific study of the ecology of the insect and the crop. Particular times of sowing have been advocated, or particular rotations in the sequence of crops have been devised.

But today there is continuous pressure for more intensive cultivation. Increasing mechanisation encourages the cultivation of larger fields. In agriculture, as in industry, American methods are being advocated. In the presence of these changes can we hope to maintain our traditional comparative immunity from pests without the use of more and more chemical insecticides? As conditions become more and more *artificial* can we still aim at *natural* control?

It is not easy to arrive at a balanced view of this problem. In recent years very potent synthetic insecticides have been produced in vast quantities. These have made possible the control by chemical means of many kinds of agricultural insect pests, which were baffling entomologists. They have been a great source of encouragement to the entomologist; for where in the past he could often only diagnose and sympathise; now he could *do* something.

But that first period of uncritical enthu-

siasm is passing. The indiscriminate use of D.D.T., for instance, has produced some very disturbing effects. Following its application in orchards there have been great outbreaks of the Woolly Aphis or American blight and there have been spectacular increases in the Fruit Tree Red Spider Mite. As is well known, that has come about because the parasites and predators that normally hold these creatures in check have proved more susceptible to D.D.T. than the pests themselves. This is no new problem; it has long been realised that the application of chemicals on a large scale may totally upset the balance of populations. But the effects of D.D.T. and some of the newer insecticides have been so rapid and so spectacular that they have given renewed emphasis to the problem.

Likewise, it has been known for many years that insects tend to become resistant to poisons, presumably by a process of selecting out resistant strains. This, also, has been happening with D.D.T. and other substances.

But there is a strong school which still seeks to bludgeon the insects into submission by chemical means; and which hopes to find chemical means of overcoming resistance to insecticides. The representatives of American firms, which supply spray chemicals on a vast scale, will tell you that in the United States, with immense areas under single crops, the methods of biological or natural control are unthinkable.

On the other hand, there are experienced entomologists concerned with the crops of the Canadian prairies who will go so far as to say that no insecticide should be released for general use until it has been studied for fifteen years to see just exactly what long term effects it will bring about. For even in large areas of single crops we know far too little to appreciate just what the "beneficial insects" are doing. In the early days of D.D.T., when it was used extensively on cotton in Louisiana in place of calcium arsenate, heavy infestations with mites and aphids developed for the first time. That was traced to the elimination by the insecticide of ladybirds, predacious bugs and other insects, the importance of which had not been appreciated until then.

In attempting the balanced view we certainly have to reckon with the vested interests of the chemical manufacturer. The Swiss insecticide D.D.T. was the first real triumph in the search for a synthetic insecticide that would kill on contact; and the

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size of the market that was found for this material was a surprise even to the chemists themselves and has resulted in tremendous efforts to discover new chemicals that would compete with D.D.T. Many remarkable new substances have been produced, both in this country and in America. The number is being added to every year; and in this hectic race for markets it may be that the true aim of a stable agricultural economy is sometimes forgotten. Even in the United States, whether what is commonly called "spray-gun" entomology seems to dominate the picture, doubts have re-

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INSECTS AND HUMAN AFFAIRS

(Continued from page 6)

cently been voiced as to whether these expensive chemical methods, which are being eagerly taken up during a time of booming prices for agricultural products, will prove economically practicable if prices fall. Already the number of washes that are being recommended in the orchards in some parts of the world is reaching the limit of what it is economical to apply.

We have also to reckon with the make-up of the human mind. That prevention is better than cure is a moral saying, which does not really appeal to the heart of man. He prefers cures whether of diseases or of insect outbreaks. It creates a greater impression on the mind to destroy an infestation of insects that can be seen, than by some simple change in practice to prevent any infestation from developing. And that is one reason for the great popular appeal of insecticides.

But insecticides are not the only field in which potent new chemicals are being introduced into agriculture. In the last ten years there have been spectacular advances in the discovery of weed-killers. These are proving a boon to the farmer for very many purposes; but they also raise entomological problems. For besides the insects that attack the growing crops there are many others, which play an essential role in pollination. These pollinators must be there in readiness when the crop comes into bloom, and for this purpose they need other flowers to visit while they wait. For some years now the production of clover seed in the United States has suffered from the increasing scarcity of bumblebees.

For it is not only the farmer who is using chemical weed killers in his crops: they are being used for "cleaning up" the countryside. The field naturalist delights in the mixed and flowery herbage along the road-

side, or around the hedgerows, and dyke sides or on the railway embankments. To clean all this up by the labour-saving method of spraying everything with weed killers and to reduce it all to a suburban trimness where only grass is permitted to remain, will be a tragedy from the standpoint of the naturalist who wants to conserve our native flora and fauna. But it is also a potential menace to agriculture, for pollinating insects cannot be eliminated without endangering the seed crops.

It is possible to answer that, just as we must replace the beneficial insects by more and more insecticides, so we may have to plan and organise pollination. Already bees are deliberately introduced into orchards and clover fields. In the farms of the future perhaps we shall have to go much further.

There seems little chance of reverting to the old ways to escape the troubles of the new. The drive for more intensive agriculture, for higher yields with less labour, becomes inexorable. Must we, therefore, abandon all hope of using the preventive methods of biology and rely forever on chemical treatments in an ever more artificial environment?

The biologist has an almost instinctive

distrust of chemical control. I do not think this is due wholly to the defence of his vested interests. But he has a deep sense of the complexity of living communities. He is terribly conscious of our present ignorance, but convinced that with more knowledge we should be able to devise methods of cultivation, which would favour the crop and discourage the insect pest to the point where a satisfactory balance was established.

To achieve this aim universally without the use of chemical insecticides must be a vain hope. There can be no immediate prospect of abandoning the use of insecticides in orchards for example, where the chemical treatments practised during the last thirty years have completely transformed the quality of the fruit we can produce.

The best hope lies in compromise. There is great scope for discovering just what the insecticides are doing. Just how they are impinging upon the complicated fauna of the apple tree, for example. When we have this knowledge perhaps we shall find it wise to relax some of the chemical pressure and replace some of the more potent chemicals by others with a milder action. In this way we may be able cautiously to encourage the beneficial insects to multiply

—"Organic Gardening," October, 1951.

Waste of Natural Manure in Tasmania

Tasmanian farmers waste large quantities of natural manure instead of returning this vital fertiliser to the soil.

This is the emphatic opinion of Father F. H. Kent, a well-known Cygnet personality, who has just returned from a six-months' tour of England and the Continent.

Father Kent, who was the instigator of the efficient Lourdes Hill Agricultural College, the first of its kind in the State stated in an interview that English and Continental farmers led the world in soil fertility, and this was achieved mainly by conservation and proper application of animal and plant residues.

A great supporter of the principles of the Living Soil Association of Tasmania, sponsored by a well-known Derwent Valley farmer, Mr. H. W. Shoobridge, Father Kent and the college principal (Brother R. G. Maranta) have always practised natural manuring on the school farm.

Agriculturists in England, France and Italy, said Father Kent, worked small areas of land economically and most efficiently by unstinted use of natural manures.

There was no waste of these manures and almost wherever he went in those lands natural manures were collected and spread back on the soil, which had been farmed successfully in this manner for hundreds of years.

Father Kent pointed out that chemical fertilisers were used, but natural manures were the first and foremost consideration of the intelligent farmer.

Consequently, he said, root crops — and also wheat — grew far more prolifically in Ireland and parts of England than in Australia.

This was reflected in the fact that an agricultural college near Dublin was producing 90 bushels of wheat to the acre.

Father Kent said Government policy in

Ireland aimed at endeavouring to induce farmers to change from hay to silage.

This was meeting with success as hay stacks were fast becoming things of the past and fodder was being conserved more and more by silage.

—"The Leader."

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New Times," December 7, 1951—Page 7

Sound Advice to Social Crediters

(Continued from page 5)

claim our just inheritance and our National Dividend as a right. In the meantime, if the enemy in his continual attacks upon our personal incomes makes us go short, and we can find no immediate redress, we must learn to make the best use cheerfully of what we have. We shall find that there is much joy in the simple way of living, and we may be surprised what we can achieve with a minimum of money and material means. Too many of us are inclined to look upon prosperity in American terms of motorcars, electric washing machines, and private bathing pools in every garden. Before the war, when I could ill-afford it, I ran a car; today, when I can afford a car, I find I prefer a cycle by which to see the countryside.

In respect of food, too, there are false conceptions of plenty, and many imagine that every meal should be a Christmas dinner. Without being ascetic, it is possible to be truly healthy only when we live on simple and wholesome foods, the bulk of which should be made up of fruits and vegetables, and not of starchy and fleshy foods, which so many think as concomitant with plenty.

Most of us are obliged to work or earn

sufficient to pay our way; fewer and fewer have private means to be independent. Here the Enemy, so far, has us caught tight in an inescapable ambush. Very little of our work is truly creative, and many of us cannot put enthusiasm into labour. There is, nevertheless, a small means of relief, if we will but apply it; we can make ourselves so efficient and capable that the work we do can be done with the least effort, which for some will leave even during working hours time for our own thoughts. Even in dreary work, we can find means of expressing ourselves. We must aim high, increase our capabilities, and not accept work, which is beneath us.

If we Social Crediters are to achieve still greater successes in the future, we must know what it is to be lebensbejahende — faithful in the face of the enemy, as we are at all times, positive, cheerful, never depressed and, above all, never depressing. We may spend our quiet moments understanding the theory of Social Credit, but we must never forget that nothing in this world is real, either to ourselves or to others, until it is made flesh. Our theories to our friends are as nothing until they can see that we are their embodiment. Our credo must bear fruit in society; our belief must be recognised by our acts.

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