

THE NEW TIMES

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ONE SHILLING & NINEPENCE FORTNIGHTLY.

Melbourne's "Green Belt" Scheme Threatens Individual Rights And Local Governments Successful Opposition By League of Rights

In recent years the disease of central planning has infected an increasing number of people. Central planning is held up as "scientific" and "progressive." The planners are now keen to solve all Melbourne's problems. It is really very simple. All that the individual has to do is to hand over all his rights and property to the central planners who can then do as they like. This is just what the planners of the Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works propose in their "Green Belt" Scheme, which was to have been launched by the gazetting of an Interim Development Order on July 29. Unfortunately for the advocates of this new sample of totalitarianism, the Victorian League of Rights so effectively exposed and opposed the scheme that the issuing of the Interim Development Order was deferred until September 23.

Since its success in the first round of its fight against the "Green Belt" Scheme, the League has been continuing its campaign with increasing vigour. For the benefit of all our readers, we are publishing the following comprehensive survey issued by the League last week: —

"GREEN BELT" SCHEME THREATENS INDIVIDUALS' RIGHTS AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT

The League has opposed the "Green Belt" Scheme because it is one more attempt to further the policy of centralised control of the individual. We are pleased to report that the League's firm stand, in conjunction with action by other organisations, has held the "Green Belt" up until September 23rd. It was first proposed that the Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works should seek the approval of the Governor in Council to impose what has been described as an "Interim Development Order" on July 29th.

It was no doubt anticipated that very few people would realise the significance of this proposal. The Local Governments concerned were given comparatively little time in which to examine in detail the M.M.B.W.'s scheme. And they were given still less information. If it had not been for the League's exposures and the widespread opposition which consequently resulted, there is no doubt that the Interim Development Order would have been made effective; with the result that a large area

of country around the metropolitan area would have been "frozen." This was to be the "Green Belt" area. But, not only was it proposed that the "Green Belt" area should be frozen; various zones, for the purpose of future arterial roads, were also to be "frozen." One of the proposed zones takes in a considerable industrial area in South Melbourne. Other industrial areas are also threatened. Many businessmen who thought that the "Green Belt" Scheme was no concern of theirs, suddenly discovered that their factories were in "frozen" zones, or so close to them that, if the M.M.B.W.'s planners decided to shift their zones a little, they would be involved. The M.M.B.W. has the power to propose further Development Orders, which could cover the entire Metropolitan Area.

In exposing and opposing the "Green Belt" Scheme, the League has made the following points: —

(1) All those owning property in the "frozen" areas would lose effective control of that property. Mr. G. R. McGowan, Melbourne's Deputy Chief Planner, as reported in the Melbourne "Argus" of July 2nd, 1952, said: "The city's limit has been defined after detailed checks. When enforced, it would mean that in the 'green belt' no land could be subdivided, built on or developed in any way without the approval of the Board planners." The same applies, of course, to areas "frozen" for arterial roads.

It is breath-taking to consider just what

this means. Factory owners in a "frozen" zone could undertake no activities concerning the rebuilding or remodelling of their premises — without permission from the M.M.B.W.'s planners! All primary producers in the "Green Belt" would be in a similar position. They could not sell half their property to another farmer, or erect any buildings without first seeking permission. All home building in the "Green Belt" would be determined by M.M.B.W.'s planners. It is easy to visualise the fan-

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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

TO THE POINT

The Trade Battle

Before agreeing to participate in any "common defence" of Western Europe against Communist aggression, the West German Government has insisted upon obtaining certain specific assurances. Probably the one, which is creating the greatest fear amongst the Western Allies, is that German goods shall have an "open go" on the world markets. This demand is causing near panic amongst British and American manufacturers, who, under "sane" financial rules, must battle fiercely for export trade. If the Germans were to capture this trade, what would the unfortunate British and Americans do with their "surplus" production? In case anyone suggests that they might use it themselves, or, if they don't require it, not work so long, we hasten to point out that this is contrary to the policy of "full employment." And whatever disagreements there may be between the "experts" running the countries on both sides of the Iron Curtain, they are in harmony on the importance of ensuring that all individuals work under central direction.

The Monopoly of Credit

Readers of this journal since its inception will recall the numerous occasions upon which we have warned against the dangers of Government control of banking. Those Socialist money reformers who thought that, once the private banks were controlled by the Commonwealth Bank, the "golden age" would arrive, must surely be concerned about the credit policies of a banking system now virtually nationalised. These money reformers missed the major point, which Social Crediters stressed: That it was monopoly of financial credit, whether private or State, which had to be broken in the interests of the individual. Control of credit policy must be decentralised into the hands of all individuals in the community. Once this objective is agreed upon, it is a relatively simple matter to devise ways and means of reaching it. But the first essential is to challenge the prevailing conception of the necessity of centralised control of credit.

"The Unsuccessful Intellectual"

"One of the earliest psychologists found that so-called intellectuals are more gullible in a crowd than any other class.

"The particular appeal of Communism is to the unsuccessful intellectual. He is the type who considers himself better than the rest of mankind, but has made a failure of his life. He has an inferiority complex. He has been frustrated in some ambition. He resents his more successful friends. He swallows Marx. He laps up the mass of material churned out by Moscow's printing presses. The appeal of Communism to that type is precisely the same as the appeal of Nazism was to the out-of-work military Junkers of Prussia in the last depression.

"Recent case histories of Communist traitors have shown this streak in most of them. The latest is a study of Klaus Fuchs. In the United States, Whittaker Chambers has examined his own background as well

as that of his accomplice, Algernon Hiss, and the classification of unsuccessful intellectual would cover both. It was the same with Dr. Nunn May, Elizabeth Bentley, the Canadian dupes and those used by the Communists in Washington, London, New York, and Ottawa.

"The Communists seek the same type. They are particularly interested in misfits from the University. They are delighted to pick up anyone with scientific background. These are far more useful to the Communist Party than the illiterates who join the party openly, who are arrested for illegal demonstrations, who do all the party's dirty work, and get all the bruised shins."

—J. T. Lang in "Century," August 22.

Eisenhower's Toast to Red General

"On two occasions now I have had the great honour of meeting high officials of the Soviet Government. It is my feeling that, in the basic desires of all of us, they are one of us. Regardless of the methods by which we arrive at that goal, that is what we are struggling for. To no one man do the United Nations owe a greater debt than to Marshal Zhukov. As our honoured guest today, he has come down and very courteously conferred certain high honours of the Soviet Union upon members of the Allied forces. But Marshal Zhukov, being a modest man, probably underrates the standing he holds in our hearts and minds. One day, when all of us here at this board are gathered to our fathers, there is certain to be another order of the Soviet Union. It will be the Order of Zhukov, and that order will be prized by every man who admires courage, vision, foresight, and determination in a soldier. Gentlemen, I deem it a great honour to ask you to rise and drink to Marshal Zhukov." — From Page 28 of the book, "What Eisenhower * * * * * Thinks."

Sovietism by Stealth

"The Central Committee of the Scottish Chamber of Commerce reported today that many Scottish family businesses were being broken up because of heavy estate duties. Control in them, it was stated, was being obtained by finance companies, principally from London, who made loans to pay death duties disastrous . . ." — London "Times."

SOCIAL CREDIT IN BRITISH COLUMBIA

Although we have no details at present, we understand that a Government whose members call themselves Social Crediters has been elected in British Columbia, Canada. The new Premier is Mr. W. A. C. Bennett, who was formerly a Liberal. Further information will be published when it is available from Canada.

A VITAL ISSUE

The following letter, by Captain Russell, R.N., raises the important question of individual responsibility: —

"Sir, — The Archbishop of York's recent condemnation of the use of the napalm bomb as morally wrong sets the fighting services a pretty problem. The Allied air-

men in Korea have been and presumably are still being, ordered to drop these bombs, and the question arises whether they should obey such orders after Dr. Garbett's pronouncement on the subject.

"Since 1944, they have been under the obligation to disobey orders which 'outrage the general sentiments of humanity,' and it is difficult to think of anyone more representative of such sentiments than an Archbishop.

"There can be no doubt that, if Dr. Garbett is right about the napalm bomb, the United Nations officers in Korea who are dropping it are in an awkward position. May I appeal to the Archbishop to say what, in his view, those officers should do?"

NEW TIMES BOOK SERVICE

We offer the following popular booklets at greatly reduced prices. Buy quantities to give to your potential converts.

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By James Guthrie. Clearly indicates how the voting and party systems are manipulated to impose policies upon the individual.

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By Eric D. Butler. Excellent introduction to the subject for beginners, simple outlines of the financial proposals.

THE ENEMY WITHIN THE EMPIRE 6d.

By Eric D. Butler. Written in the first year of the war, this booklet is vital to those who would clearly understand the present situation. The origin of what is now known as the Financier Socialist plot is revealed.

THE MONEY POWER VERSUS DEMOCRACY6d.

By Eric D. Butler. Presents a comprehensive selection of statements by various authorities concerning the financial domination of the world.

THE ANSWER TO SOCIALISM 6d.

By C. Barclay Smith. Outlines the positive alternative to Socialism and Communism; an essential to those who engage in arguments. Good factual material.

SOCIAL CREDIT AND CATHOLICISM .. 6d.

By George Henri Levesque. Deals with the great impact that Social Credit ideas have had on the French Canadian people of Quebec. An outline is given of the structure and methods of the non-party Union of Electors.

Obtainable from
NEW TIMES LTD.
Box 1226L, G.P.O., Melbourne.

Make This Year's "New Times" Dinner a Big Success

Reservations Must Be Made Immediately.

Although many readers have already made their reservations for this year's Annual Dinner, to be held during Show Week on Friday, September 19, it is essential that we receive a much greater number of reservations IMMEDIATELY if we are to continue planning for this important event. Time is already very short, and we cannot undertake the financial responsibility of continuing with the organization of the Dinner unless we are certain that the attendance will be adequate. Unless all those desirous of attending make definite reservations within the next few days, we will regretfully have to cancel this year's Dinner. This would be a major disaster.

The "New Times" Annual Dinner has, over the years, developed into one of the important events in the Social Credit Movement. Although the dinner is primarily a social event, which enables supporters from all parts of Victoria, and beyond, to come together and discuss their activities, it is also used to present each twelve months a semi-confidential and comprehensive report on activities. THIS YEAR'S REPORT, PRESENTED BY MR. ERIC BUTLER, WILL BE OF GREATER INTEREST AND IMPORTANCE THAN THOSE OF PREVIOUS YEARS. Current political, economic and financial developments are such that there is a renewed interest in our ideas. We must ensure that we are prepared to take appropriate advantage of this interest.

As there may be new readers of "The New Times" who are diffident about attending a function at which they will be strangers to those who have been attending regularly, we would like to issue a special invitation to all such people to be present. We will ensure that they are made completely at home.

For the benefit of those who have not previously attended a "New Times" Dinner, we briefly outline what will take place:

URANIUM LOAN FOR SOUTH AUSTRALIA

The following letter by C. H. Allen appeared in the Adelaide "Advertiser" of August 20:—

Sir,— Quotations from a recent "Hansard":—

"If a man advocates orthodox finance he is a traitor to the people, to the State, to the Commonwealth and the Empire" (Mr. Macgillivray, p. 157-8).

"We owe her (Queen Elizabeth II) allegiance, and it is our duty as members to uphold her Realm and do nothing to destroy it." (Mr. Quirke, p. 221.)

May I apply both the certainty behind the first factual statement and the sentimental appeal of the second worthy statement to ask for a stay of proceedings about the overseas loan in respect of our uranium deposits?

Whatever arguments there may have been in other cases, there cannot be put forward a plausible excuse for such a loan in this case. This can be demonstrated conclusively if an open and above board enquiry is held.

The evening's proceedings will start at 6 p.m., and continue until 11 p.m. A sherry buffet will be provided at 6 p.m. Dinner will be served at 6.30 p.m. Apart from the Royal Toast, toasts will be proposed to Major C. H. Douglas and "The New Times." Music will be provided by Mr. Brian Fitzgerald. A first-class entertainer has been engaged, and we are sure will be appreciated by all those attending. Adequate time will be provided for all those present to meet and talk informally.

All those intending to be present are requested to communicate IMMEDIATELY with The Secretary, "New Times" Ltd., Box 1226L., G.P.O., Melbourne. Or they may ring MU 2834.

Steps Towards the Communist State

We have often made reference to Karl Marx's ten points for communising a State. The result has been many readers asking for the exact wording of all the points. The following is taken from "The Communist Manifesto" (1948 Centenary Edition), pages 34 and 35:—

"We have seen above that the first step in the revolution by the working class is to raise the proletariat to the position of ruling class, to win the battle for democracy. The proletariat will use its political power to wrest, by degrees, all capital from the bourgeoisie; to centralise all instruments of production in the hands of the State, i.e., of the proletariat organised as the ruling class; and to increase the total of productive forces as rapidly as possible.

"Of course, in the beginning, this cannot be effected except by means of despotic inroads on the rights of property, and on the conditions of bourgeois production; by means of measures, therefore, which appear economically insufficient and provisional, but which in the course of the movement, outstrip themselves, necessitate further inroads upon the old social order, and are unavoidable as a means of entirely revolutionising the mode of production.

"These measures will, of course, be different in different countries. Nevertheless in the most advanced countries, the following will be pretty generally applicable.

"1. Abolition of property in land and

application of all rents of land to public purposes.

"2. A heavy progressive or graduated income tax.

"3. Abolition of all right of inheritance.

"4. Confiscation of the property of all emigrants and rebels.

"5. Centralisation of credit in the hands of the State, by means of a national bank with State capital and an exclusive monopoly.

"6. Centralisation of the means of communication and transport in the hands of the State.

"7. Extension of the number of State factories and instruments of production: the bringing into cultivation of waste lands, and the improvement of the soil generally in accordance with a common plan.

"8. Equal obligation of all to work. Establishment of industrial armies, especially for agriculture.

"9. Combination of agriculture with manufacturing industries; gradual abolition of the distinction between town and country, by a more equable distribution of the population of the country.

"10. Free education for all children in public schools. Combination of education with industrial production."

FILTHY LITERATURE

In recent times, there has been considerable protest from various organisations against the growing flood of filthy literature coming into Australia, most of it from the U.S.A. It is significant that dollars can be found to import into this country comics that must have a deadly effect upon young minds.

In Number 14 of The Protocols, the following appears: "In countries known as progressive and enlightened we have created a senseless, filthy abominable literature. For some time after our entrance to power we shall encourage its existence in order to provide a telling relief by contrast to the speeches, party programmes . . ."

Mr. Henry Ford commented upon The Protocols by drawing attention to the fact that they explain what has happened since they were written.

BOOKS YOU SHOULD READ BRIEF FOR THE PROSECUTION

By C. H. Douglas.....13/2

Further copies of this, the latest of Douglas's work, have now been received. A brilliant exposure of the International groups which worked to destroy the British Empire between wars.

AN INTRODUCTION TO SOCIAL CREDIT

By Bryan W. Monahan . . . 9/1
A satisfactory and comprehensive answer to the question "What is Social Credit."

ELEMENTS OF SOCIAL CREDIT 11/7

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

GREEN BELT" SCHEME

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tastic results of this bureaucratic control. To take one point only: Because the planners have "frozen" a certain area does not mean that they will immediately start to plan this area for whatever purpose they have in mind. It is not a question of saying that a definite plan for an arterial road has been finalised, that all those affected will be adequately compensated, and that work will start shortly. Zones are proposed - and the planners admit that these may be changed! — covering areas in which a road, for example, may be built in the distant future. It may not be built for 50 years, but all those within the zone do not know definitely whether they will or will not be ultimately affected. This is called "planning"!

In its fifth annual report, the Town and Country Planning Board of Victoria states that:—

"Under the Town and Country Planning Acts, land can be reserved in a planning scheme for a particular purpose quite apart from question of immediate acquisition. It is considered that, in many cases, land could be reserved for a particular public purpose, even though acquisition was not effected until the land was actually required. In the interim, the present use of land and not other use would be permitted. Alternatively, land could be so reserved, with the proviso that it would be acquired after notice by the responsible authority or when requested by the owner of the land." Could anything be more totalitarian than a body not directly responsible to individual property owners, having the power to "freeze" whole areas indefinitely?

(2) It will be argued by many that, surely the individual affected by "freezing" will have some right of redress — if the value of his property declines because he has virtually lost control of it, he will be able to obtain compensation. There is no doubt that compensation will have to be paid, as made clear in the following opinion given to the League by Mr. P. D. Phillips, Q.C.:

"In my opinion, wherever it can be proved that the making of the Interim development order has prejudicially affected any land, then compensation may be obtained from the responsible authority which has made the order. This is the direct consequence of Section 22 of the Town and Country Planning Act of 1944. In my opinion, it applies to the Board of Works as a responsible authority making an interim development order by virtue of the powers granted to it by the Act of 1949."

FAR AND WIDE

By Douglas Reed 20/5

Just published, this revealing book records the author's travels throughout America. He makes some enlightening observations of the treachery in high places, and the maturing plans for world domination.

The proposed Interim Order would affect thousands of people, and claims for compensation would be enormous. Those who naively believe that justice would be done should ponder over the treatment of property owners by the Housing Commission, another irresponsible body that is beyond the Rule of Law, which governs the actions of all private individuals. They should also consider the injustices that have occurred in Sydney through a "Green Belt" having been proclaimed around the Metropolitan area six years ago. Thousands of property owners who were adversely affected were promised compensation, but many as yet have not received any payment.

The completely irresponsible and totalitarian attitude of the M.M.B.W.'s planners has been demonstrated by their blatant admission that they have no fund available to meet compensation claims. Mr. J. Thompson, Vice-Chairman of the Board's Town Planning Committee, as reported in the Melbourne "Sun" of May 9th, 1952, openly admitted that the planners were going ahead with their plans, even though the State Government had failed to meet repeated requests to establish a fund to meet claims which might arise from the orders. How can we reasonably argue that we are meeting the Communist propaganda campaign, which has as its major objective the weakening of our faith in the free way of life, when we have irresponsible planners calmly going ahead with a central planning scheme which will affect the property and other rights of tens of thousands of individuals, and doing so, fully aware that there is no fund available to meet claims for financial compensation! No democratic community can survive this type of bureaucracy. It is time that all those concerned about defending our traditional British and Christian way of life really faced up to what is involved in the various central planning schemes being put forward for all sorts of ostensible reasons.

(3) The League has, since its inception, stressed the importance of local, decentralised government as a barrier against tyranny. Local Government is close to the people, and more susceptible to their desires than is centralised Government. The attack upon Local Government has been a feature of all totalitarian movements. There is no argument that the proposed "Green Belt" Scheme strikes a tremendous blow at the sovereignty of all those Local Governments whose areas are threatened by the policies of the M.M.B.W.'s planners. Clause 15 of the Town and Country Planning Act, 1944, gives some indication of what is proposed: "Any planning scheme may provide for the suspension, so far as necessary, for the proper carrying out of the scheme, of any by-laws or regulations of any public or local authority which are in operation in the area included in the scheme."

The "Green Belt" Scheme is, in the League's opinion, a far greater threat to Local Government than was the Greater Melbourne Scheme, which we helped defeat. Under the Greater Melbourne Scheme, at least there was the theoretical representation of the ratepayers in the Central Council, but, under the M.M.B.W.'s Scheme, the Local Governments would lose effective control over all areas affected by the "Green

Belt" Scheme. And the ratepayer would not even have a theoretical control over the planners responsible for making decisions affecting the use of his own property. This is a form of Communism in practice.

Many of those opposing the M.M.B.W.'s proposals unfortunately weaken their stand by adding, generally apologetically, that they do not want anyone to think that they are opposed to central planning. "It is essential up to a point." This very attitude is striking confirmation of the success of the propaganda of those totalitarian groups actively concerned in fostering the idea that central planning is "inevitable." No realistic understanding and opposition to any central planning scheme is possible unless it is clearly understood that this scheme is only one manifestation of the general drive towards the centrally Planned State. What is urgently required is not only opposition to various planning proposals, but an exposure of the whole policy and philosophy of centralised planning. Unless this fundamental stand is taken, and every new centralised planning scheme is fought merely as an isolated incident, the defence against the advocates of central planning is easily outflanked. If we may use a military term, defence in greater depth is required, if the strategy of the advocates of central planning is to be defeated.

It is not our intention here to outline in detail the history of those groups who have persistently advocated the idea of centralised planning. But it is essential to draw attention to the fact that the Communists and their fellow-Socialists are the strongest advocates of centralised planning. Marx and Engels, in their famous "Communist Manifesto" of 1848, which is the basic Communist doctrine, stressed the necessity of centralised controls, not as ends in themselves, but as necessary means for reaching the Communist State. Irrespective of how well-meaning many of those attempting to impose central planning may be, it is in the very nature of things certain that their policies will produce such anomalies and problems that the demand will arise for still more central planning to correct the position. Once a policy of central planning and centralised controls is embarked upon, it must ultimately result in complete despotism. The Communists and other totalitarian understand this very clearly. They know that it is fatal to talk about compromising with central planning, to tolerate it "up to a point." Those who would retain their liberty, rights, and personality must reject completely the entire doctrine of central planning.

The issue is not whether to plan or not to plan. The advocates of central planning dishonestly suggest that their opponents are opposed to all planning; that they support muddle and chaos. Those opposing central planning are labelled "reactionary," "selfish," and only concerned with protecting "sectional interests" as opposed to "the common good." This type of language is used by the Communists, and many of those who claim they are not Communists would be well advised to examine the sources of much of the jargon they so often use. For example, a booklet written by the Victorian Communist leader, Mr. Ralph Gibson, entitled "Socialist Melbourne," paints a picture of a centrally planned Melbourne, established for the pur-

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"GREEN BELT" SCHEME

(Continued from page 4)

pose of ensuring that "the common good" prevailed over "selfish interests." Mr. Gibson looks into the future and sees Melbourne's skyline dominated by "the fine tall building of the Australian Planning Commission." All this sounds most familiar to those who have been reading the inspired spate of articles advocating the necessity for central planning.

The genuine alternative to centralised planning is, of course, individual planning and, where necessary and appropriate, decentralised planning by local bodies and authorities directly responsible to those who are affected by any such proposed planning. Further, and vitally important, this type of planning must, if the democratic and Christian tradition is to be preserved, be governed by an acceptance of the principle that the individual does possess certain basic inviolable rights. The totalitarian disease has unfortunately become so widespread that any individual who dares to stand up for his rights is charged with being "selfish" and obstructing "the common good." Those who really desire to uphold the Christian conception of the sacredness of the individual must honestly face up to this matter in their own minds. Are there certain individual rights which are of greater importance than "the common good," "the State," or any other collective entity? If not, then the Communists are right in saying that those who have power should be able to go ahead in all spheres, planning the lives and activities of other people irrespective of what these individuals desire. But the individual who accepts the Christian viewpoint cannot support the use of compulsion to enforce central planning.

The British conception of the Rule of Law, designed to protect the rights of individuals, was derived from the Christian teaching that the individual should love his neighbour as himself. British communities got along quite satisfactorily while this teaching was accepted. But now the central planners insist that the individual must suppress "self," the inference being that it is wicked and "anti-social." The advocates of central planning appear to overlook the fact that their philosophy suggests that they are of a superior morality and intelligence. They know what is best for the ordinary individual who, because of his "selfishness" and other "weaknesses," cannot plan his own affairs in voluntary association with his fellows. The advocates of central planning must take this stand, otherwise it would be an open admission that the central planners are openly trying to impose their own "selfish" plans on other people! It is easy to see how the philosophy and policy of central planning must lead to complete totalitarianism. The planners become corrupted by irresponsible power and the individual dehumanised because he becomes merely the passive agent of other people's planning. Every individual deprived of the right of choice loses one of the finest of human attributes.

Personal responsibility for one's actions is essential for the preservation of a genuinely free society.

It may be asked what the foregoing analysis of the real meaning of central

planning has got to do with the M.M.B.W.'s proposed Interim Development Order. The answer is that it is a specific example of the type of planning we have been condemning. The central planners of the M.M.B.W. can, under their powers, obtain almost unlimited control over an area in which approximately half the population of Victoria resides, and in which the great majority of secondary industries are located.

We have already mentioned what could and might be done. To those who say, "But you are going to extremes by suggesting that this power would be used to destroy individual's rights," we again stress the old truth that irresponsible power always leads to tyranny. No mortal can say what will be the full effects of the central planning proposed by the M.M.B.W. But it can be stated that it is certain that this planning will inevitably result in a multitude of problems, which will then be used as an excuse for still more centralised planning. Once a policy of centralised planning is put in motion, no one can say where it will finish. The only sane thing to do is to prevent it being started. This does not mean that many of the things, which the M.M.B.W. suggests, are not worthy of consideration. But all planning schemes should be directly sanctioned by those who are going to be affected. The proposal that some individual in the M.M.B.W.'s planning department should be able to make a decision affecting the rights of hundreds, perhaps thousands, of people, who do not even know the name of this planner, and who have no control whatever over him, is a direct blow against the very basis of democratic government — personal responsibility. It is interesting to recall that the 1944 Town and Country Planning Act made the local governing bodies planning authorities. Under the powers conferred upon it by this Act, some local governments drew up planning schemes for their own areas. Perhaps the most comprehensive was that of the Ringwood Council. But, and this is the important point, this scheme was decisively rejected by the local ratepayers. In this case, those proposing to plan were directly responsible to those who would be affected by the planning. This is democratic control. The 1949 Act, which gives the M.M.B.W. the powers under which it seeks to plan, means that the ratepayer can be placed at the mercy of irresponsible planners. The ratepayer will have no check whatever upon the central planners. The powers of Local Government will be undermined, and, eventually, will be completely destroyed.

It should be clear to every thinking person that every move towards more centralisation of power means less control by the individual over his own affairs. What is urgently required is a reversal of this totalitarian policy. The powers of Local Government and the powers of the individual must be increased, not reduced. An effective decentralisation of power back to the individual will ensure that all planning is effectively controlled and beneficial to the individual. There are only two sides in this matter. There can be no compromise. Every individual must make up his mind where he stands.

Churchill and the Financial "Experts"

Speaking in the British House of Commons on April 21, 1932, Prime Minister Winston Churchill made the following statement: —

"When I was moved by many arguments and forces in 1925 to return to the gold standard, I was assured by the highest experts . . . that we were anchoring ourselves to reality and stability; and I accepted their advice.

"I take for myself and my colleagues of other days whatever degree of blame and burden there may be for having accepted their advice. But what has happened? We have had no reality, no stability.

"Is the progress of the human race in this age of almost terrifying expansion to be arbitrarily barred and regulated by fortuitous discoveries of gold mines here and there or by the extent to which we can persuade the existing cornerers and hoarders of gold to put their hoards again into the common stock?

"Are we to be told that human civilisation and society would have been impossible if gold had not happened to be an element in the composition of the globe? These are absurdities, but they are becoming dangerous and deadly absurdities.

"They have only to be asserted long enough, they have only to be left ungrappled with long enough, to endanger that capitalist and credit systems upon which the liberties and enjoyments and prosperity, in my belief, of the vast masses depend.

"I therefore point to this evil and to the search for the methods of remedying it, as the first, the second and the third of all the problems which should command and rivet our thoughts."

In spite of his admissions of twenty years ago, Mr. Churchill's policies of today make it clear that he has learnt nothing about the credit system. Or, if he has, he is content to be a passive agent of the financial "experts" and the shadowy interests they serve.

D.S.C.M WOMEN'S GROUP
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"New Times," September 5, 1952—Page 5

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No. 18

THE EXPORT MANIA

For some weeks past there was considerable speculation by the financial writers for the daily press, and the economists, about the wool sales, which started last Monday. According to the press writers whose job it is to know what Cabinet Ministers are thinking, the Government leaders are also vitally concerned about this year's wool sales. Under realistic financial rules, big exports of wool, and high prices should enable Australians to import a big volume of goods in exchange. There should be an increase in the standard of living. But the Government and its economic "experts" are gravely concerned that high prices for wool during the coming selling season may help defeat their anti-inflation campaign. For over twelve months now the Government's financial policy has been designed to take from the individual the "surplus" purchasing power, which is allegedly the basic cause of rising prices. High wool prices would mean a big increase in the volume of credit in Australia, because the woolgrowers are paid with Australian financial credits created for the purpose by the banks. It is overlooked by many people that Australian exporters are not paid with money imported from the country to which they have sent their goods.

Now, it must not be thought that the Government is only concerned about the possibility of high wool prices. There is also a fear that should prices decline too much the result will mean a big reduction in the volume of credit necessary to pay wool growers for their exports, and that this reduction could, in conjunction with the policy of credit restriction now being imposed by the Government's planners, intensify growing industrial unrest. Unemployment would certainly grow rapidly. We have no desire to minimise the importance of the Australian wool industry. But like all industry, it is not an end in itself; it is only a means to an end. If wool exports result in a genuine increase in the Australian community's wealth, then let us have wool exports by all means. But to ship vast quantities of primary production out of Australia, thus placing a big strain on our basic capital, soil fertility, merely to establish overseas credits, which are not used to import goods Australians desire, is economic sabotage. A "favourable balance of trade" is economic sabotage. It simply means that a community gives away more than it gets back in exchange.

This important fact is overlooked by the majority of people because they associate a "favourable balance of trade" with an increase in the local money supply. The drive to export more than is imported is the result of a local deficiency in purchasing power. Exports without imports mean that the volume of local goods is reduced and the supply of money increased. It is true, of course, that this economic lunacy does intensify inflation. But, as we have pointed out on numerous occasions, under present financial rules, the Government has no alternative to either inflation or deflation. The "balance" we have been hearing about is impossible. That is why unpredictable wool sales are being regarded with such interest. They may upset the planning of the Canberra economists. It is fantastic that the Australian economy should be governed so largely by an export trade and the increased financial credits, which this trade makes available. Let us export wool by all means, and at the highest possible price. But also let us use the total proceeds of these exports to import freely. Financial policy should enable Australians to buy all local AND imported production.

Marx-Leninism

Lenin-Stalin, having to connect up the world of the October, 1917, Revolution with their Marxist doctrine, laid down that Capitalism had now entered its final pre-dissolution phase, of which the characteristic was Imperialism; and, secondly, that Capitalist development was uneven, so that, instead of simultaneous World Revolution, there was to be "Socialism in One Country," but as the headquarters of the World Revolution.

This "law" was a great change in Socialist thought, and was the doctrinal cause of Trotsky's replacement by Stalin. The Western wishful, thinkers interpreted it as meaning that Russia would, after all, mind her own business — but it meant the exact contrary, as Lenin-Stalin carefully explained. They said the October Revolution had ushered in the Third Historical Stage, which must end with the final defeat of Imperialism-Capital by Socialism; that it would be a long period, marked by "conflicts and wars, ebbs and flows"; and that its distinguishing marks would be (a) the division of the world into two rival camps, and (b) the intensification of the "Three Contradictions" of Capitalism. They said that, during this period, the strategy of the World Revolution (directed by the one Socialist country) would be unchanging, but its tactics — "the line over a short period" — must vary so as to nurse the strength of the one (weak and backward) Socialist country.

In this formula lies the secret of the twists and changes in Soviet foreign policy — on the one hand, trade treaties, non-aggression pacts, Popular Fronts, League of Nations or U.N.O.; and on the other hand the insistent claim to represent the Proletariats over the heads of their Governments and the steady fomentation of "Colonial Nationalism" in Asia and Africa. So, when Stalin said in 1927 that the existence of the two camps did not exclude the possibility of agreements about exports and imports or non-aggression, he was quite honest, as he added, within the limits permitted by these two systems but only within these limits.

While, therefore, tactics must be flexible and shaped to preserve Russia from encirclement, strategy required alliance with the Proletarian Movement in development countries, and with "Liberation" Movements in colonial countries, and, everywhere, the aggravation of the Three Contradictions which were eating into Capitalism. These are the Contradictions: — Between capital and labour; between the various Imperialist Powers themselves, and between financial groups, in their struggle for raw materials and markets; between ruling nations and dependent peoples.

— Sir David Kelly, former British Ambassador to Moscow, in article in "The Sunday Times," April 27.

Chemical Treatment of Flour

The following letter, by Mr. W. H. Prescott, of Sutherland, N.S.W., appeared in "The Australian Social Creditor" of August 23:

Dear Sir,

The following extracted paragraphs from the Ministry of Health (England) Report of the Departmental Committee on the Treatment of Flour with Chemical Substances, 1937, S.O. Code No. 32-226, may interest your readers: —

"45. Our view, then, is that flour should be a product of the milling of wheat, without the addition of any foreign substance . . .

"49. To turn to more positive criticism and to the potentialities of these substances, it is necessary to consider what takes place in the flour when these substances are added to it; what if any, toxic effect each may have upon the consumer, directly by itself or in combination with some constituent of the flour, and what, if any, effect each may have on the nutritive properties of the flour.

"50. It is of course obvious that any agent which acts as an improver or bleacher must exert an action upon the flour and alter it to some extent. This is perhaps most notable in the case of chlorine, which we will therefore consider first. Chlorine is said to effect bleaching by entering into combination with the colouring matter of the flour (carotin) and forming a colourless addition compound. Chlorine, besides combining with the colouring matter, also enters into combination with other constituents of the flour. A series of experiments carried out by one witness showed that 45 percent or more of the chlorine introduced combines with the oil of the flour. The nature of the combination has not been precisely investigated, but it seems probable that chlorine forms chlorine addition products with the oil present in the flour. The same experiments show that some of the chlorine associates itself with the starch and to a less extent with the protein of the flour. The remainder of the chlorine, amounting approximately to 50 percent of the whole, appears to be present either as hydrochloric acid or as chlorides.

"In regard to the effect of chlorine upon the protein of flour it is definitely known that chlorine can act energetically upon gluten, and that the nature of the reaction includes the entrance of chlorine into such important parts of the gluten complex as the tryosin and tryptophane groupings, with injurious results so far as the nutritive value of the gluten is concerned. If this were to occur to any extent in the commercial treatment of flour, the nutritive properties would be proportionately affected.

"51. Upon the question of deleteriousness, it may be said that no harm may be

anticipated from the direct action of chlorine upon the tissues of the body, since, as we have seen, the chlorine, on addition to flour, immediately combines with various constituents of the flour, and no appreciable amount could remain in the flour in a free state. There is, however, the possibility that the products formed in the flour as a result of treatment with chlorine, to which reference has been made, may act injuriously. In addition, the constituents of the flour may have undergone changes as a result of treatment with chlorine, which impair the nutritive qualities of the flour. It may be argued that the amount of chlorine used is relatively so small that any changes, which may be produced in the flour, must be small, too, and for practical purposes may be disregarded. This, however, is a dangerous argument. We know that foodstuffs contain substances, which may be present in very small amounts, but are of the highest importance for proper nutrition. We know that those substances are very susceptible to mere traces of chemical reagents, which may alter or destroy them, and so irremediably impair the nutritive value of the food, which contained them.

"An obvious method of investigating the presence of harmful compounds or suspected impairment of nutritive properties is by feeding experiments with animals. When such experiments give positive results, they are conclusive, but negative results cannot be regarded as proof that the material tested is certainly innocuous or that its nutritive properties have not been damaged in some subtle but important respect. The results obtained by feeding experiments are merely the summation of a long series of subtle metabolic changes, which, by themselves, elude our present imperfect methods of detection. It is quite possible that the composition of a food material might be so altered in an adverse direction that, although the body would be capable of dealing with it, an extra strain would be imposed upon the tissues and cells of the body, which they should not be called upon to bear. The tissues of the body possess marked powers of adaptation to adverse circumstances and exercise their adaptability in dealing with deleterious materials, but it is not desirable to tax this adaptability without necessity.

"52. Similarly, in regard to another aspect of the problem, namely the detection of impairment of nutritive properties of a food, it may be remarked that, whilst feeding experiments properly conducted may give evidence of relatively gross impairment of nutritive value, it is conceivable that impairments may occur which are not readily detectable by this means.

"With a view to ascertaining whether the commercial treatment of flour with chlorine affected the flour so as to produce harmful substances or impair its nutritive value, we arranged for feeding experiments to be carried out on rats with flour treated commercially with chlorine and nitrogen trichloride. Briefly, it may be said that the results obtained were inconclusive. No significant differences were observed between the rats fed on the treated flour

and the rats fed as a control on the same flour untreated. A positive result would have sufficed to condemn out of hand the treatment of flour with chlorine. For the reasons already given, however, a negative result in a feeding experiment of this kind cannot be regarded as equally conclusive.

"53. As we have already observed chlorine is capable of altering the composition of gluten in such a way as to affect injuriously its nutritive value. Although such a change could probably occur only to a very limited extent in the commercial treatment of flour with chlorine, the mere possibility of an occurrence of the kind in a food so important as flour should be born in mind.

"In view of this and similar considerations, we regard the treatment of such an important foodstuff as flour with a substance such as chlorine, which may alter its composition unfavourably, as undesirable." . . .

Chlorine is permitted by the Pure Food Act of N.S.W. to be used in the bleaching of flour (information received from the Minister for Health). I am informed, from another source, that it is used "in several isolated instances" for the production of sponge flours — not bread flours. I think it would be interesting to know what these "several isolated instances" are; especially in view of the finding of the Committee that flour can be bleached naturally, simply by storing it in sacks. "Within recent times, it was a common practice among bakers to keep a reserve of flour on hand which was made into bread when it has reached the desired degree of maturity." — Para. 34 of the Report.

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"New Times," September 5, 1952—Page 7



What Is The Truth About Krilium?

As there has in recent months been a spate of propaganda in the Australian press about krilium, a "miracle" chemical, which can, according to American advocates, allegedly turn deserts into gardens, we have much pleasure in presenting the following article from the American journal, "Organic Gardening," of April 1952:

As they look at the nice coloured graphs of their production of food, feed and fibre, our get-rich-quick farmers have an unhealthy tendency to sit back and feel that all is well with American agriculture. But among our scientists, hidden away in their laboratories though they are, there is apparently deep concern. These men doubt the permanence of our agriculture. They feel the proximity of disaster, and their doubts and fears are reflected in an almost frantic search for some short-cut, some cure-all method which can by-pass nature and restore our soil fertility, eliminate erosion and, above all, give us crop assurance for the darkening future.

The latest result of their fear-filled search is Krilium — the trade name for a polyelectrolyte synthetic chemical, which, in a matter of hours, can convert non-productive and wasting lands into productive soil.

Krilium is a soil conditioner. Its process is magnetic. It is loaded with negative electrical charges, which react with the positive charges in soil minerals. This gives the treated soil that granular physical structure which is characteristic of fertile soils and which enables plant life to obtain optimum amounts of oxygen, water and nutrients. It is a cheap, quick-acting substitute for compost, barnyard manure and peat moss and has good wearing quality because of its high resistance to soil bacteria.

At least, that's what the man said. Krilium is a product of the Monsanto Chemical Company, and was unveiled by that company's officials, flanked by research specialists, during the recent Philadelphia meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. The unveiling was a high-powered, professional public relations job, timed to get results with the newspaper men who were prowling the meeting for science superlatives and not too anxious to send out stories on the significance of the re-election of Dr. Edward U. Condon as President of the Association. So, Krilium just dropped from the clouds with three years of tests behind it, an Okay from eighty (count 'em—80) land grant colleges and other institutions, and the

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announcement of a fifty-million dollar new Monsanto plant under construction to manufacture the stuff.

The impact of all this on the slightly bored newsmen was electrical, and this happy marriage between news-hungry reporters and a sensational new earth-magic resulted in the spread of the Krilium story on to most of the front pages of the country.

Monsanto's new plant is located in Texas, presumably because of the availability of petroleum as a raw material, for Krilium is a derivative of acrylonitrile, which, in turn, is obtained from glycerine or fats. The new and magic ectoplasm is expected to sell for something under two dollars a pound at the start, with rapid reductions in price as its process of manufacture is perfected. Applications of from two hundred to four hundred pounds per acre will be recommended.

But what does it all mean?

Well, first of all, let us assume — and this is a highly important assumption, which will be appreciated by the readers of "Organic Gardening" — that the chemical does not have an adverse effect on the food and feed qualities of the plants grown in the treated sod. Let us assume that all the published claims as to its qualities, so far as they go, are true. Still, even with all these assumptions, what do you have?

Krilium by definition is not a plant food. It is solely a soil conditioner. It confers granular structure on soils, which have lost such structure. It functions by conferring structure on impoverished soils, with the result that rapid absorption of water and perfect aeration are guaranteed. This last is extremely important, for the principal importance of aeration is that it helps provide optimum conditions in which combustion or the oxidation of organic matter can take place.

Let us underline this. It is the key to the disaster of Krilium.

The value of Krilium is in its ability to ensure that the combustion of organic materials will take place. Stating it another way, Krilium's main job is to facilitate the process by which organic matter in the soil is oxidised and delivered to the growing plant. By its very nature, Krilium puts no

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brakes on this process, and this fact of Krilium's speed-up of oxidation is something to consider seriously. For the whole basis of our fears in regard to our declining soil fertility is the ever-decreasing supply of organic matter.

Krilium is speed. And the faster the oxidation, the more organic matter is needed to replace that which has been oxidised.

Thus any obvious advantages of Krilium as a conditioner of soil structure are immediately offset by the fact that such optimum conditions for oxidation demand a tremendous constant supply of organic matter to be oxidised. The Krilium appetite is prodigious!

(Continued on page 9)

What Is The Truth About Krilium ?

(Confirmed from page 8)

All this would be something like running a furnace with the draughts wide open and the fire right down to the grate at all times. We would be kept busy shovelling in the coal while the furnace itself was melting down and our family was leaving the house at a dead run.

Now, if the initial supply of organic matter in the soil is large, it is possible that Krilium will enable us to get something like maximum crop production — at least for two or three years. But Krilium, as we have seen, depends on a constant and continuing supply of organic matter. Krilium organic matter would result in a soil of an entirely different colour.

After the initial spurt in production, Krilium-treated soils will probably go through two stages of evolution — rapidly if no organic matter is added, and more slowly if such additions are made. In the first case, Krilium will mean the rapid depletion of organic matter to a new low in Man's experience. Nature will have been blocked in this instance from taking steps to conserve plant nutrients.

This new low in organic matter caused by the frustration of nature will set in motion a more vigorous evolution in plant life than we have yet experienced. Depredations of pests and diseases will become more marked as they set about the business of eliminating the forms unfit to survive in the changed conditions of existence.

Consequent to this, a new wave of insecticides, hybrids and resistant strains will be urged upon us by our agronomists and soil chemists, and all ecological relationships will be further disturbed. Thus evolution, far from helping us reach a better and better efficiency in our relationship with nature, will be subverted. We will begin a downward cycle; moving from the higher to the lower forms. Back we will go, indeed, to the natural flora of earlier geologic ages, when organic content of the soil was low and plants as we know them now — and Man himself—had not made an appearance.

And all of this is not to mention the effects of Krilium as a straight poison or catalytic force. After all, Krilium is an artificial chemical, a foreign matter in the soil, and, as such, is more likely to prove evil than neutral or beneficial.

In its rapid drift to poorer and poorer crop returns, a Krilium-treated soil would present many special problems. A soil

with optimum organic content gives off heat by a combustion rate per acre per day the equivalent of one horsepower. The excessive combustion due to Krilium promoted aeration might offset this so long as the organic matter was there for the burning. But, it could not make up for the attraction and retention of solar heat, which takes place in a soil well darkened by humus content.

These are factors which tend to warm a soil and permit of earlier spring's work and a longer growing season. Lack of these factors will mean a tendency toward a colder soil. The efforts of plant life to adjust to these conditions will give up crop troubles similar to the ones we have now. Except they'll be greater and more complex.

Besides this, organic matter in soil has another quality which was unsuspected until recently, and is still of unknown effect. In the period during which it forms part of a living animal or plant organism, Carbon 14 absorbs cosmic radiation. After the death of the body, undecomposed Carbon 14 gives off this radiation in a kind of half-life of 5,580 years. By the techniques in use today, this radiation can be detected up to 30,000 years after death, and the time of death can be determined to within 100 years.

Complete combustion disperses the Carbon 14 and thus the remaining radiation. A soil replete with organic matter is alive with this radiation. A soil in which Krilium is used to confer structure is deficient in this radiation; becomes progressively more deficient; and with Krilium-soil-exhaustion it would be totally absent.

This effect must result in changes in our plant and animal forms, for the forms we know now have all been developed or evolved on food grown in the presence of this radiation. Its absence must undoubtedly loose the forces of accelerated change. Neither animal nor plant can accommodate themselves to rapid evolutionary development.

We haven't even begun to know the present relationships between man and soil, and here our scientists want to push us out farther into the unknown.

NATURE'S LIFE CYCLE

The heaps of filth at the corners, the cartloads of mud scattered at night all over the streets, the horrible refuse bins of the street cleaners, the evil-smelling streams of slush running down the gutters under the pavement, do you know what they are?

They are flowering hayfields, green grass, thyme and sage, game and cattle, the contented lowing of bullocks in the evening.

They are sweet-scented hay, golden wheat, bread for your table, hot blood in your veins, health, joy and life. Mysterious creation, which is transformation in earth and transfiguration in heaven, thus ordains it.

Put it all in the melting pot. Abundance will come out of it. The nutrition of plants is the food of man.

You are the masters. You can squander these riches, and you may take me for the most ridiculous of beings. That will be the masterpiece of your ignorance. —Victor Hugo.

"FIVE YEAR" FOOD PLAN ADVOCATED

In an editorial on August 26, the Melbourne "Sun" warned about the possibility of a food shortage in Australia within the next few years. But "The Sun's" "solution" has been borrowed direct from Moscow. A five year plan is necessary. And the planning must be on a really big scale. "The Sun's" leader writer states: —

"With the aid of the International Bank loan, realistic measures to advance a five-year food production plan should be promptly formulated. The opening up of areas suitable for wheat growing, large-scale irrigation projects, greater agricultural mechanisation, and provision of adequate supplies of fencing, farm building material and fertilisers, should all have a place in such a scheme."

Why only a five-year plan? Is it suggested that we will, within that period, have solved the food problem? Perhaps "The Sun's" leader writer is not aware that, before embarking upon any large-scale irrigation schemes, food production can be vastly increased by the use of tens of thousands of acres of country in assured rainfall areas. In recent months, the problem of fencing and other materials has not been availability, but price. The big-scale schemes suggested would require millions of pounds. If this money were advanced to individuals, both actual and potential farmers, they would, within a very short period, have far more to show than would all the big schemes put together. But real farming requires a more realistic financial policy. "The Sun" does not deal with this subject.

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—C. H. Douglas.

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BEWARE OF FLUORINE IN WATER SUPPLIES

As the Australian press has in recent times featured overseas news items suggesting that the fluoridation of water supplies is a "progressive" and "scientific" policy, we make available to our readers the following material from "Housewives Today" (England):—

We are glad to learn that in the United States, Congressman Delany and Representative A. L. Miller continue their stand against the universal treatment of water supplies with this chemical. A friend has sent us extracts from the Congressional Record of March 24th, 1952, including a long statement by the Hon. A. L. Miller, of Nebraska, from which the following is taken:—

"The Special Committee on Chemicals in Food has just completed exhaustive hearings, the first of its kind, upon the question of adding fluorine to the water supply. We had before the committee 18 witnesses who qualified as experts on the subject. There certainly was no unanimity of opinion among these experts. This was true, because the scientists felt that certain experiments now in progress were not far enough along in order for them to issue a sound opinion.

"Mr. Speaker, a year ago I introduced a bill which would permit the Commissioners of the District of Columbia to add fluorides to the public water supply of Washington, D.C. I did this because I thought the adding of fluorides at that time was a good thing . . .

"I believe that adding fluorides to the drinking water in the proportion 1 part per million, for children, will prevent about 50 percent of the caries that ordinarily occur. I am convinced from the hearings that they do not know at this time what effect fluorides might have upon an acutely or chronically ill child, or upon the older group who might be chronically ill. The scientists just have not completed their findings on this phase of the subject . . .

"A check of the vital statistics of Grand Rapids, Mich. — which is the only city of any size that has had artificial fluoridation for more than four years — shows that the death rate from heart disease in the year 1944 numbered 585. Four years later, after fluoridation had started, there were 1,059 deaths. There was an increase of 50 per cent in the deaths from nephritis. There was an increase of 50 percent over a period of four years, in the deaths from intra-cranial lesions. These are official

DIET DOES IT

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Page 10—"New Times," September 5, 1952

figures contained in the Vital Statistics of the United States, published annually by the United States Public Health Service; I am not saying that fluoridation was the cause. However, the Public Health Service takes pride in pointing out, through statistics, that health might even be better when fluorides are in the water. The records do not prove their point . . .

"I sometimes wonder if the Aluminium Co. of America, and its many subsidiary companies might not have a deep interest in getting rid of the waste products from the manufacture of aluminium, because these products contain a large amount of fluoride . . ."

Sandyford, Kirriemuir,
7th May 1952.

The Editor,
"The Dundee Courier."

Dear Sir,

I trust the 20,000 of Kilmarnock's inhabitants, whose water supply seems doomed for fluoridation, will not readily accept the prescribed dose of mass medication without seriously considering the matter.

Dr. Paul Manning, of Springfield, U.S.A., a dentist and consulting chemist and member of The Valley District Dental Society, does not approve of fluoridation. He rightly says: "When I contract for water, I want water; I don't want any socialistic bureau to decide that some dubious medicine must be forced down my throat at the same time."

In Beverley Hills, U.S.A., the proposal to fluoridate city water was rejected. Councillor F. B. O'Connell took the safe and sane position that the council was not in the business of practising medicine, and, therefore, "the council should not undertake to write a prescription for residents in Beverley Hills."

The council rightly agreed with him and rejected fluoridation.

At Steven's Point, Plymouth, and Shawano, Wisconsin, fluorine plant had to be removed when the inhabitants refused to have fluorine in their drinking water.

If doctors and dentists would only bend their energies in helping us to stop the adulteration of our food, our teeth and bones would be as nature intended them to be.

Sodium fluoride is entirely different from organic calcium-fluoro-phosphate, needed by our bodies and provided by nature.

It is in wheat, but the flour, which goes into our national loaf, is so deprived, gassed and adulterated that nature's fluorine has to be substituted with inorganic sodium fluoride.

One is an edible organic salt, insoluble in water and assimilable by the human body; whereas the inorganic sodium fluoride fully water-soluble and the body refuses to assimilate it.

Let readers be warned. Agene slipped into our bread, and we have been fighting for years to have it removed.

Surely the moral for lovers of both freedom and commonsense would seem to be this: let the doctors and dentists decide individual medical needs on an individual basis.

Yours truly,

ELIZABETH M. PATTULLO,

Member, Central Committee, S.H.A.
(Published 9th May, 1952.)

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SOUND FOOD AND "ECONOMICS"

Lady Eve Balfour's clear statement in the course of a broadcast argument about the effects of fertilisers on the health-giving properties of the soil that—

If "economics" made the production of sound food impossible, it was the economic system which should be altered, not the processes of Nature—
shines like a good deed in a naughty world.
—(Home Service, July 31.)

Of the other three contributors, only Dr. (Ph.D.) E. W. Russell, an Oxford Reader in Soil Science, seemed to be wholeheartedly an opponent of the Soil Association's Organising Secretary. Flustered and out-matched, he said farmers must work for money, which would not accrue from production of quality foods in a world in which population was outstripping natural resources. Lady Eve Balfour charged that Life was the true measuring stick, not misapplied so-called scientific standards.

Incidentally, we noticed that the Chairman, Mr. J. T. Beresford, of Chilmark, near Salisbury, refrained to a remarkable degree from those mischievous and untimely interjections which we have come to recognise as the distinctive call of the "B.B.C.'s carrion crows wherever there may be a carcass. And when may there not be, with proper management?

Lady Eve Balfour was objecting to a policy and stigmatised the accounting system as its instrument. It should be a short step from recognising that, while an accounting system is not a political system, it is an accounting system, and as such it should take the facts presented as its basis, not a wangling of them. We do not quarrel about how the accounts are wangled; but with their being wangled at all.

—"The Social Crediter," August 9, 1952.

AN ADMISSION

In his Budget speech on August 6, the Federal Treasurer, Sir Arthur Fadden, said: "There is still inflation in the sense that prices and costs are rising . . ." Wasn't it Sir Arthur who only a few days before the announcement of the last Basic Wage increase, claimed that the 1951 Budget had cured inflation?

Wood Ashes are Valuable

By ESTHER T. LATTING in "Organic Gardening" (U.S.A.).

There is real value in unsightly wood trimmed from shrubs and trees; it is not just material to throw away or to put on the compost pile. Hauled to an empty spot in the garden and burned, its ashes become one of the best sources of potash — a natural fertilizer of great value to all plant life. Wood ashes, though, should never be allowed to stand in the rain, as the potash would leach away.

In my own garden, I have always used wood ashes. In working up a new flower or vegetable garden, I cover the ground with a good dusting of wood ashes, which are spaded in before planting. In an established flowerbed, I have used a mixture of one part each peat moss, old chicken house litter, and wood ashes to good effect. I sprinkle a trowel full of this around each plant in the early spring and cultivate it in. The peat moss seems to hold the fertility from both the litter and the wood ashes until the plant roots reach it. Well-rotted compost can be substituted for the peat moss and chicken house litter. Mixed with leaves, wood ashes will hasten their decomposition to form leaf mold.

In the vegetable garden I have found wood ashes equally valuable. I generally use them there just before applying the summer mulch. If your supply is limited, save what you have to side dress root crops. All crops will benefit, but root crops need the greatest supply of potash. Wood ashes are an excellent fertiliser for fruit trees and berries. I always apply them to my strawberry planting each spring, as well as to the raspberry bed. Keep wood ashes away from blueberry bushes, however, as they require an acid soil, and wood ashes are very alkaline.

You will notice the frequent reference to "unleached" wood ashes. This is very important. Ashes vary in potash content from 5 to 25 percent and in lime and magnesium from 50 to 75 percent. Leached ashes may have as little as one percent potash and 25 percent lime. This proves it is well worthwhile to store your ashes carefully where they will remain dry until you are ready to use them. And if you are buying ashes, be sure they are unleached.

When you incorporate them in humus

rich soil, there is little danger of loss from leaching, as the humus acts as a sponge to hold the available nutrients ready for the roots as they reach out. This is one of the most noticeable advantages of a plentiful supply of humus in the soil. It cuts down the loss of plant nutrients from leaching to almost nil, and seems to act as a smorgasbord, allowing the plants to select what they want from a well laden table in place of forcing on them the food nearest at hand, regardless of their needs.

Under certain circumstances, it is possible to use too much wood ash, as I found to my sorrow when I mixed them with potting soil for African violets, at the rate of a good handful for two quarts of soil. All the plants died, and, when dug up, I found the roots had rotted. I am not sure whether they were burned or rotted, but the result was the same. About two tablespoonfuls would have been right for this amount of soil.

In the open ground, especially with plenty of humus, there is less danger, but 5 to 10 pounds per 100 square feet is about right. Avoid contact between freshly spread ashes and germinating seeds or new plant roots by spreading the ashes a few inches from the plants. Mixed with leaves, they help the leaves to decay and will give a better-balanced fertiliser as a result.

It is rather interesting to consider the potash content in ashes from different woods, and even from the same wood in different parts of a tree.

	Pounds per Ton	
	Ash	Potash
Spruce	7.50	1.00
Beech.....	12.78	2.80
Ash.....	26.90	1.63
Oak	29.76	3.31
Elm ..	55.11	8.60
Willow	61.73	6.28
Grapevine	74.95	12.12
Ferns (or Bracken)	80.25	9.37
Wormwood Plant (Artemisia absinthium) .	214.73	160.93
Fumaria Plant (Fumaria)	482.81	174.16

Twigs of trees are richer than mature wood. Hardwoods, by which we mean deciduous trees, have more potash than softwoods, such as evergreens. Ashes from trees growing in swampy ground, such as alders, willows, and swamp maple, are not only richer in potash, but also in trace minerals, than those grown on higher ground. This is probably due to surface erosion of these materials to the swampy ground. Grapevines are very high with about one-tenth of the ash potash, but highest of all is wormwood (*Artemisia absinthium*), with very nearly 75 percent potash in the ashes.

Potassium deficiency is easily recognised

in plants. The potassium gradually moves upwards, which is why twigs are richer in potassium than mature wood. Where the supply is insufficient, the margins of the lower leaves will gradually turn yellow and then brown as though scorched. (This is also undoubtedly the reason for the autumn colour in trees.) Sometimes there is a yellow mottling of the lower leaves. When these signs are noticed, applications of potash are indicated and, except on very alkaline soils, unleached wood ashes is the best form.

It will pay you to take care of any wood ashes you may have from the fireplace or stove, and, if you find a source of unleached ashes, by all means use them, unless your soil is highly alkaline.

What Sir Albert Howard Said: The Lesson of the Cowpat

The grazing animal has something important to tell us—how to manage our meadows and pastures and how to look after our precious manure and compost heaps.

Cows and bullocks are, perhaps our best professors in these matters. When these animals void their dung on a pasture, humus formation at once begins under and around the cowpat. But the proportion of animal to vegetable waste is here in excess: there is too much animal waste in proportion to the small quantity of vegetable matter. The oxygen supply is totally inadequate. The consequence is that high-quality humus is impossible: low-quality humus is temporarily formed whose defects are duly passed on to the herbage: the grazing animal confirms this loss of quality by leaving the grass round the cowpat uneaten. In wild life the animal roams far and in due course Nature readjusts the balance. In our farming the animal is confined: a loss of efficiency then results: we waste valuable material in the shape of the cow dung: land is also unused: poor-quality produce results.

The chemistry and biology of the cowpat are mistakenly repeated in the management of our manure heaps: there is too high a proportion of animal to vegetable waste: there is too little air for the organisms which make the humus: second-class manure results: a serious loss of the priceless organic nitrogen occurs.

The number of times this simple lesson (of what to avoid in looking after our animal manure) is repeated on our meadows and pastures every year must run into millions. Nevertheless, it has never, to my knowledge, been heeded. We go on repeating the biological errors of the cowpat in our manure heaps. Little or no trouble is ever taken to provide therein the correct balance of vegetable and animal wastes.

Flight From The City

By Ralph Borsodi

"Men and women who desire to escape from dependence upon the present industrial system and who have no desire to substitute for it dependence upon a state-controlled system are beginning to experiment with a way of life which is neither city life nor farm life, but which is an effort to combine the advantages and to escape the disadvantages of both."

Flight From The City is the story of an experiment, which will stimulate the reader. Price 2/11, post-free. Order from New Times Ltd., Box 1226L, G.P.O., Melbourne.

EARTH IMPOVERISHED BY SEA

From "Les Miserables," by Victor Hugo

Paris casts twenty-five millions of francs annually into the sea, and we assert this without any metaphor. How so, and in what way? By day and night. For what object? For no object. With what thought? Without thinking. What to do? Nothing. By means of what organ? Its intestines. What are its intestines? Its sewers. Twenty-five millions are the most moderate of the approximate amounts given by the estimates of modern science. Science, after groping for a long time, knows now that the most fertilising and effective of manures is human manure. The Chinese, let us say it to our shame, knew this before we did; not a Chinese peasant — it is Eskeberg who states the fact—who goes to the city but brings back at each end of his bamboo a bucketful of what we call filth. Thanks to the human manure, the soil in China is still as youthful as in the days of Abraham, and Chinese wheat yields just one-hundred-and-twenty-fold the sowing. There is no guano comparable in fertility to the detritus of a capital, and a large city is the most important of dung-heaps. To employ the town in manuring the plain would be certain success for if gold be dross, on the other hand our dross is gold.

What is done with this golden dung? It is swept into the gulf. We send, at a great expense, fleets of ships to collect at the southern pole the guano of petrels and penguins, and cast into the sea the incalculable element of wealth, which we have under our hand. All the human and animal manure, which the world loses, if returned to the land instead of being thrown into the sea, would suffice to nourish the world. Do you know what those piles of ordure are, collected at the corners of streets, those carts of mud carried off at night from the streets, the frightful barrels of the night-man, and the fetid streams of subterranean mud which pavement conceals from you? All this is a flowering field;

it is green grass, it is mint and thyme and sage, it is game, it is cattle, it is the satisfied lowing of heavy kine at night, it is perfumed hay, it is gilded wheat, it is bread on your table, it is life.

So desires that mysterious creation, which is transformation on earth, and transfiguration in heaven, restore this to the great crucible, and your abundance will issue from it, for the nutrition of the plains produces the nourishment of men. You are at liberty to lose this wealth and consider me ridiculous in the bargain; that would be the masterpiece of your ignorance.

It is notorious that, at this very hour, the Thames poisons London! And, as regards Paris, it has been found necessary to remove most of the mouths of the sewers down the river below the last bridge.

AVOID KILLING POLLINATORS

In Great Britain, as in Australia, there is evidence that the application of D.D.T. sprays to apples and plums after blossoming has led to a substantial increase in red spider.

Mr. J. H. Stapley, a leading British entomologist, recently stated that the unfavourable results were most likely where D.D.T. killed the parasites of a pest which D.D.T. itself did not adequately control.

On the other hand, the value of D.D.T. in controlling a pest might sometimes outweigh the consequences.

In the case of benzenehexachloride the charge was not so much against the killing of parasitic insects as in the destruction of pollinating insects.

Experiments had demonstrated B.H.C. to be highly toxic to bees, although in the field, it had proved less injurious largely because recommendations for its use were designed to avoid application near blossoming. — "Weekly Times".

CHRISTIANITY

"It must be insisted that Christianity is either something inherent in the warp and woof of the Universe, or it is just a set of interesting opinions largely discredited and thus doubtfully on a par with many other sets of opinions and having neither more nor less claim to consideration."

—C. H. Douglas, in "The Realistic Position of The Church of England".

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