

THE NEW TIMES

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ONE SHILLING & NINEPENCE FORTNIGHTLY

CANBERRA'S POWER CAN BE BROKEN

States Should Call Convention

J. T. LANG

Last week in the Federal Parliament, two prominent members — one Labor and the other Liberal — both urged a National Convention to consider the question of States' sovereignty and the finances of State Governments. One member wanted the Convention to consider handing over more powers to the Commonwealth, while the other member wanted it to find ways and means to transfer powers back to the States from the Commonwealth Parliament.

This clash between the Unificationist line of thought, and the true Federalist approach to the Constitution reflects the very great differences between those contemplating Constitutional reform. But they have still not grappled with the real problem. That is the warping of the Constitution through the Unificationist approach of prominent members of the High Court, who have applied their own philosophy in order to make the Constitution mean what they think it ought to mean, rather than deal with it judicially in terms of what the original charter provided.

The Commonwealth is too prone to forget the origin of Federation. It is too anxious to forget that its own powers stem from a voluntary transfer by the States, sanctioned by a referendum of the people. But the original sovereign powers were vested in the States. That is why the Premier of New South Wales, Mr. Cahill, would have been on sound ground had he insisted on his right, as the Queen's First Minister in the State of New South Wales, to take charge of the landing of the Monarch at Farm Cove.

The manner in which the Commonwealth has ridden roughshod over the sovereign rights of the States during the past twenty-one years reflects a spirit of constitutional anarchy rather than that of the recognition of the rights of co-equal partners in the structure of Parliamentary Government.

When I went to Canberra it was primarily to urge upon the Parliament and the people, the urgent need for the rehabilitation of State rights. Never has the axiom that finance is government been ridden so hard as the way in which the Commonwealth has treated the States.

The work of States destruction commenced with the establishment of the Loan Council and the signing of the Financial Agreement in 1928. It was carried to its

next stage when a majority of the High Court upheld the Financial Agreement Enforcement Act in 1932. But it was made absolute by the transfer to the Commonwealth of a taxation monopoly through the wartime Uniform Taxation Act, and finally sealed tight by the High Court decision that Commonwealth taxes had priority over State taxes.

We have now reached the impossible position where State Government has less financial autonomy than a municipal council, and where semi-government bodies have far greater borrowing and taxing powers than the sovereign State of New South Wales. Without financial autonomy there can be no financial responsibility. The position has been aggravated by the annual diversion of current taxes to pay for capital works of the Commonwealth, whereas the States are required to build up their loan accounts and pay through the neck for financial accommodation.

But would a Convention provide a solution to the problem? Such a body, no matter how representative, would have no constitutional status. Its decisions would be only recommendations. They would still have to be implemented by referenda. The principal value of such a gathering would be educational and to act as a sounding board for various schools of thought.

But if it was dominated by the Parliamentary representatives, or the nominees of the two major political groups in the Commonwealth, it would not get very far. The real impetus for Federation at the Corowa Conference came from outside the political machines of the time. It came from an awakening national consciousness. Would politicians be prepared to abandon their own vested interests at such a gathering?

Would, for example, there be any room for a serious consideration of the anachron-

ism of the present Senate? What chance would there be for a successful move to carry out Labor's platform of abolition? Then there is the need for recognising the aspirations of the New State Movements which are anxious to go ahead with the programme visualised in the present Constitution of creating additional States within the Commonwealth. The politicians in Canberra who rode into political life on the bandwagon of the New States movement are never heard from these days on

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OUR POLICY

1. The preservation of Australia's sovereignty as a part of the British Empire, and the exposure of all internal and external groups, which attack that sovereignty.
2. The preservation and extension of genuine local government.
3. The preservation and strengthening of all Constitutional safeguards for the purpose of protecting fundamental individual rights.
4. The encouragement of all activities designed to bring Governments under more effective control by the electors.
5. The preservation and extension of genuine free, competitive enterprise and private ownership, and opposition to all Monopoly, whether it be "private" or State.
6. The support of a financial policy which will (a) permit free enterprise to make available to all individuals an increasing standard of living and greater leisure for cultural pursuits; (b) result in no further increase in the community's indebtedness and the sound business practice of gradually reducing existing debt.
7. Recognising that the basis of any sound economy is agriculture, the encouragement of agricultural policies which will ensure the preservation and building up of soil fertility by organic farming and gardening; and the prevention of soil erosion and the protection of forests and watersheds.

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

THE MENACE OF "FULL EMPLOYMENT" II

By JAMES GUTHRIE

The political battlecry "Full Employment," backed by high-pressure salesmanship, has become "accepted" by large sections of the population as the alternative to the "unemployment" caused by financial "depressions." That "Full Employment" appears the only answer to unemployment seems natural enough, that is, if unemployment is the thing that we are trying to eliminate. But it is necessary here, to be sure, that we are not being tricked by abstract words into doing something in complete opposition to all we desire and believe.

If we examine the matter more closely we find certain facts, which should start us to wonder. Is it not a fact that intelligent men and women, from the beginning of time, have tried to do away with unnecessary labour, i.e., full employment? Is it not a fact that the highest paid men in the community, such as managers and technicians, are paid to do away with unnecessary labour? Is it not a fact that the function of industry is not to supply us with full employment but to do away with the need for full employment, or to reduce official employment to a minimum? To clinch the matter, let us remove the doing of a job of work from the treacherous, fog-bound marshes of politics, and let us look at it as it has been looked at for countless centuries.

What kind of a reception do you think a salesman would get if, when visiting housewives, instead of trying to sell labour-saving gadgets, he tried to sell something that would ensure full employment for the housewife, for all day, and every day, irrespective of what she did or wanted to do, and irrespective of time and place and the needs of her particular household? Ridiculous as it may appear, this is exactly the idea that high-pressure political salesmen, of all colours, are trying to sell us.

Unemployment is not a sign that industry has failed in its responsibilities; rather, it is a sign that it has succeeded in its special function of doing a job with a minimum amount of labour, i.e., a minimum claim on the services of the community.

Financial "Depressions" are produced by those in control of the financial system. The means of causing depressions and of eliminating them are well known to those in control, and the mass unemployment caused by a credit restriction over large areas is neither necessary nor natural; it is purely an instrument of policy — a policy of ter-

rorisation similar to the policy behind the atomic bomb.

Since the last war we have been enjoying or suffering, a period of "Full Employment". I won't say that everybody has been fully employed, but most people who wanted to could punch a clock and so draw an income.

The tremendous demand for labour has been due to, let us say, a man called Hitler. Hitler with the help of the Allies, having destroyed many towns in Europe, and having withdrawn millions of men from useful production for five years, has given us all a big job to catch up with the devastation they have wrought.

All I wish to point out here is that full employment, in these days of power driven machinery, is not possible unless means are used, as in war, to destroy capital and consumption goods on a vast scale; and the "Full Employment" of these post-war years is singularly without profit for vast numbers of people, and collectively does not reimburse the population for the heavy losses of past years.

In the forefront of preventives advocated for future unemployment is the planning of large "Public Works" to absorb the idle labour. Apart from the fact that jobs so supplied are almost useless for any other than the pick and shovel men, there are other points of importance to be noticed.

A community, having produced its immediate requirements, can devote some of its spare time to making labour-saving tools. Now, labour-saving tools mean tools to do away with labour, i.e., to do away with "Full Employment," and as each labour-saving device is produced, then, naturally more time and labour can be freed to produce more labour-saving devices, and so on *ad infinitum*.

It should be noted that labour-saving devices are not limited to power driven tools; a means of bringing criminals in high places to justice would eliminate the labour involved in war, in killing and maiming millions of innocent people.

The result of the increasing use of labour-saving devices should be a progressive reduction in the hours of labour, or in prices, or in both together. But the cost of everything has increased steadily during four hundred years, and there is nothing to indicate that it will not keep on increasing.

Here then we come face to face with a blatant contradiction of all the physical facts of a modern power driven production system, a contradiction so outrageous that no serious student of politics can escape its terrible implications. Mr. Menzies' explanation that the workers are not working hard enough has sufficient truth in it to satisfy many people, but just how much of the truth does it represent? It is certainly not the whole truth because the increase in prices has gone on since Henry the Eighth's time, and that's a few years before Mr. Menzies' time; and it has gone on in all countries, pre-war and post-war.

One definition of an engineer is: "A man who could make for I/- what anybody else

could make for a £1." But it would appear, with the aid of "science," "invention," modern "education" and "full employment" we can now make for a £1 what our great grandfathers made better for 5/- and what the 14th century Englishman made for about 1d.

Whatever "policy" lies behind "Full Employment" there are certain things we do know, and these are that the international policy makers responsible for this policy are socialists to a man, or rather they use the socialists and communists and the whole leftist apparatus as their willing tools. We also know that socialists and communists look upon profit as an evil thing. And as profit means the "natural reward of successful effort" we are justified in assuming that the policy of "Full Employment" is designed to keep every man fully employed without profit to himself or to his family.

It should be noticed that since the 40-hour week has been instituted, men with any responsibilities are probably working more hours per week than ever before. There are also more married women seeking employment outside their homes in order to balance the family budget. This means that "Full Employment" has not only reduced the leisure hours of the population, it has also failed to deliver the goods and services required in the home. It has failed to do this even though the average size of family has been very greatly reduced. Truly, the socialists have achieved their objective—that whatever a man shall work for, contrive for, or fight for, it will be without profit for himself, his family and his country.

III

In days not so remote, outside the larger towns, what men were, what they did and what contributions they made to society was fairly well known; secondly, the rural population was larger in numbers than the urban population; and thirdly, such organisations as the armed forces, the civil service, and financial, industrial and commercial organisations, claimed only a very small percentage of the population.

The result of these conditions was that life was more intimate, and information, at least for the active members of the community, was first hand, instead of being reported from "reliable sources." If there were treachery one knew whom to deal with. The unstable and irresponsible sections of the community, which were found in large towns, were swamped by the overwhelming health and strength of the rural population, and there was nothing like the large collection of clock punchers, which have turned our industrial centres into the political, social and economic plague spots of the world.

In earlier times, most urban families must have been connected closely with rural families living on their farms; this meant that many city dwellers were connected, if not permanently, at least in emergency, with a source of abundant food and shelter, and could live on a farm for a year or

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THE MENACE OF "FULL EMPLOYMENT"

(Continued from page 2)

so, and have plenty of food to eat, and beer to drink, without upsetting the economy of the farm. In fact it is recorded that up to the "Reformation," in the 16th century, men could travel throughout the country and be sure of a bed and food wherever they went, and without paying a penny for it.

All these things meant that the interruption to a person's financial income did not assume the serious proportions that it does today. After all it is not in the nature of things that the same income should arrive each week or month; the interruption to a person's financial income only becomes serious under certain unnatural conditions. These are important to remember: —

- (1) When a person has no direct access to food;
- (2) When a person has no reserves;
- (3) When a person is cut off from the accumulated wealth of his tribe or race.

Reserves in the hands of individuals, or private incomes, are what "Full Employment" is aimed at. That is why they are being systematically destroyed. We shall discuss them again later. Meanwhile, it is important to notice that the implementation of the policy of full employment is only possible by stripping the individual of all reserves. Having said this, we will accept the fact that today the only access most people have to food and clothes is through money tokens issued by the banking system, and obtained mostly by punching a clock in some organisation. This means, of course that what a person can buy will depend largely on prices.

Before the Industrial Revolution the cost of goods was almost entirely a labour cost; today, especially in heavily mechanised industries, the cost charged against machinery is often many times that charged against labour; also, when the population was largely rural, cash transactions were not necessary for many commodities made and grown on the farm. When a man bought anything from his neighbour he got for a day's earnings the equivalent of a day's labour, or something very near to it.

Even in the days before the chemical combines, kerosene tractors and agricultural colleges, even before the use of selected seed and pedigree stock, even as far back as the 14th century, a labourer in England could obtain for a day's labour as much or more food as a labourer working in the most favoured countries today. In the light of "Modern Education", "Modern Science" and Invention, modern management and of power driven tools, these facts are astounding.

Today with the use of machinery, credit finance, re-investments and a variety of charges not represented by payments to individuals, overhead charges have assumed a larger proportion of prices than cash disbursements to individuals in the form of wages, salaries and dividends. The result is that the community has not the purchasing power to buy the goods and services it

collectively produces, and, in spite of, or because of, mass production, inferior quality, rationalisation of industry, amalgamations, chain stores, co-operative stores, etc., the prices in shops become more and more of a nightmare to housewives; entering a shop is like entering a sub-branch of the taxation department, and one leaves in a similar fashion—numbed, subdued, and resentful pauper.

In an editorial in this periodical (May 20, 1950), an analysis of seventeen thousand public companies in Britain showed that disbursements to individuals amounted to only 46 percent, of the total prices which were charged to the community. This bears out the analysis made by Major Douglas thirty years ago, and this analysis was probably the greatest contribution made to economic thought during the last 100 years. Needless to say, the professors of the London School of Economics (the socialists staff college) did not think much of this contribution.

Nevertheless the fact remains that the people cannot buy the current goods and services they collectively contribute. During periods of intense activity in the production of capital goods sufficient money is paid out in wages, etc., to buy all the consumption goods for sale, but the cost of the capital goods still remains a charge against the future, i.e., against future consumption goods. And as modern industry is progressively producing more capital goods in proportion to consumption goods, the prices charged to the public become progressively more impossible to pay. Hence the increasing use of hire-purchase systems (consumer credits).

This then is the reason why reduction in labour charges has not reduced prices as it logically should, and you can imagine what contribution Mr. Menzies is likely to make, with graduates of the London School of Economics in the key positions in Australia, and with Dr. Coombs selected as Chairman of the new Commonwealth Bank Board (appointed by the Menzies Government).

The irritation caused by rising prices is playing right into the hands of the communists, and the communists are correct when they say that there is no solution under the present "capitalist" system: they would be more correct if they said "under the present financial system."

The communists are quite correct when they say "private enterprise" cannot provide "Full Employment"; they are quite wrong when they think it should do this. What private enterprise can do, and has done, is to reduce the labour required to produce goods and services. The fact that banking policy is controlled by a centralised super-government is not the fault of private enterprise. Production and the issue of credit are two separate functions, and the fact that the latter is not a strict reflection of the former is a tragedy that no newspaper cares to discuss.

(To be continued)

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We offer the following popular booklets at greatly reduced prices.

THE TRUTH ABOUT SOCIAL CREDIT 6d.

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

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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.

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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.

FROM ADMIRAL TO CABIN BOY

By Admiral Sir Barry Domville 10/-

This book may be described as a biographical history of international affairs from the end of World War I to 1943. Admiral Domville has an excellent knowledge of the part played in world affairs by the Jews; this knowledge caused him to be imprisoned for three years.

THE ARCHITECTS BEHIND THE WORLD COMMUNIST CONSPIRACY 2/6

By Ron Gostick, editor of "The Canadian Intelligence Service." A masterly expose of the Jewishness of Communism. Traces the conspiracy from Marx to the present day, presenting a mass of documented evidence and photographs of the conspirators to prove the race and identity of the enemies of Christendom.

A Defence of the "Black Market"

The metropolitan Press stated last week that while New South Wales received 15,000 tons of Victorian potatoes, Melbourne received only about 890 tons for the month.

That was on the "official market".

As Melbourne, and plenty of other places, received potatoes on the "black market", so-called, the position was not quite so bad as it appeared.

I am not an advocate of law breaking, but it seems to me that laws, to be completely valid from a community point of view, must have the general sanction of the people at large.

That is not the case with much of the legislation passed by both State and Federal Parliaments today.

The fundamental difference between the "official market" and the "black market" is that while the former is a controlled market the latter is free trade.

Let us take the "official market" and observe what happens in respect to potatoes.

Theoretically all potatoes belong to the Potato Marketing Board and must be sold through their agents. Five men sitting in Melbourne decide when and what quantity growers may load. They have a secretary and an office staff of 7 or 8. These have to be paid.

They have an agent at each loading centre. He gets paid.

The Department of Agriculture has an inspector looking at the potatoes at say three or four loading centres. He has to be paid.

In the general course of events the potatoes are loaded on rail trucks and are very often a week or more reaching Melbourne, and a couple of weeks getting to Sydney. The grower is anything from two weeks to two months before he gets paid.

Then the wholesale merchants handle them. They get their cut and pass them on to the semi-wholesale merchants. These deliver them to retailers. The semi-wholesalers get their cut. The retailer sells to the public, and he gets paid.

Under this "official market" system, in my opinion there are far too many people with a finger in the potato pie.

Now let's have a look at the "black market".

First of all, who originated the term? I don't know—do you?

Freemasonry and the Anti-Christian Movement

By E. Cahill. 15/3, post-free.

This remarkably well-documented book proves beyond doubt the Jewish origin and domination of Freemasonry as indicated in the Protocols of Zion. Quotes extensively from Masonic writings.

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Well, so far as the "black market" is concerned, what happens is this.

Either the grower delivers direct to the consumer or retailer, or a fellow with a motor truck and an eye to business buys direct from the grower and sells direct to the retailer or consumer.

In either case the potatoes are on the farm one day and in the hands of the consumer or retailer, so far as Melbourne is concerned, the next.

It will no doubt be argued that, as the Department of Agriculture inspector has not seen the potatoes, the consumer is not protected against receiving inferior tubers. That argument is somewhat specious. The consumer has a right to inspect what he is about to buy, and if he or she does not like the look of them, then they should not be bought.

That would effectively discipline a grower who attempted to be smart by trying to foist rubbish on the buying public.

As I see it the difference between the "black" and the "official" is in favor of the former. There is a saving in manpower.

Anti-Red Chinese Soldiers

We trust that those starry-eyed dupes of the Communists who are claiming that the overwhelming majority of the Chinese support the Peking Communist Government has noted that even after the "persuasion" talks given by Chinese Communist leaders, Chinese prisoners of war in Korea are voting almost unanimously against returning to Red China. They are demanding to be allowed to join the Chinese Nationalists on Formosa.

If the overwhelming majority of Chinese soldiers are so opposed to Communism that they will not voluntarily return to their own homes, surely this is clear evidence that the Chinese people are not supporters of their Communist masters. This fact alone should make the Australian Government decide against recognition of the Chinese Communists now or at any future date.

Federal Accounts Report

The Joint Committee on Public Accounts, which under Professor Bland's able chairmanship has been discovering some startling facts concerning the spending of the taxpayers' money by the Federal bureaucracy, has been criticised because it stated after an investigation that the Department of National Development was inefficient and irresponsible. The Committee stated in its report that "It is essential that the department should be restrained in selecting projects, and vigilant in seeing that value is obtained for what is spent."

This criticism was too much for the Minister for National Development, Senator Spooner, who having been briefed by his top bureaucratic advisers, denied that there was any truth in Professor Bland's statements. One Labor Senator said that Professor Bland's criticism was so serious that either Senator Spooner must go, or the Committee must go. We suggest that not only should Senator Spooner go, but also all the bureaucrats who have been using him.

Resistance to Social Credit

By C. H. ALLEN

The old quip "The more I see of men, the more I love my dog", came to my mind as I read Professor Walter Murdoch's answer to the question "Which other animal does man most resemble?" Some cynics may suggest that the implied slur should be made to apply more especially to many highly intellectualised men, for in a course of specialised training the natural intelligence of a person is often smothered or lost.

Thinking over the question itself, I am inclined to suggest that men today most resemble guinea pigs, using that term with its slang connotation as applying to men who seem to make an easy living by pocketing their guinea-a-sitting fees as company directors. The idea must be broadened in its implications, for are not nearly all of us bound to be pre-occupied to a scandalous degree in the money grubbing game?

For instance, amongst those who took up the cudgels with Major Douglas to have a vicious fault in our prices-income accountancy corrected, very few were trained accountants. WHY? Because they are forced by our regime to accept the false convention of finance if they want to make a living by accountancy.

As it developed, the Social Credit movement has necessarily widened and deepened its challenge to the conventions of the day in the political and cultural fields. But as it pays better to condone or accept the trends, which have developed, or are developing, very few are prepared to come to real grips with the few, the real helmsmen who keep us upon the course which must bring us to disaster. Men in business, men in Parties, men in most institutions dare not be heretics, or non-conformists. While the guinea-pig proclivities are so pronounced it is no use presenting the pearls of wisdom, which came from the pen of Douglas.

Like all similes the one suggested above does not cover the whole ground of complaint. Especially in the political field the rewards, which leaders seem to cherish, even more than the guineas involved, are the limelight and applause, which the Press and the Parties are able to maintain to satisfy those who are allowed to arrive at the top. They seem, generally, to have the hide of a hippopotamus against the darts of truth, and the pride of a peacock in strutting before their admirers.

Look Younger Live Longer

By GAYELORD HAUSER

Every man and woman, young or old, will find in this book sane and sound advice that should make his or her life healthier and happier. Deals with the important relationship between food and health.

Price, 16/9 Post Free

Communism and Price Control

A League of Rights Radio Talk

At the recent Congress of the Australian Council of Trade Unions held in Sydney, a resolution was passed calling on the Federal Government to re-impose Commonwealth Price Control. It is significant that Communist representatives at the Congress were most enthusiastic supporters of the resolution. The vital importance of this resolution should not be overlooked by thinking electors. Although the present Federal Government has made it clear that it has no intention of re-introducing Commonwealth Price Control — it has in fact refused to continue financing State Price Control — there can be little doubt that a Labor Government elected at next year's Federal Elections would find it expedient to heed the A.C.T.U.'s resolution. A number of the more Socialistic Federal Labor Members have in recent times demanded that Commonwealth Price Control be restored.

Now, as most goods are at present in plentiful supply, it is obvious that the Socialist and Communist demand for Commonwealth Price Control has nothing to do with protecting the consumer against exploitation. The real objective is to obtain a most important instrument of power, one that can be used to further the Communist idea of the centrally planned State. Whether Australian electors like it or not, the fact remains that the Federal Labor Party's policies are considerably influenced by the demands of the Trade Unions. And,

OUR SHAM DEMOCRACY

9d. Posted

By James Guthrie, B.Sc.

This important book should be in the hands of all those who are concerned about the manner in which the parliamentary system has been perverted and used to further policies which progressively enslave the individual.

In a penetrating examination of the present voting system, Mr. Guthrie shows how the "majority vote racket" has been used to destroy the rights of minorities. It is not genuine democracy for Governments elected by a majority of electors to have unrestricted powers to do as they like until an election removes them from office.

The author demonstrates how the basis of democracy must be local, decentralised government, which can be effectively controlled by the individual. He deals with the menace of centralised Government and the disastrous results, which always stem from it. Constructive suggestions are made for making genuine democracy a reality. "Our Sham Democracy" is one of the most fundamental and important books to come from the pen of an Australian Social Credit writer.

Order from New Times Ltd., Box 1226L., G.P.O., Melbourne.

in spite of the victories of the moderate Trade Unionists in their campaign to drive the Communists out of executive positions in the Trade Unions, Communist influence is still much greater than most people realise. It is dangerously futile to claim that the Communists' power in the Unions has been broken while Communist objectives are retained and advocated. For example, Mr. Laurie Short, who finally defeated Communist domination of the Ironworkers' Union, recently advocated the nationalisation of the Australian steel industry. Nationalisation of the steel industry is, of course, a basic Communist objective. And so is Commonwealth Price Control.

As there are still many electors who believe that Government Price Control does help the consumer, let us draw attention to several indisputable facts: Price Control cannot stop prices from rising if the producers' costs of production are increasing. If the price-fixing authorities do not permit producers to recover rising costs through higher prices, the result is a decrease in production, a shortage of supplies to the consumer and the inevitable "black market" which enables the consumer to be exploited. Shortages and "black markets" encourage the rogue at the expense of the honest businessman. There is much loose talk about only wealthy people being opposed to Price Control. But, in fact, it is only wealthy people who can afford to pay the exorbitant prices, which the operators of the "black market" can demand, for goods in short supply. The present potato "famine" is the direct result of the price-fixing authorities fixing the prices of potatoes too low. Even if Prices officials do happen to fix a price, which is reasonably profitable to producers and retailers, what service have they rendered the consumer? None whatever. They are merely operating a costly bureaucracy to permit retailers to sell at a price for which they would have sold without Government control. Adequate production and genuine competition enable the consumer to exercise his own Price Control. Government controls of all description retard production of cheaper consumer goods. And one Government control inevitably leads to the demand for still more controls and more officials to police the controls. The Communists understand this and that is why they backed the resolution on Price Control at the A.C.T.U. Congress.

Runnymede

"It is very fitting that those who rest in nameless graves should be remembered in this place, for it was in these fields of Runnymede, seven centuries ago, that our forefathers first planted the seed of liberty, which helped to spread across the earth the conviction that man should be free and not enslaved."

Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II in unveiling on October 18 at Runnymede-on-Thames a memorial to more than 20,000 men and women of Commonwealth air forces who died during last war and who have no known graves.

League of Rights Radio Talks

The Director of the Victorian League of Rights, Mr. Eric Butler, is giving a weekly commentary over the following Victorian radio stations:

3MA Mildura, Tuesdays, 10 p.m.
3YB Warrnambool, Tuesdays, 10.10 p.m.
3UL Warragul, Tuesdays, 10.10 p.m.
3GL Geelong, Wednesdays, 10.25 p.m.
3HA Hamilton, Fridays, 9.55 p.m.
3TR Sale, Fridays, 9.55 p.m.
3SH Swan Hill, Saturdays, 9.15 p.m.

Big Meeting Opposes Recognition of Red China

At the meeting held by the Christian Congress for Peace and Freedom in the South Melbourne Town Hall on Monday, October 18, the following resolution was carried almost unanimously:

"This meeting expresses its abhorrence of the Communist philosophy and system of government, and, as citizens of a democracy where freedom is held inviolable, we pledge ourselves to hold firm to the principles of justice and charity, and to give unswerving devotion to the cause of peace with freedom.

"Notwithstanding our earnest desire for peace, we believe that our freedom is imperilled by appeasement, and our duty to this and succeeding generations makes it incumbent on us to resist the forces of aggression.

"We declare that recognition should not be given at any time by this or any Federal Government to any regime based on civil, economic and religious enslavement.

"Because of our knowledge of the evil of Communism, its record of inhumanity, and its threat to Australia, which would be accentuated with the loss of Formosa, we most vehemently declare our continued opposition to the recognition of Red China, which is completely identified in philosophy and in policy with world Communism.

"Further, we emphatically reject the suggestion implicit in the statement made by the Minister for External Affairs at New Delhi that recognition of Red China can be made dependent on circumstances involving a settlement in Korea and the establishment of a temporary period of peace in the Pacific."

DIET DOES IT

By GAYELORD HAUSER 19/8

This is the latest book by this famous author, and will be a valuable acquisition by those who desire to maintain their health by natural dietary methods.

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The New Times

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No. 21.

COST OF LIVING CONTINUES TO RISE

Although several anonymous "authorities" were quoted several weeks ago as having expressed the opinion that inflation had practically ended, the latest cost of living figures indicate that prices are still continuing to rise. The average quarterly increase of 3/- per week was claimed by the Federal Government as evidence that inflation is "tapering off". But every increase in the cost of living, as indicated by the statistician's quarterly figures, has been claimed as evidence that the Government is "putting value back into the pound". The cost of living has probably increased by £2 a week since the Government launched its anti-inflation Budget in 1951. To claim this increase, as evidence of victory against inflation is an example of that political lying which Mr. Kim Beazley, Labor M.P., courageously attacked several weeks ago.

We have no doubt that the Government is hoping desperately that because the quarterly cost of living increases will not result in automatic basic wage increases in future, the cost of living will cease to increase. It is true that various steps, most of them unpalatable to large sections of the community, can slow down the rate of increase in the cost of living, but, unless there is a policy of credit restriction and consequently a depression, the price level must continue to rise under present financial rules. Whatever the politicians think about this matter, those controlling financial policy are pledged to a policy of "controlled inflation". If continued long enough, this policy must completely undermine the present structure of society. It must intensify social tensions from which the Communists must inevitably benefit.

Several press editorials have suggested that the abolition of the automatic quarterly basic wage adjustments should be accepted by workers because prices may drop shortly and wage earners would thus obtain a genuine increase in purchasing power. These press pundits did not mention the fact that, if prices should start to fall as the result of restrictive credit policies, there would soon be large-scale unemployment. And unemployment helps the Communists as much as inflation and "full employment". Any attempt to make primary producers, manufacturers and retailers subsidise prices, as was attempted when the "horror budget" and credit restrictions were imposed in 1951, would undoubtedly bankrupt many businessmen. The truth of the matter is that there can be no genuine stability and no real progress under present financial rules. And truth is not affected in any way by the ridiculous jargon, which the "experts" impose upon the unhappy community. The sooner sufficient responsible members of the community face the truth and then take appropriate action, the sooner we will start to reverse our steps away from the catastrophes which threaten if we continue to accept present financial policies.

An Apology

In our last issue we published an advertisement stating that the Christian Congress for Peace and Freedom was holding a public meeting in the Melbourne Town Hall on Tuesday, October 19. Just after going to press, when it was too late to make an alteration, we received information that the organisers of this meeting had changed the place and date of the meeting. It took place in the South Melbourne Town Hall on Monday, October 18. We apologise for the inconvenience we caused a number of readers who attended the Town Hall on the 19th.

The Centralised Social Structure

(1) The existing difficulties are the immediate result of a social structure framed to concentrate personal power over other persons, a structure which must take the form of a pyramid. Economics is the material key to this modern riddle of the sphinx because power over food, clothes, and housing is ultimately power over life.

(2) So long as the structure of society persists personality simply reacts against it. Personality has nothing to do with the effect of the structure; it merely governs the response of the individual to conditions he cannot control except by altering the structure.

(3) It follows that general improvement of conditions based on personality is a confusion of ideas. Changed personality will only become effective through changed social structure.

(4) The pyramidal structure of society environment the maximum control over individuality. The correct objective of any change is to give individuality maximum control over environment.

—C. H. Douglas in *Economic Democracy*.

Gift Subscriptions

We desire to emphasize the suggestion made at "The New Times" Dinner for readers to give subscriptions of The New Times as Christmas presents. It is not too soon to start thinking about Christmas gifts. Here is a way in which readers can solve the problem of Christmas gifts and at same time help advance those ideas for which "The New Times" stands. Most "New Times" readers undoubtedly have friends or relatives who would appreciate reading "The New Times". Many of these would undoubtedly continue as regular readers. If sufficient readers will cooperate with us in this scheme, it is our intention to have printed suitable cards with appropriate wording to be sent to recipients of the gift subscription.

Will all those readers who intend to make use of our Christmas Gift Scheme please let us know at their earliest convenience. Money can be forwarded later if desired.

The Reaction Against Internationalism

The reaction against world-dictatorship ("internationalism") is growing. Most evidences are 'straws in the wind,' and, like straws, present an aspect of untidy confusion. The following is by no means confused. It is said to have been written by Salazar, the Portuguese leader: —

"The belief in the virtues of internationalism seem to me morbidly exaggerated, since it appears unlikely that the whole world would be free from the individual frailties and shortcomings of the component parts. Our idea of international community has been nurtured on realities, and we desire above all to make our contribution to the concert of nations truly helpful. Therefore, with that end in view, our very first duty is to become ourselves a constructive factor and not a means of ill contagion and destruction. The order, which we have established in Portugal, our modest achievement, is an appreciable contribution to the general welfare.

"All that we demand in return is that those who cannot or will not save themselves, shall refrain from trying to impose upon us their own standards of perdition.

"I merely state my sincere conviction that 20th-century man is not yet capable of seeing or solving world problems except through national, free and independent entities. People of exalted imagination, armchair politicians engrossed in abstract solutions and unconcerned with the many realities bound up with the lives of peoples, will maintain the view that something better is possible. Nevertheless, prudent persons will agree that a national basis is still the most solid, the easiest and safest on which peoples can co-operate for their mutual well-being.

"Internationalism, concealing as it does pronounced tendencies towards national imperialism, is indeed a source of complication and danger today. The ideas of super-national, organisation and the tendency towards 'citizenship of the world' are either definitely erroneous or humanly impossible. They are so far from possible under present conditions that they can only act as disturbing elements."

The Faustian 'standard of perdition' is not unattainable. When, under the impact of the atomic hammerings on the great landmasses, do volcanic eruptions begin to appear in the Hebrides and the islands included in Munster and Connaught?
— *The Social Creditor*, October 17.

Political Lying

In his radio address from the Wesley Pleasant Afternoon on Sunday, October 18, Mr. Kim Beazley, Federal Labor Member for Fremantle, made some very telling points concerning political lying. "Lying by suppression was perhaps the most dishonorable part of political life. This suppression involved dwelling on the mistakes of one's opponents and never attempting to give a balanced view of what the other was doing. The lie was a weapon of diplomacy, but it was necessary to remember that lying was a step in the direction of insanity, no matter whether public or private.

We trust that Mr. Beazley's parliamentary colleagues at Canberra have noted this observation.

Behind the Iron Curtain

Little is said about it publicly, but Government economic experts place much weight privately on the tremendous economic loss suffered by the Soviet Union as a result of the revolt in Eastern Germany, the disturbances and political troubles throughout the land of states which line Russia's European frontier. These countries - - particularly East Germany, Poland, Czechoslovakia — had been producing and pouring goods (both consumers and producers goods) into the Soviet heartland for some years. Not only the spectacular strikes, but the innumerable instances (we are assured by excellent sources) of "slow down" in the factories of these Iron Curtain countries have taken their toll in sharp reductions of exports to Soviet Russia. This slow-down process is still going on.

The cancer from which the Moscow regime has suffered has been the decline in industrial productivity. This has many causes, but principally it is the dominance of the politicians over the industrial experts, with consequent demoralization of the latter. This is the opinion of various students of Russian economy. And they can perceive — better than others — the reasons why the Malenkov-Molotov regime is afflicted with internal disorders, which increase in intensity as they develop along the edge of the Russian imperial area, as in East Germany.

All this goes far towards explaining why the Big Drive (as we described it last week) is on to save the Soviet Union. As we have mentioned, Churchill leads this extraordinary procession, for the more American economic help Russia craves, the greater the commissions which "honest broker" Churchill can obtain from wealthy Uncle Sam. Next in line is the powerful Communist network, as usual swinging behind itself the more powerful forces of collectivism of all sorts. (This also explains why the drive to destroy McCarthy has been so frantically stepped up. For McCarthy's revelations -- note his charges this week of British contraband trade in China - might politically hamper if not block this campaign to save the Soviet Union.)

The final, the ultimate and underlying reason why the true picture of Russia's economic productivity is not being presented is interesting. Indeed, one of the marvels of these hot days is the reverse picture being officially given out: that Russia's economic power is growing, not declining. One of the laughs of the last weekend was in the juxtaposition of two news stories: (1) from Eddy Gilmore, A.P. correspondent in Moscow for many years, now returned to the West and proclaiming that Russia is "under stress and strain"; and (2) stories from the State Department claiming that Russian economic strength is increasing.

Those who are behind the scenes here say that the latter claim is supported by a "phony national estimate" which is based on distorted statistics. Why is this picture distorted? Because Administration leaders fear that the American people will become "lax" if this truth is told and will not support the big requests for appropriations for "foreign aid" which are now up for crucial votes on Capitol Hill.

— "Human Events" (U.S.A.), July 22, 1953.

Credit Unions

The Melbourne press of October 19 reports Father J. Leahy, Director of Catholic Youth, Rockhampton, as having told members of the Young Christian Workers' Movement in Melbourne that young men starting their own businesses should be financed by credit unions rather than by banks. While not denying that credit unions do serve some useful, if limited purposes, they can merely re-lend financial credit which originally is created by the banks. We never cease to be amazed at the attitude of silence which most Christian leaders adopt towards the subject of the control of the community's credit. Surely a fundamental moral issue is involved when the individual is deprived of control of his own credit? The fact that Government's are stealing the individual's credit instead of private individuals does not alter the fact of robbery and exploitation.

CANBERRA'S POWER CAN BE BROKEN

(Continued from page 1)

the principle for which they originally fought. Where are the sponsors of the New England Movement? What has happened to the Riverina Movement established by the late Senator Charles Hardy? Has Sir Earle Page forgotten his original doctrine?

The only way in which a Convention could be assembled would be to make it an elective one, so arranged that minorities obtain adequate recognition. It would have to have safeguards against machine manipulation. The lawyers would have to be kept in their proper place. Bitter experience has demonstrated that the decisions of practical men, expressed in simple terms, stands up to the test far better than the involved legal formulas of the professional hair-splitter.

But the initiative for true constitutional reform will never come from the Commonwealth under existing States. Federal politicians fundamentally believe in the Federal monopoly of power. So the States must be prepared to take the first step. They should get together without the Commonwealth. They should establish a series of simple propositions, backed with the facts. Those propositions should be submitted to the electors of each State by the State Government. There should be six separate State referenda.

In that way, the States would be able to clarify the position so that they again become the Constitutional leaders. We would be back again to the methods employed by the early Federalists. We would be free of the inhibitions and obstructions of the Unificationist. Then the Commonwealth would have to face up to the expressed will of the people. By all means let us have a Constitutional Convention. But let it be called by the State Government. That would be the first step that might get somewhere.

— *Century*, October 16.

"New Times", October 30, 1953—Page 7



ONLY THE SOIL CAN FEED PLANTS

By Thomas Powell, New York

Feed the plant, or feed the soil. This is one fundamental controversy between organics and chemical fertilizers. The food and feed value of your crops, their resistance to disease and insects, their yields and quality are all dependent on the means and method by which they receive their nourishment.

How useful, or useless, is your soil? Is a plant's mineral content determined by the fertilizer that is placed in contact with its roots, that is, fed directly to it, with the soil serving only as a support for the plant? Can we by-pass the soil, as current policies of the chemical fertilizer industry dictate, and place "plant food" where the roots can pick it up without utilizing anything in or from the soil?

These ideas are both widely accepted and utterly false. They completely ignore everything we have ever learned about the soil. And current research into the basic components and properties of soil and their effect on plants are pointing up the falsity, and the danger, of this doctrine.

What is the soil? Let us listen to soil experts and plant physiologists, instead of the seductive "a bag of this will give you 10 bushels more of this" voice of fertilizer advertisements.

The soil, say the people who know, is a vastly complex, *living* substance. Like all living things, it needs food to maintain itself and do its work—the work of turning out products that serve as food for plants. Chemical plant food, plus inert dead clay, rock, or sand, cannot produce healthy, vital plants.

Fertility, or the ability to supply food to a plant, is dependent on two things: the life in the soil, and its colloidal properties. These are basic to a soil: with one missing, or with either in improper amount or relationship to the other, soil is not soil.

Put a speck of healthy soil under a powerful microscope and even then you can get only a small idea of the teeming, active life within it. Estimates of the number of fungi, algae, bacteria and other organisms living in a single ounce of soil range from 500 to 700 million. This incredible number will add up to some 50,000 pounds of microorganisms in an acre-depth of 4 inches, or about 3 percent, of the total weight of the soil. How much, and in what proportion, of nitrogen, phosphorus and potash, as well as trace elements and other nutrients your plants receive is determined by the functioning of these minute animals. Their

proper functioning, not to mention their very life, is dependent on how you feed your soil.

What we call organic matter is made up of the digestion products of these microorganisms and substances left when their dead bodies decompose. The more bacterial activity, the more organic matter and the darker your soil. A sterile soil is usually grey or nearly white.

The non-living portions of the soil can feed plants only in direct proportion to the activity of the soils living parts. Clay, the most important of the soil's inorganic components, is composed of microscopic crystals so tiny it would take well over 10,000 of them, standing side by side, to stretch one inch. Because they are so tiny, we call them colloidal particles. They are themselves inactive. Their job in the soil is governed by the fact that each crystal carries a negative electrical charge. A negative charge attracts a positive one, in this case ions of potassium, magnesium, calcium, cobalt and other nutrients. Only competing ions or the work of microorganisms can tear these positively charged ions away from their clay jailers.

How much and how strong the attraction of the negative charges of the colloids are determines a soil's base exchange capacity, its power to hold nutrients. A low base exchange capacity means a soil can hold little plant food, regardless of how much we pour into it. That is, unless we pour in organic matter. For organic matter has a base exchange capacity, too. As the products of well-nourished microorganisms increase, so does the soil's ability to hold on to plant foods, to build up fertility. And some of the organisms are busy weathering rock particles—either there naturally or added in the form of ground rock fertilizers—to supply nutrients for the colloids to grab hold of. These inter-related activities supply a soil's reserve of fertility.

Soil colloids fight to hang on to the nutrients. But scientists tell us, if the nutrient ions are in a certain ratio to each other — for example, 4 ions of calcium to 1 of magnesium, etc.—they will have an easier time getting way from their colloid jailers. Availability of nutrients, therefore, depends on an exacting balance of them,

something the most "balanced" chemical fertilizer would be hard put to achieve.

But chemical fertilizers don't even *try* to achieve this. Instead, they are applied on the basis of the nutritional needs of the crop. This is a false and very dangerous concept, as a long-term series of experiments by the Florida Experiment Sta. has recently proved.

Here are the conclusions reached by these researchers:

The mineral content of vegetables (one of Florida's chief crops) is much more closely related to the organic matter content of the soil than to the minerals shown to be available in it by soil tests or added

(Continued on page 11)

ORGANIC FARMING AND GARDENING BOOKS

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NEW CHISEL PLOUGH SHOULD INTEREST AUSTRALIAN FARMERS

By John Redrup in "The Leader"

Picture an implement that leaves paddocks penetrable to rain, air, and plant roots to a depth of 16 inches, minimises erosion risks, works stubble and surface growth into the top soil, doubles the effectiveness of rainfall and in all this, leaves the top soil right where it belongs—on the top.

This is precisely what is claimed for the "chisel-plough" - a new implement that may soon become as familiar to Australian landholders as the mouldboard-plough, the disc-plough, or the tandem disc-cultivator.

Basically, the chisel plough is merely a series of spring-mounted curving shanks, shod with plough tools and so borne on their heavy steel frame that the shanks bite into the soil at one-foot intervals.

Models vary from 5 and 7 foot cut types designed for use with tractors equipped with three-point linkages, to trailed models varying all the way from six to 16-foot cuts. Depth control and alternative plough-tool fitments adapt the implement for a wide variety of conditions.

Two U.S. farmers originated the chisel-plough — Wm. Graham and F. Hoeme; hence its popular name, the Graham-Hoeme chisel-plough.

Developed just before World War II the sub-soil ripping, stubble-mulching and hill-side-stabilising effects of the new implement so impressed the U.S. Government that it promptly subsidised its mass manufacture.

Within a very few years it became standard equipment for farmers in the "dust-bowl" wheat States.

As author-farmer Louis Bromfield put it in his recent book "Out of the Earth"—"this implement has largely replaced the mouldboard or turning plough over vast areas, with the result that erosion and dust storms have been checked, rainfall and moisture conserved, and bumper crops of wheat produced in the Great Plains every year since 1938."

In short, this novel implement with its rapid oscillating shatter-action as its sprung tynes rip through the sub-soil, and its reputation of being able to work with safety and operator-comfort wherever the tractor can manage to take it—even on iron-hard, 45 degree slopes — has won a remarkable reputation in its native America.

But what of its role in Australia?

The Graham-Hoeme chisel-plough's Australian story began just three years ago when Sydney mining engineer and landholder, Mr. P. A. Yeomans got hold of one of three recently imported U.S.-built chisel-ploughs and set in to work on one of his two holdings near Richmond — i.e., in N.S.W.'s notorious "County of Cumberland."

Mr. Yeomans had previously employed every artifice of soil conservation science and heavy mechanical power to hold the district's unreliable rainfall where it fell—and thus at once arrest the eroding effects of run-off, and make possible the maintenance of improved pasture in a county that has traditionally defied all "improvement" attempts.

It is Mr. Yeoman's claim that where all

the costly, unsightly, and ground-wasteful paraphernalia of contour-furrows, terrace and diversion banking and the rest only partly succeeded, the open soil surface and natural furrows left by his chisel-plough absorbed into the deeply ripped sub-soil even the heaviest rains.

Here is the way Mr. Yeomans used his chisel plough. The first "cut" into his harsh rubbly soil he tackled at high speed and at any convenient working angle—with no "contour working" worries at this stage. All he aimed for was a shallow stirring.

He tackled the next cut diagonally to the first furrows and hard on the heels of the first working. This time the shanks went in deeper. Then he followed with as deep a cut as he could manage — this time on the contour.

On this rough preliminary "seed bed" he then sowed down a mixture of clovers with either an oats or Rhodes grass cover crop. This he aimed to graze only lightly, if at all. Its chief purpose was to return organic matter to the soil when the chisel plough returned to the paddock in the following year — able now to rip into the loosened soil to full depth.

Just two years' experience with the plough convinced Mr. Yeomans that here was an implement Australia needed. Promptly he secured Australian rights and began its manufacture. Today scores of Australian landholders are using the chisel plough and reporting well on its capacities.

But what do Australia's scientists have to say about this new implement?

As yet no careful work has been carried out with the plough in the strict research sense, although steps in that direction are under way now.

But as an indication of what many farm scientists are thinking, here is a summary of what one well-known agricultural authority—Mr. E. J. Breakwell, of Sydney University, has to say about it.

Mr. Breakwell makes it plain that he is not prepared directly to recommend the implement. Science will insist on probing its capacity very carefully before committing itself on that point.

However, he states: "The general principle of the chisel plough appeals to me for moisture retention on steep slopes."

Ripping the sub-soil deeply to permit water to soak in where it falls and encourage pasture roots to root deeper and deeper in search of that stored moisture could be the answer, Mr. Breakwell believes, to establishing improved pastures in second and third class land which is too steep or too rough to take the traditional finely worked "clean" seed bed.

Commending the chisel plough's principle of progressively working deeper and deeper into the sub-soil, without turning under the

vital top soil, Mr. Breakwell implies that what may finally decide the implement's long-term usefulness is how long the sub-soil rips remain open. Only experience and trials can answer that one.

Summing up, Mr. Breakwell believes that if the chisel plough proves its worth Australia may be on the threshold of big developments in the methods of pasture establishment — with swiftly and economically prepared "rough" seed beds taking sown pastures into country which traditional establishment methods simply dare not tackle.

Wool Prices and Inflation

Australia's wool cheque for the three months ending September 30 was approximately £11 millions more than for the corresponding period last year. If present wool prices continue, the certified economists will soon be claiming that they are intensifying inflation. Should they drop, however, there will be anxiety about a depression. Under sane financial rules, high prices for goods exported out of the country would result in a bigger flow of imports. But sanity is the last thing, which the controllers of financial policy desire.

Rock Phosphate in U.S.A.

The State of Illinois uses 600,000 tons of rock phosphate each year, and the State of Missouri uses another 200,000 tons. Together, these two States use more rock phosphate each year than all the rest of the world.

—*Farm Quarterly* (U.S.A.).

Egg Production

An Egg producer who is a member of the Australian Primary Producers' Union says that the problems of Australian egg producers will continue until present egg production is reduced by one third. There is "over-production". Increased production of eggs has not produced the results which the "experts" claim always stem from increases. It would be revealing to know how many Australian families are consuming as many eggs as they desire.

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TEETH AND NUTRITION

(From "Organic Gardening," U.S.A.)

By J. I. Rodale, leading American organic authority

The electron microscope and radioactive tracers have at last proven an important theory: that "the skin of your teeth" is living material, and can draw nourishment from the body fluids. Thus, your diet can affect your teeth, and decay can be traced back to the soil.

Organic farmers and gardeners have long noted, through actual observation, that tooth decay can be greatly reduced through eating organic foods, but dentists have always said that tooth enamel is hard as rock and once formed in childhood cannot be altered in any way.

Now along comes the Harvard School of Dental Medicine with scientific proof that our contention is correct. Their experiments are reported by Reidar F. Sognaes, Dean of the School, in the June *Scientific American*.

Dr. Sognaes stresses the fact that human beings suffer from tooth decay much more than the animals. Healthy teeth today are a comparative rarity among any peoples of the world. The more civilization, the more our teeth are subject to the ravages of decay, he says. He cites a University of Minnesota study covering the past 30 years that shows that the teeth of the people of this country are steadily getting worse—so much so, in fact, that we may have no teeth at all in 1,000 years.

Why does a tooth decay? Certainly not because it is not clean. People started brushing their teeth regularly 50 years ago, but decay has become more rampant in the past half century than ever before.

Other theories as to the cause of dental decay fall by the wayside in the light of modern research. Heredity, contrary to common belief, has nothing to do with tooth decay. You do not have bad teeth because your forefathers did. Anthropologists have shown that people the world over are susceptible to dental caries, as the profession calls decay.

Nor does the "fermentation of carbohydrates" theory hold much water. Many authorities do not believe that the sweet

foods we eat so much of today act as agents of decay through the formation of enamel-eroding acids, says Professor H. H. Nueman of the Columbia University School of Dentistry. In New Zealand, for instance, the people eat a great deal more protein and much less sweets than we do; yet they have three times as much tooth decay. (Of course, consuming a lot of sweets can contribute to decay—and to poor health in general—if we eat them in preference to a well-rounded diet.)

Before Dr. Sognaes' experiments, the most incontrovertible proof that diet caused caries and the host of related mouth and systemic troubles we suffer came from Weston Price, writing in *Nutrition and Dental Health*. This scientist showed that primitive peoples had very few cavities, mal-formed teeth, etc., until they ate commercially grown and refined foods. He further demonstrated that crowded teeth, smaller jaws and narrow faces are always found in the succeeding generation after natives go on white men's food.

The *British Dental Journal* reports on experiments in an English school. In 1939, chemically grown foods were used; 50 per cent, of the students had 0 to 2 cavities per cent had 3 to 5, 18 percent had 6 or more. During 1945 to 1949, when the school's entire food supply was organically grown, 98 percent, had 0 to 2 cavities, .8 percent, had 3 to 5. Not one child had more than 5 cavities.

The files of *Organic Gardening* contain numerous other reports and testimonials to the ability of organic foods to build healthy teeth. But we never knew exactly why naturally fertilized foods should have this power. The dental profession's long-standing belief that tooth enamel was dead matter was a direct contradiction of this.

Dr. Sognaes' work proves the old belief wrong.

Tooth enamel, he found, is composed of epithelial (skin) cells, the same as those making up nails and hair. They start to form long before a child is born, in tiny, pencil-shaped crystals or prisms, so tiny 100 of them could fit inside the thickness of a human hair. Just to make the crown of one molar tooth takes at least 10,000,000 of them.

Under the electron microscope, Dr. Sognaes found interlacing these prisms and even within them, a *sponge-like network of organic fibrils*.

The prism crystals are made of tri-calcium phosphate, magnesium phosphate and calcium carbonate — the same substances as the dentin (inner core of the teeth) and bone — plus assorted trace elements. But the organic matter itself seems to be composed of a fibrous protein plus a protein-carbohydrate compound which seems to serve both as a sort of protective coating over the fibrillar matter, and as a bonding material between the inorganic prisms.

This gave a new clue as to the mechanics of decay. The individual crystal-and-organic

units of which the enamel is composed are very tiny, much tinier than the microorganisms scientists believe cause decay. Therefore, there must be some kind of weakening or actual destruction, of the organic and inorganic matter of the enamel — or the bond between the two — before these microorganisms can invade it.

If the enamel is dead, then acids from the bacterial fermentation of carbohydrate could very well be the weakening agent. But if it is alive, then perhaps it can exchange substances with the body fluids and receive strengthening or weakening agents this way.

Dr. Sognaes reasoned that radioactive tracers would give the answer:

He knew that, with the aid of such tracers, other scientists had proven the bones and even fatty tissues which don't seem to change are really not static. The "building blocks" are continually shifting and changing, exchanging materials with the blood.

Did the same thing happen in tooth enamel? Dr. Sognaes and his co-workers used radioactive isotopes of calcium, iodine phosphorus and other elements to determine if such an exchange occurred in the hard substance that is enamel.

They found that it did! Ions of calcium and phosphorus in the saliva, were freely exchanged with chemically similar ions at the surface of the enamel prisms. Further the ions were found to be able to penetrate right through the enamel and dentin - in both directions. Ions from the saliva can move into the tooth's inner pulp and back again freely.

This was conclusive proof that the enamel is not dead matter. Just like bone or other tough body tissues, it is capable of trading substances with the materials around it even though it has no blood vessels coursing through it to carry these substances. It uses the saliva that surrounds it at all times.

But what of the materials it absorbs from the saliva? Dr. Sognaes warns that some of these may make the teeth, more resistant to decay; others may dangerously weaken its defences.

If the foods we eat contain a goodly supply of beneficial elements, and no harmful ones, it is logical that the enamel will have strong defences against the forces of decay. And since enamel is live matter will it not, like the rest of the tissues in the body, be best nourished by the products of a live soil? Can a dead soil, one that lacks the vital interactions of organic matters, bacteria, minerals and the rest produce healthy tissues and thus animals or people completely healthy in body and mind?

Fluorine is one of the trace elements in tooth enamel. It is absorbed from the saliva. Tests have shown that it seems to form a relatively insoluble compound through chemical action on the surface of the prism crystals and thus strengthens them against decay.

But as Dr. Sognaes says, fluorine can only reduce decay, not abolish it. Present results certainly do not justify the artificial addition of it to our drinking water supplies. It has been found to protect the teeth of only one child in three, and no safe level of intake for the human body has been established.

On Planning the Earth

BY Dr. GEOFFREY DOBBS

This brilliant work not only exposes completely the falsity of the propaganda issued by the advocates of the Tennessee Valley Authority and similar large-scale land planning and hydroelectric schemes, but reveals them as part of a worldwide conspiracy designed to drive the individual down the scale of human existence. Foreword by Major C. H. Douglas.

Price, 9/ -

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Only the Soil can Feed Plants

(Continued from page 8)

in the form of chemicals. "Soil type, or at least soil environment, was the main factor . . . which influenced mineral composition . . . The fertilizer level had very little effect on mineral composition," states their Bulletin 488. The higher the soil organic matter content, the higher the mineral content of the vegetables grown in it.

Take phosphorus, for instance. Artificial phosphorus is said to be absolutely necessary for improved yield and quality of crops. But even when tests showed a large amount of phosphorus to be available, crop plants showed a definite lack of it—except those plants grown in a soil high in organic matter. Calcium and potassium followed the same principle. The organic matter obviously not only helps build up the nutrient content of soil, but keeps it in the exact balance needed to release the ions as plant roots call for them.

Another highly interesting conclusion was that the use of chemical fertilizers brought about increase in *size*, but caused decreases in *dry matter percentages*. In other words, the crops were "blown up" with useless materials like water, not enriched with more minerals or protein. Nitrogen was often increased in them, but mainly in the form of nitrates (a possible source of toxicity) rather than true protein. Protein, incidentally, is the human body's "reserve of fertility." Sugars and carbohydrates are immediately used forms of energy, while protein is stored up for bodybuilding and protection of tissues. Thus it seems that artificial feeding not only gives the soil no reserve of needed materials, but denies them to us also. Celery grown on organic soil in these experiments was over 10 percent, higher in protein than celery grown on soils low in organic matter.

All this brings us to a point that may be more important than it seems at first. We know one of the bad effects of chemical fertilizer is that it harms soil bacteria. May not all the damage chemicals do be traced to this?

With no organisms to produce organic

matter, the soil's base exchange capacity is lowered and minerals leach away. Good structure disappears, too. Erosion accelerates, yields drop, the farmer pours in more chemicals, the whole process goes on faster and faster. To try to feed a plant directly with concentrated soluble mineral salts, ignoring the vital role of the soil's biological life, is to deaden the soil. It can only lead to rapid deterioration and bankruptcy - not to mention the myriad illnesses caused by the "nutritional famine" brought about by eating malnourished plants.

Conversely, true lasting fertility and highly nutritious crops are to be achieved only by building up the humus content and biological activity of the soil. We are finally learning how plants obtain their food from the soil, what soil is, and how to maintain and increase its productivity.

There are no short cuts to farming except those short cuts dictated by Nature herself. Give her the proper materials to work with — organic soil foods — and she will feed your plants and maintain her largesse eternally.

Teeth and Nutrition

(Continued from page 10)

Fluorine is a strong poison; there is evidence that it is cumulative in effect.

Too, depending on one element to "cure" tooth decay can easily make us ignore plenty of other elements in good food that would do the job much better, and naturally, not artificially.

Proper nutrition, it would seem, is the only lasting answer to the universal and growing problem of decaying teeth. As long as our soil is deadened and impoverished with chemicals, we believe, we cannot have sound, whole teeth.

Rock Phosphate Advocated

Finally, on acid high-rainfall soils there seems to be a very good chance that finely ground rock phosphate may soon take over much of the long-term pasture top-dressing job of superphosphate.

Trials in New South Wales, Tasmania, South Australia and West Australia suggest that, under certain conditions, very finely ground rock phosphate may meet the long-term, if not the rapid initial establishment, requirements of improved pastures.

A substantial and growing demand for ground rock phosphate should ultimately bring this "fertilizer" on to farmers' paddocks far more cheaply than equivalent amounts of superphosphate, because the expensive sulphuric acid treatment will be sidestepped.

—John Redrup in *The Leader*, Sept. 23.

Books Dealing Mainly with Principles

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Land Tax Opposed

While not agreeing with all their statements, we strongly support the anti-land tax campaign being conducted by the Victorian Taxpayers' Association. In our opinion, all taxation on land should be abolished.

The following article on land tax by Mr. M. J. Pettigrove, Secretary of the Victorian Taxpayer' Association appeared in "The Leader" of October 7:

Land tax is nothing more or less than an annual class impost on capital. Basically, the tax is unjust, and the present increases in Victorian land tax by the Cain Government will have the effects of increasing costs to the man on the land, and they will have an adverse effect on the deflationary Commonwealth budget.

There is also another bad repercussion from land tax. That is because of this iniquitous tax it is hard to borrow money. Mortgagees and other financial institutions do not favor lending money on properties because if they enter possession they have to pay, more often than not, even a higher rate than the previous owner—the maximum. I am tipping the maximum rate will be 7½d.

I already know of one man who was prevented from buying and improving a run-down property in the Western District of Victoria through the increased land tax. Investigation has shown that if he bought the property—to improve it and to increase production — he would be paying super tax and it would not be worthwhile.

Under land tax, as it is instituted in Australia today, the efficient farmer who makes two blades of grass grow instead of one, is taxed more. The tax kills incentive.

In addition to raising the rates of land tax this month; the Victorian Government during the past year has also been increasing the tax by raising the taxable valuations of properties throughout the State.

On the Mornington Peninsula, 40 miles from Melbourne, I know of a dairy farm—a high-producing dairy farm on country, which 20 years ago produced practically nothing—whose unimproved valuation was raised from £16,000 a year ago to £100,000.

The reason for this extreme rise is merely that a few choice week-end home sites were sold on the beach a mile away, and these put up the valuation of a producing dairy farm a mile inland. Now today this farm, with the increased rates and the new valuation, will be paying £2,045 a year land tax, as against £416.

When we consider the other numerous taxes there are which a primary producer has to pay, it seems to me very questionable whether this particular dairy farm can carry this unjust and unfair land tax.

The method of assessing valuations for land tax is often wrong and merely guess work. Valuers more often than not raise an assessment on what a piece of land might do rather than what it is doing.

Pending the abolition of land tax, I believe the first right and duty of all owners is to commence a campaign for the appointment of an independent tribunal. This body can then determine objections now automatically disallowed by officials bent on screwing the last penny each year from men on the land who are trying to increase production and at the same time keep costs down.

Such an appeal board should consist of at least one representative of taxpayer with an independent chairman.

Until something of this is done, all the land tax is doing is retarding progress. With a good deal of truth, it has often been said in the past that you cannot tax land into production, but you can tax land out of productivity. The new land tax increases in Victoria are on the way to taxing more land out of productivity than into it.

Mr. de Valera and Social Credit

"Very few men in public life in those days dared admit having any interest in monetary reform. Eamon de Valera seemed to be a fearless leader of Eire. Yet in 1935 he told me during a reception at the British Embassy in Geneva that he 'was greatly interested in Social Credit'. Next day when I incorporated his views into an article and presented it for his approval, he denied having made any such statement. In fact, his secretary told me 'Mr. de Valera was livid with rage'. So I tore up the article and mention the incident now only to show how even strong men like de Valera were afraid to show any public interest in monetary reform."—Bob Bowman in "Mac-Lean's" (Canada), August 1, 1953.

The French-Canadians

A press report states that Sir Douglas Copland, Australian High Commissioner to Canada, said in Montreal that if Australia and New Zealand had people like the French-Canadians they would be better off and wiser. Surely Sir Douglas did not have in mind the fact that Social Credit is making considerable progress amongst the French-Canadians?

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Page 12—"New Times", October 30, 1953.

Are You An Organic Former or Gardener?

If so, the Editor of *Rural Review* would be pleased to hear from you at any time. All over Australia increasing numbers of people are applying organic fanning and gardening methods. Readers who have any interesting information concerning the results they are achieving are requested to write in so that other readers can obtain the benefit of their experiences.